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# American Archives:

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A COLLECTION OF AUTHENTICK RECORDS, STATE PAPERS, DEBATES, AND LETTERS AND  
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## A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

OF

THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES;

OF THE

CAUSES AND ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION;

AND OF

THE CONSTITUTION OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE UNITED STATES,

TO

THE FINAL RATIFICATION THEREOF.

### IN SIX SERIES.

#### FIRST SERIES.

From the Discovery and Settlement of the North American Colonies, to the Revolution in England, in 1688.

#### SECOND SERIES.

From the Revolution in England, in 1688, to the Cession of Canada to Great Britain, by the Treaty at Paris, in 1763.

#### THIRD SERIES.

From the Cession of Canada, in 1763, to the King's Message to Parliament, of March 7th, 1774, on the Proceedings in North America.

#### FOURTH SERIES.

From the King's Message of March 7th, 1774, to the Declaration of Independence, by the United States, in 1776.

#### FIFTH SERIES.

From the Declaration of Independence, in 1776, to the Definitive Treaty of Peace with Great Britain, in 1783.

#### SIXTH SERIES.

From the Treaty of Peace, in 1783, to the final ratification of the Constitution of Government for the United States, proposed by the Convention, held at Philadelphia, 1787.

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BY PETER FORCE.

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5th Ser.  
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ENTERED ACCORDING TO ACT OF CONGRESS, IN THE YEAR 1843,  
BY PETER FORCE,  
IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

6-11-31  
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# AMERICAN ARCHIVES:

## Fifth Series.

CONTAINING

### A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

OF

## THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

FROM THE

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, JULY 4, 1776,

TO THE

DEFINITIVE TREATY OF PEACE WITH GREAT BRITAIN, SEPTEMBER 3, 1783.

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BY PETER FORCE.

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VOLUME I.

PUBLISHED BY M. ST. CLAIR CLARKE AND PETER FORCE,

UNDER AUTHORITY OF ACTS OF CONGRESS, PASSED ON THE SECOND DAY OF MARCH, 1833,  
AND ON THE THIRD DAY OF MARCH, 1843.

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WASHINGTON, APRIL, 1848.

WILLIAM & MARY DARLINGTON  
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ENTERED ACCORDING TO ACT OF CONGRESS, IN THE YEAR 1848,  
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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

1776.	
July 6,	Proceedings of the Council from June 5 to July 6, - - - - -

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

1776.	
July 6,	Proceedings from June 5 to July 6, - - - - -

Acts passed by the Legislature of New-Hampshire:—

For establishing the style of Commissions, which shall hereafter be issued, and for altering the style of Writs, Processes, and all Law Proceedings, within the Colony; and for directing how Recognizances, to the use of this Colony, shall in future be taken and prosecuted, - - - - -

1776.	
	To prevent the forging and altering Bills of Publick Credit, and for preventing the depreciation thereof; and for making Bills of Credit of the United Colonies, and of this Colony, a tender in all payments, - - - - -
	To abolish the Court of Appeals in this Colony, and to empower the Superior Court of Judicature to sustain and determine all matters pending in said Court of Appeals, and to prevent the absurd practice of granting appeals to the King of Great Britain in Council, from judgments of any Courts in this Colony, in future, - - - - -
	For encouraging the fixing out of armed vessels to defend the sea-coast of America, and to cruize on the enemies of the United Colonies; as also for erecting a court to try and condemn all ships and other vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and all goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of Great Britain, taken on the high seas, - - - - -

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

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7,	Letter from Colonel Smallwood to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -
7,	Letter from Richard Tootell to Maryland Council of Safety: Petitions for the office of Surgeon Major, - - - - -
7,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to General Buchanan, - - - - -
7,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Weems, - - - - -
7,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Veazey and Lieutenant Harrison, - - - - -
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7,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Richard Buchanan, - - - - -
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7,	Letter from the Committee for Bucks County, Pennsylvania, to the President of Congress, - - - - -
7,	Letter from the Committee for Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to the President of Congress: Some measures should be adopted to secure the prisoners at Lancaster; they are at large, and it is believed they carry intelligence to the enemy, - - - - -
7,	Letter from Dr. Cochran to Thomas McKean, - - - - -
7,	Letter from General Livingston to General Washington, - - - - -
7,	Letter from General Howe to Lord George Germaine: Met with Governour Tryon at the Hook, and many fast friends to the Government attending him; who gave the fullest information of the state of the Rebels. There is great reason to expect a numerous body to join the Army from New-York, the Jerseys, and Connecticut; sixty men came over a few days ago from Shrewsbury, - - - - -
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31, Letter from the President of Congress to General Schuyler, - - - - -	Letter of Agency to Asa Perly and Asa Kimball, May 14, - - - - -
31, Letter from the President of Congress to Joseph Trumbull, - - - - -	Proceedings of the inhabitants of the County of Sunbury, in the Province of Nova-Scotia, May 14, - - - - -
31, Deposition of John Walker and Martha Ash, respecting the escape of Colonel Kirkland, -	31, Instructions of the Freeholders and others, inhabitants of Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, to their Delegates in the General Assembly, - - - - -
31, Letter from General Mercer to General Washington, - - - - -	Aug. 1, Extract of a letter from St. Pierre's, Martinique: After the engagement between the Reprisal and the Shark, Captain Wickes triumphantly entered the port, and landed amidst the acclamations and caresses of a multitude of people, - - - - -
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31, Letter from Ephraim Anderson to the President of Congress: Has completed and hauled off in the stream two fire-ships, at New-York, and will complete two more to-morrow, -	1, Letter from General Dent to the Maryland Council of Safety: Returns his commission, as they have a controlling power under which he is resolved never more to act, -
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31, Letter from General Greene to General Washington, - - - - -	1, Resolutions of the Pennsylvania Convention on the defenceless condition of the frontiers of Northumberland and Northampton, -
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17,	Letter from General Gates to General Waterbury: Sends twenty batteaus to bring such of the Massachusetts troops as have arrived at Skenesborough, - - -	1002		Letter from Lord Howe to Lord Drummond, August 15, - - -	1027
17,	Letter from General Gates to Colonel Gansevoort, - - -	1002		Letter from General Washington to Lord Drummond, August 17, - - -	1027
17,	Letter from General Arnold to General Gates: Commodore J. Wynkoop has refused to obey his orders, and imagines his appointment by General Schuyler cannot be superseded, -	1002	18,	Letter from General Washington to the New-York Convention: He cannot advance any money for expenses incurred in obstructing the navigation of the East River, - - -	1028
17,	Orders from General Arnold to Captain Seaman, - - -	1002	18,	Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: Captain Thomas, it is feared, perished in the attempt to fire the Phoenix; the whole British forces in America, except those employed in Canada, are now at New-York, - - -	1028
17,	Letter from Commodore Wynkoop to General Arnold: Knows no orders but what are given out by himself, except sailing orders from the Commander-in-Chief, - - -	1002	18,	Letter from William Blodget to General Washington: General Greene is better, and is in hopes in a few days to be able to go abroad,	1029
17,	Letter from General Arnold, Commander-in-Chief of the fleet on Lake Champlain, to Commodore J. Wynkoop: If he does not obey orders, will be under the disagreeable necessity of immediately arresting him, - - -	1003	18,	Letter from Lewis Morris to Abraham Yates, -	1522
17,	Letter from Commodore Wynkoop to General Gates: General Arnold says he is to have the command of the Navy. Without showing any authority for it, he ordered two schooners down the Lake, on some information he says he had of the approach of the enemy, -	1003	18,	Letter from Jonathan G. Tompkins to the New-York Convention: relating to Josiah and Isaac Brown, imprisoned at the White-Plains,	1524
17,	Letter from William Page to General Gates: respecting Captain Eddy's company of carpenters from Rhode-Island, - - -	1003	18,	Letter from General Heath to General Washington: The Rose and Phoenix have passed down the river, - - -	1029
	Letter from General Waterbury to Captain Eddy, August 12: By General Gates's orders the company of carpenters under his command, having lately had the small-pox, cannot enter the service, - - -	1004	18,	Letter from David Matthews to John McKesson: Begg the favour of being heard before the Provincial Congress, before they come to a final determination about him, - - -	1030
	Resolutions of the Committee of Williamstown, August 4, - - -	1004	18,	Letter from Colonel Gilbert Drake to Captain Brown: Directs him to proceed to Cortlandt's Manor, and apprehend all persons disaffected to the good of the States of America, - -	1030
			18,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Transmits to General Washington the transactions of the late treaty with the Indians. The commissioners thought it needless to make entries of all the meetings with Indians, on affairs of very little or no moment, - - -	1030
			18,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington, - - -	1031



1776.	Letter from General Arnold to General Schuyler, August 8, - - - - -	1033
	Letter from Colonel Dayton to General Schuyler, August 15: Desertion of Lieutenant McMichael and others to the enemy, - -	1033
	Information given by Richard Bell and Samuel Freeman of the scout from Fort Schuyler to Oswego, in pursuit of McMichael, under the command of Sergeant Youngton, - -	1034
	Conference of the Commissioners for Indian Affairs with the Six Nations of Indians, at German-Flats, in August, 1776, - -	1035
Aug. 18,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates, - - - - -	1050
18,	Letter from General Waterbury to General Gates: Will forward the Bay troops as fast as they arrive, according to orders, - -	1050
18,	Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler: More artillery and powder will be wanted for the fleet, - - - - -	1050
18,	Letter from General Gates to General Arnold: Orders him instantly to put Commodore Wynkoop in arrest, and send him prisoner to Head-Quarters at Tyonderoga, - -	1051
18,	Letter from Colonel Stewart to General Waterbury, - - - - -	1051
18,	Letter from George Pitkin to Benjamin Payne, - -	1051
18,	Letter from Meshech Weare to James Bowdoin: Is extremely sorry at the delay the troops met with. The villainous practices of the Doctor at Number Four, - - - - -	1051
19,	Opinion of the Georgia Council of Safety on General Lee's questions, as to the propriety of invading East-Florida, - - - - -	1052
19,	Letter from General Lewis to the President of Congress: Has ordered the First and Third Battalions, in Virginia, to march with all speed to the Flying-Camp, in New-Jersey, -	1053
19,	Instructions to the Delegates of Anne Arundel County, in the Maryland Convention, - -	1054
19,	Letter from the Delegates in Convention to the Electors of Anne Arundel County: They consider several of the instructions, if carried into execution, destructive of free government; and submit to them the propriety of reconsidering their instructions, - -	1055
19,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Hollingsworth: Approve of his plan for forwarding the troops, - - - - -	1055
19,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Committee for Kent County, - - - - -	1055
19,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Ewing: The order of Convention is, that all companies are to march that can be armed and equipped; his companies are not to march unarmed, - - - - -	1055
19,	Letter from Isaac Griest to the Maryland Council of Safety: He don't know what will be done for blankets; all the guns are in bad order, and very few have bayonets, - -	1056
19,	Proceedings of the Baltimore Committee, - -	1056
19,	Address delivered at the opening of the election in Dover, Delaware, for the choice of Members of the Convention, - - - - -	1057
19,	Letter from John Bartlett to John Langdon: The insolence of the commanders of the British vessels-of-war in the West-Indies is becoming intolerable; they have attempted to take possession of some American vessels in the harbour of St. Eustatia, but were prevented by the Dutch, - - - - -	1060
19,	Letter from General Wooster to the Congress: Having their approbation of his past conduct in the Army, is still willing to serve in his proper rank, - - - - -	1060
19,	Letter from William Cox to William Atlee, - -	1061
19,	Proceedings of the Philadelphia County Committee, - - - - -	1061
19,	General Orders, by General Mercer, at Elizabeth-Town, New-Jersey: Thanks the Pennsylvania Associators for their attention to duty; he relieves part, and hopes it will soon be in his power to give an honourable dismissal to the remainder, - - - - -	1061
19,	Proceedings of the Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Committee, - - - - -	1062
19,	General Roberdeau's Address to the Pennsylvania Associators at Amboy, - - - - -	1062

1776.	Aug. 19,	Letter from General Mercer to General Washington; with some intelligence that may be of consequence, - - - - -	1064
		Information given by Jonathan Woodman, Isaac Osborne, and Robert Peas, escaped from a British transport, - - - - -	1064
		Examination of Captain Britton, - - - - -	1064
	19,	Letter from General Roberdeau to General Washington: Informing him of a report spread by the post-rider, - - - - -	1065
	19,	Letter from Lord Howe to General Washington, - - - - -	1095
	19,	Letter from Lord Drummond to General Washington, - - - - -	1158
	19,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - -	1065
	19,	Letter from General Washington to General Roberdeau: The report propagated by the Post-rider is totally destitute of truth, -	1066
	19,	Letter from Quartermaster Hughes to General Gates, - - - - -	1066
	19,	Extract of a letter from New-York: Escape of the Rose and Phoenix, - - - - -	1066
	19,	Letter from Colonel Hitchcock to General Washington: Thinks himself entitled to promotion with Colonel Varnum; the moment Colonel Varnum receives preferment, and he remains unnoticed, he will resign his command; and at the end of the campaign, his whole regiment, officers and soldiers, will follow, - - - - -	1067
	19,	Letter from Colonel McDougall to General Washington: with the substance of the examination of Mary Debeau, - - - - -	1068
	19,	Report of Captain Suydam of the Light-Horse, -	1068
	19,	Examination of William Newton and others, taken prisoners at Rockaway, by Captain Suydam, - - - - -	1069
	19,	Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to General Clinton, - - - - -	1522
	19,	Letter from General Schuyler to Colonel Seth Reed: Grants him leave of absence, - - -	1070
	19,	Extract of a letter from Albany, - - - - -	1070
	19,	Letter from H. Glen to Walter Livingston, -	1070
	19,	Letter from General Waterbury to General Gates, - - - - -	1071
	19,	Letter from Colonel Mott to General Gates: In consequence of sudden family afflictions, asks for a short leave of absence, - -	1071
	19,	Letter from the members of a General Court-Martial at Ticonderoga to the President of Congress: On the conduct of General Arnold, - - - - -	1072
	19,	Letter from General Gates to General Arnold: desires that Mr. Wynkoop be sent, as already ordered, immediately, under arrest, to him, at Tyonderoga, - - - - -	1073
	19,	Letter from General Gates to Governour Trumbull: Soon as the row-galleys at Skenesborough are completed, will despatch them, under the command of Brigadier Waterbury, to reinforce the squadron now with General Arnold, - - - - -	1073
	19,	Letter from General Gates to the Rev. Mr. Olcott: Requesting that the Committee at Number-Four will call before them a certain Doctor Stevens; and that the Doctor, with his poison, may be sent to close confinement, - - - - -	1073
	19,	Letter from General Arnold to General Gates: Has ordered Commodore Wynkoop to Head-Quarters; recommends that he may be permitted to return home without being cashiered, if it can be done with propriety, - -	1073
	19,	Letter from Joseph Gilbert to General Gates: The difficulties he has had to contend with in forwarding the troops with provisions, for their march to Ticonderoga, - - - - -	1074
	19,	Letter from Colonel Seymour to Governour Trumbull, - - - - -	1074
	19,	Letter from the Reverend William Gordon to General Gates, - - - - -	1074
	19,	Letter from General Ward to General Washington: Great solicitude is felt for him and the Army at New-York, - - - - -	1075
	19,	Letter from Thomas W. Waldron to Meshech Weare, - - - - -	1075
	20,	Extract of a letter from St. Augustine, - -	1076



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Aug. 20,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Jesse Hollingsworth: They want a person that understands manufacturing flints, - 1076
20,	Letter from Captain Darnes to the Maryland Council of Safety: His company is really armed, and vastly anxious to receive their marching orders, - 1077
20,	Letter from Isaac Griest to the Maryland Council of Safety, - 1077
20,	Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, - 1077
20,	Letter from Samuel Griffin, Deputy Adjutant-General, to the Board of War, - 1079
	General Return of the Army in New-Jersey under the command of General Mercer, - 1079
20,	Proceedings of the Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Committee, - 1079
20,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Encloses a copy of General Carleton's orders. Will not trouble Congress with any strictures upon this indecent, illiberal, scurrilous performance, so highly unbecoming the character of a soldier and a gentleman, - 1081
20,	Letter from Commissary Trumbull to Colonel Chester: His beef man is sick, and there is none but Captain Isham who can supply his place, - 1082
20,	Letter from Gen. Heath to Gen. Washington, - 1082
20,	Letter from Colonel Dubois to General Washington: His officers request they may be ordered into immediate service at New-York, or wherever it may be thought fit, - 1082
20,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates, - 1083
20,	Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull: Is informed that the Connecticut troops, since their return, are striving to increase the unjust jealousies against him in different parts of the country. Conscious of the rectitude of his conduct, he has entreated Congress for a minute inquiry into it; if the misfortunes in Canada were occasioned by misconduct in him, he ought to be held up to public detestation, - 1083
20,	Letter from the Albany Committee to Governour Trumbull: On the information they have received, that the Tory prisoners from Albany, by false reports and artful insinuations, are endeavouring to injure the character of General Schuyler, - 1084
20,	Letter from H. Glen to Walter Livingston, Commissary-General, - 1085
20,	Letter from Colonels Pettibone and Chapman to Governour Trumbull: They are on the march to New-York, according to orders received, - 1085
20,	Letter from David Matthews to John McKesson: Complaining of his hard treatment, - 1085
20,	Letter from the Committee of Greenwich, Connecticut, to General Washington: Desire to know whether the service requires the whole of the few men remaining in town to be raised immediately; and if so, whether they can be supplied with arms on their arrival at New-York, - 1086
20,	Letter from Major Hawley to General Gates: Has done every thing in his power to suppress the pernicious practice of delaying the march of the troops for the sake of taking the small-pox, - 1086
20,	Letter from the Selectmen of the town of Minden to the Massachusetts Council: Respecting the conduct of the Scotch officers, prisoners at that place, - 1087
20,	Proceedings of the Committee for the County of Middlesex, Massachusetts, - 1087
21,	Orders of the King in Council: Prohibiting the exporting out of the Kingdom, or carrying coastwise, gunpowder, saltpetre, or any sort of arms or ammunition, for three months from the 23d day of the present month of August, - 1088
21,	Orders of the King in Council: Continuing until the 31st day of October the bounties to seamen who enter themselves to serve in the Royal Navy, - 1089
21,	Letter from Thomas Jones to the Maryland Council of Safety: Has delivered to Thomas Walker, at the request of Captain Nicholson, four hundred and thirty-two half barrels of powder, eighteen chests of arms, &c., - 1089

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Aug. 21,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Committee for Cecil County, - 1090
21,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Isaac Griest, - 1090
21,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the President of Congress: for ten thousand pounds, for money advanced by the Province on account of the Congress, - 1091
21,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Samuel Dorsey, - 1091
21,	Letter from Captain Darnes to the Maryland Council of Safety, - 1091
21,	Letter from Dr. Wiesenthall to the Maryland Council of Safety, - 1091
21,	Letter from Amos Garrett to the Maryland Council of Safety: with his account for muskets and bayonets, - 1092
21,	Letter from Cæsar Rodney to Thomas Rodney, - 1092
21,	Petition of the Captains and Subalterns of the two old Virginia Regiments to the Congress, - 1093
21,	Memorial of Prendhome la Jeunesse, of Montreal, in Canada, to the Congress: For the commission of Captain of a corps of Canadians, Acadians, French, and others who speak French, for operations in Canada, - 1093
21,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - 1094
	Letter from General Washington to Lord Howe, dated August 17: On the general exchange of prisoners in the naval line, and of that of Lieutenant Josiah in particular, - 1094
	Letter from Lord Howe to General Washington, dated August 19: Will propose an exchange of an officer of the same rank with Lieutenant Josiah, when he arrives, - 1095
21,	Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler, - 1095
21,	Letter from Joseph Reed, Adjutant-General, to the New-York Convention: enclosing a letter from Governour Martin, - 1528
21,	Report of A. W. Depeyster to the New-York Convention: Relative to the disposition of the prisoners in Connecticut, - 1529
21,	Letter from General Livingston to General Washington: Information he has received from a spy returned from Staten-Island, - 1531
21,	Extract of a letter from an Officer on board the Royal Savage, in Lake Champlain: They expect to sail to-morrow for St. John's, - 1096
21,	Letter from Colonel Hand to General Nixon: Embarkation and movements of the enemy, - 1111
21,	Letter from Richard Brueré and others, prisoners, to the New-York Convention, - 1096
21,	Resolutions of the Committee for Dutchess County, New-York: respecting a supply of salt, - 1096
21,	Petition of Cadwallader Colden, Jun., of Ulster County, to the New-York Convention, - 1097
21,	Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Sullivan: The works at Crown-Point might have been repaired before this, so that five thousand men would have stopped the enemy had they attempted to advance; but wiser councils have fixed on Ticonderoga; the fleet goes down the Lake to-morrow, under General Arnold, - 1098
21,	Proceedings of the Connecticut Council of Safety, - 1099
21,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Massachusetts Council: The practice of inoculating the troops for the small-pox exposes the other troops anew to that infection, which has already rendered abortive the hopes of the Army, - 1100
21,	Orders of the Massachusetts Council, - 1100
21,	Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to Major Gains, - 1101
22,	Letter from Lord George Germaine to General Howe: on filling up army vacancies, - 1101
22,	Letter from Lord George Germaine to General Howe: Has received his plan on which the corps of Loyal Nova-Scotia Volunteers was then formed; and hopes by the activity of the officers, they may soon be able to complete the corps, - 1102
22,	Letter from Lord George Germaine to General Howe: The King approves of his prudence in waiting for the arrival of reinforcements; and also of his whole conduct and plan, - 1102

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Aug. 22, Letter from Lord George Germaine to General Howe: The King having read and considered the reasons assigned for the detention at Halifax, is of opinion that an earlier removal from there was impracticable, - - -	1102
22, Letter from Lord George Germaine to Governor Tryon: The steady loyalty of the people of Staten-Island, and their affectionate reception of the troops under General Howe, cannot fail to recommend them to Government, - - -	1103
22, Letter from Lord George Germaine to Governor Carleton: It is hoped that, with the prisoners he has taken, he can procure the release of his Majesty's officers and loyal subjects who are in the disgraceful situation of being prisoners to the Rebels, without committing the honour and dignity of the King or using his name in any negotiation for the purpose, - - -	1103
22, Letter from Lord George Germaine to Governor Carleton: on rank in the Army, -	1104
22, Letter from Lord George Germaine to Governor Carleton: The rapid success of his Majesty's arms in driving the Rebels out of Canada does great honour to his conduct. After clearing the frontiers of Canada of all the Rebel forces, and taking possession of the Lakes, he must send a detachment to communicate with and act under the command of General Howe, - - -	1104
22, Letter from Lord George Germaine to Governor Carleton: The proofs the Indians have already given of their fidelity, and the manifest utility which large parties of them must be of to the Army leaves no room to doubt that every means has been exerted to induce them to a general declaration in our favour, -	1105
22, Letter from Silas Deane to the Count de Vergennes: Is surprised by the arrival of Mr. Arthur Lee, the agent of the United Colonies in Great Britain, - - -	1105
22, Letter from Cornelius Stevenson to Dr. Franklin: Has forwarded to him from St. Eustatia a packet from Amsterdam, - - -	1106
22, Petition from the Committee of the Settlements of Watauga and Holstein, to the North-Carolina Council of Safety, - - -	1376
22, Letter from the Marine Committee of Congress to Commodore Hopkins: instructing him to send to sea as soon as practicable the Alfred, Columbus, Cabot, and Hampden, with directions in what seas to cruise, - - -	1106
22, Letter from the Marine Committee to Captain Hacker: He will receive orders from Commodore Hopkins, - - -	1107
22, Letter from the Marine Committee to Nathaniel Shaw, Jun.: requesting him to purchase a prize schooner, and equip her for a Continental cruiser, - - -	1107
22, Letter from the Marine Committee to Nathaniel Shaw, Jun.: to receive certain articles the Secret Committee have directed Barnabas Deane to deliver to him, - - -	1108
22, Intelligence received at Philadelphia: Strength of the British forces on Staten-Island, -	1109
22, Resolution of the Committee for Berks County, Pennsylvania: on the application of M. Berie Hertel de Rouville, - - -	1109
22, Letter from Colonel Wilson to the President of Congress: on the rewards offered to foreign troops who will desert the cause of Great Britain, - - -	1110
22, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: There is every reason to believe that an attack is shortly designed; we are making every preparation to receive them, - - -	1110
Letter from Lord Stirling to Colonel Nixon, -	1111
22, Extract of a letter from New-York: Preparations of the enemy for an attack, - - -	1111
22, Petition of Abel Noble and Peter Townsend, proprietors of the Stirling Iron Works, to the New-York Convention: for an exemption from military duty of the persons engaged at their works, - - -	1112
Schedule of the artificers and labourers employed at the Stirling Iron Works, - - -	1112

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Aug. 22, Letter from the New-York Convention to Colonel Joseph Reed, - - -	1528
22, Letter from the New-York Convention to General Washington: relative to a report that the city of New-York was to be burnt if the troops left it, - - -	1531
22, Letter from General Heath to General Mifflin: Requests him to attend the Court for inquiring into the conduct of the Captains of the Row-Galleys, - - -	1113
22, Letter from Cadwallader Colden, Jun., to the New-York Convention, - - -	1113
22, Letter from General Waterbury to General Gates, - - -	1114
22, Letter from General Gates to Egbert Benson: Dr. Stringer has gone a preferment hunting to the Congress at Philadelphia, while the troops are suffering inexpressible distress for want of medicines; entreats that this letter may instantly be laid before General Washington, - - -	1114
22, Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: A reconnoitering party sent down the Lake, towards Gilliland's, has just returned, and reports all quiet there, - - -	1114
22, Intelligence from Newport, Rhode-Island: Prizes, - - -	1115
22, Letter from Governor Trumbull to General Schuyler, - - -	1115
22, Intelligence from Boston: Prizes, - - -	1116
22, Letter from General Ward to General Washington: Will order Captain Burbeck, with his company of Artillery, to march as soon as possible to New-York, - - -	1116
22, Letter from Thomas Rice to James Warren, -	1116
Subscription for exchanging hard money for Continental bills, - - -	1116
22, Letter from the Massachusetts Council to the Committee for the Town of Mendon, -	1116
22, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to the Selectmen of Charlestown, (Number-Four:) Are of opinion that there is great danger that the small-pox may be carried from Number-Four to the Army, -	1117
23, Letter from Benjamin Harrison, Jun., to the President of Congress: with his accounts, -	1117
23, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Darnes: The Convention has directed them to despatch all the companies of the Flying-Camp that could be armed, with the utmost despatch, - - -	1117
23, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Edward Parker, - - -	1117
23, Letter from J. Nicholson to the Maryland Council of Safety: Captain Darnes has been exceedingly active, in endeavouring to arm his company of the Flying-Camp, to march to the northward; he has nearly got them equipped for that purpose, - - -	1117
23, Appointment of James White as Deputy-Commissary for the Province of Pennsylvania, -	1118
23, Letter from the Marine Committee of Congress to Lieutenant Baldwin: Instructions for his cruise in the Continental schooner Wasp, -	1118
23, Stephen Shewell and Joseph Shewell declared enemies to their country by the Philadelphia Committee, - - -	1119
23, Discharge of the battalions of Associators from the City of Philadelphia, they having completed six weeks' service, - - -	1119
23, Extract of a letter from an officer returned from the German-Flats, - - -	1119
23, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Eight or nine thousand of the British have landed at Gravesend-Bay, on Long-Island, and approached within three miles of our lines. Has detached six battalions from New-York, which is all that can be spared, as an attack is anticipated there. Owing to the sickness of General Greene, General Sullivan is appointed to the command of the Army on Long-Island, -	1120
23, Letter from General Washington to General Heath: The enemy halted last night at Flat-bush, - - -	1120
23, Letter from Gen. Sullivan to Gen. Washington, -	1136
23, Letter from Colonel Cooke to Governor Trumbull, - - -	1120

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Aug. 23,	Proclamation by General Howe: Informing all persons who have been forced into rebellion, that on delivering themselves at Head-Quarters of the Army on Long-Island, they will be received as faithful subjects, - - - 1121
23,	Letter from Major Verbruyck to the New-York Convention, - - - 1537
23,	Letter from General Washington to the New-York Convention: Contradicting the report that the City of New-York was to be abandoned and burnt, - - - 1538
23,	Letter from General Heath to General Washington: Is more afraid of the arts than the force of the enemy; they must be well watched, - - - 1121
23,	Letter from General Heath to Colonel Nicoll: directing him forthwith to march to Fort Washington, and, in case of an alarm, to proceed to Bloomingdale, and join General Mifflin, - - - 1122
23,	Letter from General Heath to the Commissary of Provisions, - - - 1122
23,	Letter from General Heath to General Mifflin, - - - 1122
23,	Letter from General Ten Broeck to the New-York Convention: For promotion of officers, - - - 1122
23,	Letter from Colonel Cortlandt to General Gates, - - - 1122
23,	Letter from General Gates to the President of Congress: Saturday se'nnight expects the whole of the Militia of the different States; with the two established Regiments from Boston, will be at Tyonderoga, - - - 1123
	List of armed vessels on Lake Champlain, - - - 1123
	Application of the Field-Officers of the Regiments from Jersey and Pennsylvania for a post between Philadelphia and Ticonderoga, - - - 1123
	General Orders, by General Gates, Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, August 6 to August 22, - - - 1124
23,	Letter from General Gates to General Arnold, - - - 1129
23,	Letter from Captain Nelson to the President of Congress, - - - 1129
23,	Letter from General Arnold to General Gates, - - - 1129
23,	Letter from Colonel Brewer to General Gates, - - - 1130
23,	Intelligence from New-London: Prizes, - - - 1130
23,	Letter from the Council of Massachusetts to the Board of War: Steps have been taken to procure a list of the prisoners now in Massachusetts, - - - 1130
24,	Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress: The present state of Georgia, its strength and weakness, will be transmitted to the Board of War, - - - 1130
24,	Letter from General Lee to the Board of War and Ordnance, - - - 1131
24,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to General Washington, - - - 1133
24,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Darnes: with orders for furnishing him with arms; Colonel Richardson will give him marching orders, - - - 1133
24,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Baltimore Committee: with a quantity of powder to be stored and secured in or near Baltimore, - - - 1133
24,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Stephen Steward, - - - 1133
24,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Gerard Hopkins, Commissary of Stores, at Baltimore, - - - 1133
24,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Richardson: Captain Bourke's company will leave Annapolis for the Head of Elk this afternoon; medicines must be furnished, and the arms repaired at Philadelphia; tents may be had at New-York; they cannot be got here, - - - 1134
24,	Letter from John Hanson, Jun., to the Maryland Council of Safety: The money sent to Frederick-Town, for the support of the prisoners, is all expended, - - - 1134
24,	Letter from Colonel Hollingsworth to the Maryland Council of Safety: Captain Alexander, of the Flying-Camp, has his company completed, and only waits orders to march, - - - 1134
24,	Letter from Captain Dean to the Maryland Council of Safety: Has arrived at the Head of Elk, but finds nothing provided for him there, and no Field-Officer to direct him, - - - 1134

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Aug. 24,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington: Congress highly approve of the manner in which the officious and intemperate zeal of Lord Drummond has been checked, - - - 1135
24,	Proceedings of the Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Committee, - - - 1135
24,	Letter from John Fraser to Dr. Franklin: Requests permission to return to Canada; says he has been justified by every man, whatever his politicks, in refusing to deliver up the papers, - - - 1135
24,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - 1136
	Letter from General Sullivan to General Washington, August 23: The enemy attempted to pass the road by Bedford this afternoon, but were driven back by the Riflemen, - - - 1136
	General Orders of General Washington, Head-Quarters, New-York, August 16 to August 24, - - - 1137
24,	Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler, - - - 1142
24,	Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, - - - 1143
24,	Letter from Colonel Knox to General Heath, - - - 1143
24,	Letter from James Livingston to John Jay, - - - 1143
24,	Extract of a letter from New-York: Skirmish on Long-Island, - - - 1144
24,	Letter from Captain Zephaniah Platt to the New-York Convention: Many of the troops have no money to purchase the necessaries of life, - - - 1536
24,	Letter from General George Clinton to Major Verbruyck, - - - 1537
24,	Resolutions of the New-York Convention for removing the stock from the south and west parts of Long-Island, - - - 1537
24,	Letter from Christopher Tappen and Gilbert Livingston to the New-York Convention, - - - 1541
24,	Letter from Erastus Wolcott to the Committee at Saybrook, Connecticut: Two of the enemy's frigates have passed by New-London to the westward, - - - 1544
24,	Letter from Gen. Heath to Gen. Washington, - - - 1144
24,	Letter from General Mifflin to General Heath: asking a court-martial for the trial of Lieutenant Priestly, of Col. Magaw's Battalion, - - - 1144
24,	Letter from General Heath to General Mifflin: Thinks it advisable to take the opinion of General Washington on Lieutenant Priestly's case, - - - 1145
24,	Letter from the Committee for Westchester County to the New-York Convention: They have caused a number of disaffected persons to be arrested and confined in jail, - - - 1145
	List of Tories arrested by the Westchester Committee, - - - 1145
24,	Letter from Colonel Samuel Drake to the New-York Convention, - - - 1145
24,	Letter from the Committee of Kingston, Ulster County, to the New-York Convention: respecting the removal of the prisoners from Kingston to Morristown, - - - 1146
24,	Letter from Dr. Potts to General Gates, - - - 1146
24,	Letter from Elbridge Gerry to General Gates: General Carleton is angry that a scout has taken off one of his General Officers; but is it not justifiable on the principle of retaliation? The frontier inhabitants are indiscriminately murdered by Indians in the service of his Britannick Majesty, - - - 1146
24,	Letter from J. Trumbull to the Massachusetts Convention: with a return of the deserters from the Massachusetts Regiments now serving in the Northern Army, - - - 1147
24,	Letter from Colonel Moulton to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: Has raised and equipped fifty-nine men out of his regiment, and ordered their march for New-York on the 25th instant, - - - 1147
25,	Letter from Claude Crespigny to Ralph Izard: The Court at St. James's laugh at the Declaration of Independence; in their exultation they will not choose to remember that independence was not premeditated in America, but is only the immediate and necessary consequence of their own acts, - - - 1148

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Aug. 25,	Intelligence from Charlestown, South-Carolina:	
	Engagement with the Cherokees, - - -	1148
25,	Letter from Captain Mantz to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - -	1149
25,	General Washington's orders to General Putnam: to restrain the loose, disorderly, and wasteful firing, which he witnessed yesterday; a kind of fire that tended to disgrace our own men as soldiers, and to render our defence contemptible in the eyes of the enemy, - - -	1149
25,	Resolutions of the New-York Convention on the distresses of the inhabitants who are compelled to abandon their habitations by the cruel and unnatural invasion now made upon the State, - - -	1539
25,	Letter from Colonel Knox to General Heath, -	1150
25,	Letter from Colonel Varnum to General Washington: Is convinced that promotions in the Army are not designed for those whose principles are disinterested enough to serve the Continent without; as his continuance in the Army can be of no possible advantage, he asks permission to retire, - - -	1150
25,	Letter from General Heath to Major Henley: Requires him to attend his duty at King's Bridge, or another Aid-de-Camp will be appointed in his place, - - -	1151
25,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: On the defects in the Commissary's Department, - - -	1151
25,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates, -	1153
25,	Letter from General Waterbury to General Gates: Captain Titcomb's company of carpenters are all sick except four, and have applied for discharges, - - -	1154
25,	Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: The fleet is under way from Crown-Point this morning; intimates his disapprobation of General Arnold's making detachments from his Regiment alone, - - -	1154
25,	Letter from James Bowdoin to Governour Cooke: A British ship-of-war is cruising in Boston Bay, and has taken several prizes; the Continental ships lately built in Massachusetts are without guns; requests that if any armed vessels are at Providence they may be sent, - - -	1155
26,	Petition of Charles Shaw to the New-York Convention, - - -	1540
26,	Report of Committee of New-York Convention of their conference with General Washington, about calling out the western Suffolk, and Queen's County Regiment, - - -	1541
26,	Letter from Colonel Joseph Drake to the New-York Convention, - - -	1542
26,	Letter from the New-York Convention to General Woodhull, - - -	1543
26,	Instructions of the New-York Convention to General Woodhull, - - -	1543
26,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Nicholson, - - -	1155
26,	Letter from the Baltimore Committee to the Maryland Council of Safety: with a list of officers recommended to form a Battalion. Case of Jesse Hollingsworth, who has sold tea above the limited price, - - -	1156
26,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Ward: requesting him to continue in the command of the Army at Boston, until an officer to relieve him can be fixed upon, - - -	1156
26,	Memorial of George Measam, late of Montreal, to the Congress, - - -	1157
26,	Letter from James Work to William Atlee, -	1158
26,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: From the movements of the enemy, it appears that they mean to land the main body of their Army on Long-Island, and to make their grand push there. Considerable reinforcements of our troops have been ordered there, - - -	1158
	Letter from Lord Drummond to General Washington: On the violation of his parole, August 19, - - -	1158
	Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the line on Lieutenant-Colonel Zedtwitz, August 25, - - -	1159

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Aug. 26,	Letter from Major Henley to General Heath: Requests he will appoint some person to take his place, as he cannot leave New-York before the action, - - -	1162
26,	Extract of a letter from New-York: Notice of Zedtwitz's treason, - - -	1162
26,	Intelligence from New-York, - - -	1163
26,	Petition of George Harris to the New-York Convention: For relief from the ill-treatment he has received from the Tory inhabitants of Rye, in Westchester County, - - -	1163
26,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington, - - -	1164
26,	Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler: enclosing letters received yesterday by three inhabitants from Mr. Gilliland's. The letters are wrote in so extraordinary a style and manner that the authors must be either suborned by the enemy, or the letters themselves a forgery. They ought to be sent without delay to Congress, - - -	1165
	Letter from General Thompson, dated Quebec Harbour, August 5, - - -	1166
	[Letter from Ebenezer Sullivan to General John Sullivan, Montreal, August 14,] - - -	1167
	[Letter from Theo. Bliss to the Rev. William Emerson, Montreal, August 14,] - - -	1167
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	Parole of American Prisoners in Canada to General Carleton, August 9, - - -	1168
	List of American Prisoners sent home from Canada on parole, - - -	1169
26,	Letter from Rev. Bulkley Olcott to General Gates: On examination of his charge against Dr. Stevens, his conduct appeared to the Committee much less aggravated than was represented, - - -	1170
26,	Letter from the Committee of Safety for Charlestown, (Number-Four,) to General Gates: Report of their examination of the charges against Dr. Stevens, - - -	1170
26,	Letter from Doctor Phineas Stevens to General Gates, - - -	1171
26,	Letter from Governour Cooke to James Bowdoin: The two Continental ships in Rhode-Island cannot be got ready; so that no assistance can be given, - - -	1172
26,	Intelligence from Hartford, in Connecticut: Arrival of Tories, - - -	1172
26,	Intelligence from Watertown, Massachusetts: Prizes, &c., - - -	1172
26,	Isaac Chauncey, convicted of being notoriously inimical to the American States, advertised by the Committee for Amherst, Massachusetts, - - -	1173
26,	Letter from J. Wentworth to General Washington: Condemnation of prizes, - - -	1173
27,	Letter from General Beale to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - -	1173
27,	Letter from Captain Perkins to the Maryland Council of Safety: for as much money as will defray the expenses of his company to New-York, - - -	1174
27,	Letter from Moses Chaille to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - -	1174
27,	Letter from E. Johnson to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - -	1174
27,	Constitution of Delaware agreed upon in Convention at New-Castle, - - -	1174
27,	Letter from John Bartlett to Colonel Whipple: The articles of Confederation were last week finished by the Committee of the Whole House, - - -	1179
27,	Letter from Francis Lewis to Mrs. Gates: General Gates commands at Ticonderoga; General Schuyler is treating with the Indians at German-Flats; they will always be on separate commands, - - -	1180
27,	Resolution of Pennsylvania Convention: requiring double guards of the Associators this night, as a number of the Militia in the barracks have been very riotous this day, - - -	1180
27,	Memorial of the Chevalier Sauralle to the Congress: Is a young officer who has served two years as a volunteer in the artillery at St. Domingo; now offers his services to the Congress, - - -	1180



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Aug. 27, Letter from the Marine Committee to Captain Stone, - - - - -	Aug. 28, Petition of Paul Fooks to the Congress: Offers his services to Congress as an interpreter of the French and Spanish languages, - - -
27, Letter from John Harris to the Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Committee, - - - - -	28, Notice from the War Office: requiring all the troops, without exception, now in Philadelphia, on their way to the camp, to march to Amboy immediately, - - - - -
27, Letter from General Woodhull to the New-York Convention: He is at Jamaica with less than one hundred men; will remain there as long as he can, in hopes of a reinforcement, - - - - -	28, Letter from Cæsar Rodney to Thomas Rodney, - - - - -
27, Letter from Colonel Joseph Drake to General Morris: Two men-of-war are now anchored between Hart and City Islands; one more has gone past Frog's Point, - - - - -	28, Letter from Dr. Franklin to General Gates: The Congress continues firmly united; arms and ammunition are also continually arriving, the French having resolved to permit the exportation to us, - - - - -
27, Letter from General Woodhull to the New-York Convention, - - - - -	28, Letter from General Mercer to the President of Congress: His whole force, including the New-Jersey Militia, from Powles Hook to Shrewsbury, amounts to eight thousand three hundred men. Will have on Bergen, ready to pass over to New-York, if required, from three to four thousand men, - - - - -
Letter from the New-York Convention to General Washington: suggesting a reinforcement for General Woodhull, - - - - -	28, Extract of a letter from New-York: The small part of our Army engaged yesterday behaved most manfully; they fought the enemy, treble in number, several hours in the open field, - - -
27, List of Prisoners at Lancaster, - - - - -	28, Extract of a letter from New-York: We yesterday had a severe engagement with the enemy on Long-Island, - - - - -
27, Letter from Robert G. Livingston to the New-York Convention: Mr. Robert Hyslop has refused to receive Continental currency in payment for a bond for nine hundred pounds, - - -	28, Extract of a letter from Head-Quarters, Long-Island: Brief notice of the engagement of yesterday, - - - - -
27, Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the President of Congress, - - - - -	28, Extract of a letter from an officer in the Maryland Battalion, on Long-Island: The battalion has suffered very much; a great number of officers and men are killed and missing, - - -
27, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the President of Congress: Has just returned from our lines on Long-Island, where he left General Washington, by whose order he writes, that there has been an action to-day between the enemy and our detachments, which have sustained a considerable loss; General Sullivan and Lord Stirling are among the missing, - - -	28, Extract of a letter from Long-Island: Account of yesterday's occurrences, - - - - -
27, Extract of a letter from an officer in Colonel Atlee's Battalion, on Long-Island, - - - - -	28, Letter from the New-York Convention to General Washington: Enclosing copy of a letter from General Woodhull, - - - - -
27, Extract of a letter from New-York: Our people have been engaged with the enemy on Long-Island all this morning, and are at it yet; we cannot get at the particulars, - - - - -	28, Letter from the New-York Convention to Governor Trumbull: for one thousand men, or any greater force that can speedily be obtained, - - - - -
27, Letter from General Woodhull to the New-York Convention: Has removed the cattle to the eastward of the Cross Road between the two Counties; unless he has more men the stay there will be to little purpose, - - -	28, Letter from the New-York Convention to sundry Committees in Connecticut: requesting them to assist in removing the stock from Long-Island, where there are between eighty and one hundred thousand head of cattle, and as many sheep, - - - - -
27, Letter from General Heath to General Mifflin: Has just been informed that three ships have come to anchor just above Frog-Point; a regiment has been detached to prevent their landing, - - - - -	28, Letter from General Woodhull to the New-York Convention: If no reinforcements are sent him he will have no men by to-morrow night; hopes the Convention does not expect him to make bricks without straw, - - - - -
27, Letter from General Heath to Colonel Graham, - - - - -	28, Letter from the New-York Convention to David Matthews, - - - - -
27, Petition of Jacobus Wynkoop to the Congress: setting forth all the circumstances connected with his arrest, and asking for such relief as he is entitled to, - - - - -	28, Letter from the New-York Convention to Governor Trumbull, - - - - -
27, Letter from General Waterbury to Gen. Gates, - - - - -	28, Letter from Colonel Joseph Drake to the New-York Convention, - - - - -
27, Extract of a letter from Crown-Point: The enemy's fleet is said to be on the way up the Lake, - - - - -	28, Letter from the New-York Convention to several Towns in Connecticut: requesting their assistance in removing the inhabitants and the stock from Long-Island, - - - - -
27, Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Brown to General Schuyler, - - - - -	28, Letter from the New-York Convention to Governor Trumbull, - - - - -
27, Letter from Governor Trumbull to General Gates: Glad to hear affairs at the North are so favourable, - - - - -	28, Letter from the New-York Convention to Colonel Joseph Drake, - - - - -
27, Letter from Governor Trumbull to James Bowdoin, - - - - -	28, Examination of Colonel Covenhoven by the New-York Convention, - - - - -
27, Proceedings of the Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - - -	28, Letter from General Washington to the New-York Convention, - - - - -
27, Letter from Colonel Bayley to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - -	28, Letter from Cornelius Van Wyck to the New-York Convention, - - - - -
28, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to John Hanson: Send money for the support of the prisoners at Frederick-Town, - - -	28, Letter from Peter T. Curtenius to the New-York Convention, - - - - -
28, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Committee for Charles County: for some cannon powder for Captain Conway, who is just ready to sail, - - - - -	28, New-York Convention adjourn from Harlem to meet at Fishkill, on Monday next, September 2, - - - - -
28, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Robert Berry, - - - - -	30, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety (at King's Bridge) to General Washington, - - -
28, Letter from Captain Darnes to the Maryland Council of Safety: His company is now on the march, - - - - -	28, Letter from the New-York Convention to their Delegates in Congress: asking for assistance in fortifying Hudson's River and obstructing the passage of the Highlands, - - -
28, Letter from the President of Congress to the officer commanding a Virginia battalion: to proceed by the nearest route to New-Jersey, avoiding Philadelphia, - - - - -	28, Letter from General Gates to General Washington, - - - - -
28, Petition of Jean Laugeay, (artificial fireworker,) to the Congress: Offers his service to Congress, - - - - -	



1776.	Return of a Regiment of Foot, commanded by Colonel Elmore, - - - - -	1197
	Return of Colonel John Nicholson's Regiment, Albany, August 26, - - - - -	1199
	General Return of the Army under General Gates, Ticonderoga, August 24, - - - - -	1199
	Return of Provisions at Skenesborough, Aug. 19, - - - - -	1201
	Return of men who drew provisions on the 12th and 13th of August, - - - - -	1201
	Provisions in the Magazine at Tyonderoga, August 13, - - - - -	1201
	List of Continental Armed Vessels on Lake Champlain, August 18, - - - - -	1201
	Return of men who drew provisions on the 24th of August, - - - - -	1202
	Provisions on hand in the Magazine at Ticonderoga, August 23, - - - - -	1202
	General Gates's instructions for Lieutenant Whitcomb, going on a party of observation into Canada. Tyonderoga, August 19, - - - - -	1202
	Extract of a letter from General Schuyler to General Waterbury, Albany, August 17, - - - - -	1203
Aug. 28,	Letter from General Gates to Colonel Hartley: Did not suppose General Arnold would take any of his men, as the vessels all had their full complement when they left Tyonderoga, - - - - -	1203
28,	Letter from Colonel Maxwell to the President of Congress, - - - - -	1203
	Memorial of Colonel William Maxwell to the Continental Congress: Finds himself much aggrieved by the appointment of a younger officer, (Colonel St. Clair,) promoted over him. He would have quitted the Army immediately, but that the present alarming state of the country required his presence in the field, - - - - -	1204
28,	Letter from Colonel Phinney to General Gates: Will make the best of his way to Ticonderoga, as directed, - - - - -	1204
28,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler: No misrepresentations of Tories will have credit enough, in Connecticut, greatly to wound his character, - - - - -	1204
28,	Letter from Colonel Stickney to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - -	1205
28,	Letter from Major Daniel Ilsey to the Committee of the town of Falmouth: His complaint against Colonel Mitchell, - - - - -	1205
28,	Letter from Francis Shaw, Jun., to the Massachusetts Council, - - - - -	1208
28,	Letter from James Lyon to the Massachusetts Assembly: Thinks Nova-Scotia worth annexing to our dominions, and proposes an expedition to subdue it, - - - - -	1280
28,	Intelligence from Halifax, in Nova-Scotia, - - - - -	1209
	American prisoners in Halifax, - - - - -	1283
29,	Memorial of R. Souralle to the Congress, - - - - -	1209
	Letter from M. De la Valletiere, - - - - -	1209
29,	A proposed Ordinance of the State of Pennsylvania, declaring what shall be treason, and for punishing the same, and other crimes and practices against the State, - - - - -	1210
29,	Letter from General William Livingston to William Hooper, in Congress, - - - - -	1210
29,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Mr. Harrison has informed the Congress of the engagement between a detachment of our men and the enemy, on the 27th. Neither General Sullivan nor Lord Stirling have yet been heard of, nor has our loss been ascertained, - - - - -	1211
29,	Letter from General Mifflin to General Heath: Many battalions are coming over from New-Jersey this evening to relieve others here, - - - - -	1211
29,	Letter from Colonel Josiah Smith to the New-York Convention: He is ready to march to New-York, and desires orders, - - - - -	1211
29,	Address of General William Erskine to the inhabitants of Suffolk County, Long-Island: He has been appointed commanding officer for the eastern part of the Island, and commands all Committee-men and others, acting under the authority of the Rebels, to cease, and remain at their respective homes, - - - - -	1211
29,	Extract of a letter from an Officer in Colonel Atlee's Battalion: Sullivan and Stirling are prisoners; Colonel Atlee, Captains Howell, Herbert, Murray, and Nice, and others, with eighty privates of the regiment, are missing, - - - - -	1212
1776.	Aug. 29, Account of the engagement on Long-Island on the 27th, - - - - -	1212
	29, Another account, - - - - -	1213
	29, Letter from New-York: There was a constant firing on Long-Island all yesterday afternoon, - - - - -	1214
	29, Proceedings of a Council of General Officers held at Long-Island, - - - - -	1246
	29, Determination of a Council of General Officers on Long-Island, - - - - -	1246
	29, Colonel Fanning informs the New-York Committee of Safety that General Washington has ordered his regiment to withdraw from Long-Island, - - - - -	1557
	29, Letter from Ebenezer Hazard to Robert Livingston, - - - - -	1214
	29, Letter from Comfort Sands to the New-York Convention: Sends Daniel Redfield, who will give important information, - - - - -	1214
	29, Letter from Joseph Drake to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - -	1214
	Examination of Daniel Redfield, of Killingsworth, in Connecticut, - - - - -	1215
	29, Letter from General Heath to the Committee of Fairfield, Connecticut: Sends a number of prisoners taken on Long-Island on the 27th, - - - - -	1215
	29, Orders by General Heath for Lieutenant Umstead to convey the prisoners to Fairfield, - - - - -	1215
	29, Letter from Colonel Graham to General Heath: His regiment has full employ, and some other force should be sent, as there are many points to guard, - - - - -	1216
	29, Council of War at King's Bridge decide that one hundred men should be sent to Long-Island this night, to surprise the British Light-Horse, who are pillaging the inhabitants at Flushing, - - - - -	1216
	29, Letter from General Heath to Colonel Graham: directing him to attempt the surprise on Long-Island, if he thinks it may be effected, - - - - -	1216
	29, Letter from Abraham King to Peter Livingston, - - - - -	1216
	29, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - -	1217
	Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler, August 18, - - - - -	1218
	Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Brown to General Schuyler, August 27: Account of scout down the Lake, - - - - -	1218
	Petition and Memorial of John Brown, Lieutenant-Colonel of Colonel Elmore's Regiment, to the Continental Congress, - - - - -	1219
	29, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: In the Army the home sickness begins to prevail about the middle of October, and when that unconquerable distemper takes place every consideration gives way to it, - - - - -	1220
	29, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Encloses a copy of Captain Wynkoop's memorial to Congress, - - - - -	1221
	29, Letter from Captain Fasset to General Gates, - - - - -	1222
	29, Letter from Governour Cooke to the Massachusetts Council: requesting Captain Grannis may be dismissed from the service of Massachusetts, and that he may be permitted to enlist a complement of Marines there for the Continental ship Warren, fitting out at Providence, - - - - -	1222
	29, Messages from the Council of Massachusetts to the House of Representatives, - - - - -	1223
	Message from the House of Representatives of Massachusetts to the Council, - - - - -	1225
	29, Intelligence from Boston: Arrival of Mr. S. Adams: Prizes, - - - - -	1226
	29, Letter from Dr. Brackett to the New-Hampshire Council of Safety: Condemnation of the ship Prince George at Portsmouth, - - - - -	1226
	30, Letter from General Lee to the Governour of Cape François: It is for the interest as well as the glory of France to furnish us with means of supporting our liberties. We do not require any aid of men; we require small arms, powder, field-pieces, woollen and linen to clothe our troops, and drugs, particularly bark, - - - - -	1227
	30, Intelligence from Williamsburgh, Virginia: Indian depredations, - - - - -	1228
	30, Letter from Thomas Rodney to Cæsar Rodney, - - - - -	1228
	30, Admiralty Court, Philadelphia, - - - - -	1229

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*Aug.* 30, Resolution of Council of Safety, Pennsylvania: urging the immediate necessity for the Associators to hasten their march to the camp in New-Jersey, - - - - - 1229
- 30, Letter from the Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Committee, to the President of Congress, - - - - - 1230
- 30, Letter from Captain Lowe to the Maryland Council of Safety: His company now in the Flying-Camp are desirous of serving as regulars on the Continental establishment, - - - - - 1230
- 30, Letter from General Washington to the New-York Convention: By the unanimous advice of a council of General Officers, it was determined to abandon Long-Island, - - - - - 1230
- 30, Letter from Colonel Joseph Reed to General Heath: Long-Island was evacuated last night; it was a measure founded on the fullest necessity, - - - - - 1230
- 30, Letter from Colonel Joseph Reed to General Livingston: The engagement and losses of the 27th, - - - - - 1231
- 30, Extract of a letter from an officer of the Maryland Battalion: giving a short account of the late engagement on Long-Island, - - - - - 1232
- 30, Extract of a letter from Pennsylvania: The retreat from Long-Island, - - - - - 1233
- 30, Letter from John Sloss Hobart and James Townsend to the New-York Convention: They found, on their arrival in Queen's County, that the Militia had dispersed, and that General Woodhull had fallen into the hands of the enemy. The County as far as Jamaica is in possession of the enemy, and the disaffected from east and west have gone over to them, - - - - - 1233
- Ebenezer Dayton's narrative of the proceedings of the First Regiment in Suffolk County, 1234
- 30, Letter from Colonel Livingston to General Washington, - - - - - 1235
- 30, Letter from Colonel Livingston to Governour Trumbull: Has the command of a detachment of two hundred men for the protection of the inhabitants, stock, &c., on Long-Island; the communications are cut off, and the detachment is in danger, - - - - - 1235
- 30, Letter from the Rev. S. Buell to Governour Trumbull: The enemy, sixteen thousand strong, have a line across Long-Island, from the Sound to the south. They have cut off communication with our Army, and have command of the west end of the Island entirely, - - - - - 1236
- 30, Letter from William Duer to General Washington: One Lownsbury, at the head of fourteen Tories, was killed yesterday; in his pocket-book was found a commission from General Howe to Major Rogers, empowering him to raise a battalion of Rangers, and with it a warrant from Rogers, appointing Lownsbury Captain, - - - - - 1236
- 30, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety, at King's Bridge, to General Washington: Desire to know if the Army has been removed from Long-Island to New-York, - - - - - 1237
- 30, Petition of Jonathan Purdy to the New-York Convention: to be considered a prisoner of war, - - - - - 1237
- 30, Letter from General George Clinton to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1558
- 30, Examination of Captain Brinton Payne by the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1558
- 30, Letter from Philip Livingston to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1564
- 30, Letter from General Heath to the Commissary of Provisions, - - - - - 1237
- 30, Orders from General Heath to the Captain of the main Guard, - - - - - 1237
- 30, Letter from James W. Payne to General Heath: The enemy's Light-Horse are pillaging the country all along the shore opposite Frog Point, - - - - - 1238
- 30, Letter from General Waterbury to General Gates, - - - - - 1238
- 30, Letter from Colonel Fraser to General Gates, - 1238
- 30, Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: Crown-Point is a place of the last importance; the enemy, in possession of it, could effectually destroy our navigation, - - - - - 1239
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*Aug.* 30, Letter from Stephen Badger to James Bowdoin: on the propriety of reappointing Colonel Jones, of Dedham, - - - - - 1239
- 30, Recommendation of the Committee of Safety of New-Hampshire, on the charges against Zaccheus Clough, - - - - - 1240
- 30, Proclamation by General Carleton, Governour of Quebec, - - - - - 1240
- 30, Address of the City of Montreal to Governour Carleton, - - - - - 1241
- General Carleton's Answer, - - - - - 1241
- 31, Letter from Ralph Izard, in England, to Claude Crespigny: The Ministry are fully persuaded that Mr. Howe will winter in Philadelphia, - 1242
- 31, Letter from the Council of Virginia to the Board of War, - - - - - 1243
- 31, Letter from General Lewis to the President of Congress, - - - - - 1243
- 31, Extract of a letter from Philadelphia: Notice of the late engagement on Long-Island, - - - 1243
- 31, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: The retreat from Long-Island was made without any loss of men or ammunition. Lord Howe is extremely desirous of seeing some members of Congress, for which purpose he has allowed General Sullivan to come out on parole, to communicate to them what has passed between him and his lordship, - - - - - 1244
- 31, Letter from Lord Stirling to General Washington: His account of the engagement on the 27th, - - - - - 1245
- Proceedings of a Council of General Officers, held at Long-Island, August 29, - - - - - 1246
- Determination of a Council of General Officers, held at Long-Island, August 29, - - - - - 1246
- General Orders, by General Washington, Headquarters, New-York, August 25 to August 31, 1247
- List of the names of such Officers of the Pennsylvania battalions as are prisoners and missing, - - - - - 1250
- List of the names of such Officers as are prisoners with the enemy, and have, by a flag of truce, sent for their baggage and cash, - - - 1250
- Death of Philip Johnston, of New-Jersey, - - - 1251
- Journal of transactions on Long-Island, on the 27th of August, by Colonel Samuel Atlee, - - - 1251
- 31, Extract of a letter from Admiral Lord Howe, to Mr. Stephens, Secretary of the Admiralty, - - 1255
- Letter from General Howe to Lord George Germaine, September 3, - - - - - 1256
- Return of American Prisoners taken on Long-Island, August 27, - - - - - 1258
- General Howe's return of brass and iron Ordnance taken from the enemy in the engagement on the 27th of August, and found in their different redoubts on Long-Island and Governour's Island, - - - - - 1258
- General Howe's return of the killed, wounded, and missing, of the British Army, August 27, 1258
- Extract of a letter from an officer in General Frazer's battalion, September 3, - - - - - 1259
- 31, Letter from John Sloss Hobart and James Townsend to the New-York Convention: A number of the Militia of Huntington, on Long-Island, are under arms, but a general complaint among them is, that their officers have deserted them, - - - - - 1260
- 31, Letter from Colonel Livingston to General Washington: Many of the inhabitants of Long-Island have been prevailed with by the disaffected to solicit pardons from General Howe. Our communication is cut off from New-York by land, and the ships are endeavouring to intercept it by water. General Woodhull was taken prisoner and cruelly treated by the enemy; after he was taken, he received a wound in the head, and was committed close prisoner to Jamaica Jail, - - - 1260
- 31, Letter from the Suffolk County, Long-Island, Committee, to Governour Trumbull: asking for assistance; most of their men capable of bearing arms are with the Army, - - - - - 1261
- 31, Letter from the Rev. S. Buell to Governour Trumbull: Without some assistance, ten thousand people in Suffolk County, with all the stock in the County, will fall into the enemy's hands, - - - - - 1261

1776.	
Aug. 31,	Letter from Cornelius C. Roosevelt to the New-York Convention, - - - - - 1262
31,	Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety (at the house of Mr. Odell, in Phillipse's Manor) to General Washington, - - - - - 1560
31,	Resolutions of the New-York Committee of Safety, for forming the Militia of King's and Queen's Counties, - - - - - 1561
31,	Letter from Colonel Hopkins to General George Clinton: The people at Frog's Neck pray for a reinforcement, - - - - - 1262
31,	Orders from General Heath to Lieutenant Langdon: to proceed immediately with a detachment and take post near the landing-place at Harlem, - - - - - 1262
31,	Letter from General Heath to the officer commanding at Mount Washington, - - - - - 1262
31,	Pay-roll of the officers on board the armed galley Lady Washington, - - - - - 1263
	Petition of Col. Morris Graham and the officers under his command to Gen. George Clinton, 1263
	Return of Elkanah Day's company, - - - - - 1263
	Muster-Roll of Captain Joseph Hatch's company of Rangers, under the command of Major Joab Hoisington, - - - - - 1264
31,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington, - - - - - 1264
31,	Letter from General Waterbury to Gen. Gates, 1265
31,	Letter from General Gates to Colonel Hartley, 1265
31,	Letter from Doctor Kennedy to General Gates: Report of the Surgeons on the health of the Army, - - - - - 1266
31,	Letter from Colonel Gansevoort to General Gates: For a reinforcement, agreeably to General Schuyler's orders, - - - - - 1266
31,	Letter from Colonel John Trumbull to James Bowdoin, - - - - - 1266
31,	Letter from General Arnold to General Gates: Is with the fleet at Button-Mould Bay. Despatched Lieutenant Whitcomb yesterday morning. Recommends the sending of a good officer, if one can be procured, to act as Captain of the Royal Savage, - - - - - 1266
Sept. 2,	Letter from General Gates to the President of Congress: In the removal of Captain Wynkoop a little of the dictatorial power was exerted, but perhaps it was never more necessary than on that occasion. Sends the proceedings of a General Court-Martial on Colonel Hazen, on a complaint exhibited by General Arnold; here, again, he was obliged to act dictatorially, and dissolve the court, the instant they demanded the arrest of General Arnold. Wishes this affair may be represented in the most favourable light to Congress, - - - - - 1267
	General Orders, by General Gates, Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, August 23 to September 2, 1268
	General Arnold's protest against the proceedings of the Court-Martial on Colonel Hazen, for rejecting the evidence of Major Scott, - - - - - 1272
	Minute of the Court requiring an apology from General Arnold, - - - - - 1273
	Letter from General Arnold to the Court, August 1: reflecting upon their vote, and informing them that as, in their apprehension, their nice honour is injured, as soon as the disagreeable service is ended he will withhold from no gentleman of the court the satisfaction his nice honour may require, - - - - - 1273
	Letter from the Court-Martial to General Gates, August 6: with their reasons for rejecting the evidence of Major Scott, - - - - - 1273
	Letter from the Court-Martial to General Gates, August 6: Review of the conduct of General Arnold, - - - - - 1273
	Letter from General Arnold to General Gates, August 7: The letter of the Court-Martial is couched in the most artful terms, to deceive and gloss over their private resentment, under an appearance of the greatest concern to keep up discipline, &c., - - - - - 1274
	Letter and extracts relating to the arrest of Commodore Wynkoop, - - - - - 1275
Aug. 31,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: The measures he has taken to afford assistance to Suffolk County, on Long-Island, - - - - - 1277

1776.	
Aug. 31,	Letter from the Committee of Southold, in Suffolk County, to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - 1279
31,	Committee of Guilford, Connecticut, agree to assist in removing the stock from Long-Island 1279
31,	Letter from Maltby Gelston to Gov. Trumbull, - - - - - 1279
31,	Rev. William Gordon's letter to the inhabitants of Massachusetts, - - - - - 1284
Sept. 1,	Resolution of the New-York Committee of Safety, (Croton River, at the house of John Blagge,) directing the Post between New-York and Albany to ride, for the present, on the east side of Hudson's River, - - - - - 1562
1,	Letter from General Washington to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1563
2,	Colonel Rensselaer informs the New-York Committee of Safety (at Fishkill, in Dutchess County) that the garrisons at forts Constitution and Montgomery are ill armed, and otherwise in a condition ill calculated to annoy the enemy, - - - - - 1562
3,	Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to the Committee for Westchester County, - - - - - 1564

## PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

1776.	
July 5,	James Dunlap appointed Surgeon of the Naval armament, - - - - - 1287
5,	Levi Hollingsworth and Thomas Richardson sent to New-York for cannon, - - - - - 1287
5,	Robert Towers, Commissary, ordered to deliver thirty thousand flints for the Army under General Washington, at New-York, - - - - - 1287
5,	Mr. Palmer and Mr. Nicholson appointed to examine and value the arms of the Non-Associators, - - - - - 1287
5,	The good women of Philadelphia requested to furnish as much old linen for lint and bandages as can be spared, - - - - - 1287
5,	Philadelphia Committee requested to procure linen for tents for the Associators, - - - - - 1288
6,	Pay of Officers of the armed boats, Provincial ship, and floating battery, - - - - - 1288
6,	Daniel Burkhard, George Hubley, Jacob Bunner, and Benjamin Weiser, recommended for Captains of the four German Companies, 1289
6,	Committees of Bucks, Chester, Northumberland, Lancaster, and Berks Counties, requested to publish the Declaration of Independence on Monday next, - - - - - 1289
6,	Sheriff of Philadelphia directed to read and proclaim at the State House, on Monday next, at twelve o'clock, the Declaration of Independence, - - - - - 1289
8,	Eight rounds of powder ordered for the Associators, to be used in training them, - - - - - 1289
8,	Army Regulations printed for the Associators going into the Continental service, - - - - - 1289
8,	Ironmasters employed in casting cannon or shot authorized to employ prisoners of war at Lancaster and Reading, - - - - - 1289
8,	Adam Kuhn appointed Physician and Surgeon-General to the troops under orders for New-Jersey, - - - - - 1290
8,	Persons employed in making guns, gun-locks, chevaux-de-frise, or piers, for the publick not to march with the Militia without special permission, - - - - - 1290
8,	Two hundred weight of lead to be delivered to Colonel Miles, for the use of the troops under his command, - - - - - 1290
8,	Committee to collect all the leaden window-weights, and other lead in Germantown and its neighbourhood, - - - - - 1290
9,	Two hundred pounds of lead ordered for an Artillery company of New-Jersey, - - - - - 1290
9,	Order for one hundred thousand dollars received from the Congress, - - - - - 1290
9,	Committee of Bucks County directed to have repaired all the fire-arms collected from the Non-Associators, - - - - - 1291
9,	Prisoners from North-Carolina permitted to write to their friends, - - - - - 1291
9,	Twelve hundred flints, one quarter cask of powder, sixty pikes, and powder and lead for sixty Riflemen, ordered to be delivered to Colonel Thomas McKean, of the Fourth Battalion, - - - - - 1291

1776.		
July 9,	Parole of Allan McDonald taken, - - -	1291
10,	Fifty pounds offered to any person who will apprehend Major Rodgers, and deliver him to the Council of Safety, - - -	1291
10,	Prisoners of war sent from Philadelphia to Yorktown, - - -	1292
11,	Committee to examine and value awnings to be taken and made up into tents, - - -	1292
12,	Committee to pay for the brigantine Nancy, - - -	1292
12,	Committee to draw up a plan for the support of the poor Associators upon the present expedition into the Jerseys, - - -	1293
12,	Lieutenant Webb, of the armed boat Bull-Dog, restored to his command, - - -	1293
12,	Lieutenants and Ensigns for the four German Companies recommended to Congress, - - -	1293
12,	Committees of Inspection and Observation of the several Counties requested to be vigilant in securing the arms of the Non-Associators, - - -	1293
15,	One hundred thousand cartridges directed to be sent to Jersey, - - -	1294
15,	Persons employed in the manufacture of small arms must be permitted to continue that necessary business, - - -	1294
15,	Abraham Marshall permitted to resign his commission, - - -	1294
15,	British Officers, prisoners, required to leave Philadelphia within twenty-four hours, and to repair straightway to the places where they are ordered to reside, - - -	1295
15,	Provision made for the support of the families of the poor Associators while in actual service, - - -	1295
16,	Alexander McDonald liberated on his parole, - - -	1296
16,	An allowance fixed for the maintenance of Mrs. Conolly, - - -	1296
17,	Persons who have leaden weights or clock-weights requested to give them up immediately to the persons appointed to collect them, - - -	1296
18,	Marines on board the ship and floating-battery allowed fifty shillings per month, - - -	1297
19,	James Carter appointed on the Committee for superintending the making of fire-locks and the gun-lock manufactory, for the use of the Province, - - -	1297
20,	Brigadier-General McKinley permitted to purchase fifty rifles in Lancaster, - - -	1298
22,	Minutes of the Council of Safety directed to be laid before the Convention, - - -	1298
July 24,	New Committee of Safety appointed by the Convention, - - -	1298
24,	Oath administered to the Members, - - -	1299
24,	Resolution on a letter from the Committee for Berks County, - - -	1299
24,	Letter to the Committee of Berks County, - - -	1300
25,	Jacob S. Howell appointed Secretary, - - -	1300
26,	Court-Martial on John Peale, Boatswain of the Ranger, ordered, - - -	1301
27,	John Maxwell Nesbit appointed Treasurer, - - -	1301
27,	Two tons of lead, and two tons of powder, made into cartridges, ordered for the use of the Army under General Mercer, - - -	1301
29,	Further provision made for the support of distressed families of Associators now in actual service, - - -	1302
29,	Two new cables and such small rigging as he may want for sinking the pier for fixing a boom at Fort Island, ordered to be delivered to John Colburn, - - -	1302
29,	Order to deliver Thomas Hazlewood two hundred pounds of brimstone for the use of the fire-rafts, - - -	1302
29,	Application to the Convention to determine the matter respecting the command of the fleet of the State, - - -	1303
31,	Captain Blewer ordered to procure and forward to General Mercer ten six-pound and ten four-pound cannon, - - -	1303
31,	Captain Hazlewood directed to deliver James Mease fifty barrels of combustibles, - - -	1303
31,	Warrants for the arrest of persons concerned in the escape of Colonel Kirkland, - - -	1303
31,	Persons employed at the iron works in casting cannon or shot for the publick ordered not to leave their respective works, nor to march with the Militia, - - -	1304

1776.		
July 31,	Depositions of John Walker and Martha Ash, respecting the escape of Colonel Kirkland, - - -	1304
Aug. 1,	Jacob Barge directed to attend the Board, - - -	1305
1,	Resolve that Rules and Regulations of the late House of Assembly respecting the Associators ought to be complied with, - - -	1305
1,	Captain John Hamilton, of the Congress, and Captain James Montgomery, of the Chatham, armed boats, resign their commissions, - - -	1306
2,	Warrant for apprehending John Thomas and Arthur Thomas, - - -	1306
2,	Warrant for apprehending John Hatton, Sen., and John Hatton, Jun., - - -	1307
2,	Letter to the Committee of Salem County, New-Jersey, respecting the arrest of Col. Kirkland, - - -	1307
5,	Order for the commitment of Alexander Maurice, charged as being inimical to the American States, - - -	1308
5,	Letters to the Delegates in Congress for arms, - - -	1308
5,	Commitment of John Hatton, Sen., to the State prison, - - -	1308
6,	Committees for hearing the complaints of the families of the Associators who have gone to camp, - - -	1309
6,	Thomas Wharton, Jun., chosen President and David Rittenhouse Vice-President of the Council of Safety, - - -	1309
6,	Sixty stand of arms to be supplied to the Town of Lancaster, - - -	1309
7,	Deputy Quartermaster-General's assistants authorized to quarter their troops in the several places of publick worship in Philadelphia, in turn, provided they cannot procure suitable quarters elsewhere, - - -	1310
7,	Colonel Matlack requested to lay before the Convention the necessity of raising the Flying-Camp, - - -	1310
7,	All the companies of Associators that are sufficiently provided ordered to proceed forward to the camp without delay, - - -	1310
7,	Commitment of John Conner, - - -	1310
8,	Commitment of William Sutton, - - -	1312
8,	Commitment of James McConaughy, - - -	1312
8,	Militia on their march towards the camp in New-Jersey to quarter in such private houses as are empty, - - -	1313
9,	Committee for carrying on the salt works erected by the late Committee of Safety in New-Jersey, - - -	1313
9,	Officers commissioned in Colonel Samuel Miles's battalion, - - -	1313
9,	Francis Mentges appointed a Lieutenant, in consequence of General Mercer's recommendation, and of Mentges's merit, - - -	1313
9,	Committee to fix upon a plan of the fortification at Billingsport, - - -	1313
9,	Two pieces of heavy cannon to be sent to camp in New-Jersey, - - -	1314
10,	Dispute about the naval command on the Delaware referred to the Convention, - - -	1314
12,	Letter to the President of the New-York Convention, informing him that William Sutton is confined in the State prison, - - -	1315
15,	Commanding Officers of each battalion or company of Associators requested forthwith to return a list of the names of the Associators who have deserted from their respective corps, - - -	1318
17,	Resolutions respecting the Associators on duty as guards in Philadelphia, - - -	1321
20,	Commodore Davison and the Captains of the galleys summoned to attend the Council on Thursday next, - - -	1322
20,	Warrant for the arrest of George Craws, charged with forgery, - - -	1322
20,	John Hatton, of New-Jersey, and John Hales, enlarged on bail, - - -	1322
21,	Lieutenant Brownback and Ensign Cypher summoned to attend the Council on Saturday next, the 24th instant, to answer for leaving their colours without leave of their commanding-officer, - - -	1322
21,	Lieutenant Greenway, of the ship Montgomery, resigns his commission, - - -	1323
22,	George Craws brought before the Council of Safety, - - -	1323
22,	Commitment of George Craws to the State prison, - - -	1324



1776.		
Aug. 22,	Commodore Davison and the Captains of the galleys appear before the Council, and are heard, - - - - -	1324
24,	Application to the Board of War for sixty stand of arms, to supply the Militia now on their way to camp, - - - - -	1325
27,	Printers in the State, in the present scarcity of cartridge-paper, requested to spare a quantity of their paper for the purpose of making cartridges, - - - - -	1326
27,	Samuel Davison dismissed from the command of the naval armament of Pennsylvania, - - - - -	1327
27,	Henry Dougherty appointed to the command of the Delaware galley, building at Kensington, - - - - -	1327
27,	John Rice appointed Commander of Convention galley, - - - - -	1327
27,	Reward for the apprehension of the ringleaders in the riot this day, at the barracks, in Philadelphia, - - - - -	1327
28,	Commanding Officers of the troops in Philadelphia directed to proceed with all their men to Amboy, to-morrow morning, and not to wait for any arms or ammunition, - - - - -	1327
30,	Commission granted for the privateer brig General Montgomery, commanded by James Montgomery, - - - - -	1330
30,	Resolution of the Council of Safety on the reports of designing men, that there are more troops in the camp in Jersey than are wanted, - - - - -	1330

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

1776.		
July 6,	Council of Safety meets at Annapolis, - - - - -	1331
6,	Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer appointed President, and Charles Carroll Vice President, - - - - -	1331
7,	Contract with John Yost for making three hundred muskets, - - - - -	1331
8,	Lieutenant Moore to throw up intrenchments for the protection of Annapolis, - - - - -	1331
9,	Advertisement for supplies for the troops, - - - - -	1332
9,	Field-Officers for the Upper Battalion of Militia of Prince George's County appointed, - - - - -	1332
9,	Colonel Smallwood directed to make a return of his Battalion, - - - - -	1332
9,	Company officers appointed for Colonel Smallwood's battalion of regular forces, - - - - -	1333
10,	Advertisement for a number of labourers, - - - - -	1333
11,	Resolutions of the Associators of the City of Annapolis presented, - - - - -	1334
11,	Captain Fulford authorized to employ as many men for the protection of Annapolis as can conveniently work at the intrenchments, - - - - -	1334
13,	The proprietors of Poplar-Island, Tilghman's, Sharp's, Baron, and James's Islands, and the Islands from Hooper's to Cagre's Straits, required to remove from them immediately all the stock except such as are used for tillage, - - - - -	1335
16,	Committee to superintend the fortifications and breastworks in the City of Annapolis, under the direction of the commanding officer, - - - - -	1337
18,	Three four-pounders sent down to St. Mary's County, - - - - -	1338
18,	Commanding Officer in St. Mary's County directed to take under his charge the schooner lately taken from the enemy; likewise the sloop aground there, if it can be done with safety, - - - - -	1338
18,	Colonel Hale's battalion to march immediately to Annapolis, - - - - -	1339
18,	All persons between Annapolis and St. Mary's County requested to give their aid and assistance in getting down the cannon, ammunition, &c., to St. George's Island, - - - - -	1339
19,	Captain Thomas's company ordered to proceed immediately to St. Mary's County, - - - - -	1339
20,	Militia companies on duty at Annapolis discharged, - - - - -	1340
22,	Denwood Turpin and Solomon Ward, brought under guard from Somerset County, examined before the Council of Safety, - - - - -	1341
22,	Slaughter-houses in Annapolis prohibited, - - - - -	1341
23,	Alexander McGee, of Baltimore County, examined before the Council of Safety, - - - - -	1341
25,	No person whatever hereafter permitted to embark on board any man-of-war, tender, or other vessel, in order to remove out of this Colony to Great Britain, - - - - -	1342

1776.		
July 26,	Charges against the Rev. John Scott, examined by the Council, - - - - -	1343
27,	Commissions to Militia officers issued, - - - - -	1344
29,	Heavy cannon to be sent to Annapolis, - - - - -	1344
30,	Commanding officer at Annapolis requested to arrest William Warren Clayton, and bring him immediately before the Council, - - - - -	1345
31,	Order for the arrest of William Yedel, - - - - -	1345
Aug. 1,	Commissions to officers in Colonel Kent's battalion of Militia for the Flying-Camp, - - - - -	1346
2,	Commissions for officers of a company in Kent County, for the Flying-Camp, - - - - -	1347
3,	William Bartlett Townsend brought before the Council, examined, and committed to a guard, - - - - -	1347
3,	Colonel Ewing ordered to march his battalion, in detachments, as fast as they are armed, to Philadelphia, - - - - -	1347
3,	Basil Clarkson, Joseph Wheland, John Evans, and Robert Howith, brought before the Council, examined, and committed to Jail, - - - - -	1347
5,	Commissions issued to officers of Colonel Hall's battalion of Militia for the Flying-Camp, - - - - -	1348
6,	Sundry commissions issued, - - - - -	1348
7,	Commissions to Colonel Griffith's battalion, &c., - - - - -	1350
20,	Caleb Jones examined before the Council, and placed under bonds, - - - - -	1356
27,	Colonel Hall requested to march his battalion, with all convenient speed, to Philadelphia, - - - - -	1360

NORTH-CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

1776.		
July 9,	Three tons of powder to be sent from the Brigades of Edenton, Halifax, and Newbern, for Charlestown, - - - - -	1363
10,	Oath to be taken by Judges of the Courts for hearing and determining Maritime matters, at the ports of Edenton, Bath, Newbern, and Wilmington, - - - - -	1363
11,	Proceedings on the information that many persons within the Province, inimical to the liberties of America, have offered Bills of Credit at a depreciation, - - - - -	1363
11,	Money advanced to Richard Blackledge, to enable him to erect and carry on salt works, - - - - -	1363
15,	Rev. George Micklejohn to be removed immediately from the County of Orange, - - - - -	1364
15,	Commissioners for the purchase of gunpowder, lead, &c., appointed, - - - - -	1364
22,	Committees of the respective Towns and Counties in the Colony required, on receiving the Declaration of Independence, to cause it to be proclaimed in the most publick manner, - - - - -	1365
23,	Five hundred men, under the command of Colonel Taylor, to be marched, with all expedition, to the western frontiers, - - - - -	1365
	William Miller, Andrew Wilson, and William Clarke, sent to particular places, on parole, - - - - -	1365
25,	New Test subscribed by the members of the Council of Safety, - - - - -	1366
25,	John Hunter sent to the town of Martinsborough, on parole, - - - - -	1366
25,	Resolution to encourage the importation of common salt, - - - - -	1366
25,	Resolution to prevent the forestalling of common salt, - - - - -	1367
26,	Resolution to enforce the directions of Congress respecting exportation, - - - - -	1367
27,	Agreement with Robert Neilson for the importation of salt, arms, and ammunition, - - - - -	1367
27,	William Turner and others committed to Jail for passing counterfeit money, - - - - -	1367
27,	Thursday, the 1st of August, set apart for proclaiming the Declaration of Independence, in the town of Halifax, - - - - -	1368
29,	Resolution of the Continental Congress, of the 24th of June last, with respect to treason, sent to the respective Counties and Towns of the Colony, to be made publick, - - - - -	1368
29,	Order for the arrest of William Harrell, - - - - -	1369
29,	General Rutherford directed to order three hundred men to act in concert with the Virginia forces against the Overhill Cherokees, - - - - -	1369
30,	Examinations respecting sundry persons concerned in passing counterfeit money, - - - - -	1369
30,	Thomas Harrison, suspected of being an enemy to the Colony, arrested, - - - - -	1369



1776.

- Aug.* 1, John Gale, or William Calvert, appointed to command the brigantine Betsey, now lying in Edenton Bay, laden with a cargo on Continental account, - - - 1370
- 1, Arrangement with Robert Smith, of Edenton, for the importation of salt, arms, ammunition, and other warlike stores, - - - 1370
- 2, Order for the arrest of John Smith, charged with passing counterfeit money, - - - 1371
- 3, Order for the arrest of John Pitts, - - - 1371
- 3, Charges against William Edwards declared to be totally groundless, - - - 1371
- 3, Directions for appointing proper persons to explain to the people of the western parts of the Colony the justice and necessity of the measures pursued by the United States of America for sustaining our civil rights and liberties, - 1371
- 5, Agreement with John Webb, for importing salt, arms, ammunition, and other warlike stores, - 1371
- 6, Colonel Folesome and Colonel Smith appointed to proclaim the Declaration of Independence in Cumberland County, - - - 1372
- 7, Committee of Edenton authorized to appoint a known friend of American independence to command the brig Betsey, - - - 1372
- 9, Recommendation to the people to pay great attention to the election to be held on the 15th of October next, - - - 1373
- 9, Lewis Williamson next, required to keep possession of the books and papers of Anthony Warwick & Co., - - - 1373
- 9, Richard Dunnivan and William Miller discharged from parole, and declared to be members and free citizens of the State, - - - 1373
- 12, Lead Mine on Great Fishing Creek, in the County of Halifax, ordered to be examined, 1374
- 13, James Childs, a preacher of the New-Light Baptist persuasion, declared to be an enemy to the State, - - - 1375
- 13, John Campbell to be henceforward considered as a member and free citizen of the State, - 1375
- 13, Adjourned to Wake County, at the house of Joel Lane, - - - 1375
- Aug.* 21, Council met in Wake County, - - - 1376
- Samuel Ash chosen President, in place of Cornelius Harnet, who has leave of absence, - 1376
- 22, Petition from the Committee of the settlements of Watauga and Holstein, called by them the Washington District, - - - 1376
- 22, Officers and soldiers of Virginia and this State, who have marched against the Cherokees, requested to restore to the owners the stock they may recapture from the Indians, - - 1376
- 23, John Cowper, of Beaufort County, merchant, required to deliver, on oath, an exact account of the quantity of salt he has now in his possession, 1377
- 23, On information that the Cherokees, of the Lower, Middle, and Valley settlements, have abandoned their towns, the order for reinforcing General Rutherford is countermanded, - 1377
- 23, Persons, of the Militia in Hillsborough District, who have refused to do duty, to be tried by Courts-Martial, - - - 1377
- 23, Conner Doud directed to sell the salt in his possession to the Whigs who bore arms in the late expedition against the Tories at Moore's Creek, - - - 1377
- 24, Petition of a number of inhabitants of Cumberland County, complaining of many abuses committed by Colonel Folesome, - - - 1377
- 26, Proceedings in relation to William Campbell, late owner of the ship Alexander, - - - 1378
- 28, Reneca Julian, James Walker, Jacob Elliot, Abraham Woodward, James Wilson, William Draper, and John Underhill, brought from Guilford County, as persons inimical to the cause of America, - - - 1378
- 28, Commissioners at the ports of Edenton, Bath, Newbern, and Wilmington, empowered to give permits to vessels for any of the French, Spanish, Dutch, or Danish Islands, - 1379
- Adjourned to Salisbury, in the County of Rowan, 1379
- Sept.* 6, Council met at Salisbury, - - - 1379
- 6, James Hunter and Joseph Dobson, of Guilford County, admitted as free citizens and members of the State, - - - 1379

1776.

- Sept.* 7, The troops stationed on the frontiers of Tryon County, to remain there, - - - 1379
- 9, Petition for the release of Michael Holt, late of Orange County, at present confined in Philadelphia, - - - 1380
- 13, Adjourned to the Town of Halifax, in the County of Halifax, - - - 1380
- Sept.* 27, Council met at Halifax, - - - 1381
- 27, Willie Jones chosen President, in place of Samuel Ashe, who has leave of absence, - 1381
- 27, Order for the arrest of Hance Hamilton, of Granville County, a person inimical to the liberties of America, - - - 1381
- 27, Soldiers, except such as have a right to vote, not permitted to be or appear at the ensuing election of Delegates, - - - 1382
- Oct.* 1, Orders to Sylvanus Pendleton, commander of the armed brig King Taminy, - - - 1382
- 1, Orders to Joshua Hempstead, commander of the armed vessel Pennsylvania Farmer, - 1382
- Adjourned to meet at this Town of Halifax, on the 17th, - - - 1383
- 17, General Moore requested to lay before the Council a state of the Continental forces in the State, - - - 1383
- 21, Commission for the privateer sloop Polly issued, - - - 1383
- 21, Further orders to Captain Pendleton, - - 1383
- Orders to Captain John Foster, commander of the armed brig General Washington, - - 1384
- 23, Further orders to Captain Hempstead, - - 1384
- The Continental Battalions in North-Carolina, being far from complete, sickly, and ill provided with clothing, their march to the North is suspended, - - - 1384
- 25, General Howe directed to reclaim the North-Carolina soldiers enlisted in the service of South-Carolina, and to remand the whole of the North-Carolina troops now in Georgia - 1385
- 25, Nicholas Long directed to take into his possession the Tory horses and wagons condemned by the last Congress, - - - 1386

## NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

1776.

- July* 9, Provincial Congress met at the Court-House in the Town of White-Plains, in the County of Westchester, - - - 1385
- 9, General Nathaniel Woodhull elected President, 1385
- 9, John McKesson and Robert Benson chosen Secretaries, - - - 1385
- 9, Credentials of the Delegates presented, - - 1385
- 9, Deputies from Charlotte County produced no credentials, - - - 1387
- 9, Members who had not been sworn required to take the general oath of secrecy, - - - 1387
- 9, Benjamin Smith, refusing to take the oath of secrecy, required to withdraw, - - - 1387
- 9, Letter from the Delegates in Congress, dated July 2, received and read, - - - 1387
- 9, Letter from the Delegates in Congress, enclosing the Declaration of Independence, - - - 1387
- 9, Committee on the Declaration of Independence, 1389
- 9, Letter from Joseph Reed, Adjutant-General of the American Army, read and referred, - 1389
- 9, Committee to consider and report on the letters on the subject of the new regiment, - 1390
- 9, Letter from William Goforth, dated July 6, resigning his commission of Major, - - - 1390
- 9, Resolutions approving the Declaration of Independence, - - - 1391
- 9, Committee to consider and report the proper places for the reception and means of support of the poor inhabitants of the City and County of New-York, - - - 1391
- 9, Additional powers granted to the Committee on the conspiracy lately discovered, - - 1391
- 10, Credentials of the Delegates from Tryon County, 1392
- 10, Credentials of the Delegates from the City and County of New-York, - - - 1393
- 10, Depositions and Examinations taken by the Secret Committee, delivered by Mr. Morris, 1393
- 10, Style and title of the House changed from "The Provincial Congress of the Colony of New-York," to "The Convention of the Representatives of the State of New York," - 1393

1776.

July 10, Committee to confer with the Commander-in-Chief, concerning the preservation of the stock on Long-Island, - - - - -	1393
10, Recommendation of Congress to form a Government to be considered on Tuesday next, - - - - -	1394
10, Letter from the Committee of East and South Hampton, dated July 5, relative to the stock of cattle, - - - - -	1394
10, Letter to Egbert Benson, - - - - -	1394
11, Letter to the Continental Congress, - - - - -	1395
11, Committee of Tryon County authorized to take the leaden weights out of all the windows in the County, - - - - -	1397
11, Lead furnished to Charlotte, Cumberland, and Gloucester Counties, - - - - -	1397
11, Committee on the refusal of the Troop of Horse of Westchester County to furnish their quota for reinforcing the Army at New-York, - - - - -	1397
11, Letter from the President of Congress, of July 6, enclosing the Declaration of Independence, - - - - -	1397
11, Letter to the President of Congress, - - - - -	1398
12, Letter to the Committees of East and South-Hampton, - - - - -	1398
12, Memorial from Officers, complaining of improper appointments by Congress, - - - - -	1398
12, Letter to the President of Congress on the subject of these complaints, - - - - -	1399
12, Information received that three ships-of-war had passed New-York and sailed up Hudson's River, - - - - -	1399
12, Committee to take such measures as may be necessary on the occasion, - - - - -	1399
13, Ammunition ordered for the Militia of Queen's County, - - - - -	1399
13, Letter to Colonel Pierre Van Cortlandt, - - - - -	1400
13, Letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Hammond, - - - - -	1400
13, Letter to General Washington, - - - - -	1400
15, Letter from General Washington, of July 14, - - - - -	1401
15, Letter to General Washington, - - - - -	1401
15, Committee to consider General Washington's letter of July 14, - - - - -	1402
15, Letter from Colonel Hammond, of July 14: Has taken one John Fowler, returning from on board the men-of-war, - - - - -	1402
15, Letter from Colonel Hammond, dated at Tarrytown this day: The men are very desirous of being relieved, - - - - -	1402
15, Colonel Thomas ordered to relieve the Militia stationed at Tarrytown, - - - - -	1403
15, Letter to Colonel Hammond, - - - - -	1403
15, Resolution of the Convention to cooperate cheerfully with General Washington, if he should think it expedient to abandon the city of New-York, and retire to the north of King's Bridge, - - - - -	1403
15, Letter to General Washington, - - - - -	1403
16, Letter from Colonel Hammond, with a return of the men under his command, - - - - -	1404
16, Letter to Colonel Hammond, - - - - -	1404
16, Letter from Joseph Travis, dated at Peekskill, July 15, - - - - -	1404
16, Petition of Cadwallader Colden, Jun., dated at Ulster County Jail, July 6, - - - - -	1404
16, Letter to the Committee for Ulster County, - - - - -	1405
16, Letter from Colonel Hammond, - - - - -	1405
16, Resolutions for the defence of the Highlands, - - - - -	1406
16, Letter to Colonel Van Cortlandt, - - - - -	1407
16, Letter to the Commissioners for building the Continental ships at Poughkeepsie, - - - - -	1407
16, Resolution of the General Committee of Dutchess County, of July 13, - - - - -	1408
16, Letter from the Committee of Dutchess County, dated July 12: read and referred, - - - - -	1408
16, Secret Committee for obstructing the channel of Hudson's River, or annoying the enemy's ships in their navigating up that river, - - - - -	1409
16, Letter to General Washington, - - - - -	1409
16, Consideration of the necessity and propriety of establishing an independent civil government postponed to the 1st of August next, - - - - -	1410
16, Resolutions defining treason against the State, - - - - -	1410
17, Letter from Colonel Malcom: Many of his men are without arms, - - - - -	1410
17, Secret Committee impowered to impress boats, vessels, teams, wagons, horses, and drivers, - - - - -	1411
17, Order for the arrest and confinement of James Horton, Jun., William Sutton, and John Sutton, - - - - -	1412

1776.

July 17, Letter from General Scott, dated New-York, July 16, - - - - -	1412
17, Field-Officers of the Regiments of Militia, to go into immediate service, appointed, - - - - -	1412
17, Letter or Report from John McDonald, dated Little Nine Partners' Mine, - - - - -	1413
17, Letter from Egbert Benson, dated July 12, again read, - - - - -	1413
17, Report on the letter read and postponed, - - - - -	1413
17, Letter from the Committee appointed to confer with General Washington, dated New-York, July 12, - - - - -	1414
17, Report on the Letter read and postponed, - - - - -	1414
17, Letter from Colonel Hammond, - - - - -	1414
18, Committee to examine two prisoners apprehended by Major Graham, - - - - -	1415
18, Letter to the Committee for the town of Rochester, in Ulster County, - - - - -	1415
18, The President ordered to absolve all the Members and the Secretaries from the oath of secrecy taken under the resolution of the 5th of June last, relative to dangerous and disaffected persons, - - - - -	1415
18, Members added to the Committee on the horned cattle and live stock on Nassau-Island, - - - - -	1415
18, Letter from David Matthews and application from John L. C. Rome, referred to the Committee appointed to deal with dangerous and disaffected persons, - - - - -	1415
18, Report on the Rangers for the defence of the frontier Counties read and recommitted, - - - - -	1415
18, Letter from Colonel Pierre Van Cortlandt and Captain Zephaniah Platt: read and ordered to be sent to General Washington, - - - - -	1416
18, Letter to General Washington, - - - - -	1416
18, Report on the cattle on Nassau-Island: considered and postponed, - - - - -	1417
18, Report of Committee on dangerous and disaffected persons, - - - - -	1417
18, Report approved, and prisoners directed to be sent to Litchfield, Connecticut, - - - - -	1417
19, Bond of John Carpenter and others, for money for erecting a powder-mill, - - - - -	1418
19, Report of the Committee relative to the cattle on Nassau-Island further considered, - - - - -	1419
19, Letter to the Committee of Litchfield, Connecticut, - - - - -	1419
19, Letter from Colonel Hammond, at Cortlandt's Ferry, - - - - -	1420
19, Committee of Westchester County requested to meet on the 22d instant, for the trial of prisoners now in jail, - - - - -	1420
19, Consideration of the report on the horned cattle and live stock on Nassau-Island resumed, - - - - -	1420
20, Letter from Colonel Henry Ludenton, of Dutchess County, of July 19, - - - - -	1422
20, Letter to Colonel Ludenton, - - - - -	1422
20, Letter from General Washington, dated July 19, read and sent to the Secret Committee, - - - - -	1422
20, Resolutions formed on the report of the Committee on General Washington's answer relating to horned cattle on Nassau-Island, - - - - -	1424
20, Letter to General Washington, - - - - -	1425
20, Committee to transact business during the adjournment of the House, - - - - -	1426
20, Letter from Colonel Weisenfels, dated New-York, July 14, - - - - -	1426
21, Permission given to dismiss a portion of the men from neighbouring States now doing duty on Hudson's River, - - - - -	1427
22, Letter from Colonel Joseph Drake, - - - - -	1428
22, Committee on his complaint, - - - - -	1428
22, Letter from John Alsop, Delegate in Congress, dated July 16, - - - - -	1428
22, Mr. Alsop's resignation accepted, - - - - -	1428
22, Report of the Committee on raising Rangers in the northern Counties of the State, - - - - -	1429
22, The report considered and agreed to, - - - - -	1430
22, Letter to the Delegates in Congress on the subject of the dismissal of John Alsop, - - - - -	1431
22, Committee to wait on General Gates, and obtain a full insight into the state of the northern Army, - - - - -	1431
23, Committee to wait on Governour Trumbull, - - - - -	1432
23, Exportation of provisions from the port of New-York prohibited, - - - - -	1432
23, Letter to General Gates, - - - - -	1432
23, Letter to Leonard Gansevoort and Jacob Cuyler, - - - - -	1433

1776.		
July 23,	Resolutions for the raising and appointment of Rangers in the northern Counties, - - -	1433
23,	Company of men to be raised for a guard to the stores and vessels with provisions and ammunition in and about Albany, - - -	1435
24,	Report of the Committee on the manufacture of saltpetre, - - -	1436
24,	Gunpowder sent to the Indians, - - -	1436
24,	Committee to provide modes of providing for deserving officers who stood forth in defence of the liberties of America in the dawn of this dispute, - - -	1436
24,	Two hundred thousand Pounds, in Bills of Credit, ordered to be immediately struck and issued for the publick exigencies of the State, - - -	1437
24,	Joab Hoisington appointed Major of the Rangers raised in Gloucester and Cumberland Counties, - - -	1437
24,	Examination of witnesses on the complaints against Colonel Hammond, - - -	1438
24,	Commission to Major Hoisington, - - -	1439
25,	Letter from Colonel Van Cortlandt and Captain Platt, dated at Peekskill, July 23, - - -	1440
25,	Letter to Colonel Van Cortlandt and Captain Platt, - - -	1440
25,	Committee to examine Balthazar de Hart, - - -	1441
25,	Letter from the Committee of Litchfield, Connecticut, dated July 22, - - -	1441
25,	Committee to consider the state of the prisoners lately sent to Litchfield, - - -	1441
25,	Report of the Committee on the case of James Stewart, - - -	1441
25,	Affidavits with respect to the inimical declarations and threats used by William Sutton and his son, John Sutton, - - -	1443
26,	Examination of Balthazar de Hart, - - -	1444
26,	Letter to Governour Trumbull, - - -	1445
26,	Letter to the Committee of Litchfield, Connecticut, - - -	1446
26,	Letter to General Washington, - - -	1446
26,	Letter to the Committee of Monmouth County, New-Jersey, - - -	1446
26,	Letter to the President of the Convention of New-Jersey, - - -	1446
26,	Report on the Troop of Horse in Westchester County, - - -	1447
26,	Petition of William Sutton, - - -	1447
26,	Letter from Dr. Graham, - - -	1448
26,	Memorial of Alexander Stewart, - - -	1448
26,	Examination of William Sutton, - - -	1449
27,	Letter from Colonel Nicoll, July 22, - - -	1450
27,	Letter from Colonel Swartwout, Fishkill, July 25, - - -	1450
27,	Letter from Dr. Cooke, Poughkeepsie, July 24, - - -	1450
27,	Letter from General Washington, New-York, July 24, - - -	1450
27,	Letter from Governour Trumbull, Lebanon, July 17, - - -	1452
27,	Letter to Governour Trumbull, - - -	1452
27,	Letter from Colonel Henry Remsen, one of the Members for the City of New-York, July 24, - - -	1452
27,	Letter from the New-York Committee, July 26, - - -	1453
27,	Thomas Fleet's bond, - - -	1453
27,	Letter from Robert Yates, Poughkeepsie, July 22, - - -	1453
27,	Letter from Henry Wilmot, July 26, - - -	1454
27,	Letter to Captain Hazlewood, - - -	1454
27,	William Sutton sent under a safe guard, at his own expense, to the jail of Philadelphia, - - -	1454
27,	Letter to the Chairman of the Committee of Philadelphia, - - -	1455
27,	Report on the Petition of Alexander Stewart, - - -	1455
27,	John Sutton admonished and discharged, - - -	1456
27,	Adjourned to meet at Harlem on Monday next, - - -	1457
29,	Convention met in the Church at Harlem: no quorum, - - -	1457
30,	Petition of Richard Cantillon, of Amenia precinct, and John Parkinson, of Charlotte precinct, in Dutchess County, - - -	1457
30,	The Doorkeeper, who necessarily hears many of the debates of the Convention, sworn to secrecy, - - -	1458
30,	Report on supplying the good people of the State with salt agreed to, - - -	1458
30,	Information received that a number of disaffected persons had enlisted in the Continental service, - - -	1459

1776.		
July 30,	Letter from the Committee at Kingston, July 23, acknowledging the receipt of prisoners, - - -	1459
30,	Letter from several Captains of Militia in King's County, July 26, - - -	1460
31,	Returns required of the state of the Militia in the several Brigades of the State, on the 1st of September next, - - -	1461
31,	Letter from Colonel Joseph Drake, at New-Rochelle, July 24, - - -	1461
31,	Richard Morris appointed Judge of the High Court of Admiralty of the State, - - -	1461
31,	John McKesson appointed Register, and Robert Benson appointed Marshal and Provost Marshal of the High Court of Admiralty, - - -	1461
31,	Letter from Cornelius C. Roosevelt, - - -	1461
31,	Letter from Captain Alexander Hamilton, - - -	1462
31,	Letter from Joseph Robinson, Deputy Chairman of the Committee of Queen's County, - - -	1462
31,	Memorial of Lieutenant-Colonel Stockholm and Major Livingston, - - -	1463
31,	Committee of Dutchess County requested to send a guard to John R. Livingston's powder-mill, - - -	1463
31,	Letter from William Datcher, offering to raise a company, - - -	1463
31,	Objections made by Mr. Morris to General Scott's right to a seat in the Convention, - - -	1463
31,	Letter from the Committee for Queen's County, July 24, - - -	1464
Aug. 1,	Militia of Charlotte, Cumberland, and Gloucester, formed into two brigades, - - -	1464
1,	Jacob Bayley, of Newbury, appointed Brigadier-General of the Militia of Gloucester and Cumberland Counties, - - -	1464
1,	Report on issuing a second emission of bills of credit in the Colony read and recommitted, - - -	1465
1,	Committee to report a plan for instituting and framing a form of Government and a bill of rights, - - -	1466
1,	Petition of Alexander Robertson and others, who propose to make salt, - - -	1466
1,	Letter from the Committee for Queen's County: enclosing Lord Howe's Proclamation, - - -	1466
1,	General Scott requested to take into custody Sheriff Willet, of Queen's County, - - -	1467
1,	Letter from Colonel Ritzema to John McKesson, - - -	1467
2,	Committee on the letter from John Berrien, on the frequent sales of Bohea tea, - - -	1469
2,	Letter from John Berrien and others, dated New-York, July 30, - - -	1469
2,	Quit rents formerly due and payable to the King, are now declared to be due to the State, - - -	1470
2,	Day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer, appointed for the 27th instant, - - -	1470
2,	Richard Morris declines to accept the office of Judge of the Court of Admiralty, - - -	1471
2,	Memorial of Daniel Shaw, - - -	1471
2,	Letter from the Committee at the White-Plains, - - -	1471
2,	Letter to the Committee at Kingston, relative to the prisoners there on parole, - - -	1471
3,	Letter to the absent Members of the Secret Committee, - - -	1472
3,	Letter from Abraham Cuyler and others, for permission to return to their respective homes, - - -	1472
3,	Mr. Morris's motion for a peremptory order to the Committee at Albany to return their proceedings against Abraham Cuyler and others rejected, - - -	1473
3,	Letter from Colonel Van Cortlandt and Captain Platt, August 2, - - -	1473
5,	Lewis Graham appointed Judge of the Court of Admiralty of the State, - - -	1474
5,	Application of William Goforth and John Houston for encouragement for erecting salt-works, - - -	1475
5,	Telescope belonging to the College in New-York taken for General Washington, - - -	1475
5,	Letter from the Committee for the City of New-York, - - -	1476
6,	Letter to General Washington, - - -	1477
6,	Examination of Thomas Willett, - - -	1478
6,	Letter to the Committee of the City of New-York, - - -	1480
6,	Consideration of the question on Mr. Scott's eligibility postponed till to-morrow, - - -	1481

1776.

Aug. 7, Committee to report regulations for establishing a fund in the State, - - - - -	1481
7, Memorial of Abel Noble and Peter Townsend, - - - - -	1481
7, Letter from Richard Speight, of August 1, - - - - -	1482
7, Mr. Roosevelt's report on printing and signing the bills of credit under the resolutions of 5th March and 8th May last, - - - - -	1482
7, Letter to the Delegates of the State in Congress, - - - - -	1483
7, Letter from the General Committee of the City of New-York, - - - - -	1484
7, Committee of New-York requested to detain in jail the persons taken up by General Washington, - - - - -	1484
7, Report on the state of the Troopers in the Militia, - - - - -	1485
7, Consideration of the propriety of General Scott's being admitted to a seat in the Convention postponed till Friday next, - - - - -	1485
7, Edward Willett, Sen., Edward Willett, Jun., and Thomas Hicks examined and discharged, - - - - -	1485
7, Committee to examine Nathaniel Mills of Jamaica, - - - - -	1486
7, Committee to report regulations for establishing a fund in the State dissolved, - - - - -	1487
8, Letter from General Washington: Giving intelligence received by two deserters from the Solebay man-of-war, - - - - -	1487
8, Letter from General Washington relative to the Militia called forth from the Counties of Dutchess, Ulster, Westchester, and Orange, - - - - -	1487
8, Letter to Brigadier-General Clinton, - - - - -	1489
8, Letter to General Washington, - - - - -	1489
8, Letter from Abraham Le Dieu, of Westchester County: Offering to raise a company of volunteers, - - - - -	1489
9, Examination of Jacob Halsted, of Orange County, - - - - -	1490
9, Petition of James Cargill, Saltpetre maker: Praying to be exempted from military duty, - - - - -	1491
9, Letter to General Washington, - - - - -	1491
10, Certain machines in the City of New-York, said to be the property of Captain Foy, taken for the use of Samuel Ogden, - - - - -	1493
10, Commission to Lewis Graham, - - - - -	1494
10, All persons between the ages of sixteen and fifty abiding in any County for fourteen days to be enrolled in the Militia, - - - - -	1494
10, Abraham Yates, Jun., chosen President, in the necessary absence of General Woodhull, - - - - -	1494
10, Resolutions respecting the Militia, - - - - -	1494
10, Letter to William Paulding, - - - - -	1496
10, Order for the preservation of the publick stores in New-York, where an attack is daily expected, - - - - -	1497
10, Committee to repair to King's County and ascertain the truth of a report that the people there will not oppose the enemy, - - - - -	1497
12, Letter to John Jay and R. R. Livingston: Requesting their attendance in the Convention, - - - - -	1498
13, General Washington authorized to apply certain houses to the use of the General Hospital of the American Army, - - - - -	1499
13, Memorial of Captain Jacobus Roos, - - - - -	1499
13, Letter from General Washington, of August 11, - - - - -	1500
13, Intelligence brought from Oswego by Lieutenant McMichael, - - - - -	1501
13, Letter from General Washington, of August 12, - - - - -	1501
13, General Scott empowered, with the permission of General Washington, to dispose of Willett Taylor, - - - - -	1502
13, Letter to General Washington, - - - - -	1502
13, Letter from Colonel Blauvelt, of August 10, - - - - -	1503
13, The President of the Convention authorized, in case of urgent necessity, to remove the publick papers to a place of safety, - - - - -	1504
13, Resolutions providing for the issue of five hundred dollars in bills of credit, - - - - -	1504
13, Examination of Isaac Burga, - - - - -	1506
14, Mr. Polhemus admitted to a seat as a Deputy from King's County, - - - - -	1506
14, Letter from the Committee appointed to take depositions at Jamaica, - - - - -	1507
14, Examination of Nathaniel Mills, Caleb Mills, Joshua Mills, and Elizabeth Hicks, - - - - -	1507
14, Order for the arrest of Elizabeth Hicks, - - - - -	1507
14, Encouragement for the manufacture of Saltpetre and Gunpowder, - - - - -	1508

1776.

Aug. 14, Letter from Captain Alexander Hamilton, - - - - -	1509
14, Persons employed in certain manufactures exempted from military duty, - - - - -	1510
14, Memorial of John Holt and others, - - - - -	1510
14, Letter from Henry Remsen to John McKesson, August 11, - - - - -	1510
14, Letter from Joseph Trumbull, Commissary General, - - - - -	1511
15, Letter from General Washington, of August 14, - - - - -	1511
15, Letter from Henry Wilmot, of August 14, - - - - -	1512
15, Examination of John Sloane and Thomas Clarke, - - - - -	1512
15, Letter from Jacob Cuyler and Leonard Gansevoort, Commissioners sent to the Northern Army, - - - - -	1513
16, Plan for obstructing the navigation of the East River submitted to General Washington, - - - - -	1514
16, General Clinton requested to remove all the cannon lying beyond King's Bridge, - - - - -	1514
16, Letter from the Secret Committee at Poughkeepsie, August 13, - - - - -	1515
16, Letter from Robert Yates, Chairman of the Secret Committee, August 14, - - - - -	1515
16, Letter from Thomas Grant, - - - - -	1516
16, Letter to the Committee for Ulster County, - - - - -	1517
17, Order for the removal of the prisoners from Kingston to Morristown, in New-Jersey, - - - - -	1518
17, Letter to the Committee for Ulster County, - - - - -	1518
17, Order for stopping up the channel between the Grand Battery and Governour's Island, - - - - -	1518
17, Letter to General Washington, - - - - -	1518
17, Committee of Safety appointed to sit during the adjournment of the Convention, - - - - -	1519
17, Report of John McDonald, miner, - - - - -	1519
17, Letter of Ezra Thomson, - - - - -	1519
17, Letter from General Washington: Recommending the removal of the women and children from New-York, - - - - -	1520
17, Committee for the removal of such persons, - - - - -	1520
17, Letter to General Washington, - - - - -	1521
18, Letter from General Washington: on obstructing the navigation of the East River, - - - - -	1521
COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.	
19, Letter to General Clinton on discharging the Orange County Troop, - - - - -	1522
19, John McDonald authorized to prosecute the exploring the lead mine in the Great Nine Partners of Ezra Thomson, - - - - -	1522
19, Mr. Duer requested to consult with General Washington, on obstructing the navigation of Hudson's River, - - - - -	1522
20, Letter from General Morris, New-Rochelle, August 18, - - - - -	1522
CONVENTION.	
20, Letter from the Committee for Westchester County, concerning some prisoners of war and Tories, lately confined in their jail, August 17, - - - - -	1523
20, Letter from the prisoners in White Plains Jail, - - - - -	1523
20, Commissioners appointed to dispose of and provide for prisoners, - - - - -	1523
20, Letter from Jonathan G. Tompkins, August 18, - - - - -	1524
20, William Miller, Deputy Chairman of the Westchester Committee, examined as to the Tory prisoners, - - - - -	1524
21, Committee of King's County requested to hold an election for a Representative in the Convention, - - - - -	1525
21, Committee to report on the mode of confining, securing, or otherwise disposing of the prisoners now confined by order of the Convention, - - - - -	1526
21, Letter, dated August 12, from Abraham C. Cuyler and others, prisoners sent and confined in Hartford jail, praying to be released, - - - - -	1526
21, Letter dated August 12, from A. C. Cuyler, requesting permission to return home to visit his sick wife, - - - - -	1527
21, Letter, dated August 12, from Henry Van Schaack, declaring his innocence, and complaining of injustice, - - - - -	1527
21, Letter dated Albany Tory Jail, August 1, from Henry Van Schaack and others, to the Albany Committee, - - - - -	1527
22, Letter from Adjutant General Reed, enclosing a letter from Governour Martin, - - - - -	1528



1776.

Aug. 22, Letter to Colonel Reed, - - - -	1528
22, Report of Ab. W. De Peyster, relative to the disposition of the prisoners in Connecticut, -	1529
22, Letter from Andrew Bostwick, Goshen, August 15, enclosing a petition, - - - -	1530
22, Petition of Abel Noble and Peter Townsend, praying that one hundred and fifty men employed at their iron works may be exempted from Militia duty, - - - -	1531
22, Letter to General Washington, relative to a report that the City of New-York was to be burnt if the Army left it, - - - -	1531
22, Letter from General Livingston of New-Jersey, to General Washington, August 21, - - -	1531
22, Committee on General Livingston's letter, -	1532
23, Report on General Livingston's letter, read, and committed to the Deputies from Suffolk and Queen's Counties, - - - -	1532
24, Resolutions reported by the Committee, consisting of members from Queen's and Suffolk, read and agreed to, - - - -	1533
24, Letter from the Committee at Monmouth, in New-Jersey, August 17, - - - -	1534
24, Letter from the Committee of the County of Cumberland, - - - -	1535
24, Letter from Captain Platt, on the complaints among the troops concerning money, -	1536
24, Letter from Major Verbryck, requesting a dismissal from the present service, - - -	1537
24, Letter from General Clinton to Major Verbryck, -	1537
24, Report of the Committee appointed to reconsider a former report on General Livingston's letter, read and agreed to, - - - -	1537
24, Letter from General Washington, of August 23, contradicting the report that New-York was to be abandoned and burnt, - - - -	1538
25, Further report from the Committee on General Livingston's letter, read and agreed to, -	1539
26, Report from the Committee on disposing of the prisoners confined by the Convention, -	1540
26, Petition of Charles Shaw, - - - -	1540
26, General Morris ordered to attend at Congress, at Philadelphia, and return with all convenient speed, - - - -	1541
26, Report of the Committee appointed to wait on General Washington, respecting the security of the stock on Long-Island, - - - -	1541
26, Letter from Gilbert Livingston and Christopher Tappen, Commissioners for building vessels at Poughkeepsie, - - - -	1541
26, Letter from John Slegt, Chairman of the Kingston Committee, - - - -	1542
26, Order for searching the house of Colonel Josiah Martin, and for the arrest of Dr. Samuel Martin, of Rockaway, - - - -	1542
26, Letter to General Woodhull, - - - -	1543
26, Instructions to General Woodhull, - - -	1543

## COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

27, Mr. Hobart chosen Chairman, - - - -	1544
27, Committee to confer with General Washington relative to the state of Nassau-Island, -	1544
27, Mr. Dearing Chairman in the room of Mr. Hobart, - - - -	1544
27, Letter from Erastus Wolcott to the Committee of Saybrook, brought to Harlem by express, - - - -	1544
27, Committee to report ways and means for the sale of fat cattle on Nassau and Shelter-Islands, - - - -	1545
27, Records and papers of the Convention ordered to be removed to General Clinton's encampment at or near King's Bridge, - - -	1546
27, Captain Benson ordered to apprehend Nicholas Covenhoven, who is suspected of giving intelligence to the enemy, - - - -	1546
27, Letter from General Woodhull, - - - -	1546

## CONVENTION.

28, Letter to General Washington, - - - -	1547
28, Mr. Van Wyck sent to Flushing to gain intelligence of the situation of the enemy, -	1547
28, Letter to the Delegates of New-York in Congress, - - - -	1548

1776.

Aug. 28, Committee to consider what means can be devised for supplying the troops with clothing and blankets, - - - -	1548
28, Letter from General Woodhull, - - - -	1548
28, Committee to repair to General Woodhull, with power to impress horses, boats, &c., - -	1549
28, Letter from David Matthews to General Woodhull, dated Litchfield, August 12, - -	1549
28, Commitment of Mr. Matthews, August 1, -	1550
28, Letter from David Matthews, Litchfield, August 12, to Mrs. Matthews, at Flatbush, - -	1550
28, Letter from Moses Seymour to General Woodhull, August 12, - - - -	1551
28, Letter to David Matthews, - - - -	1551
28, Letter to Governour Trumbull, - - - -	1551
28, Letter from Colonel Joseph Drake, - - -	1552
28, Governour Trumbull requested to send one thousand troops into Suffolk County, - -	1552
28, Letter to several Towns in Connecticut, requesting their assistance in removing the stock from Long-Island, - - - -	1552
28, Letter to Gov. Trumbull on the same subject, -	1553
28, Examination of Colonel Covenhoven, - -	1554
28, Letter from General Washington, - - -	1554
29, Letter from Mr. Van Wyck, dated Flushing, August 28, - - - -	1555
29, Samuel Townsend requested to go to Long-Island, it being dangerous to send a letter, -	1556
29, Reward to Mr. Flood for apprehending William Lounsbury, - - - -	1556
29, Committee to consider what number of Militia can be called out for the defence of the State, - - - -	1557
29, Adjourned to meet in the English church at Fishkill, on Monday next, - - - -	1557
COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.	
29, Committee met at Harlem, - - - -	1557
29, Letter from Colonel Josiah Smith, stating that General Washington has ordered his Regiment to withdraw from Long-Island, - -	1557
29, Colonel Smith ordered to march his Regiment to Horn's Hook, - - - -	1557
29, The Militia in the Counties of Orange, Ulster, Westchester, and Dutchess to be held ready to march at a moment's warning, - -	1558
30, Committee at King's Bridge, - - - -	1558
30, Letter to General Washington, - - - -	1558
30, Letter from Brigadier-General Clinton, - -	1558
30, Examination of Captain Payne relative to the taking of John Woolly, - - - -	1559
30, General Clinton requested to take further examinations, - - - -	1559
30, Ebenezer Hazard, Postmaster for the District of New-York, requested to remove his office from the city to some convenient place near Dobbs's Ferry, - - - -	1559
31, Committee met at the house of Mr. Odell, in Philips's Manor, - - - -	1560
Letter from General Washington, dated August 30, requesting a body of Militia may be ready to prevent or retard the landing of the enemy east of Harlem River, - - - -	1560
31, Letter to General Washington, - - - -	1560
31, Resolutions for organizing such of the Militia as may turn out, - - - -	1561
Sept. 1, The Committee met at the house of John Blagge, at Croton River, - - - -	1562
Mr. Hazard requested to direct the post between New-York and Albany to ride on the east side of Hudson's River weekly, - -	1562
2, The Committee met at Fishkill, in Dutchess County, - - - -	1562
2, Committee to visit Forts Constitution and Montgomery, - - - -	1562
2, Information given by a member that a number of indigent infirm persons are on board a sloop at Fishkill Landing, - - - -	1562
3, Letter from General Washington, September 1, -	1563
3, Letter to the Committee of Westchester County, - - - -	1564
3, Letter from Philip Livingston, one of the Delegates at Continental Congress, dated August 30, - - - -	1564



# DOCUMENTARY HISTORY, &c.

## CORRESPONDENCE, MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS, PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES, &c.

### PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 1, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you by the express on *Saturday* last, since which nothing has occurred worthy your notice. The sole reason of troubling you with this is to acquaint you, that in consequence of your orders to Captain *Peters*, he proceeded with Major *Rogers* to this city, and called on me on *Saturday* last, and in the evening of that day I relieved him of his charge, and put Major *Rogers* under guard at the barracks, where he now remains, the Congress having, by a particular appointment, had under consideration a momentous matter this day, which prevented their attention to Major *Rogers*. My next will inform you, I hope, of some very decisive measures.

Being much engaged, I can only add my best wishes for your health and success; with respects to your worthy lady. I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. In justice to Captain *Peters*, I must say he has conducted exceedingly well.

### JOHN WHITTIER TO JAMES WARREN.

Haverhill, July 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have very lately heard that I am appointed to the command of a Regiment for the *Canada* expedition. I most sincerely and heartily thank the General Court for their repeated honours done me, and should gladly have accepted the appointment, were it not that my health of late has so far failed me, that, at present, I find myself unable to perform a journey of twenty miles without much difficulty and delay. Notwithstanding my willingness to assist in this (as I apprehend) just and righteous cause, yet the great and constant care of a Regiment, and the fatigues of such a long journey, render it impossible for me to accept the invitation with honour to myself and any advantage to the Province. Therefore I trust that the honourable Court will justify me in declining to accept, at present, of such an appointment.

Gentlemen, that you may have all that wisdom which is profitable to direct, and that the *American* arms may be crowned with victory and success, is the ardent prayer of your most humble and obedient servant,

JOHN WHITTIER.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., Speaker; to be communicated to the Honourable House of Representatives at *Watertown*.

### JOHN COVENHOVEN TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 3, 1776.]

In Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, }  
Burlington, July 2, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: We have this moment undoubted information, by Lieutenant Colonel *Scudder*, from *Monmouth* County, that about four o'clock yesterday afternoon, he observed nearly the whole of the enemy's fleet in motion, and at half past six in the afternoon, saw about one hundred and thirty sail in the channel from the *Hook* to *New-York*, within nine miles from the *Narrows*, (a few vessels being left at the *Hook*;) that he left *Middleton* at eleven o'clock

last evening; and about four this morning, being at the highland, between *Upper* and *Lower Freehold*, (about fifty miles from *New-York*;) on his way hither, heard a very heavy firing of cannon; whether this was at *New-York*, or to cover the landing of their troops, he could not judge.

We also received, by Colonel *Scudder*, a letter from Colonel *Taylor*, of *Monmouth*, dated yesterday, informing us of that County being so exposed to the enemy without, and the Tories among themselves, that he apprehends the Militia will not be prevailed on to march to *New-York*, and leave their wives and children to fall either a prey to the enemy, if they should be repulsed at *New-York*, or be murdered by the Tories in their absence, who are embodying themselves, and a considerable number already encamped at the *Cedar Swamps*.

We thought it highly necessary to inform you of these matters, not doubting that you will, without the least delay, send forward all the assistance in your power, and take all present measures possible on this alarming exigency.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

By order of Congress:

JOHN COVENHOVEN, *Vice-President*.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

### SAMUEL TUCKER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, }  
Burlington, July 3, 1776. }

SIR: The bearer, Major *Anderson*, having been rendered for some time past unfit for service, is on his way from *Canada* to the Continental Congress, and requests our recommendation. He is at present an officer in the second battalion of Continental troops lately raised in this Colony, and now on service in the Northern Army. Of our own knowledge we can certify, that from the beginning of the present controversy Mr. *Anderson* has been a warm and active friend to the *American* cause, and a very useful officer of Militia, in which he was a Major. His behaviour in *Canada* has been very highly commended to us in various letters from the gentlemen of the Army in *Canada*, of which he will produce other testimonials. We have only to add, that besides his services in the Militia, and of late in *Canada*, he has formerly served in the *British* Army. By order of Congress:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress.

### GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS TO THE COMMITTEES OF SEVERAL TOWNS.

Watertown, July 2, 1776.

SIR: The General Court have received from his Excellency General *Washington* a pressing letter that the troops destined to *New-York* may be sent with all despatch, as he is well informed that General *Howe* is arrived from *Halifax* at the *Hook*. You will please to communicate this to your brethren, that you and they, with all possible expedition, may raise and march the troops going from your County. The General Court expect you will not let anything prevent their marching as fast as possible, as you see the exigency of the case requires.

By order of the General Court.

To the Chairman of the Committee for raising men in the County of ———.

MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Watertown, July 3, 1776.

SIR: The Court acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, with the resolution of Congress; and having taken them into consideration, find, that as their Committees are now out on the business of raising and marching the three thousand men required of them by the Congress for the department of *Canada*, as also the three thousand destined for *New-York*, that it is not probable that the two battalions for the same service that are requested by Congress can be raised with that despatch that the exigency of the case requires. Therefore they beg leave to propose to the honourable Continental Congress that they would be pleased to give out directions to his Excellency General *Washington* to order two of the regiments now stationed at *Boston* to march immediately to *Canada*; and if they shall see cause so to do, this Court will take effectual measures that their numbers shall be immediately supplied. We are, &c.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO COLONEL HOISINGTON.

Crown-Point, July 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I this moment received your favour of the 28th ultimo. Am much obliged by your kind offer of assistance, but have the pleasure to inform you that at present our Army, weak and reduced by sickness as it is, will be fully sufficient to oppose any force that may be sent against us at present. I am well convinced that the enemy has neither boats to transport any army, nor armed vessels upon the Lake, to defend themselves against us; for which reason I suppose they will be very careful about making any attempt upon us at present. Perhaps some future day we may find ourselves under the necessity of embracing your generous offer; in the mean time, beg you and those friendly *Americans* to hold yourselves in readiness either to defend yourselves or repair to this place, as occasion may require.

Dear sir, I am, &c.,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

To Colonel *Hoisington*, of *Woodstock*, *New-York* Government, west of *Connecticut* River.

OFFICERS ON GOVERNOUR'S ISLAND, NEW-YORK, TO GENERAL HEATH.

Governour's Island, July 3, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: We, the Officers of the Seventh Regiment, stationed on *Governour's Island*, are determined to fight in defence of our country to the last; yet we think it too much for *America* to risk such an important post as this with seven or eight hundred men, especially considering the extensiveness of the lines we have to defend, and the difficulty which will attend our immediate supplies, when most probably in case of an attack wind and tide will be against them; whereas, should a sufficient number be on the spot to withstand any force that could be sent against them, they would have the same advantage of wind and tide with the enemy, should they aim at any other part. We think it likewise very necessary to have some field-pieces and a reinforcement of the train, in order to secure the retreat, should it be thought proper, from the outworks to the citadel.

We therefore pray your Honour to represent the affair to his Excellency, and solicit a proper reinforcement, which in our opinion cannot be less than two thousand men.

We are, as in duty bound, your Honour's most obedient, humble servants,

WILLIAM PRESCOTT, Colonel,

JOHNSON MOULTON, Lieutenant-Colonel,

HENRY WOODS, Major,

In behalf of ourselves and Officers.

To the Honourable Brigadier-General *Heath*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

Philadelphia, July 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You are so well acquainted with the critical and alarming state of our public affairs, that it is unnecessary to use arguments to press you to a compliance with any resolves of Congress calculated to promote the cause of

liberty in the United Colonies of *America*. I am therefore to request, by order of Congress that the troops you are raising to form the Flying-Camp may be sent to the City of *Philadelphia* with the utmost expedition. That they may arrive the sooner, it is the desire of Congress that you will send them by battalions, or detachments of battalions, or companies, as soon as raised.

I am persuaded the Committee of *Lancaster* County will strain every nerve to comply with this requisition of Congress, with all the despatch which the infinite importance of the present situation of affairs requires.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Honourable Committee of *Lancaster* County, at *Lancaster*.

COLONEL BURD TO COMMITTEE FOR LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

Tinian, July 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Last *Monday* the Board of Officers of my Battalion being met at *Harris's Ferry*, the enclosed allegations against *Daniel Shelly* were laid before them. They unanimously resolved that said *Shelly* should be apprehended, and if found upon examination there was any reason for the charge, that said *Shelly* should be sent down with a safeguard to you. I examined *Daniel Shelly* and *William Wall* and *Ann Wall*, in the presence of a number of officers and privates, who were unanimously of opinion that he should be sent down to you, as likewise the evidences. I accordingly send him, under the care of Mr. *Michael Sheerer*, Constable, who is to provide a guard for his safe conduct, and have ordered down to you *William Wall*, evidence. His wife being unable to travel, herewith I send you her deposition.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL BURD.

To the Chairman and Standing Committee of *Lancaster* County.

SIR: Whereas it was yesterday represented to the Board of Officers of my Battalion, (met at the house of Mr. *John Harris*, upon publick business,) that a Captain *Daniel Shelly* has been attempting to raise soldiers for the Ministerial Army, offering a reward of nine pounds per man by way of bounty, the Board, taking the same into consideration, resolved that you immediately send a party of your Company and apprehend the said *Daniel Shelly*, and bring him before me, with you and your officers, that we may examine said *Shelly*, and do further what shall appear to us to be right in the case.

Given under my hand, this 2d *July*, 1776.

SAMUEL BURD, Colonel.

To Captain *James Crutch*.

P. S. Bring *William Wall* and any other evidences you can find.

*Daniel Shelly* told *William Wall* that people that were true to the country were great fools. If the *English* troops knew as well or as much as I do, the *English* troops would have the country in six weeks' time. He also says that he knows where there are plenty of powder and ball that can be got within twelve miles or a quarter of a day's ride as would keep the *Americans* employed. The said *Shelly* also went to *Lewis Morris*, and told him if he will list under him that he will give him nine pounds bounty. He also says that Colonel *James Burd* will not swear to be true to the country.

Present: *William Wall*.

LANCASTER COUNTY, ss:

Before me, *James Burd*, Esq., one of the Justices for the County of *Lancaster*, personally appeareth *Ann Wall*, who, being duly sworn according to law, doth depose and say, that last *Sunday*, on the *Hill Island*, she (deponent) at the house of *Daniel Rosse*, heard a certain *Daniel Shelly* express himself in the manner as follows: "Although they take their arms from them, a creditable man informed him they have powder and balls enough for them, and that the powder and ball could be found in a half a day's travel, and

that the King was only playing with them now, and correcting them as he would his child, and that the ships in the harbour were as thick as the trees in an old field, (pointing to a field where the trees stood very thick,) and that the King could take this country in three weeks if he pleased." And that a certain *Morris Lewis* told this deponent that the said *Daniel Shelly* wanted much to enlist him under him for the space of six months, offering him a bounty of nine pounds, and that the said *Lewis* asked *Shelly* for what. He told him it made no odds for what; that this deponent asked him would he make up a company, and he said he did not know what he wanted him for.

ANN<sup>her</sup> ~~X~~ WALL.  
mark.

Sworn and subscribed before me, 2d *July*, 1776.

SAMUEL BURD.

MATTHEW TILGHMAN TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read 8th July, 1776.]

Annapolis, July 4, 1776.

SIR: In obedience to the order of Convention, I enclose you their Resolutions for raising the number of Militia required of this Province for the Flying-Camp. The alacrity and unanimity with which these resolutions were formed and passed, are a proof of the readiness in this Convention to do everything in their power that may contribute to the common safety. I make no doubt the same disposition will prevail individually, and that the several members will use their influence in forwarding this service, which I hope will be soon completed.

I am also directed to request you will, by the first opportunity, order to be transmitted to the Council of Safety for this Province the last Resolution of Congress respecting the pay of the Militia when called into actual service.

I have the honour to be your most obedient servant,

MATTHEW TILGHMAN, *President*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock Esq., Philadelphia*.

In Convention at Annapolis, June 25, 1776.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That this Province will furnish three thousand four hundred and five of its Militia to form a Flying-Camp, and to act with the Militia of *Pennsylvania* and the *Delaware* Government in the Middle Department, that is to say, from this Province to *New-York*, inclusive, according to the request of the Congress in their Resolution of the 3d day of this instant *June*.

That, for that purpose, four Battalions be instantly raised, each of them to consist of nine Companies, and each Company to consist of ninety men, to wit: one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and seventy-six Privates; each of the said Battalions to be commanded by one Colonel, one Lieutenant Colonel, and one Major; and that to each Battalion there be allowed a Quartermaster, an Adjutant, a Surgeon, and two Assistants; and that over and above the said Battalions, there be also instantly raised one other Company, to consist of one Captain, three Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and ninety-six Privates; and that the whole of the said Militia so to be raised be commanded by a Brigadier General, who shall have the appointment of a Brigade Major.

That warrants immediately issue to such persons as shall be appointed by this Convention to take the enrolment of the said non-commissioned Officers and Privates, which enrolment shall be made of those who shall voluntarily offer themselves for the said service and subscribe an enrolment in the following words, to wit: "We, the subscribers, do hereby enrol ourselves to serve as Militia of *Maryland* in the Middle Department, that is to say, from this Province to *New-York*, inclusive, until the 1st day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged by the honourable Congress, according to the Resolution of the Convention of *Maryland*, held at *Annapolis*, the 21st day of *June*, 1776."

That the said warrants be in the following form, to wit:

"By the Convention of *Maryland*, June 1776:

"You are empowered to enrol . . . . . effective free-men, to act as Militia of this Province in the Middle Department, according to the Resolutions of this Convention and the form of enrolment herewith delivered to you; and on your doing which, and their passing as effective, you are to

be entitled to, and shall receive a commission as Captain, as First Lieutenant, or Second Lieutenant, or Ensign, as the case may be, of a Company to be composed partly of those you enrol."

MATTHEW TILGHMAN, *President*.

Extract from the Minutes:

G. DUVAL.

EDICT OF THE KING OF PORTUGAL, PROHIBITING ALL INTERCOURSE BETWEEN HIS DOMINIONS AND THE AMERICAN COLONIES.

*Joseph*, by the Grace of *God*, King of *Portugal* and of the *Algarves*, &c., &c., &c.: I make known to all who shall see this present Edict, that having been lately informed that the *English* Colonies in *America* had not only separated themselves, by an act of the Congress the 15th of *May* last, from the subjection to the Crown of *Great Britain*, but also were making laws of their own, and giving particular power to resist the lawful authority of his *Britannick* Majesty, my good brother, friend, and ally: And whereas so pernicious an example ought to interest even the most indifferent Princes not to favour or assist, directly or indirectly, subjects thus publicly and formally rebelling against their lawful Sovereign, it is my will and pleasure to order, that in all the ports of these Kingdoms and his dominions, no shelter shall be given to any ships, loaded or in ballast, coming from any of the ports of the said *North American British* Colonies; but, on the contrary, that they are to be repelled from the said ports, and in the same manner they entered, without giving them the least succour of any kind whatsoever. The Masters of ships who have been permitted to enter hitherto, in consideration of not having received any express injunction to the contrary, shall be notified to depart with their ships out of the abovementioned ports within the space of eight successive days without fail; examination being had before their departure, if they have on board any gunpowder, or other warlike stores, of the kinds already prohibited by my Royal Orders, given the 21st of *October* last, to the Arsenal of the Army, and to the Office of Outward Consulship; and confiscating, for the benefit of the publick works, any of the said ships on board of which shall be found clandestinely concealed any of the abovementioned warlike stores, as goods rightly seized and manifestly known to be the property of Rebels.

Our Lord the King hath ordered this by his Royal Decree of the fourth of this current month of *July*, and directed it to his Royal Council, commanding it to be printed and set up in all publick places of *Lisbon* and ports of this Kingdom, and of the *Algarve*, in order that every one should have notice thereof, and that no person may pretend ignorance.

(Signed) COUNT DE AZAMBUJA, *President*.

*Lisbon*, 5th of *July*, 1776.

BARBEU DUBOURG TO DR. FRANKLIN.

Paris, July 5, 1776.

SIR: I am privately informed that at the General's Office they are actually raising funds for a great armament, now fitting out by land and sea, with the greatest despatch.

I did not receive this advice until last night, and that with the greatest secrecy. I hasten to inform you of it, and shall not neglect it on my part.

I shall be very happy when my dear country will have a common cause with yours; in the mean time recommend me to the favour of our future allies.

I am, with all my heart, my dear friend,

BARBEU DUBOURG.

GEORGIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a Council, *July* 5, 1776: Present: His Excellency *Archibald Bulloch*, *Jonathan Bryan*, *John Houston*, *John Girardeau*, *Daniel Roberts*, *Nathan Bronson*, *John Wereat*, *Benjamin Andrews*, *John Adam Treutlen*, *William Le Conte*.

Mr. *Jonathan Bryan*, *John Houston*, and Colonel *McIntosh*, waited on the Board, and reported what they had represented to General *Lee* relative to the state of this Province, which was as follows, viz:

The Deputies sent by desire of General *Lee*, from the Colony of *Georgia*, to confer with him upon the state of

that Colony and the mode of putting it in the best posture of defence against all enemies, external and internal, are of opinion, that it is evident that Province is in a most weak and defenceless situation; and besides the intrinsic value of the lands and other property in the Province, its situation as a frontier, its fine inlets, harbours, and rivers, and plenty of provisions, make it of the utmost consequence, perhaps equal to any other on the Continent, in the great cause of *America*. That as it is not only liable to be attacked by sea on the east, in common with the other Colonies, but from the south and west, by the garrisoned Province of the *Floridas*, and the most numerous tribes of Savages in *North America*, and far less able than any of them to bear it: the Deputies sent from *Georgia*, by desire of his Excellency General *Lee*, to confer with him upon the state of the Colony, in order to devise the best method of putting it in a proper posture of defence, beg leave to represent, that from the weak and defenceless situation of the Colony, surrounded as it is with enemies, it stands in immediate need of assistance from the General Congress. And when they consider, that however small the Colony may be of itself, in a comparative point of view, yet that from the great plenty of provisions, numerous stocks of cattle, excellent inlets, harbours, and rivers, perhaps equal to any upon the Continent, with which the Colony abounds, and above all, the firm attachments of its inhabitants to the *American* cause, they are led to trust that the protection and security of that Colony will be held an object of considerable importance. Not one of the thirteen United Colonies is so weak within or so much exposed from without. To the east, the inhabitants suffer the ravages of *British* cruisers. Their negroes are daily inveigled and carried away from their plantations. *British* fleets may be supplied with beef from several large islands, well stocked with cattle, which line their coasts, and round which large ships may sail. To the south, they have the Province of *East Florida*, the inhabitants and soldiers of which must of necessity make inroads upon *Georgia* for the article of provision with which they have been heretofore chiefly supplied. *Georgia* here stands as a barrier to *South Carolina*, and effectually secures that Province against the like depredations. The southern parts of *Georgia* contain vast stocks of cattle, and our most valuable rice plantations lie that way. By some late computations, there are said to be upwards of thirty thousand head of black cattle in the Province, and hogs without number. We have certain accounts of there being at this time upwards of one thousand *British* troops in *Saint Augustine*. To the west, and almost down upon the *Georgia* line, are the most numerous tribes of *Indians* now in *North America*, viz: the *Creeks*, *Cherokees*, *Choctaws*, and a number of small tribes, in the whole at least fifteen thousand gun-men. All these nations have been much tampered with by the emissaries of Government, and without the utmost exertions of prudence on our side it is feared may be brought to act against us. They are so situated as to make it extremely convenient for our enemies to supply them, from *East and West Florida*, with ammunition and everything that they want. Our last accounts from the *Indians* are rather unfavourable, and when we consider their natural principle of infidelity, and how much more able our enemies are to purchase their friendship by presents, &c., than we are, there seems to be the greatest reason to apprehend a rupture with them. In such a case the fate of *Georgia* may be easily conceived. Add to all these considerations the vast number of negroes we have, perhaps of themselves sufficient to subdue us. In point of numbers, the blacks exceed the whites, and the ready channel and secure retreat which *Saint Augustine* affords, render them much to be dreaded. The conquest of *Georgia* would be considered a great acquisition by *Great Britain*. It is a most excellent provision country, abounds with ship timber and lumber of all kinds, and is conveniently situated for a place of rendezvous to their shipping. Under all these circumstances, it must certainly appear indispensably necessary that measures be immediately taken for the defence and security of that Province. But the low situation, in point of means or ability, of its inhabitants, puts it out of their power to do it of themselves, more especially as they have been already put to a very great expense in consequence of the late descent upon them. The great objects seem to be men, fortifications, and a good understanding with the *Indians*. We would therefore beg leave to propose—

1st. That his Excellency General *Lee* be requested to state the peculiar situation of the Province of *Georgia* to the General Congress, and to obtain directions from them to raise and take into Continental pay so many men as may be conceived to be sufficient to defend that Province. In our opinion, less than six battalions will not answer the purpose. But we do not conceive any of these men can be recruited in *Georgia*. We would apprehend it full as eligible, if that can be done, to order some of the regiments already raised, to march thither; and further, that the four troops of horse already raised be augmented to a regiment, and put upon the Continental establishment. Part of these battalions and troops may be so stationed as to serve equally for the protection of *Georgia* and *South Carolina* against the *Indians*; and above all, may entirely shut up the communication between them and our enemies to the southward, which, in our opinion, will be the most effectual means of preventing an *Indian* war.

2d. That the sum of ——— sterling be granted by the General Congress for building fortifications and guard-boats in the Province of *Georgia*. The reason why we conceive this ought to be a general charge is, because it is evident the same will serve against attacks from the south, and for cutting off the communication between *East and West Florida* and the *Indians*, upon which the peace of the back inhabitants of *Georgia*, *South Carolina*, *North Carolina*, and *Virginia*, depends. Besides, it seems to be a part of the plan of Administration to throw forces into the *Indian* country, where they expect to be joined by a considerable number of the savages; and in that event, there is no Province or place through which they could so conveniently pass as through *Georgia*.

3d. It is a fixed principle with the *Indians* to be paid for their good offices; and in this controversy we conceive they will expect to be well paid even for neutrality. The articles they prefer will doubtless be ammunition and clothing, but these we have it not in our power to give them. We would, then, propose cattle as a substitute, and are inclined to think, if the communication between them and our enemies was cut off they would soon be brought to be well satisfied with a present of this kind. It is therefore submitted to the General Congress whether it would not be worth while to give direction that ——— head of cattle be purchased and distributed among the *Indians* by Commissioners. We are of opinion this step would answer many valuable purposes, and would have a tendency not only of attaching them to our interest from gratitude, but would also be a means of civilizing them, and by fixing the idea of property, would keep them honest and peaceable with us, for fear of reprisals.

#### REFORMATION OF THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER BY THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

In Convention, Williamsburgh, July 5, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the following sentences in the Morning and Evening Service shall be omitted: “O Lord, save the King, and mercifully hear us when we call upon Thee.”

That the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th sentences in the Litany, for the King’s Majesty, and the Royal Family, &c., shall be omitted.

That the Prayers in the Communion Service, which acknowledge the authority of the King, and so much of the Prayer for the Church Militant as declares the same authority, shall be omitted, and this alteration made in one of the above Prayers in the Communion Service: “Almighty and everlasting God, we are taught by thy Holy Word that the hearts of all Rulers are in thy governance, and that Thou dost dispose and turn them as it seemeth best to thy godly wisdom; we humbly beseech Thee so to dispose and govern the hearts of all the Magistrates of this Commonwealth, that in all their thoughts, words, and works, they may evermore seek thy honour and glory, and study to preserve thy people committed to their charge, in wealth, peace, and godliness. Grant this, O merciful Father, for thy dear Son’s sake, *Jesus Christ* our Lord. Amen.”

That the following Prayer shall be used, instead of the Prayer for the King’s Majesty, in the Morning and Evening Service: “O Lord, our heavenly Father, high and mighty King of Kings, Lord of Lords, the only Ruler of the Universe, who dost, from thy throne, behold all the dwell-



lers upon earth, most heartily we beseech Thee, with thy favour, to behold the Magistrates of this Commonwealth, and so replenish them with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that they may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way; endue them plenteously with heavenly gifts; strengthen them that they may vanquish and overcome all their enemies; and finally, after this life, they may obtain everlasting joy and felicity, through *Jesus Christ* our Lord. Amen."

In the twentieth sentence of the Litany, use these words: "That it may please Thee to endue the Magistrates of this Commonwealth with grace, wisdom, and understanding." In the succeeding one, use these words: "That it may please Thee to bless and keep them, giving them grace to execute justice and maintain truth."

Let every other sentence of the Litany be retained without any alteration, except the above sentences recited.

EDMUND PENDLETON, *President*.

J. TAZEWELL, *Clerk of the Convention*.

#### COURT MARTIAL ON CAPTAIN BALL.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, July 5, 1776.

At a General Court-Martial, held in the City of *Williamsburgh*, the 5th day of *July*, 1776, by order of Brigadier-General *Andrew Lewis*, for the trial of Captain *Burgess Ball*, of the Fifth Regiment, (arrested for suffering the Brig which was run aground on *Willoughby's Point* to be retaken by the enemy,) the Court, upon hearing the evidence of Captain *John Willoughby*, which was corroborated by the testimony of Captain *Nathaniel Boush*, Ensign *Beale*, and Mr. *Cocke*, and Mr. *Netherland*, Cadets, were unanimously of opinion that the loss of the prize could in nowise be imputed to Captain *Ball*, and therefore honourably acquitted him. Which sentence of the Court-Martial was approved of by the General.

#### DAVID HALL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 8. Referred to the Delegates of Maryland.]

Lewis, Delaware, July 5, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to enclose sundry depositions, containing, as we think, a true state of the general disaffection that prevails among the people in the County of *Sussex*. Sundry gentlemen from the neighbourhood of *Broad Creek*, and *Wicomico*, have been qualified to the truth of it, on whose attachment to the cause of *America* we very much depend. The Council of Safety have ordered down part of an Independent Company now under their direction. A company of the *Delaware* Battalion is also preparing to march. The most alarming circumstance is, the danger of Lord *Dunmore's* recruiting with success among the disaffected, who repair to him without reserve, and supply him with the produce of the country. We earnestly entreat that Congress may take the matter into their serious consideration, and order what may be thought necessary to fix the minds of the wavering, and secure the common safety.

By order of the Council of Safety.

I am, with the greatest respect, Sir, your most humble servant,

DAVID HALL, *Chairman*.

To the Hon. President of the Continental Congress.

*Sussex County, Broad Creek, Delaware, July 5, 1776.*

GENTLEMEN: The situation of the part of the country in which we live having of late appeared to us rather critical, and a number of armed vessels lately appearing in our rivers, occasion us to think ourselves bound in duty, both to our country and our families, to lay our case before you, both for advice and assistance. We need not inform that a large majority of the people in the lower part of this country appear disaffected, which, being lately fully demonstrated by these hostile appearances, occasions troops to be sent from above to quiet them; and we are sorry to say, that it is our opinion that they (*viz*: the enemies of the cause) are not better affected than they were before those troops came, (we mean in the parts near us,) although we are fully of the opinion that the gentlemen appointed and sent down as heads of that business thought proper to have a few hundred riflemen sent amongst us at that time, who took up some of the most insolent, and put them in confinement, disarmed the offenders of less note, and left a few troops as

a protection to the well disposed. Things at this time should have worn a face much more in favour of the country than it now does.

The night before last, we sent an express down to *Vienna*, a small town in *Maryland*, upon *Nanticoke River*, to give information of what men-of-war or tenders were in the rivers. Yesterday our express returned, and gave an account, that in the mouth of the *River Nanticoke*, there lay the *Fowey* ship-of-war and four tenders; in the *River Wicomico* were three tenders. Those up *Wicomico* had run far up the river into the heart of the country; but we had no account of any great damage they had then done. They had landed, and attempted to rob some plantations; but were driven back to their vessels. Although the Militia were about ten miles below the mouth of the river, they went on shore, and robbed the most wealthy man in the neighbourhood, of his cash, and all his negroes they could lay hands on; after which, they tied the gentleman, and took him off on board their vessel. We also may inform you, that parties from tenders and other vessels supposed to belong to *Dunmore's Fleet*, have taken large quantities of cattle and other stock from what is called the *Islands*, which lie just below the mouth of *Nanticoke River*; and we have reason to believe that they have taken stock out of the river they left, which they might easily have done, as great part of the inhabitants upon the river, from the mouth to the head, would be glad to have an opportunity to deal with them, and would take great pleasure to supply them with anything in their power. This much, gentlemen, you may depend on, that vast numbers of the inhabitants of *Somerset* and *Dorchester* Counties, in *Maryland*, and of *Sussex* County, in *Delaware*, have men on board of these men-of-war and tenders, either trading, inlisting, taking the oath of allegiance, or something we really are not informed of; but we have it from such authority, that we do really believe that they purchase some sorts of goods from the tenders, very low; and also, that the captain of the tenders registers the name of every person who goes on board of them. We are also fully convinced that numbers of the inhabitants have actually voluntarily entered into the service under *Dunmore*; some of whom, we have reason to believe, now bear command on board these tenders, and we look upon them as a more dangerous enemy than the *Europeans*. They know our country, and are able to carry the vessels they command to the heads of our rivers; and it is reported (and we believe it to be true) that these traitors have sent word (by their neighbours, who have been down on board trading) to their relations, who live in the heart of the country, that in a very short time they, with their armed vessels, will pay them a visit. It would be impossible for us to relate to you, gentlemen, on paper, every threat that has been thrown out by the disaffected amongst ourselves, as well as the people on board the tenders and ships-of-war, and therefore shall only add, that, from the disaffection amongst ourselves, which we conceive to be so great, that there is, at least, six disaffected to one firm man for *America*,—we say, from that melancholy appearance, and from the arrival of these armed vessels, we think it our duty to make application to you for assistance of men; and make no doubt but that, if it is in your power, you will grant it to us. If it is not in your power, we must be candid enough to inform you, that self-preservation will oblige us either to leave our hivings, or fall in and run with the current, either of which will be hateful to us. But we believe it cannot be required of us to offer ourselves sacrifices for our country, without there being some prospect of benefit arising therefrom.

If, gentlemen, upon reflection, you judge it practicable and expedient to grant us men, we beg they may continue stationed amongst us, until we shall appear able to protect ourselves; and for that purpose, we pray you will, in our behalf, make application to Congress that we may not be liable to have them called away, and again be left destitute; for if we should have them only a short time, and then taken from us, our case would be worse than now, as revenge might prompt our enemies to more desperate actions. Although we represent our case to be distressing, we do not mean to represent it as past hope; for we are of opinion, if you favour us with only three or four good companies, with prudent officers, we shall not only be able to defend ourselves, but also that it will be a means to reclaim a considerable number of the disaffected, and bring them to their duty, as



it will enable our officers to pursue such steps as is necessary to accomplish this purpose so much wished for. Not doubting but that you will do everything for us that may appear to you necessary,

We rest, and are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,  
 JONATHAN BELL, JOHN MITCHELL,  
 JNO. POLK, ISAAC HORSEY,  
 JOHN CREIGHTON, LEVIN CONNAWAY,  
 JOSEPH FORMAN, ROBERT HOUSTON.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety now sitting at *Sussex*.

I do hereby certify, that the several subscribers to the within letter were sworn to the truth of the facts in said letter set forth before the Council of Safety for the County of *Sussex*, in *Delaware*, 5th July, 1776.

By order of the Council of Safety.

DAVID HALL, *Chairman*.

Testimony of ENOCH SCUDDER, July 4, 1776.

*Enoch Scudder*, being duly sworn on the holy Gospel, doth depose and say: That on the third of this instant *July*, in travelling down from *Philadelphia*, he was overtaken by four men near *Cedar Creek*, who asked him if he had heard that *Lord Dunmore* had landed an armament of men in *Maryland*, and whether he (this deponent) was going to join him: upon which, this deponent asked them if there were any men there that would join *Dunmore*, and how many, and whereabouts they were to be gathered: upon which, they informed him that fifteen hundred might be collected about *Cedar Creek*, and between that and the place where *Dunmore* had landed; and that he, (this deponent,) in several harvest-fields, heard the people converse to this purpose; and that they were determined that the gentlemen who had been busy in calling the Tories to account should not be suffered to pass without a guard; and they further told him that *Boymer Lloyd* was actually with *Dunmore*.

July 4, 1776.

ENOCH SCUDDER.

Sworn before

JNO. DAGWORTHY.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL HASLETT.

Philadelphia, July 5, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from Congress to direct you to station one Company of the Battalion under your command at *Lewistown*, and to march the remaining seven companies to the town of *Wilmington*, and there remain until the further order of this Congress. You will therefore immediately put this order into execution.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Colonel *Haslett*, or Officer commanding the Battalion of Continental Troops in *Delaware* Government.

P. S. The enclosed Declaration you will please to have read at the head of your battalion.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE CONVENTION OF NEW-JERSEY.

Philadelphia, July 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You will perceive, by the enclosed Resolve, that the Congress have judged it necessary to remove the prisoners from your Colony to the town of *York*, in *Pennsylvania*, and have directed me to request you to carry the same into execution immediately. Their vicinity to our enemies, and the opportunity of deserting to them, or keeping up a communication dangerous to the interest of these *United States*, rendered this step not only prudent, but absolutely necessary.

I do myself the honour to enclose, in obedience to the commands of Congress, a copy of the Declaration of Independence, which you will please to have proclaimed in your Colony in such way and manner as you shall judge best.

The important consequences resulting to the *American* States from this Declaration of Independence, considered as the ground and foundation of a future Government, will naturally suggest the propriety of proclaiming it in such a mode as that the people may be universally informed of it.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

Honourable Convention of *New Jersey*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, July 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I do myself the honour to enclose, in obedience to the commands of Congress, a copy of the Declaration of Independence, which I am directed to request you will have proclaimed in your Colony in the way and manner which you shall judge best.

The *American* States being now forever divided from those who wished to destroy them, it has become absolutely necessary, for their security and happiness, to adopt some Government of their own. In this view of the matter, the important consequences flowing from a Declaration of Independence, considered as the ground and foundation thereof, will naturally suggest the propriety of proclaiming it in such a mode that the people may be universally informed of it.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

Honourable Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, July 5, 1776.

As I understand my conduct in confining Major *Gray*, Colonel *Dufee*, and *St. George Dupree*, has been found fault with, I must beg leave to give the reasons that induced me to it.

Sundry captains of militia applied to me to issue an order, directing them to deliver up the commissions they had received from General *Carleton*, by which they were obliged to take up arms against the Continental troops whenever they should be commanded by General *Carleton*; which they did not choose to do, but would rather take commissions under the Continental Congress. Being fully sensible of the propriety of their request, I accordingly gave out an order for that purpose, and allowed every parish the privilege of choosing their own officers, and making a proper return to me; which they cheerfully complied with. I then granted commissions under the honourable Continental Congress to almost all the officers of militia in the District of *Montreal*, as far as the *Three Rivers*. As the Field Officers belonging to *Montreal* had not given up their commissions, several Captains applied to me to oblige them to do it, as they should yet be obliged to take up arms against us in case General *Carleton* should call upon them to raise the militia; upon which I called upon these officers to deliver their commissions pursuant to my orders, as it was inconsistent for them to pretend either to friendship or neutrality, while they held commissions for the very purpose of taking arms against the Colonies whenever they were commanded by General *Carleton* or his successor. And here I must observe, these commissions were predicated upon a proclamation issued by General *Carleton*, in *May* or *June*, 1775, denouncing destruction to the Traitors and Rebels of the *New-England* Colonies. The *French* officers appeared willing to deliver up their commissions, but Major *Gray* swore he would not deliver his, let the consequence be what it would, and the whole posse of Tories in *Montreal* used their utmost endeavours to dissuade the *French* officers from complying with my orders, which they effected. It therefore became necessary for me to support my authority, or both I and my orders would appear contemptible in the eyes of Tories and *Canadians*. I told these officers if they persisted in their disobedience they must repair to the fort of *Chambly*, as a place of security, and to put it out of their power to do us that injury which might be justly apprehended from them.

Major *Gray*, as early as *December*, swore we had not taken *Quebeck* yet, and never should take it; which conversation had a very bad effect upon people who were far from being our friends; indeed, the whole tenour of his discourse in the coffee-house last winter was against the honourable Continental Congress and their measures. Therefore, I judged him a dangerous man, and, with all his adherents, inimical to the cause of the *United Colonies*; and, as such, pursuant to General *Schuyler's* orders and my own sentiments, I sent Colonel *Dufee* and him and *St. George Dupree* to *Chambly*.

Here I must observe, that the honourable Commissioners

from Congress, on their arrival in *Canada*, did, *ex officio*, supersede my orders, and released the abovementioned persons to go to *Montreal*, where Major *Gray* put on his sword and cockade and strutted about like a victorious conqueror. Two prisoners of war also had this enlargement at that time to go from that fort into the adjacent village, and in a few days they went off, recruiting for the *King's* Army among the *Canadians*.

I must beg leave to observe, that by the above transaction, the greatest insult and indignity was cast on my character and conduct, being then commander-in-chief in *Canada*; and it was certainly inconsistent with good policy, let their private sentiments of me and my measures be what they would, as it naturally rendered general orders contemptible in the eyes of the officers and soldiers of our own Army, as well as of our enemies. And yet, what is more extraordinary, all this was done before I could possibly have an interview (consistent with the publick safety) with these gentlemen on the subject.

DAVID WOOSTER, *Brig. General*.

To the Honourable Committee of Congress.

#### GENERAL WOOSTER TO THE COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, July 5, 1776.

As I understand that my character has greatly suffered by an injurious representation that I am guilty of robbing one *Bernard*, an *Indian* trader in *Montreal*, of his goods last winter, I therefore beg leave to state that matter in its proper light. In *January* last I called the *Indian* traders of *Montreal* together, and inquired of them whether they expected passports in the spring to carry their goods, &c., into the *Indian* country as usual; they told me they expected that indulgence; but that, at any rate, they should be permitted to carry provisions to their people in the upper country. As I apprehended the granting of passports for the upper country might be attended with unhappy consequences to the interests of the United Colonies—as the goods which they make use of for that trade were much wanted for our Army, and there was the greatest reason to expect that by this way our enemies would be supplied with everything they wanted—I did not incline to grant passports without the direction of Congress. I therefore advised them to choose a committee to wait upon Congress for their direction. They sent Mr. *Forbisher*, who did not return till the month of *April*. Soon after, I was informed the merchants were determined to send off their goods in the spring, with or without passports; upon which I gave out a general order prohibiting the carrying any coarse goods out of the city, except such as were wanted by the country people. About the 20th of *March* I was informed that the abovementioned *Bernard* had privately conveyed out of the city into the suburbs a large quantity of coarse goods for the upper country trade; and upon further inquiry, found that the goods were loaded in the night and carried off twenty-nine sleigh loads. I immediately sent a party after them, who, about thirty miles from *Montreal*, overtook and brought back seven loads of blankets, powder, and various other goods, calculated for the *Indian* trade. These goods were all brought to Head-Quarters; and as I was then preparing to go to *Quebeck*, I gave them into the hands of Mr. *George Measam*, with orders to take an exact account of them, and to keep them to be delivered out to the troops when wanted; that if it should afterwards be judged that Mr. *Bernard* had not properly, by the rules of war, forfeited them, they might be paid for. You will please to observe that this *Bernard* had broken through and violated a publick agreement, disobeyed general orders, and was carrying warlike stores, provisions, &c., to our enemies; and, notwithstanding, I was called a robber for detaining the man's goods. I am far from being certain that many are and will be of opinion that the goods were as legal a prize as any vessel or goods taken coming from *Great Britain* or the *West Indies* this war. In addition to my own opinion of the propriety of preventing the *Indian* trade, I had General *Lee's* instructions to prevent the carrying off of coarse goods, which you will see by his letter of the 28th of *February*.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

DAVID WOOSTER, *Brig. General*.

To the Honourable the Committee of Congress.

#### ELBRIDGE GERRY TO GENERAL WARREN.

Philadelphia, July 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have the pleasure to inform you that a determined resolution of the Delegates from some of the Colonies to push the question of Independency has had a most happy effect, and, after a day's debate, all the Colonies, excepting *New-York*, whose Delegates are not empowered to give either an affirmative or negative voice, united in a declaration long sought for, solicited, and necessary—the Declaration of Independency.

*New-York* will most probably, on *Monday* next, when its Convention meets for forming a constitution, join in the measure, and then it will be entitled THE UNANIMOUS DECLARATION OF THE THIRTEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

I enclose you a copy of the Declaration for yourself, and another for Major *Hawley*, and offer you my sincere congratulations on the occasion; and I pray that we may never want the Divine aid, or the spirit and the means to defend it. Yours, &c.,

ELBRIDGE GERRY.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED PHILADELPHIA, JULY 5, 1776.

By a person this day from the lower counties in *Jersey*, we are informed that the brig *Nancy*, Captain *Montgomery*, of six three-pounders and eleven men, from *St. Croix* and *St. Thomas* for this port, loaded on Congress account with three hundred and eighty-six barrels of gunpowder, fifty firelocks, one hundred and one hogsheads of rum, and sixty-two hogsheads of sugar, &c., on board, in the morning of the 29th ultimo, when standing for *Cape-May*, discovered six sail of men-of-war, tenders, &c., making towards him, as also a row boat. The boat and tenders he soon after engaged and beat off, stood close along shore, and got assistance from Captains *Wickes* and *Barry*, when it was agreed to run the brig ashore, which was done, and, under favour of a fog, they have saved two hundred and sixty-eight barrels of powder, fifty arms, and some dry goods, when, the fog clearing away, Captain *Montgomery* discovered the enemy's ships very near him, and five boats coming to board the brig; on which he started a quantity of powder in the cabin, and fifty pounds in the mainsail, in the folds of which he put fire, and then quitted her. The men-of-war boats (some say two, some three) boarded the brig, and took possession of her, with three cheers; soon after which the fire took the desired effect, and blew the pirates forty or fifty yards into the air, and much shattered one of their boats under her stern. Eleven dead bodies have since come on shore, with two gold-laced hats, and a leg with a garter. From the great number of limbs floating and driven ashore, it is supposed thirty or forty of them were destroyed by the explosion. A number of people from on board our ships-of-war, and a number of the inhabitants of *Cape-May*, mounted a gun on shore, with which they kept up a fire at the barges; which the men-of-war, &c., returned, and killed Mr. *Wickes*, (brother of Captain *Wickes*), third lieutenant of the Continental ship *Reprisal*, and wounded a boy in the thigh.

#### MEASURES FOR DEFENCE OF NEW-JERSEY AND PENNSYLVANIA.

At a Conference of the Delegates in Congress for the States of *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, and *Pennsylvania*, of the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, and the Field-Officers of the five Battalions of the said city, &c., at the State House in *Philadelphia*, on the 5th day of *July*, 1776, in pursuance of the following Resolution of Congress, to wit:

“In Congress, July 4, 1776.

“Resolved, That the Delegates of *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, and *Pennsylvania*, be a Committee to confer with the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, the Committee of Inspection of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, and the Field Officers of the Battalions of the said City and Liberties, on the best means of defending the Colonies of *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*, and that they be empowered to send expresses where necessary.

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.”

THOMAS MCKEAN in the Chair.

*Resolved*, That it appears to the conferees that all the associated Militia of *Pennsylvania*, (excepting the Counties of *Westmoreland*, *Bedford*, and *Northampton*,) who can be furnished with arms and accoutrements, should be forthwith requested to march with the utmost expedition to *Trenton*, (except the Militia for *Northampton* County, who are to march directly to *New-Brunswick*,) in *New-Jersey*, and that the said Militia continue in service until the Flying-Camp of ten thousand men can be collected to relieve them, unless they shall be sooner discharged by Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Militia march by Companies to the place of rendezvous.

*Resolved*, That the said Militia be taken into Continental pay, and receive the same pay, allowances, and rations, with the Continental troops, from the time they begin their march until they return to their respective homes.

*Resolved*, That those of the three Battalions of the *Pennsylvania* Troops, now remaining in the Province, be ordered to march immediately for *New-Brunswick*, in *New-Jersey*.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of this Colony provide as many Tents as they can for the said Militia.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Inspection, &c., in the several Counties furnish a good Kettle to every six men, and give all the assistance in their power; that the said Militia be well armed and equipped, and march with the greatest expedition.

THOMAS MCKEAN, *Chairman*.

In Congress, July 5, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Committees of Inspection for the several Counties in the Colony of *Pennsylvania* be directed to order such Troops as they may raise for the Flying-Camp to be marched to *Trenton*, the resolve of yesterday to march them to *Philadelphia* notwithstanding.

*Resolved*, That this Congress highly approve of the foregoing resolutions, and recommend it to the good people of *Pennsylvania* to carry the same into execution with the same laudable readiness which they have hitherto manifested in supporting the injured rights of their country.

By order of Congress:

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

TRANSLATION OF A LETTER WRITTEN BY A FRENCH OFFICER NOW IN THE STATES OF AMERICA, TO A FRENCH NOBLEMAN IN PARIS.

Philadelphia, July 5, 1776.

MY LORD: After the permission you were pleased to grant me to come to this country, I am at last arrived; not without many dangers and great expense. I found here a happy people, averse to oppression, without any spirit of sedition, active and laborious, with all the necessary qualifications required to the foundation of a powerful Republick, able to support itself without the assistance of *Europe*. This immense country possesses all advantages, and its true riches consist in the produce of its soil. It is, as yet, in its infancy; but still it is a vigorous child, that, in reality, has no more need of its mother nor its neighbours, provided it never meddle with the balance of *Europe*. Perhaps, my Lord, you will not consider these things in the light I do; but this country might be the greatest market for our manufactures, could we once give those people a taste for those which we have in great abundance, and with which *Great Britain* used to furnish them, to the amount of immense sums. I found the people generally inclined for absolute independency, and willing to support it with their lives and fortunes. I was surprised to see their troops exercise and manœuvre as well as they do; and were they not animated by the love of liberty, they would be an unparalleled prodigy; but when that takes place, all wonder ceases. I visited many of their fortifications, which have been raised with an amazing celerity. I never knew so many, and such good works, performed in so short a time. I was accompanied in this tour by several General Officers, particularly by Majors General *Putnam* and *Gates*, and a Member of the Congress. I told them my opinion of those works, and I have been desired to raise some necessary ones here where they are required.

This Government, its form, its liberty, are so similar to that of the ancient and once happy people of *Bretagne*, (the country of my nativity,) that I am delighted with it. And,

if I can be useful to the *United States*, I intend to end my days in them. I shall regard my original country and its subjects as my family; and if I can be useful to them, and anything advantageous to the *American States*, and equally agreeable to *France*, could be proposed here, I would undertake to offer it with the greatest pleasure, without requiring from the King of *France* either honours, pecuniary rewards, or any other mark of gratitude. All my satisfaction would consist in the inward feelings of my soul if I could once, by my endeavours, set on foot a commercial correspondence—equally beneficial to my former country and that which I now adopt. You will imagine, my Lord, that I am too hasty; but permit me to assure you, that after mature deliberation, and positive information of the strength of *America*, I am convinced they are able to resist against all their enemies. If the *Americans* have not the greatest knowledge in the art of war, they have great advantages from the situation of their country, undaunted courage, determined resolution, and the best and most glorious cause. Nothing will be able to divide them. Every precaution is taken against their interior enemies, whose number is insignificant. Such a solemn and well supported resolution gives me the highest opinion of these privileged souls, who defend their rights without ostentation or faction, and who desire only liberty and independency. They already feel that such a state is not a chimera, as too generally thought in *Europe*, *Switzerland* excepted.

I have the honour, my Lord, to enclose you the Declaration of Independency, published yesterday by the honourable the Congress of the *United American States*, and to prevent the danger of my letter miscarrying, shall send it by duplicate.

I have the honour to be, with respect, my Lord, your most humble and most obedient servant.

SAMUEL TUCKER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, }  
Trenton, July 5, 1776. }

SIR: Before we received your letter of yesterday, relative to the late Governour *Franklin*, this Congress had taken new order in that business. The view of one of our members in applying to Mr. *P. Livingston* was, to prevent the success of an application we heard Mr. *Franklin's* friends were about making to the Continental Congress for leave yet to stay in this Colony upon a parole of his own framing.

We have been greatly deceived in the Captain of the *Morristown* Lighthouse, to whom we had confided the charge of this business. We have cited him to answer for his conduct, which we fear will be found highly culpable, as he never even acquainted us with his delay in executing his orders. We have further sent an officer, in whom we can confide, to take charge of Mr. *Franklin* for the remainder of the journey. We are heartily chagrined at the accident; but were obliged to change the guards from time to time, as Colonel *Heard*, to whom he was first committed, was advanced to the rank of Brigadier General, and all the Militia who had him in charge were engaged for the service at *New-York*, except the Lighthouse, who we considered would be of less use there.

By the enclosed copy of a letter from Mr. *Dennis*, Chairman of the Committee of *New-Brunswick*, the Congress will see, we hope, the necessity of relieving us from the care of the prisoners of war in this Colony. The story of the negroes may be depended upon, so far at least as to their arming and attempting to form themselves, particularly in *Somerset* County. Our Militia are gone off in such numbers that we have hardly men or arms left in those parts which are best affected to the cause. We shall be highly pleased to receive the speediest advice from Congress upon this head, as we cannot but add that the behaviour of these gentlemen has not been such as we could wish since the arrival of the troops. We are, sir, your most humble servants.

By order of Congress:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

Honourable President *Hancock*.

Brunswick, July 4, 1776.

SIR: The powder directed to my care came safe to hand this morning. I provided wagons, and sent it immediately to the several eastern Counties, agreeable to the proportions handed me.



In my last I acquainted the honourable Congress of the necessity of removing the officers and other prisoners of war, from this and other publick situations in the Province where they are at present; but no directions coming, am induced to trouble you once more, by saying that our apprehensions increase daily. From incontestable evidence it appears the soldiers have been continually forming, with numbers of our negroes; that they have discouraged persons listing in the present service; they have impudently ridiculed the Congress, and despised the *American Army*. On which I immediately committed them to *Somerset* jail, as a place more remote and secure than *Brunswick*. Captain *Hescoat* removes from this to *Burlington* to-morrow, with his family, so that we have but one officer in town; but he is a very bad one. There is a number at *Princeton*; two vile ones at *Boundbrook*, and some at *Elizabethtown*. The directions of Congress, how they shall be disposed of, shall be punctually executed by, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN DENNIS.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL LIVINGSTON.

Head Quarters, July 5, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 4th came safely to hand. The situation of *New-Jersey* is such, and the apprehensions of the inhabitants so justly excited, that I have concluded to discharge the Militia from this place, except those from *Morris* County, whose internal situation is such as to leave them nothing to fear from the enemy. These I have posted in *Bergen*, in order to prevent any communication, and to give the enemy obstruction, in case they should attempt to land in that quarter, which, with the assistance of the Continental troops posted there, I hope they will be able effectually to do. The remainder of the Militia I have dismissed, as I have reason to believe the enemy is waiting for the *European* fleet, and will not make a general attack until it arrives; but we have not yet one man from *Connecticut*. You will observe I have dismissed the Militia from hence, but have not discharged them, as I am of opinion a part of them may be usefully employed in the immediate defence of the Province. In this view they fall properly under your command; and I would suggest to you the propriety of stationing them in proper places along the shore, opposite to *Staten Island*, so as to relieve the inhabitants from the apprehensions they are under of being plundered, as well as preventing any communication with the enemy. There are a number of people in *Amboy* who will undoubtedly open a correspondence with them immediately, and endeavour to excite disaffection through the Province, now they feel themselves under some kind of protection. If it is practicable, in the present situation of things, I am of opinion those officers of Government, and the notoriously disaffected there, should be removed with all expedition to less dangerous places; that the cattle and sheep and horses on the shores contiguous to *Staten-Island* should be immediately driven back; the ferries carefully attended to, and all boats watched that pass, or attempt so to do. The number of men necessary for these services you will be able to ascertain better than I can, but in such emergency it is better to exceed than fall short. As to provision for the men, I presume, while the Militia are employed in the immediate defence of the Province, the expense, at least in the first instance, will fall upon the Colony. How far the Continent will reimburse the Province I cannot determine. But the necessity of some supplies being collected is so evident, that I make no doubt the Convention will immediately go into it. In the mean time, I should think no person could run any risk in doing what is immediately necessary, under your appointment.

I have been the more induced to dismiss the Militia, that the new levies (or six months' men) may be forwarded as soon as possible; and I must request your exertions for this purpose, as it is my intention to have them here without delay. Since this letter was begun, another of your favours came to my hands, informing me that the enemy have thrown up two small breastworks on the causeway from the point.

You also request some experienced officers to be sent over; which I would gladly comply with, if in my power; but I have few of that character, and those are so necessarily engaged here, that for the present I must refer you to General *Mercer*, whose judgment and experience may be depended on. I have written him that I should endeavour to send over an

engineer as soon as possible. From all accounts we receive, I cannot think they have any serious intentions at present, beyond making themselves masters of *Staten-Island*, guarding against any attack from us, and collecting what stock they can; but, at the same time, it is highly prudent for you to be in the best posture of defence you can.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
 GEORGE WASHINGTON  
 To Brigadier-General *Livingston*.

GENERAL LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabethtown, July 5, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I forwarded the enclosed early this morning, but, through a mistake of the express, it was this moment returned to me; since which I am honoured with your Excellency's letter of this day, part of which is answered by the enclosed letter. Everything in my power shall be carefully attended to for the publick good. We have plenty of provision, and am informed it will continue. I forgot to mention in my last, that, on examining a person who was taken by one of the tenders in the Kills, I found that Captain *Williams*, of the tender, has a wife and children in *New-York*: he married *Benjamin Stout's* daughter, in the *Bowery*. I mention this circumstance, as it may lead to discover a correspondence between them. The ex-aminant said that Captain *Williams* expressed his desire of leaving the service, and getting to *New-York*. General *Mercer* having returned yesterday, I send back the letter directed to him.

Colonel *Drake*, of the second *Morris* battalion, has not been able to come down with his men till this day. He has about two hundred and fifty men, who will be here this evening, and I shall forward them to *New-York* to-morrow morning, without delay, unless your Excellency shall give other orders.

I have the honour to be your Excellency's most humble and most obedient servant,  
 WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.

GENERAL W. LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabethtown, July 5, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Since my last, I have received so many applications from the inhabitants along the *Sound*, *Woodbridge*, and *Amboy*, relating to the defenceless state of their borders, the whole Militia being sent to *New-York*, that, to allay their fears, (with the approbation of General *Mercer*, who had stopped them at *Newark Ferry*, where they were ordered to assist General *Heard*.) I ordered Major *Duyckinck*, with six hundred *Middlesex* Militia, to *Amboy*, leaving one hundred men at the *Blazing-Star Ferry*.

This morning, I received an application from the three companies of the *Woodbridge* Militia, now at your city, requesting my interest with your Excellency, to let them return to defend that quarter; but perhaps when they are informed of the above disposition, it may make them easy.

I have this moment received an express, with a piece of information, which I trouble you with, only from the advantage that may arise from your having intelligence of every kind, that the whole may be compared together; and, to prevent mistakes, I beg leave to transcribe the letter.

"SIR: A relation of Mr. *Dississoway* stole away from *Staten-Island* last night in a small canoe, with *James Fitz Randolph*, (both of whom are returned again;) they are staunch friends, and say, that if *Dississoway* does not return by to-morrow, his estate shall be forfeited. *Randolph* says he is much insulted for being a Whig by the lowest sort, but must return to save his family from being hostages. He heard the Major with other officers declare, at about four o'clock yesterday, there should be three thousand men landed at *Amboy* this day, before that time; and from what he could gather, that they intended to push matters in the *Jerseys*. We are in such a situation at this time, that with difficulty we raise a small guard, and many begin to talk of being afraid we are sold; and if the clamour is not soon stopped, *God* only knows what soon will be the consequence in this place, as some intend to go over, themselves and families, and not return."

This letter was written this morning, and is signed *Daniel Moores*, who is a principal man in that neighbourhood. Nothing material happened here last night, except that being informed of a large parcel of fat cattle being pastured on the neck along the *Sound*, I have ordered a party to drive off

all cattle and sheep to a place of safety. The enemy are throwing up breastworks at every avenue to the Island, but do not appear otherwise very busy.

I have just been informed that the *West-Jersey* Militia are on their way to this place, and I shall forward them to *New-York*, unless I receive contre orders from your Excellency.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most humble servant,  
WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

MAJOR DUICKINCK TO GENERAL LIVINGSTON.

Head-Quarters, Perth Amboy, July 5, 1776.

SIR: This day at eleven o'clock I arrived here, with the battalion under my command, save only the troops left at the *Old and New Blazing-Star*. The number with me is about four hundred and fifty men. As to the appearance of the enemy, I can at present give you but an imperfect account of their situation, but can plainly discover a number of men with wagons; also, some horsemen driving off cattle. It is here reported that they have been frequently seen parading under arms, and that they have intrenched a small distance above the ferry on the opposite side of the river. The number of the enemy appears to be about one thousand men, who have struck some tents in view. Shall be glad of your instructions from time to time.

I am, sir, in much haste, your humble servant,  
JOHN DUICKINCK.

P. S. Sundry persons of the enemy appear in the dress of the Train.

COLONEL REED TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by the General to solicit the attention of your honourable body to the resolve of the Congress touching prisoners of war. By that resolve they are put wholly on the disposition of the Legislatures of the respective Colonies, who are authorized to appoint a Commissary to make provision for them, and they are to be taken to such place as shall be deemed the most secure.

There are now a number of prisoners in the jail, some of them of some rank. Their expenses run much higher than if in the country, and in our present situation extremely dangerous. His Excellency requests no time may be lost in removing not only those who have been taken prisoners of war, but those committed for practices against the State; and if some direction was taken with respect to the prisoners for debt, it would be proper, as there is too much reason to fear that in case of an attack, if the doors were not opened by the jailor, the whole would rise and force them open. Any assistance that may be wanted for this purpose, the General begs leave to tender. I have also in charge to mention to you the impropriety of suffering *Burrows* to continue in the care of the jail, as, from his connexions, his appointment, and other circumstances, there is the utmost reason to suspect him.

The distance to which the Congress has removed will make it very difficult to have their advice and assistance on occasions which frequently present. The General would suggest the propriety of their appointing a small Committee in the city, to regulate such matters of intimate concern as daily present themselves.

The great hurry and engagement of the General prevents his writing personally, but he begs his respectful compliments may be made to your honourable body.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,  
JOSEPH REED, *Adjutant General*.

To the Convention of *New-York*.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, July 1, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I have drawn on you of this date for twenty thousand dollars, in favour of *Azariah Dunham*, Esq., of *New-Brunswick*, for the use of the gentlemen I have employed in *New-Jersey* to furnish the troops there with provisions, which I hope will be honoured with payment.

The enemy are lying very quiet at the Hook, yet we don't expect this calm will last long; a warm storm may

soon be expected—where the severest part of it will fall, is yet uncertain. We are pretty well prepared, but for men. I hope *Pennsylvania* will soon furnish us some.

I am, most respectfully, honourable sir, your most humble servant,

JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL (COMMISSARY-GENERAL) TO GEN. GATES.

New-York, July 5, 1776.

I last night received a letter from Mr. *Avery* on the subject of his department, and several others from *Albany*; by which I find you are in a cursed situation—your authority at an end, and commanded by a person who will be willing to have you knocked in the head, as General *Montgomery* was, if he can have the money-chest, &c., in his power. I expect soon to see you and your suite back here again. I have shown Mr. *Avery's* letter, and one I received from Mr. *Livingston* at the same time, to General *Washington*. He is distressed with these matters. I told him I should order Mr. *Avery* and Mr. *Jauncey* back again immediately, as a deputy of mine, who could have no money from anybody but General *Schuyler*, could be of no use in that part of the world, and that I would not be answerable for consequences where my authority and the chief command were both disputed. He said I was right, and that he was writing to Congress on the matter of your command. I have therefore directed Mr. *Avery* to apply to you, for your leave of passport to return immediately, and I wish your favour therein.

General *Howe* is arrived here, with about the force he left *Boston* with—the fleet about one hundred and thirty sail, at anchor under *Staten-Island*, and the troops on that Island. There they will stay till reinforced, I expect. General *Mifflin* is gone to command at *King's Bridge*; the Militia come in very fast.

Wishing you health and happiness more than I think you at present enjoy, I am, my dear sir, your friend and humble servant,

JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

To General *Gates*.

P. S. If you judge it best to stop Mr. *Avery* till you hear from Congress, do as you please.

EBENEZER HAZARD TO GENERAL GATES.

New-York, July 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Being in the midst of hurry, I can write but little at present.

Since my last, the *British* fleet has arrived. About seventy sail are within the *Narrows*, at the watering-place, under *Staten-Island* shore. They have landed their men, and taken possession of *Staten-Island*, cattle, and Tories, and that I hope will be all they will do. Our people on the *Jersey* shore have severely punished a tender for her temerity in going up the *Kills*, but as she got on shore on *Staten-Island*, they could not take her. A captain and five men got into a boat, and went in quest of a boat which had drifted away. They came too near our shore; our riflemen ordered them ashore. They obeyed the summons, and are in *salva custodia* in this city.

It was last night reported at the coffee-house, (and I believe the report may be depended on,) that the Congress had determined on a Declaration of Independence, and that the vote was unanimous, except *New-York*, whose Delegates, not being instructed, could not vote.

Our new Convention meets next *Monday*, and I think will doubtless concur with the other Colonies. The *Philadelphia* post is not yet come in; but I will keep my letter unsealed, that if he brings anything, I may add it. Enclosed is a letter from *Gordon*. Please to tell Major *Pierce* I received the letter he wrote me from *Albany*, and have forwarded the enclosed, per post, which went a few hours after I received his.

The *Philadelphia* post is come in; am so hurried, I can't read my letters or the papers, but send you a newspaper.

Adieu,

EBENEZER HAZARD.



JOHN ADAMS TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, June 18, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: We have ordered you to the post of honour, and made you Dictator in *Canada* for six months, or at least until the 1st of *October*. We do not choose to trust you Generals with too much power for too long time.

I took my pen, at this time to mention to you the name of a young gentleman, and to recommend him to your notice and favour. His name is *Rice*. This gentleman is the son of a worthy clergyman. He was educated at *Harvard College*, where he was an officer of the military company, and distinguished himself as a soldier in the manual exercises and manœuvres. After he came out of college he put himself under my care as a student of law. While he was in my office he was very useful in the neighbourhood in training the companies and Militia there. He is a modest, sensible, and well-read young man, and a very virtuous and worthy one. In my absence from home after the battle of *Lexington*, he applied for a commission in the Army, and obtained a place, in my opinion, vastly below his real merit—I mean that of Adjutant in General *Heath's*, now Colonel *Greaton's* Regiment. In this capacity he has continued from his first engagement, which was immediately after the battle of *Lexington*, until this time, and is now in *Canada* with his regiment, and I have been informed by a variety of officers that he has behaved remarkably well.

As you are going to *Canada* with full powers, I must beg the favour of you to think of this young gentleman, inquire into his character and conduct, and if you can, consistently with the publick service, advance him to some place more adequate to his abilities and merits and services, I should take it as a favour.

I pray God to prosper you in *Canada*, and grant you a plentiful crop of laurels; and am your affectionate, humble servant,

JOHN ADAMS.

To General Gates.

ELBRIDGE GERRY TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, June 25, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Since I had the pleasure of seeing you in this place, the affairs of *Canada* having been evidently suffering from want of an experienced officer to take the command, your appointment to that department is considered as a happy circumstance, notwithstanding the Eastern Colonies greatly need your assistance. I hope the campaign will terminate with honour and happiness to yourself and country; and if any services can be rendered from this quarter, by giving you information of the measures here adopted, the causes and moving principles thereof, or by promoting in Congress such other measures as you shall find necessary for the service, it will give me pleasure to have a share therein.

The Conference Committee, among other things, reported the expediency of appointing to each regiment a Paymaster, whose duty, they said, you would take an opportunity of describing and communicating to Congress. The matter has since lain on the table, and only waits your sentiments thereon, to be carried into execution. I am very fond of the measure, and it will save an infinitude of trouble, by opening a channel through which all payments to the soldiers will regularly pass, whether consisting of money paid out of the chest, clothing, arms, accoutrements, or sutling accounts; and when anything is wanted for the comfort of the Army, an order from the General, or the Paymaster-General, for a suitable sum, in favour of the Regimental Paymaster, will enable the latter to communicate immediate assistance to each soldier, without the possibility of any loss to the Continent. Further, when the Paymaster-General discharges himself, it will appear what sums the Regimental Paymasters have received, and these, together with the amount of clothing beforementioned, must be deducted from the pay rolls, whether paid immediately to the men or other persons in their behalf; and the commanding officer, without any further trouble than an occasional warrant, can always be sure of having his men punctually paid and well supplied with necessaries, which is the life of an army.

I think we are in a fair way to a speedy Declaration of Independency, confederations, and other measures that depend on secrecy for success; and Congress having yesterday passed resolves for capitally punishing spies that shall

be found in or about any of the camps or fortifications of the United Colonies, and recommended to the Assemblies to make provision for punishing all inhabitants and other persons receiving protection in any of the Colonies, who shall be found affording aid or comfort to the King of *Great Britain*, or other enemies of the *United States of America*, it appears to me that little will remain to be done, but an attention to the supplies, appointments, and discipline of the Army,—all of which are of the utmost importance. With respect to the first, the soldiers must be well paid, clothed, armed, and fed, or they can never be made to do their duty. And the plans on foot for securing the currency and obtaining large sums by loan, also for manufacturing and otherwise obtaining cannon, arms, ammunition, and clothing, together with the great ease in obtaining provisions, will, I hope, be timely and effectually carried into execution, and have a happy effect. The appointments of the Army are matters of interesting consequences; and notwithstanding every precaution of Congress and the Assemblies to choose good officers, yet time and experience will alone enable them to distinguish those that are qualified with conduct, virtue, and prowess, suitable for their respective places.

Discipline is the last, but not the least, important object of attention, and I shall be glad of your explicit sentiments on the same. I cannot conceive why we may not, by setting out right, soon make soldiers equal to any that the world affords. For surely men inspired with the principles of liberty, and enthusiastically engaged in its defence, afford as good materials as can anywhere be found for this purpose. And in the first place, I put it down as a settled, fixed principle, that they must be enlisted for the war, let the necessary encouragement be what it may, which I am happy to find the Generals agreed in, and I think most of the members of Congress. We can easily look over the statutes of *Britain* and other regulations relative to the Army, and find how far the same are applicable to our own forces; and to promote the measure, the sentiments of military gentlemen must be collected, and, amongst others, I know of none that I shall more depend on than those which you shall have an opportunity to express.

I intended to have troubled you with only a line or two, but being now on the second sheet, find it high time to inform you that your friends here are well, and join in due regards to Generals *Mifflin*, *Trumbull*, and others; with, sir, your assured friend and humble servant,

ELBRIDGE GERRY.

To Major General Gates.

GENERAL SCOTT TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, July 5, 1776.

SIR: The Continental Congress having, by their resolve, committed the disposal of the prisoners of war, taken and brought into this Colony, to our Congress, I send you, by a Lieutenant of my brigade and a guard of twenty men, the following prisoners of war, to wit:

\**James Auchmuty*, store-keeper in the engineer department of the enemy, and brother to Doctor *Auchmuty*, with his wife and child. *William Patterson*, and his wife and child, servant to the store-keeper; \**Richard Brueré*, son of the Governour of *Burmuda*, Midshipman in the *British Navy*; *Samuel Cox*, sloop-captain. These were taken in a *Bermuda* sloop (one of the enemy's fleet loaded with intrenching tools) by Captain *Rogers*, in our privateer, on the back of *Long-Island*.

\**William Elder*, volunteer in the Royal Highland Emigrants; \**William McDermott*; \**Thomas Remington Harris*, master's mate; \**William Metcalf*, Midshipman; \**Joseph Woolcombe*, Midshipman; \**John Simpson*, Master; *James Wilson*, seaman; *John Murray*, seaman; *Samuel Coppin*, seaman; *Jeremiah Rierdon*, *John Gibbins*, *Henry Killigrove*, *Francis Clemens*, *Michael Cowney*, *Cesar Freeman*. These have been taken, as I understand, in the enemy's boats.

His Excellency General *Washington* is very uneasy at the detention of prisoners of war in this city, at this critical juncture. The jail is crowded with a variety of prisoners, and they seek every opportunity of communicating with our internal and unconfined enemies. An instance of this was discovered the day before yesterday, consisting in an attempt

\* To the Township of *Bedford*.

of the prisoner *Auchmuty* to communicate with his nephew, by the agency of *J. L. C. Roome*, whose note for the purpose was found upon a negro before it reached young *Auchmuty*. It was the General's opinion that the abovementioned prisoners should be immediately sent to our Congress, to be disposed of by them, in some place of security, and charged me with the doing of it. They will be delivered to the Congress by Lieutenant *Gilbert Dean* and a guard of twenty men of my brigade. However inconvenient it may be to return me the guard, I must earnestly insist that it be immediately done. My brigade is very thin, and there is already a large guard gone out of it to *New-England* with the *Scotch* prisoners of war.

I have nothing material to inform Congress of now than as follows, to wit: Independency declared last *Tuesday* in Congress by an unanimous voice. Our infamous brethren of *Staten-Island*, instead of assisting the troops in removing the stock, drove them into hiding places. Not above a hundred were got off. The enemy, or a part of them, are landed on *Staten-Island*, live in great harmony with the inhabitants, who sell them their stock for hard money, and I suppose were never so happy in their lives. An attempt was made on the *Jersey* shore, but upon the appearance of the Militia they retired to the Island again, and broke up the causeway; and *Richard Lawrence* was the first man on that work. Brigadier *Heard*, of the *Jersey* Militia, with a party and two twelve-pounders, have destroyed one of the enemy's tenders in the *Kills*.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient servant,  
JOHN MORIN SCOTT.

To the President of the *New-York* Provincial Congress, at the *White-Plains*.

#### Examination of JOHN SIMPSON.

*White-Plains*, in *Westchester* County, July 6, 1776.

*John Simpson*, of the County of *Northumberland*, in *England*, aged about thirty-eight, about five feet ten inches, light eyes, and brown hair, being examined, says, that he sailed from *London* in the ship *Saville*, himself master, bound for *Boston*, with a cargo of provisions for the Ministerial Navy, where he arrived in *November* last, and was detained at *Boston* until the Army under General *Howe* left that place for *Halifax*. That he sailed from *Halifax* with General *Howe's* fleet, and on their arrival at the *Narrows* one of his boats went adrift, on which he, with three of his sailors, took another boat and went in quest of her, and on their coming near *Long-Island* shore were taken prisoners, and brought up to *New-York*, from whence he was sent to this place.

#### Parole of JOHN SIMPSON.

I, *John Simpson*, master of the ship *Saville*, a victualling transport, being made a prisoner of war by the Army of the Thirteen United Colonies in *North America*, do promise and engage, on my word and honour, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence to the township of *Bedford*, in *Westchester* County, in the Province of *New-York*, being the place of my destination and residence, and there, or six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between *Great Britain* and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the Assembly, Convention, or Committee or Council of Safety of the said Colony, shall order otherwise; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the said United Colonies, or do or say anything in opposition to, or in prejudice of, the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said Colonies during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Given under my hand, this sixth day of *July*, A. D. 1776.

JOHN SIMPSON,  
Master of the *Saville* Victualler.

#### Examination of SAMUEL COX.

*Samuel Cox*, a native of the Island of *Bermuda*, master of the sloop *Charlotte*, about five feet ten inches high, brown complexion, light eyes, brown hair, about twenty-five years of age, being examined, says he sailed from *Halifax* as master of the said sloop on the tenth of *June* last, with a cargo of intrenching tools, &c., for the use of the Ministerial Army, and bound to *Sandy-Hook*; that he was taken in the

said sloop on the 28th of last month, by Captain *Rogers*, in an *American* armed sloop, and carried into *Fire-Island Inlet*, on the south side of *Long-Island*, from whence he was brought prisoner to this place.

SAMUEL COX.

#### Parole of SAMUEL COX.

I, *Samuel Cox*, being made a prisoner of war by the Army of the Thirteen United Colonies in *North America*, do promise and engage, on my word and honour, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence to the township of *Bedford*, in *Westchester* County, in the Province of *New-York*, being the place of my destination and residence; and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between *Great Britain* and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the Assembly, Convention, or Committee or Council of Safety of the said Colony, shall order otherwise; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say anything in opposition to, or in prejudice of, the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said Colonies during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Given under my hand this 6th day of *July*, A. D. 1776.

SAMUEL COX,  
Master of the Sloop *Charlotte* Transport.

#### Examination of WILLIAM ELDER.

*William Elder*, a *North Briton*, about five feet eight inches in height, aged twenty-five, light eyes, fair complexion, and dark brown hair, being examined, says he came from *Scotland* via *Falmouth*, in the packet last spring was a year; that he came out as a volunteer with Colonel *Allan Maclean*, who, on his arrival, went to *Boston*; that the examinant received a letter from Major *Small*, informing this examinant that Colonel *Maclean* had recommended him and requested him to come to *Boston*; that the examinant took passage in the ship *Sally*, bound to *Boston*; that on the 6th of *March* last, the said ship was cast away on the south side of *Long-Island*, and he taken prisoner and brought to *New-York*, where he remained a prisoner till yesterday, when he was sent to this place.

WILLIAM ELDER.

#### Parole of WILLIAM ELDER.

I, *William Elder*, being made a prisoner of war by the Army of the Thirteen United Colonies in *North America*, do promise and engage, on my word and honour, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence to the town of *Bedford*, in *Westchester* County, in the Province of *New-York*, being the place of my destination and residence; and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between *Great Britain* and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the Assembly, Convention, or Committee or Council of Safety of the said Colony, shall order otherwise; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say anything in opposition to, or in prejudice of, any Congress for the said Colonies during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Given under my hand this 6th day of *July*, A. D. 1776.

WILLIAM ELDER, Volunteer.

#### Examination of WILLIAM McDERMOTT.

*William McDermott*, an *Hibernian*, aged twenty-two, about five feet six inches high, fair complexion, light eyes, and light brown hair, being examined, says, that on his passage from *New-York* (he having been for some time on board the *Asia*) he was cast away on board the ship *Sally*, on the south side of *Long-Island*, taken and sent prisoner to *New-York*, where he remained a prisoner till yesterday, when he was sent to this place.

WILLIAM McDERMOTT.

#### Parole of WILLIAM McDERMOTT.

I, *William McDermott*, being made a prisoner of war by the Army of the Thirteen United Colonies in *North America*, do promise and engage, on my word and honour, and on the

faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence to the township of *Bedford*, in *Westchester County*, in the Province of *New-York*, being the place of my destination and residence; and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war with *Great Britain* and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the Assembly, Convention, or Committee, or Council of Safety of the said Colony, shall order otherwise; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say anything in opposition to, or in prejudice of, the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said Colonies during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Given under my hand this 6th day of *July*, A. D. 1776.

WILLIAM McDERMOTT.

#### Examination of JAMES AUCHMUTY.

White-Plains, in *Westchester County*, *July 6*, 1776.

*James Auchmuty*, Esq., of *Boston*, being examined, saith: That he, together with his wife and child, sailed from *Halifax* on the 10th of *June* last, in a transport sloop called the *Charlotte*, whereof *Samuel Cox* was master, bound for *New-York*; that, on *Friday* last, the said sloop was taken by Captain *Rogers*, in an *American* armed sloop called the *Montgomery*, and carried into *Fire-Island Inlet*, on the south side of *Long-Island*, and from thence, with his said wife and child, were sent prisoners to this place; that this examinant was appointed by General *Howe* storekeeper to the engineers, and that the pay allowed him was four shillings sterling per day, with the promise of its being augmented to five; that the fleet, of which the *Charlotte* transport was one, amounted to about one hundred and thirty sail; that the army on board the said fleet consisted of near ten thousand men, exclusive of marines, as he (the examinant) understood; that it was reported at *Halifax* that Lord *Howe*, with the *German* troops, were intended for *New-York*; that it was said eleven thousand regular troops went with General *Burgoyne* to *Quebeck*; that the said sloop *Charlotte* was laden with intrenching tools, some spikes, *Chevaux-de-Frise*, and some mantelets.

JAMES AUCHMUTY.

#### Parole of JAMES AUCHMUTY.

I, *James Auchmuty*, being made a prisoner of war by the Army of the Thirteen United Colonies in *North America*, do promise and engage, on my word and honour, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence to the township of *Bedford*, in the Province of *New-York*, being the place of my destination and residence; and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between *Great Britain* and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the Assembly, Convention, or Committee or Council of Safety of the said Colony, shall order otherwise; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say anything in opposition to, or in prejudice of, the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said Colonies during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Given under my hand this 6th day of *July*, A. D. 1776.

JAMES AUCHMUTY,

Storekeeper of the Engineer's Department.

#### Examination of THOMAS REMINGTON HARRIS.

*Thomas Remington Harris*, an inhabitant of the city of *London*, master's mate on board the *Savage* sloop of war, being examined, saith: That he was taken prisoner on *Staten-Island* by a party of riflemen on the 7th of *April* last, and brought to the city of *New-York*, where he was confined in Jail till yesterday, when he was sent to this place a prisoner.

THOMAS REMINGTON HARRIS.

#### Parole of THOMAS REMINGTON HARRIS.

I, *Thomas Remington Harris*, being made a prisoner of war by the Army of the Thirteen United Colonies in *North America*, do promise and engage, on my word of honour, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence to the township of *Bedford*, in *Westchester County*, in the Province of *New-York*, being the place of my destination and residence; and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain

during the present war with *Great Britain* and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the Assembly, Convention or Committee, or Council of Safety, of the said Colony, shall order otherwise; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say anything in opposition to, or in prejudice of, the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said Colonies during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Given under my hand this 6th day of *July*, A. D. 1776.

THOMAS REMINGTON HARRIS,

Mate of the *Savage Sloop*.

#### Examination of WILLIAM METCALFE.

*William Metcalfe*, born near *Bristol*, in *Old England*, of the age of twenty, about five feet two inches high, well set, light eyes, fair complexion and brown hair, and a cast in his right eye, somewhat pitted with the small-pox, being examined, says, that he was a Midshipman on board the *Savage* sloop of war; being of a party sent on shore at *Staten-Island*, was taken prisoner on the 7th of *April* last, brought to *New-York*, and now sent to this place.

WILLIAM METCALFE.

#### Examination of JOSEPH WOOLCOMBE.

*Joseph Woolcombe*, a native of *Topsham*, in *Devonshire*, in *Old England*, being examined, says he was formerly mate on board the ship *Blue Mountain Valley*, a transport ship; was cast away in the ship *Sally* on the south side of *Long-Island*, (bound to *Boston*), taken prisoner and sent to *New-York*, and from thence to this place; he is about five feet eight inches in height, light eyes and complexion, light brown hair, and well set.

JOSEPH WOOLCOMBE.

#### Parole of JOSEPH WOOLCOMBE.

I, *Joseph Woolcombe*, being made a prisoner of war by the Army of the Thirteen United Colonies in *North America*, do promise and engage, on my word and honour, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence to the township of *Bedford*, in *Westchester County*, in the Province of *New-York*, being the place of my destination and residence; and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between *Great Britain* and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the Assembly, Convention, or Committee or Council of Safety of the said Colony, shall order otherwise; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say anything in opposition to, or in prejudice of, the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said Colonies during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Given under my hand this 6th day of *July*, A. D. 1776.

JOSEPH WOOLCOMBE,

Chief Mate of the Ship *Blue Mountain Valley*.

#### Examination of RICHARD BRUERÉ.

*Richard Brueré*, second son of Governour *Brueré* of the Island of *Bermuda*, being examined, saith: That he is at present a Midshipman of the Navy of *Great Britain*; that he was to be made an acting lieutenant on board the *Merlin* sloop of war; that he sailed from *Halifax* about the 10th of *June* last in one of the engineer's sloops, of which he was part owner, bound to *Sandy-Hook*; that the said sloop was taken on *Friday* or *Saturday* last on the south side of *Long-Island*, by Captain *Rogers* of an *American* armed sloop, and carried into *Fire-Island Inlet*, and from thence was sent prisoner to this place.

RICHARD BRUERÉ.

#### Parole of R. BRUERÉ.

I *Richard Brueré*, being made a prisoner of war by the Army of the Thirteen United Colonies in *North America*, do promise and engage, on my word and honour, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence to the township of *Bedford*, in *Westchester County*, in the Province of *New-York*, being the place of my destination and residence; and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between *Great Britain* and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the

Assembly, Convention, or Committee or Council of Safety of the said Colony, shall order otherwise; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say anything in opposition to, or in prejudice of, the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said Colonies during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Given under my hand this 6th day of *July*, A. D. 1776.

R. BRUERÉ, *Midshipman, &c.*

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 5, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I beg leave to recommend to your consideration the establishing a certain guard at *Red Hook*. It is undoubtedly a post of vast importance. Detached guards never defend a place equal to troops stationed at a particular post. Both officers and men contract an affection for a post after being there some time; they will be more industrious to have everything in readiness, and obstinate in defence. The little baggage that each private has is of consequence to him, and will influence his conduct in time of action, if it is at stake. The officers also will have new motives: they, knowing a post to be committed to their trust, and that the whole disgrace will fall upon them if any misconduct happens, will be much more likely to take every necessary precaution to avoid so great an evil. But an officer that commands a detachment thinks little more than how to pass away his time during his tour of duty, it being uncertain whether he shall ever command there again.

I sent to General *Scott* this morning four persons taken at the *Narrows* last night. The following is a copy of their examination. They were taken separately, and agreed in their account in everything, except the number of men. The Captain's account was the least, and, I believe, the nearest right, and I apprehend not much from the truth.

The fleet sailed from *Halifax* the 10th of *June*, and arrived the 29th. The fleet consists of one hundred and twenty sail of topsail vessels, and they have on board ten thousand troops received at *Halifax*, besides some of the *Scotch* brigade that have joined the fleet on the passage. The troops from the *West Indies* joined the army at *Halifax*, and were there received by them.

List of the Generals: *Howe*, *Pigot*, *Percy*, *Grant*, *Jones*.

A list of the ships of force: *Asia*, 64; *Centurion*, 50; *Chatham*, 50; *Phoenix*, 40; *Greyhound*, 30; *Rose*, 20; *Swan*, 16; *Senegal*, 16.

Four days before the fleet sailed from *Halifax* a packet arrived from *England*, that brought an account of Admiral *Howe's* sailing with a fleet of one hundred and fifty sail, on board of which were twenty thousand troops. The fleet sailed a few days before the packet: they are expected in here every day.

General *Carleton's* regiment went from *Halifax* to *Quebeck*. The *Niger* ship, that went from *Halifax* in *April* to *Canada*, met *Burgoyne* going up the river with thirty-six transports, and six thousand troops on board. General *Carleton's* son went into *Quebeck* painted like an *Indian*.

The people of *Staten-Island* went on board the fleet as they lay at the *Hook*, several boat loads of them.

Our people are firing with the nine-pounders at the *Narrows*, but have not heard where they have done any execution. There was a smart fire heard at the west end of *Staten-Island* about four this morning. It is supposed to be an attack upon *Fort Smith*, in the south part of *Staten-Island*.

Nothing further has happened since yesterday.

Believe me to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

GENERAL MIFFLIN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp at Mount Washington, July 5, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I find the works well advanced, but not in a state of defence. The teams allotted to them have been taken off: some of them sent to town for materials, and there detained; others necessarily employed in hauling up the powder (which is now stored in the best place I could find) and provisions from the landing.

From the Colonels' reports the men's arms are in a most alarming situation. Colonel *Magaw* has not more than one hundred and twenty-five in his regiment fit for service; Colonel *Shee* about three hundred, including all the carbines which they received lately by your order. If the enemy pay us a visit we will do our best, and endeavour to make up in zeal what we want in appointment.

Should sufficient reinforcements arrive at *New-York*, may we not expect a share? You are best acquainted with the importance of this post, my dear General, and I flatter myself will put it into our power to do something more than mere defensive work within our lines. I think the enemy may divert our attention to the heights above *King's Bridge*; if so, is it expected that we can detach a party to oppose them? I shall be happy in your orders how to act if a landing should be attempted above or below us, at the same time that we may have reason to believe our present post to be one of their objects. Were the works in good order, and the men well equipped; I could easily determine these points, but circumstanced as we are, I do not see how we can permit even a small party to leave the environs of this camp, without exposing it to imminent danger, and yet I might be tempted to try it.

I propose to exercise with the artillery, if the works will admit of it, two companies who are not armed. Our principal business within the works must be with artillery.

We have many arms which might soon be put in order if Colonel *Moylan* will favour us with four armourers and some tools. Captain *Bacon* promised it several days past, but still neglects us.

I am, my dear General, your obedient servant and friend,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, B. G.

His Excellency Gen. *Washington*, Camp at *New-York*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 11, 1776.]

Lebanon, July 5, 1776.

SIR: In my last, of the 10th of *June*, I informed you I had called the General Assembly to meet at *Hartford*, on the 14th then current, to take into consideration the requisitions of Congress of the 1st and 3d of *June*, for reinforcements to the armies at *New-York* and in *Canada*. They accordingly met, and cheerfully granted the reinforcements required, including one regiment ordered to be raised in *May* last, and not particularly destined. They consist of nine battalions—two for the Northern Department, and seven for *New-York*. *David Waterbury*, Jun., Esq., is appointed Brigadier-General for the Northern Department, and *James Wadsworth*, Jun., Esq., for *New-York*.

As at this season of the year the pressure of country business was such as to engage the attention of the people in general, and was not to be left without great difficulty, and the small-pox in *Canada* naturally would deter those from engaging in the service who had never passed through that distemper, it was thought necessary by the Assembly to encourage men to enlist, by offering them a bounty; and accordingly six pounds as a bounty to each able-bodied man that should enlist into the battalions destined for *Canada*, and three pounds for those destined to *New-York*.

In the rest of the session, after officers were appointed, proper measures were consulted for arming and equipping the troops to be raised, and furnishing them with other necessities, agreeably to the resolves of Congress.

The Assembly, apprehending that the bounty granted to the battalions of Militia might retard the raising the Continental regiment ordered to be raised in this Colony in *May* last, thought it necessary and did grant a bounty of forty shillings to each able-bodied man that should enlist into that regiment.

The battalions of Militia are now filling up as fast as may be, though the prevalence of the small-pox in the Northern Army intimidates our men, and retards the enlistments. Proper orders have been given to the Brigadiers General, and by them to the Colonels, to hasten the raising, equipping, and marching the troops. Many have marched for *New-York*, and the rest will soon follow; in the meantime, lest the want of these battalions should be felt at *New-York*, three regiments of horse of our Militia are ordered to join the army at *New-York*, and, if wanted, to continue there till the battalions of foot arrive.



During the session, and soon after the rising of the Assembly, your favours of the 11th, 14th, and 19th of June came to hand. The exportation of salted beef and pork was prohibited by act of Assembly, and all the salted pork in the stores of merchants and others, except provisions for the use of families, ordered to be purchased on the Colony's account, antecedent to the receipt of the resolve of Congress on that subject.

As an extraordinary bounty is given to the two battalions raising for the Northern Department, it would be attended with difficulty to exchange their destination, and send the battalion ordered to be raised in May last that way instead of one of them. Indeed, I suppose the largest part of that battalion are now on their way to New-York. The Continental, or Colonel Ward's regiment, is not filled. To alter its first destination may create uneasiness. Will it not be best that the Militia desired to be sent to Boston in their room be forwarded to New-York, and a battalion ordered from thence of such as have passed through the small-pox? Not one in twenty of our soldiers have had it.

This, I trust, will be considered as complying fully with the spirit and intention of the resolves of Congress of the 19th and 25th of June last.

The small-pox is a more terrible enemy than the British troops, and strikes a greater dread into our men who have never had it. Might not some of our troops be sent to New-York, and serve there, instead of the York or Jersey battalions, which have generally passed through that distemper? Such an exchange would be very agreeable, and greatly facilitate the filling up our regiments. Our intelligence from Crown-Point shows the infection to be very great in our returning army.

I have received information by several persons that the inhabitants on the New-Hampshire Grants, on the northern frontier of the Province of New-York, are in the highest consternation on the retreat of the Army from Canada, from an apprehended attack of the savages. Some of their settlements are breaking up, and all are in danger of being soon deserted. Should they fall back on the older plantations, the enemy would derive great advantages from their improvements and buildings, to fall on and distress the frontiers; and the inconvenience they may bring with them, and the terror they will spread, may produce the most unhappy consequences. May I not venture to suggest the expediency of raising a battalion of troops, in the pay of the Continent, upon those Grants? The inhabitants, inured to hardship, and acquainted with the country, may rival the Indians in their own mode of making war, will support that frontier, and leave the more interior settlements at liberty to assist in the general defence of the Colonies. If they are not put under pay, their poverty is such they can hire no labourers to carry on their farming business in their absence. Should they go out as Militia without pay, the failure of one crop would effectually break up their settlements.

As to your requisition respecting a regiment of Militia for the Northern Department, if you mean it in addition to the two battalions now raising by us for that destination, the one for Boston, and seven for New-York, I am constrained to say, although we wish to comply with every requisition of your wise and honourable body, and to make every exertion for the salvation of the United Colonies in our power, it seems impossible to comply, as we have now more than fourteen thousand men from this Colony in Continental and Colonial service, by sea and land, and especially in this extreme busy season, when the fields languish for want of labourers, and inevitable famine and nakedness will be the consequence of stripping them any more.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable President Hancock.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, July 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The bearer, Captain Winslow, is one of the head carpenters I mentioned in my last, and now waits on you with his party to enter into your service. You will find him a man of integrity, and well calculated for your purpose. I find by him that his men are doubtful whether, in case of sickness, they are to receive hospital allowance, as customary for sick soldiers. They would think it so hard to

be deprived of that allowance, that he would be obliged to release them all at Albany if it should appear to be your intention not to make it. I must earnestly recommend it to you to make them every allowance of that kind which you can think consistent with honour and justice. Captain Lester's company are in the same circumstances, and will merit to be treated in the same manner.

I am, sir, with great esteem and regard, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable Philip Schuyler, Esq.

COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO WALTER SPOONER.

Watertown, July 5, 1776.

SIR: Whereas Captain Welden, commander of the brig *Rising Empire*, has received orders from the Board, dated the 27th ultimo, directing him, when properly armed, to proceed to Boston to take his complement of provisions, &c., the Board request you will direct Captain Welden, when he is ready to proceed for Boston, to take under his convoy all such vessels as are ready for sailing by the 20th instant, and then convoy into latitude 38° 30' north, and longitude 67° west from London; after which he is to proceed as directed by his instructions, dated the 27th of last month.

In the name and by order of the Council.

To the Honourable Walter Spooner, Esq.

PROCEEDINGS AT HANOVER, NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

At a meeting of several adjacent Towns at the College Hall, on Friday, the 5th day of July, 1776, viz: Lyme, Hanover, Lebanon, Thredford, Norwich, and Hartford:

Chosen, Amos Robinson, Clerk.

Chosen, Deacon Nehemiah Estabrook, Moderator.

Voted, To have fifty men, exclusive of officers, to repair to Royalton, to fortify in that town, and scout from thence to Onion River and Newbury.

Voted, To appoint one Captain and two Subalterns.

Voted, To appoint Mr. David Woodward Captain.

Voted, To appoint Mr. Joshua Hazen 1st Lieutenant.

Voted, To appoint Mr. Abel Lyman 2d Lieutenant.

Voted, To appoint a Committee of three men to direct the building of the Fort at Royalton, and furnish said Fort with all necessary supplies.

Chosen, Esquire Joel Marsh, Mr. Isaac Morgan, and Major John Slapp, to be said Committee.

Voted, To raise two hundred and fifty men, exclusive of officers, to go to Newbury, to fortify, scout, and guard there for three months, unless sooner discharged.

Voted, To appoint Captain Abner Seely Major of the last mentioned department.

Voted, To divide said two hundred and fifty men into four Companies.

Voted, To appoint Mr. Levi Willard, Mr. Oliver Ashley, and Mr. Samuel Paine, to be Captains.

Voted, That the Captains appoint their Subalterns.

Voted, To appoint a Committee of three men to direct and order the affairs of the Newbury department.

Voted, That Colonel Bailey, Colonel Johnson, and Col. Olcott be said Committee.

Voted, That this Committee engage that the Officers and Soldiers in both the aforementioned departments be honourably paid for their services.

Voted, To dismiss this meeting.

It is accordingly dismissed.

A true copy, taken from the Minutes.

Attest per me:

AMOS ROBINSON, Clerk.

ARTHUR LEE TO CHARLES W. F. DUMAS.

London, July 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: This will be delivered to you by Mr. Ellis, a friend of Dr. Franklin, of liberty, and of America. He is a philosopher, very well instructed on the subject of America, and, I trust, will be both an agreeable and useful acquaintance while he remains near you.

I thank you for your favour of the 21st of last month. By the last advices from America, General Howe was prepared to sail for Halifax, and, it is imagined, to land at New-York, where he will certainly be strongly opposed. He numbers ten thousand regulars, and it will be fortunate for us if he



makes his attempt before he is joined by the *Germans*, who sailed the 6th of *May*.

The *Americans* have taken post upon the river *Richelieu* and the *Lakes*, so that *Montreal*, not being tenable, is evacuated. General *Lee* is in *Virginia*, with ten thousand men, expecting Lord *Cornwallis* and General *Clinton*. General *Washington* commands at *New-York*, and General *Ward* in *Boston*.

The strange timidity *de la Cour Française* requires great patience and management; but I think it will at last be brought to act an avowed and decided part. When that happens, *Angleterre* must submit to whatever terms they please to impose, for she is totally incapable of sustaining a war with *France*. Adieu,

ARTHUR LEE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PARIS, DATED JULY 6, 1776.

We hear that the Court of *Great Britain* have lately presented a memorial to our Court, and also to that of *Spain*, strongly complaining of the trade which is so industriously carried on by the *French* and *Spanish* merchants with the rebellious Colonies of *North America*; and at the same time inquiring the reason of the great armament carrying on in both these Kingdoms, supposed to be against the States of *Africa*, whilst the latter sit quiet and inactive, as if they had nothing to fear. The answer given by both the above Courts is publicly spoken to be this: That with regard to the complaints of trading with the Rebels, it is a mere smuggling and illicit trade, which, notwithstanding the risk of being confiscated, according to law, merchants of every maritime country will always venture, and act contrary to the positive commands of the Legislature. But with regard to the armament, both *France* and *Spain* find themselves highly necessitated to send strong forces to their Colonies of *South America* and the *West-Indies*, in order to prevent a rebellion there, to which they might be induced by the seeming success of the *British* Colonies in *North America*. Feasible, however, as this answer may appear, yet it is certain, that our squadron, lately sailed from *Brest* and *Toulon*, met and united themselves with a *Spanish* squadron near the *Cape of St. Vincent*; and there are authentick advices of the latest date, mentioning that the *Spanish* fleet destined for *Cuba* was observed steering towards *Jamaica*.

BENJAMIN HARRISON, JR., TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Williamsburgh, July 6, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: By direction of Brigadier General *Lewis*, I do myself the honour to transmit you an account of the state of my office, from 22d of *June* to this day; and I have it in orders from the General to say that an immediate supply of money is wanted.

I have the honour to be, honourable sir, your very obedient servant,

BENJ. HARRISON, Jun.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

MATTHEW TILGHMAN TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Annapolis, July 6, 1776.

SIR: Very fortunately, your letters, with the several resolutions of Congress, came just time enough to be offered to the Convention before their rising. They were immediately taken into consideration, and the enclosed resolves were very speedily and unanimously passed, and directed to be transmitted to you, to be laid before the Congress; which, in obedience to the order of Convention, I have now the honour to do; and am, sir, respectfully, your most obedient servant,

MAT. TILGHMAN, President.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

In Convention, Annapolis, July 6, 1776.

The President laid before the Convention several Letters from the Honourable the President of Congress, of the 25th and 29th of *June*, and the 4th instant, and sundry Resolutions of that respectable body, which were taken into consideration; and thereupon,

Ordered, That Colonel *Smallwood* immediately proceed with his Battalion to the City of *Philadelphia*, and put himself under the Continental officer commanding there, and be subject to the further orders of the Congress.

Ordered, That the Independent Companies stationed in *Talbot*, *Kent*, *Queen Anne*, and *St. Mary's* Counties, immediately proceed to *Philadelphia*, and put themselves under the command of Colonel *Smallwood*, subject to the further order of the Congress.

Resolved, That the said Battalion and Independent Companies be deducted from the number of the Militia required by Congress of this Colony, to compose the Flying-Camp.

Resolved, That this Province will raise two Companies of Riflemen, and four Companies of *Germans*, according to the requisition of Congress in their Resolutions of the 27th day of *June* last.

That one of the said Companies of Riflemen be raised in *Harford* County, two of the said Companies of *Germans* be raised in *Baltimore* County, and one of the Companies of Riflemen and two of the Companies of *Germans* be raised in *Frederick* County.

That each of the Companies of *Germans* consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and seventy-six Privates; and each of the Rifle Companies of one Captain, three Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and seventy-six Privates; and that the Officers be approved by appointment and certified to the Congress by the Council of Safety.

Extract from the minutes: G. DUVAL, Clerk.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Commanding Officer of the Flying-Camp to keep the corps of Regular Forces and Militia distinct and separate, if possible, to prevent any discontent about rank.

Extract from the minutes: G. DUVAL, Clerk.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 6, 1776.

SIR: The Congress, for some time past, have had their attention occupied by one of the most interesting and important subjects that could possibly come before them or any other assembly of men.

Although it is not possible to foresee the consequences of human actions, yet it is nevertheless a duty we owe ourselves and posterity, in all our public counsels, to decide in the best manner we are able, and to leave the event to that Being who controls both causes and events to bring about his own determinations.

Impressed with this sentiment, and at the same time fully convinced that our affairs may take a more favourable turn, the Congress have judged it necessary to dissolve the connexion between *Great Britain* and the *American* Colonies, and to declare them free and independent States, as you will perceive by the enclosed Declaration, which I am directed by Congress to transmit to you, and to request you will have it proclaimed at the head of the Army in the way you shall think most proper.

Agreeable to the request of Congress, the Committee of Safety of this Colony have forwarded to you ten thousand flints, and the flints at *Rhode-Island* are ordered to be sent to you immediately.

It is with great pleasure I inform you that the Militia of this Colony, of *Delaware* Government, and *Maryland*, are, and will be every day, in motion to form the Flying-Camp, and that all the Militia of this Colony will soon be in the *Jerseys*, ready to receive such orders as you shall please to give them.

I have written to Governour *Cooke* to engage immediately, and send forward as fast as possible, fifty ship-carpenters to General *Schuyler*, for the purpose of building vessels on the *Lakes*. Fifty have already gone from hence on that business.

The Congress having directed the arms taken on board the *Scotch* transports to be sent to you, I have written to the agents in *Rhode-Island* and *Massachusetts-Bay* to forward them immediately.

The enclosed copy of a letter from Mr. *Greene* I am directed to forward by Congress, with a request that you will order such parts of the stores therein mentioned to *New-York* as you shall judge proper.

I have the honour to be, sir, with perfect esteem, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 6, 1776.

SIR: Should this be presented to you by Captain *Thomas Cardrop*, you will please to understand that he, with fifty ship-carpenters under his command, are engaged in the Continental service, with orders to proceed, with the utmost expedition, for *Albany*, there to put themselves under the direction of Major-General *Philip Schuyler*, in order to perform the very essential service of building galleys, floating-batteries, &c., for the defence of the Lakes. And the present situation of the Ministerial Army on *Staten-Island* having rendered it necessary to leave the route of this corps to the judgment and discretion of Captain *Cardrop*, it is uncertain whether your Excellency will see him or not; therefore these lines are given to him merely to procure the necessary assistance and despatch, if he should find it safe and convenient to call at *New-York* in order to procure water conveyance.

I have the honour to remain your Excellency's most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.

## BOARD OF WAR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

War-Office, Philadelphia, July 6, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Board of War and Ordnance to request that you would be pleased to inform them whether any and what provision has been made in the Continental Army for sergeant-majors, drum and fife-majors, and quartermaster-sergeants; and if none has heretofore been made, whether any and what pay or allowance ought to be made them.

I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

RICHARD PETERS, JUN.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION, ETC.

Philadelphia, July 6, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Although it is not possible to foresee the consequences of human actions, yet it is nevertheless a duty we owe ourselves and posterity, in all our public councils, to decide in the best manner we are able, and to trust the event to that Being who controls both causes and events so as to bring about his own determinations.

Impressed with this sentiment, and at the same time fully convinced that our affairs may take a more favourable turn, the Congress have judged it necessary to dissolve all connexion between *Great Britain* and the *American Colonies*, and to declare them free and independent States, as you will perceive by the enclosed Declaration, which I am directed by Congress to transmit to you, and to request you will have it proclaimed in your Colony, in the way you shall think most proper.

The important consequences to the *American States* from this Declaration of Independence, considered as the ground and foundation of a future Government, will naturally suggest the propriety of proclaiming it in such a manner that the people may be universally informed of it.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Honourable Convention of *New-York*.

[Same to the Honourable Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay*, Governour *Trumbull*, Governour *Cooke*, and Assembly of *New-Hampshire*.]

P. S. to the Letter to *New-Hampshire*:—Major *Rogers*, of your Colony, is now here. The Congress have ordered that he be sent to *New-Hampshire*, to be disposed of as that Government shall judge best.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COMMISSARY MEASE.

Philadelphia, July 6, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby required to pay to Captain *William Kilsay*, commanding a company of *New-Jersey* Militia, one month's pay, in the following proportions, the said Captain *Kilsay* to be accountable, agreeably to a resolve of Congress of this day, viz: To one Captain, two Lieutenants,

one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, fifty-one Privates—to each of these gentlemen one month's advance pay agreeable to the established pay.

By order of Congress:

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To Mr. Commissary and Paymaster *Mease*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WARD.

Philadelphia, July 6, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed Declaration of Independence I am directed to transmit to you, with a request that you will have it proclaimed at the head of the troops under your command, in the way you shall think most proper.

I have only time to add, that the importance of it will naturally suggest the propriety of proclaiming it in such a manner as that the whole Army may be fully apprized of it.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General *Ward*, or Officer commanding the Continental Troops at *Boston*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO JOHN BRADFORD.

Philadelphia, July 6, 1776.

SIR: As I purpose writing you fully on the subject of marine affairs some time in the course of next week, I shall only enclose at present a resolve of Congress, directing you to send the arms taken out of the *Scotch* transports to General *Washington* at *New-York*; and indeed this is all I have time to do now, being in great haste.

Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To Mr. *John Bradford*, Agent in *Massachusetts-Bay*.

[Same to Mr. *Daniel Tillinghast*, Agent in *Rhode-Island*.]

War-Office, Philadelphia, July 6, 1776.

All persons in the *United American States* who are able to inform the Congress of any quantities of flint-stone, or of any persons who are skilled in the manufacture of flints, are requested to apply in person, or by letter, to the Board of War and Ordnance, at the War-Office in *Market Street*, near the corner of *Fourth Street*. All printers of newspapers in the several States are desired to insert this advertisement.

RICHARD PETERS, JUN., Secretary.

## JACOB RUSH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 6, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to acquaint you, at the desire of Mr. *Hancock*, that your letter of the 4th and 5th instant was this day received and read in Congress. As the despatches which are at this time preparing for you cannot be got ready for the post, and Mr. *Hancock* does not incline to detain him, I am to inform you that he will send them by express as soon as possible after Congress rises.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JACOB RUSH.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *New-York*.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA TO HIS FRIEND AT ANNAPOLIS, DATED JULY 6, 1776, SATURDAY MORNING.

General *Howe* has landed a great body of troops on *Staten-Island*. His force cannot be ascertained. General *Washington* and his troops are in high spirits. The strength of our Army at *New-York* cannot be ascertained, the Militia pour in so fast that it is impracticable. The *Jersey* Militia, amounting to three thousand five hundred, have acquired great honour in forming and marching with such alacrity and expedition. They have for some time past got over to *New-York*. The battalions of this city (every one of them) are marching to *Trenton* and *Brunswick*, in the *Jerseys*. The rifle battalion in the pay of this Province, marched yesterday for the same places. The Militia in the Counties are also ordered to march. Out of these bodies they mean to form their quota of the Flying-Camp, to be posted in the *Jerseys*, and to be at the command of General *Washington*. It is expected that the Lower Counties and *Maryland* will

immediately march their quotas of Militia, to compose the Flying-Camp, to this city, to defend it in the absence of its own battalions.

Your hour of trial is come; your plighted faith, your public honour, the love of your country, and its dearest liberties, in this moment of imminent danger, demand that you instantly fly to the assistance of a sister Colony.

*Saturday noon.*—An express is just arrived from General *Washington*. *Howe's* Army consists of ten thousand men. Admiral *Howe* is not yet arrived, but hourly expected, with one hundred and fifty sail, having on board twenty thousand troops. The enemy's grand army will consist of thirty thousand. The whole Militia of this Province are ordered to the *Jerseys*. We are in anxious expectation to hear from *Maryland*, nor can we for a moment entertain a fear that our brethren will desert us in the day of our distress. The farmers here have left their harvest, and cast away the scythe for the musket. I should rejoice to hear you have imitated so laudable, so glorious an example.

GEORGE ROSS TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Committee, Lancaster, July 6, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to inform you of the receipt of yours of the 3d instant, before which, the Committee received letters of the 4th instant, from a Committee of Congress, and from the Committee of Inspection of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*. The Conference here had broken up before either came to hand, and the members had returned to their respective homes. We immediately took into consideration the very important matters recommended; and how they have proceeded, you will be best informed by the enclosed resolves; and we have despatched orders to all the Colonels of this County, and shall continue to exert every nerve to carry the resolves of Congress into execution.

I am, sir, your most obliged and obedient servant,

GEO. ROSS, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

GEORGE ROSS TO COLONEL GALBRAITH.

In Committee, Lancaster, July 6, 1776.

SIR: We yesterday enclosed you our resolves respecting the companies agreed to be furnished by the battalions in this County towards the six thousand men required to form the Flying-Camp.

We this day received the enclosed resolves of the Congress as to the Independency of the *United States of America*, which we forward to you for the regulation of your conduct in the present alarming situation of our affairs. The battalions in this town were this day drawn out, and unanimously agreed to march. We doubt not but that you will exert yourself to carry the resolves of Congress and the conference of Committees into execution; and are, sir, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee: G. Ross, *Chairman*.

ROBERT FRAILL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 8, 1776.]

Easton, July 6, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 3d instant, by express, came to hand this forenoon about half after nine o'clock. There being but one of the members of our Committee at present in this town, orders are sent off for a meeting of the Committee to attend here next *Monday*, as also the several Colonels of this County to attend at the same time, in order to consider on the contents of your letter.

In the mean time, I am desired to acquaint you, that the utmost despatch will be made to forward the request of Congress for the defence of the liberties of the United Colonies.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

ROBERT FRAILL,

Clerk to the Committee of Northampton County.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

HENRY HALLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 8, 1776.]

Reading, July 6, 1776.

SIR: Last night the messenger arrived with your letter to the Committee of *Berks* County, requesting us to use

the utmost despatch in sending off the troops to be raised here for the defence of the middle Colonies.

It will be unnecessary at this time to acquaint you of the measures pursued by us for the more speedy raising of the men, as the Congress are already informed of them by our letters. We have only to add, that you may depend upon our utmost diligence in completing the companies, and marching them without loss of time, wherein we apprehend no other difficulty than what may arise from the want of muskets, of which we have directed the Captains to purchase as many as possible, and should be glad to be informed by what means the men are to be supplied with the remainder.

By order of the Committee.

I am, your most obedient and very humble servant,

HENRY HALLER, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

CONFERENCE WITH INDIANS AT FORT PITT.

Fort Pitt, July 6, 1776.

At a Meeting held this day at this place, present: *Kiashuta*, a *Mingo* Chief, just returned from the treaty at *Niagara*; Captain *Pipe*, a *Delaware* Chief; the *Shade*, a *Shawnees* Chief, with several others, *Shawnees* and *Delawares*; likewise Major *Trent*, Major *Ward*, Captain *Nevill*, his officers, and a number of the inhabitants. After being seated, *Kiashuta* made the following speech:

"BROTHERS: Three months ago, I left this place to attend a treaty at *Niagara*, to be held between the commanding officer at that place, and *Six Nations*, *Shawnees*, *Delawares*, &c.; but I was stopped near a month at *Caughnawaga*, as the commanding officer had sent word to the *Indians* not to assemble until he should hear from *Detroit*. While I was at *Caughnawaga*, eight hundred *Indians* of the *Six Nations*, hearing of my intention of going to the treaty, came to meet and go with me. Just as we arrived at a small village beyond *Caughnawaga*, they received a message from the commanding officer, acquainting them that the treaty was over; but they, notwithstanding, persisted in going. I received a message at the same time, inviting me to come, and assuring me that the Council fire was not entirely extinguished. Upon my arrival with the rest of the *Indians*, I informed the commanding officer that I had come a great distance to hear what he had to say, and desired that he would inform me; but he told me that he was not yet prepared to speak with me, which ended our conference."

*Kiashuta* then produced a belt of the wampum which was to be sent from the *Six Nations* to the *Shawnees*, *Delawares*, *Wyandots*, and *Western Indians*, acquainting them that they were determined to take no part in the present war between *Great Britain* and *America*, and desiring them to do the same.

N. B.—*Kiashuta* has the belt, and is ordered by the *Six Nations* to send it through the *Indian* country.

He then addressed himself to the *Virginians* and *Pennsylvanians* in the following manner:

"BROTHERS: We will not suffer either the *English* or the *Americans* to march an army through our country. Should either attempt it, we shall forewarn them three times from proceeding; but should they then persist, they must abide by the consequences. I am appointed by the *Six Nations* to the care of this country, that is, to the care of the *Indians* on the west side of the *River Ohio*; and I desire you will not think of an expedition against *Detroit*, for (I repeat it to you again) we will not suffer an army to march through our country."—A String.

*Kiashuta* again rose, and spoke as follows:

"BROTHERS: Should any mischief chance to be committed by any of our people, you must not blame the Nations, nor think it was done by the approbation of the Chiefs; for the *Six Nations* have strictly forbidden any of their young men or tributaries to molest any people on their waters; but if they are determined to go to war, let them go to *Canada*, and fight there."—A String.

*Kiashuta* then addressed himself to Captain *Pipe*, a *Delaware* Chief, desiring him to inform his Nation of what he had heard, and to request them to be strong, and join with the other Nations in keeping peace in his country.—A String.



He also recommended to the *Shade*, a *Shawnees* Chief, to do the same. He then desired the foregoing speech might be distributed through the country, to quiet the minds of the people, and convince them that the *Six Nations* and their adherents did not desire to live at variance with them.

To which Captain *Nevill* returned the following answer:

"BROTHER KIASHUTA: I am much obliged to you for your good speech on the present occasion. You may depend we shall not attempt to march an army through your country, without first acquainting you with it, unless we hear of a *British* army coming this course; in such case, we must make all possible speed to march and endeavour to stop them."

To which *Kiashuta* replied, there was not the least danger of that, as they should make it their business to prevent either an *English* or an *American* army from passing through their country.

SAMUEL TUCKER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 8, 1776.]

Trenton, July 6, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 5th was delivered me this moment, and shall lay the enclosed before our Convention this afternoon. The resolution respecting the officers and soldiers prisoners in this Colony has relieved me from any more anxious thoughts on account of these gentry.

The enclosed will inform you of particulars. I hope Congress will attend particularly to the Flying-Camp and establishing a magazine of powder, &c., in the eastern part of this Colony. Our Convention removed yesterday morning from *Burlington* to this place, in order to be more in the way of intelligence and out of the way of the officers prisoners, &c.

I have the honour to be, your most obedient humble servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

In Provincial Congress, New Jersey, }  
Trenton, July 6, 1776. }

SIR: As the eastern part of our Colony is now unhappily exposed to the ravages of the enemy, a large army being in possession of *Staten-Island*, which is divided from us by a narrow river only, we must beg the attention of the Continental Congress to our present situation.

Although in this Congress we repose the utmost confidence in your wisdom and care, and doubt not you will provide fully for the defence of every part of the Continent, yet we are sorry to find that the people are alarmed and uneasy. Their being sent to *New-York* in such numbers, and the Flying-Camp being so slow in taking their place, is one cause of dissatisfaction; but, above all, the people wish to see a sufficient supply of ammunition. We hope that General *Mercer's* camp will be fully provided; but some visible source from whence our Militia could depend upon being furnished on occasion, would give great pleasure. The two tons of powder lately received was distributed to the counties from *Burlington* eastward, on account of their vicinity to *New-York*, and some of them were wholly destitute. It is said to be insufficient under the present circumstances, of which we hope you will take notice and take care for a sufficient quantity there. Of the western Counties, *Salem* and *Cumberland* are still unprovided with ammunition; and as, in the present season, it is absolutely necessary that all the Militia should have some small supply, we request that Congress would grant us half a ton of powder, on account of the Colony, for the use of those two counties.

We are, sir, your most humble servants.

By order of Congress:

SAMUEL TUCKER, President.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. Colonel *Brearley* is just now arrived from *Allen-town*, which is in the neighbourhood of the *Monmouth* insurgents. He supposes that not more than one hundred have been over together; they had confederated under oath, at least part of them; about thirty are flying on board the enemy's fleet, our Militia in pursuit, and numbers of the lesser offenders coming back to their duty, upon encouragement we have thought proper to give to such as shall appear to have been deluded. The leaders, if they can be appre-

hended, will be punished; if they escape, some of them have left estates. The Colonel at *Shrewsbury* has offered to resign, making great complaints of the backwardness, "to say no worse," as he expresses himself, of his people; "so few of whom," he tells us, "are ready to turn out (hiding themselves and deserting their homes) whenever he marches to defend the shores," that he is discouraged. As we hope the Rifle battalion will have little remaining to detain them in the upper end of the County, we have ventured to encourage him with the expectation of their assisting him at the lower end. The *Freehold* and *Middletown* people, who form one large battalion, are, we believe, very hearty, and will assist as much as possible, both at *Shrewsbury* and the neighbourhood of *Sandy-Hook*.

GENERAL LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabethtown, July 6, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: This moment an express arrived from Major *Duyckinck*, a copy of whose letter I enclose, to save time. I should be glad of some immediate directions what to do with the prisoners, as in the mean time I am obliged to keep them under guard. I am acquainted with but one of them, *John Smyth*, Esq., who is a man of so great integrity that I think great faith may be given to his word. If they are to remain in this Province, I know of nothing that can be done with them so conveniently as to forward them on to the Convention, who can provide for their safe-keeping. The internal Counties are now so destitute of men that I should think it dangerous to trust these prisoners there; nor do I know in whom in those parts to put sufficient confidence to intrust their safe-keeping.

I am under the greatest difficulty with regard to ammunition. The whole back militia being unprovided with ammunition, I am prevented from sending such detachments to particular places as I think necessary, for want of powder and ball.

Since writing the above, Captain *Kennedy* and Mr. *Cuyler* are sent in prisoners from *Newark*.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most humble servant,

WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. In consequence of Major *Duyckinck's* letter, I have detached two hundred and fifty men to him from the *Hunterdon* and *Morris* Militia.

MAJOR DUYCKINCK TO GENERAL LIVINGSTON.

Head-Quarters, Perth Amboy, July 6, 1776.

SIR: In pursuance of an order received last night from General *Heard*, have taken into custody the following persons: *John Smyth*, Esq., *Philip Kearney*, *Michael Kearney*, *William Hick*, *Thomas Skinner*, Dr. *John Lawrence*, Captain *Turnbull*, *Johnstone Fairholme*, and *Isaac Bunnell*, whom I now convey to you.

We last night received intelligence per General *Heard*, about twelve o'clock, that he had, by two different persons who made their escape from the Island, received such strong assurances that we were last night to be attacked by a strong body, that he ordered us immediately to leave the town, and repair to some proper ground out of town; which we accordingly did, and am sorry to say with much precipitation, as the troops were greatly alarmed by the sudden and unexpected orders. We kept a good look-out for the remainder of the night, and this morning early returned again to town.

The enemy appear much in the same situation as mentioned in my last, only the plain appearance of artillery, which they have mounted opposite the town.

We can't help thinking our situation precarious with the few troops here, and could wish a reinforcement as soon as may be convenient.

In haste, remain your humble servant,

JOHN DUYCKINCK.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL LIVINGSTON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 6, 1776, }  
Five o'clock, P. M. }

SIR: Your favour of this date, enclosing Major *Duyckinck's* letter, was this moment received. The known dis-



affection of the people of *Amboy*, and the treachery of those of *Staten-Island*, who, after the fairest professions, have shown themselves our inveterate enemies, induced me to give directions that all persons of known enmity or doubtful character should be removed from places where they might enter into a correspondence with the enemy and aid them in their schemes. To this end, General *Heard* had directions to apprehend such persons as, from their conduct, had shown themselves inimical, or whose situations, connexions, or offices, give just cause of suspicion. I have no knowledge of the persons apprehended, but suppose General *Heard* had good reason for taking hold of them; however, if there are any who, from your personal knowledge and opinion, you think may be permitted to return, I have no objection, and sending the others to Provincial Congress for their disposal; but as to the former, I would suggest to you that my tenderness has been often abused, and I have had reason to repent the indulgence shown them. I would show them all possible humanity and kindness consistent with our own safety; but matters are now too far advanced to sacrifice anything to punctilios.

I have given direction to forward you a supply of ammunition, but must beg you to inculcate the utmost frugality and care of it, as we have no superfluity. This supply consists of cartridges, some loose powder, and lead. If you have any occasion for ammunition for field-pieces which the latter will not supply, I will endeavour to assist you; but I would wish you to make no more draughts than are absolutely necessary.

General *Mercer* has just set off for *Jersey*. In his experience and judgment you may repose great confidence. He will proceed to *Amboy* after conferring with you.

You will please to keep me constantly informed of the proceedings of the enemy; and be assured of every assistance and attention from, sir, your most, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Brig. General *Livingston*, *Elizabethtown*, *New-Jersey*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL SILLIMAN.

New-York, July 6, 1776.

SIR: GOVERNOUR *Trumbull* having informed me, in a letter of the 3d instant, that he had ordered three regiments of the Militia Lighthorse to march to the defence of this place, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Seymour*, lest the other troops from your Colony should not arrive in time for succour, and at the same time requesting, if their service is unnecessary, or can be dispensed with, that I would signify it to you, I must take this opportunity to acquaint you that the intelligence we have received from three or four prisoners that have fallen into our hands within a few days past, leads me to conclude, that no force that can be collected will be too great to ward off the blow that our enemies mean to strike in a little time. The prisoners say that General *Howe* has already ten thousand men here, being joined by some regiments from the *West-Indies*, and part of the Highland troops in his passage, and that he is in daily expectation of the arrival of Admiral *Howe* with a large fleet of one hundred and fifty sail, with troops on board; that before he left *Halifax*, a packet had arrived there, giving intelligence that he would be met here by this fleet in a very little time, and that the expectation of them is the only reason why the enemy have not begun their operations.

From these accounts, you will readily conceive the necessity of our most vigorous and spirited exertions, and that there is occasion here for all the men that can be possibly got. But what to do with the horses of this regiment I am at a loss to determine: it will be impossible to support them; and if it could be done, the expense would be enormous. I cannot think myself at liberty to consent to the horses coming; at the same time, I must request your exertions to prevail on the men. They may have it in their power to dismiss their horses, perhaps after bringing them almost here. The exigency of our affairs calls aloud for their assistance, and more especially as there is almost a moral certainty that the battalions which are intended for this place will be some time before they all arrive, and when they do, will not be more than half complete.

Recommending to your and their notice what I have said, and the alarming consequences that may result from not

having sufficient and timely succours to repel the enemy, I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Gold Selleck Silliman*, *Fairfield*.

JOHN JAY TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, July 6, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed memorial was yesterday given me by Mr. *Bill*, with a request that I would transmit it to Congress. He appears much hurt in being omitted in the arrangements of officers intended for the regiment lately ordered to be raised in this Colony; and I sincerely wish he had less reason to think himself neglected. He is a fine, spirited young gentleman, of one or two and twenty, of an ancient and once opulent family in this Colony. His connexions are extensive in the County, and he seems to possess that generous kind of ambition so essential to the character of a good officer. What renders his case the more unfortunate is, that he is almost the only one of his family who has discovered any great degree of ardour in the *American* cause. His promotion would have contributed as much to increase their zeal as his being laid aside may tend to diminish it. Nor is this the only instance in which that arrangement has given disgust: among others, Mr. *Cortlandt*, whose family is not only very numerous, but also respectable and wealthy, entered the service last year as Lieutenant-Colonel; he has done the like this year. Mr. *Dubois* entered the service last year as a Captain, and this year Captain *Dubois* is made to command Lieutenant-Colonel *Cortlandt*. Appointments like these pay ill compliments to those who are thus (as they think unjustly) superseded, and therefore have an unhappy tendency to drive them into a sullen indifference about Congressional measures.

I am, sir, with great respect, the Congress's and your most obedient servant,

JOHN JAY.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

JOHN JAY TO EDWARD RUTLEDGE.

New-York, July 6, 1776.

DEAR RUTLEDGE: Your friendly letter found me so engaged by plots, conspiracies, and chimeras dire, that, though I thanked you for it in my heart, I had not time to tell you so, either in person or by letter. Your ideas of men and things (to speak mathematically) run, for the most part, parallel with my own; and I wish Governour *Tryon* and the devil had not prevented my joining you on the occasion you mentioned. How long I may be detained here is uncertain; but I see little prospect of returning to you for a month or two yet to come. We have a Government, you know, to form; and *God* only knows what it will resemble. Our politicians, like some guests at a feast, are perplexed and undetermined which dish to prefer. Our affairs in *Canada* have lately become much the subject of animadversion; and the miscarriages in that country are, with little reserve, imputed to the inattention of the Congress. Indeed, there is reason to believe that certain military gentlemen who reaped no laurels there, are among the patrons of that doctrine. It is to me amazing that a strict inquiry has not been made into the behaviour of those under whose direction we have met with nothing but repeated losses in that country. Nor is the publick silent with respect to the inactivity of the fleet; and reports have gone abroad that the Admiral has refused to comply with the orders of Congress relative to the cannon taken at *Providence*. I'll tell you a pretty story of *Wooster*. While he was smoking his pipe in the suburbs of *Quebeck*, he took it into his head that he might do wonders with a fire-ship; and, with an imagination warmed by the blaze of the enemy's vessels, sent for a *New-York* captain, who, it seems, understood the business of fire-ship building. Under the strongest injunctions of secrecy, he communicated to him the important plan, and ordered him to get the ship in readiness with all the despatch and privacy in his power, wisely observing, that if the enemy should get any intelligence of his design, they would carry their vessels out of the way of his fire-ship. The captain accordingly set about preparing the materials, &c., necessary for the exploit which was to heroize his General. Some short time after, *Wooster* was informed that the time for which the

*York* troops were enlisted would expire in a day or two. He issued orders for them to parade at a certain time and place, and informed them that he would then and there make a speech to them, and a *Ciceronean* speech it was.

"My lads," says he, "I find your time is almost out, and may be some of you think on going; but surely you won't leave me now; you must try and stay a little longer. Don't think that I am laying here doing nothing. No, no; you shall see a fine sight soon. I am busy building a fire-ship; and as soon as she is ready, we'll burn all their vessels up." *Cetera desunt.*

The *York* troops, allured by the promise of a *feu de joie*, staid, and were disappointed. Some renegade *Frenchmen* remembered the speech, and told it as a secret to Governour *Carleton*. The vessels were put out of harm's way, and the *Connecticut Alexander* lost his passage in a fire-ship to the temple of fame.

My compliments to Messrs. *Braxton*, *Lynch*, and such others as I esteem, of which number rank yourself, my dear *Ned*, among the first.

Believe me to be sincerely yours, JOHN JAY.

COLONEL WEISSENFELS TO LORD STIRLING.

July 6, 1776.

MY LORD: Captain *Hutchins* has refused to assist me in quelling the mutiny in his company. I have frequently advised him not to put himself on the level with his men; but he continues to do so, which is the cause of his not exercising authority in a becoming manner. He is guilty of many things which I wish to waive, and hope he will behave in a respectful manner to your Lordship, so as to entitle him to your favour.

With great respect, your most obedient servant,  
FREDERICK WEISSENFELS.

New-York, July 6, 1776.

Captain *Maston*, late of the snow *Dickinson*, belonging to *Philadelphia*, arrived there the 2d instant, from *Bristol*, but last from the *West-Indies*. He sailed from that place last *February*, bound for *Nantz*; but the mate, assisted by the crew, seized and confined the Captain on the coast of *Portugal*, and then altered their course for *London*. The southerly winds driving them into *Bristol Channel*, they arrived at *Bristol*, the 8th of *April*, when the mate proposed to set off immediately for *London*, with all the letters and papers on board, for the inspection of Government. The vessel was detained at *Bristol*, till the determination of Government concerning her should be known.

A large number of Tories in *Monmouth County*, *New-Jersey*, having taken up arms on purpose to assist the Ministerial Army on their arrival in that Province, have encamped in a cedar swamp near that place. A detachment of Colonel *Miles's* battalion are ordered to disperse and disarm them.

Yesterday afternoon arrived the first division of the *Connecticut* forces, commanded by the Honourable Brigadier-Generals *Waterbury* and *Wadsworth*, and this day the remainder are expected to arrive, being in the whole five thousand, well equipped and disciplined.

The fleet from *Halifax* arrived at *Sandy-Hook* on *Saturday*, *June 29*, to the amount of one hundred and thirteen sail. It is difficult, from their situation, to ascertain their number; but we suppose it does not exceed one hundred and thirty sail. *Monday* it came up into *Yakes's Bay*, below the *Narrows*; *Tuesday*, several ships came to at the *Watering Place*; *Wednesday*, more followed; and by *Thursday* noon, the whole fleet was at anchor in a line from *Kill Van Kull* to *Simonson's Ferry*, on the east side of *Staten-Island*. The *Asia* brought up the rear of the fleet, and in the *Narrows* was fired at from a small battery on *Long-Island*, which compliment was returned by about forty 24-pounders, one of which lodged in the wall of the house of Mr. *Bennet*, but did no hurt to the family; and three shot had near done much mischief to the house and family of Mr. *Denyse Denyse*, one of them narrowly missing the kitchen, wherein was a number of the family; a second struck the barn, and the third destroyed much of the fence of the garden opposite the front door of the mansion-house.

Part of the army is now encamped on *Staten-Island*, and we have not the least reason to doubt, will endeavour to secure

the north side thereof by intrenchments, whilst the shipping protects the other parts of it.

As soon as the troops landed, they paraded the north shore, and on *Wednesday* morning made their appearance near *Elizabethtown Point*; but the country being soon alarmed, they retreated, took up the floor of the drawbridge in the *Salt Meadows*, and immediately threw up some works.

Their near approach to *Elizabethtown Point* greatly alarmed the inhabitants of *Essex County*, and particularly the people of *Elizabethtown* and *Newark*; but they are now in a condition to receive them whenever they may think proper to approach.

Two young men from *Elizabethtown* crossed the river in a canoe last *Thursday*, and fired upon the Regulars; but a number of them rushed out of the woods, and they were obliged to retreat and cross the river again.

We hear two men-of-war now lie near *Amboy*, in order, it is supposed, to stop all navigation that way.

Yesterday, seven seamen, belonging to the *Killingsworth* transport, of seven hundred tons, was brought to town from *Long-Island*, having deserted the ship the night before. They say the number of soldiers with the fleet is about eight thousand five hundred, who are all encamped; and that many of the seamen intended to desert the fleet when an opportunity presented.

Last *Wednesday* night, the Captain of a transport, and four of his men, were taken at the *Narrows*, and brought to town. They were looking for a boat that had gone adrift; and going too near the shore, were taken by the riflemen.

H. GLEN TO COLONEL DAYTON.

Schenectady, July 6, 1776.

SIR: By Captains *Lansing* and *Wolcott* you will receive a quantity of stores for engineers, directed to Mr. *Hubbell*, and the ordnance, under the care of a party of the train.

I have yesterday sent off sixty barrels of pork in fifteen wagons, as I am apprehensive you will want it sooner than I will be able to send it by boats. I am as yet scant of them, hoping it may be with you sooner than this can. I have given the Captains of the batteau-men directions to follow your further orders, and to be punctual in obeying them as such. You will please send them back here, or as many as you can spare, as here is a quantity of provisions more to go up. I have written to Major *Fonda* to send six batteau loads of flour to you, as I had no more boats here to forward. I am, sir, your humble servant; H. GLEN.

To Colonel *Dayton*, commanding *German Flats*.

H. GLEN TO MAJOR FONDA.

Schenectady, July 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: As I have no more batteaus here at present than are wanted to forward the stores I was to send first, and am confident Colonel *Dayton* will want flour, I must beg you will forward to him six batteau loads, or as many batteaus as you can, should you not have six. Let the men that go up be engaged to go as far as *Stamwix*, should Colonel *Dayton* want them that far. I shall pay you for all expenses for boats, hire, and men, that may accrue. General *Schuyler* expected that I would have been able to have empty boats from here for flour, but I have scarcely enough for what was intended first to be sent. Let me hear from you if you can send the boats, as by your silence I shall expect you sent them. I am, dear sir, yours, &c., H. GLEN.

To Major *Fonda*, *Caughnawaga*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 11, 1776.]

Lebanon, July 6, 1776.

SIR: Your letters, enclosing the resolves of Congress of the 17th, 19th, 24th, and 25th of *June* last, have been duly received since the recess of the General Assembly.

The ancient laws of this Colony enable the Colonels of the respective regiments of Militia to call out their regiments upon any alarm, invasion, or appearance of an enemy, by sea or land, giving notice to the Captain, General, or Commander-in-Chief for the time being, of the occasion thereof. This, with a general order to the Colonels of the Militia

regiments to call out their regiments upon notice of any invasion by sea or land from General *Washington*, or the Commander-in-Chief for the time being, and to march to his assistance, may supersede the necessity of any new regulation in respect to the Militia: at least until the next meeting of the Assembly. It is very inconvenient for them to come together at this busy season.

The resolve of the 19th of *June*, providing for clothing the troops in future, will be carefully attended to, and timely intelligence given of the quantities that may be obtained.

There has been nothing done towards inlisting the *Mohegan Indians* into Continental service; and, in obedience to the resolve of Congress, of the 24th of *June*, that measure will be laid aside entirely.

An act passed the General Assembly in *December* last, for restraining and punishing persons inimical to the liberties of this and the rest of the United Colonies, in which the treasons mentioned in the resolve of Congress of the 24th of *June*, are provided against; the real estate of persons that have or shall fly to, and put themselves under the protection of, the *British* fleet or army, are made liable to seizure; and by another act of the Assembly in *June* last, the personal estates of such refugees are ordered to be seized, sold, and the avails paid into the publick treasury; and several other regulations are established to prevent mischief and danger from persons inimical.

The laws of this Colony subject every person who shall counterfeit or alter any bills of publick credit current in this Colony, to imprisonment in our prison in the copper mines at *Symsbury*, at the discretion of the Superior Court, not exceeding the term of ten years. The Continental bills have been current in this Colony. One person was tried upon an indictment for altering some of those bills before the Superior Court in *March* last, and, upon conviction, was sentenced to be imprisoned in *Newgate*; since which, the General Assembly, in *May* last, enacted that the Continental bills should be current in all payments at the treasury of this Colony; so that they are now placed, in every respect, on an equal footing with the bills of publick credit of this Colony.

The battalions of Militia now are marching to join the Army at *New-York*, and in the Northern Department will provide themselves with suitable clothes; camp equipage is ordered to be provided for them by the General Assembly; tents we shall endeavour to provide, but fear they will be procured with great difficulty, if at all.

I am, with sincerity and regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable President *Hancock*.

P. S. I have sent orders to the Colonels of Militia towards *New-York*, to attend the call and order of General *Washington*, and give him notice of it.

#### GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 11, 1776.]

Lebanon, July 6, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 30th of *April* ultimo, enclosing the resolve of Congress of the 29th of *April*, requesting that a sum of hard money might be collected and sent to General *Schuyler*; which was immediately attended to, and the sum of eighteen hundred pounds procured and sent to the Paymaster-General for the Northern Department. The expense of transporting the same to *Albany* amounts to the sum of twenty-four pounds two shillings and six pence, as you will see by an account thereof which will be laid before you by the Delegates for this Colony.

I have drawn on you for the money procured, and the charges of transporting to *Albany*, in favour of *Roger Sherman* and *Samuel Huntington*, Esqs., two of our Delegates in Congress, which, I make no doubt, will be duly honoured.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable President *Hancock*.

*The Thirteen United ENGLISH Colonies in AMERICA to the Colony of CONNECTICUT, Dr.*

1776—*June* 19. To cash for eighteen hundred pounds in hard money paid to the Paymaster-General of the Northern Department at *Albany*, - - - - £1800 0 0

To Captain *John Chenevard's* bill for transporting the same from *Hartford* to *Albany*, £24 2 6

£1824 2 6

1776—*July* 6. Errors excepted.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Governour.

Lebanon, July 6, 1776.

SIR: Pay to *Roger Sherman* and *Samuel Huntington*, Esqs., the sum of eighteen hundred and twenty-four pounds two shillings and six pence, lawful money, for eighteen hundred pounds hard money procured by the Colony of *Connecticut*, and paid to the Paymaster-General for the Northern Department at *Albany*, agreeably to a resolve of Congress of the 29th of *April* ultimo, and charges of transporting the same to *Albany*, and their receipt shall discharge the United Colonies from any demand of the Colony of *Connecticut* on account for said hard money supplied as aforesaid.

In behalf of the Colony of *Connecticut*, I am, sir, your obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

Philadelphia, July 12, A. D. 1776.

Received of President *Hancock* his order of this date, drawn on the Continental Treasurers for six thousand and eighty dollars and five-twelfths of a dollar, on account and in full of the within order.

SAMUEL HUNTINGTON, for self and  
ROGER SHERMAN.

*The Colony of CONNECTICUT, for transporting £1800 in specie from Treasurer's Office to JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Jun., Esq., in ALBANY, to JOHN CHENEVARD, Dr.*

1776.— <i>June</i> 17. To two yards of bagging cloth, at 2s. 3d. - - - - -	£0 4 6
To paid making ditto into bags, - - - - -	0 4 0
<i>June</i> 19, paid <i>Dudley Case</i> per bill, - - - - -	0 4 10
To <i>John Wright</i> , per bill, - - - - -	0 1 2
<i>June</i> 18. To Captain <i>Titus Watson</i> , - - - - -	0 7 0
To Captain <i>Whitney</i> , - - - - -	0 5 4
To Mr. <i>Younglove</i> , - - - - -	0 6 3
To Mr. <i>McKinstry</i> , - - - - -	0 2 3
<i>June</i> 19. To <i>Guy Sharp</i> , - - - - -	0 12 3
To oats, &c., twenty miles this side <i>Albany</i> , - - - - -	0 1 4
To dinners, &c., eight miles ditto, - - - - -	0 6 5
To ferriages, &c., taking care of wagon, &c., - - - - -	0 6 0
<i>June</i> 21. To Mr. <i>Vernon's</i> bill while at <i>Albany</i> , - - - - -	3 8 1
To Mr. <i>Valken</i> , dinners, &c., - - - - -	0 8 6
<i>June</i> 22. To <i>Guy Sharp's</i> bill, - - - - -	0 9 9
To <i>William Jackson's</i> bill, - - - - -	0 4 10
To Mr. <i>Younglove</i> , - - - - -	0 5 0
To Mr. <i>Dewey</i> , stop in the rain, - - - - -	0 0 10
<i>June</i> 23. To Captain <i>Watson</i> , - - - - -	0 9 7
To Mr. <i>Rockwell</i> , - - - - -	0 3 9
To <i>Dudley Case</i> , - - - - -	0 3 6
To <i>John Chenevard's</i> time, eight days, at 6s., - - - - -	2 8 0
To ditto for his horse one hundred miles, at 4s., - - - - -	1 13 4
To <i>William Nichols's</i> time, seven days, at 6s., - - - - -	2 2 0
To ditto for his horse one hundred miles, at 4s., - - - - -	1 13 4
To <i>Joseph Flagg's</i> time, seven days, at 6s., - - - - -	2 2 0
To ditto for his horse one hundred miles, at 4s., - - - - -	1 13 4
To <i>Daniel Olcott's</i> time, seven days, at 6s., - - - - -	2 2 0
To ditto for his horse one hundred miles, at 4s., - - - - -	1 13 4
	£24 2 6

Errors Excepted.

JOHN CHENEVARD.

Received, *Albany*, *June* 19, A. D. 1776, from the Treasurer of the Colony of *Connecticut*, per hands of Captain *John Chenevard*, eighteen hundred pounds lawful money of *Connecticut*, in specie; forwarded from said Colony agreeable to desire from the honourable Continental Congress for the use of the Continental Army in *Canada*; which sum I promise to apply to said purpose and account accordingly, having signed duplicate therefor.

Received per JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Jun.,  
Northern Department.

## GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 11, 1776.]

Lebanon, July 6, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I received your favour of the 29th *June*, ultimo, with the enclosed copy of the resolve of Congress, to which I shall attend, and will send as soon as can be obtained an account of the cannon left at *New-London* by Commodore *Hopkins*, their number, size, bore, and weight; and also an account of the other cannon there.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your obedient humble servant,  
JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable President *Hancock*.

## GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 11, 1776.]

Lebanon, July 6, 1776.

SIR: I received your letter of the 24th *June*, ultimo, enclosing the resolution of Congress with respect to Governour *Franklin*. He has given his parole in writing. I have thought proper to assign *Wallingford* to be the place for his residence.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient humble servant,  
JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable President *Hancock*.

## GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, July 6, 1776.

SIR: I this day wrote to the Continental Congress, "that the ancient laws of this Colony enable the Colonels of the Militia to call out their respective regiments upon any alarm, invasion, or appearance of an enemy, by sea or land, giving notice to the Captain-General or Commander-in-Chief for the time being, of the occasion thereof. This, with a general order to them to call out their regiments upon notice from General *Washington*, or the Commander-in-Chief for the time being, to march to his assistance, may supersede the necessity of any new regulation in respect to the Militia, at least until the next Assembly, as it is very inconvenient for them to come together at this busy season." By this post general orders are accordingly given to Colonel *Jonathan Fitch*, of *New-Haven*, commander of the Second regiment of Militia; to *Ichabod Lewis*, of *Stratford*, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fourth, Colonel *Silliman* being absent in the service at *New-York*; to *John Mead*, of *Greenwich* or *Horseneck*, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Ninth, Colonel *Webb* being with you; to *Benjamin Hinman*, of *Woodbury*, Colonel of the Thirteenth; and to *Joseph Plat Cooke*, of *Danbury*, Colonel of the Sixteenth. These are the field officers present in the several regiments next towards *New-York*, on whom you may call when needful.

Our battalions are raising with all possible diligence, and will soon march to the places of their several destinations. Many have marched for *New-York*, and the rest will soon follow. And the three regiments of Lighthorse mentioned in my last, I hear are moving on fast.

An extraordinary bounty is given to the two battalions raising for the Northern Department; it will be attended with difficulty to alter their destination. The Continental battalion destined to *Boston*, under Colonel *Ward*, and the other battalion, raised in *May* last, for the defence of this and the neighbouring Colonies, it will be hard to send to the northward, which hath lately been moved to me from Congress; this last is probably now at your camp at *New-York*. Will it not be best to send in their room a battalion who have had the small-pox, and to order Colonel *Ward* to *Boston*, as destined at first, instead of sending thither any other of our battalions, who have already begun their march for *New-York*? Probably not one in twenty of our men have ever had that distemper, when the *New-York*, *Jersey*, and *Pennsylvania* men have generally passed through it.

Our intelligence from *Crown-Point* is, that the infection is very great in our retreating army. This distemper strikes a greater dread in our men who have not had it, than the *British* troops. Cannot measures be taken to cleanse the army, and, in the mean time, keep the infected from those who are not? I have provided two companies of ship carpenters, twenty-five in each company, who will march next week, and carry their tools with them, to go to that work at *Crown-Point*; but few of them have ever passed through that distemper.

I hear from Captain *Niles*, that there are four thousand head of neat cattle on *Montauk-Point*, on *Long-Island*, great part of them good beef cattle, fit for slaughter. We have ordered the stock of cattle, sheep, and swine, from *Fisher's Island*. Many of both cattle and sheep are fit for the use of the Army, and ordered accordingly. Is it not best that you procure those at *Montauk* likewise, and prevent their being used to feed the enemy?

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant,  
JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

## COMMITTEE ON PRISONERS.

Hartford, July 6, 1776.

## Colony of CONNECTICUT, ss:

In Committee for ordering Prisoners stationed in this Colony, it is

*Resolved and Ordered*, That no Prisoner under the care of this Committee, not enlarged on parole, may go out of the Parish wherein such Prisoner is stationed, without a permit in writing, under the hand of one or more of this Committee, or the person under whose care he is or shall be placed, and not exceed the limits prescribed in such permit, on pain of imprisonment.

*And it is further Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, it will be improper and unsafe to employ said Prisoners in making Firearms, Gunpowder, casting Cannon, Cannonball, or in erecting Fortifications.

And it is recommended to all the Towns in this Colony, in which Prisoners are stationed, to set a watch to guard the avenues into and out of their respective Towns, said watch to be set at or before nine of the clock in the evening, and to continue through the night, for the purpose of preserving peace and order in such Towns, and for preventing the conveying intelligence prejudicial to the liberties of *America*.

Per order of the Committee:

JESSE ROOT, *Chairman*.

Boston, July 6, 1776.

We learn from *Halifax*, by a person who left that place this day three weeks, that the troops General *Howe* left there were supposed to be about fifteen hundred, mostly Marines, and the Regiment of Lighthorse (which lately were wantonly tutored in a house of *God* in this town) was at *Windsor*, waiting for General *Howe* to get foothold at *New-York*, when they were to follow, and march (or gallop) through this Continent; that they were busily employed in fortifying *Citadel-Hill* and other places, being under apprehension of an attack; that Brigadier *Ruggles* and son from *Hardwick*, *William Tyng*, formerly High-Sheriff, *John Hicks*, and *John Howe*, Printers, were gone volunteers with General *Howe*, and a number of others, which our informant could not recollect.

We also learn from *Halifax*, that when the *New-York* Tories arrived there, they applied to General *Howe* for subsistence; but were informed that, unless they took up arms in defence of Government, they could have no relief; when some of them voluntarily entered the service, and others; through necessity, were obliged to; and that the fourth day after their inlistment, they, together with the *Boston* Tories, were ordered to dig in the Coal Mines at *Nova-Scotia*, where we hope they may remain during life—a proper shelter for all the Tories in *America*.

## NEHEMIAH ESTABROOK TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSEMBLY.

Province of New-Hampshire, Lebanon, July 6, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The necessitous and alarming circumstances the inhabitants are under in these infant and frontier towns, since the Army have retreated to *Crown Point*, out of the Province of *Canada*, leaving a large extent of our frontiers open to the ravages of the savage *Indians*, being almost destitute of arms and ammunition, and many of our inhabitants leaving their houses and fields a prey to our enemies, we humbly trust your Honours will compassionate and afford us such relief as you in your wisdom shall judge necessary, from time to time, especially at this present time. We would inform your Honours that the Committees of several of the adjacent towns met together



and agreed to raise three hundred men, to build garrisons, and scout for our defence, as you will see by a copy of the proceedings of said Committee, which I send you here enclosed. But as we are destitute of arms, ammunition, and money, we are fearful it will in a great measure prove abortive, and this only alternative left us: either to make our escape into the lower towns, or fall a sacrifice to our enemies.

We therefore pray your Honours would afford us immediate relief in the premises, as it is of the utmost importance to us all. And we shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.

In behalf of the Committee:

NEHEMIAH ESTABROOK, *Chairman.*

To the Honourable Assembly of the Province of *New-Hampshire.*

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Wednesday, June 5, 1776.

Present: the Honourable *Meshech Weare, Matthew Thornton, Nathaniel Folsom, Ebenezer Thompson, Jonathan Blanchard, and Benjamin Giles, Esquires.*

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock, A. M.

Thursday, June 6, 1776.

Present as yesterday, with the addition of *Wyseman Claggett, Esq.; and Samuel Ashley, Esq.,* who this day first took his seat at the Board.

Mr. *Clough* brought from the House a Vote appointing a Committee to join a Committee of the Board to consult what business is necessary immediately to be entered on; which was read and concurred; and Mr. *Thornton, Mr. Folsom, and the Secretary,* added by the Board.

Mr. *Cutts* brought up a Vote for a Committee to join a Committee, to consider the Petition of *Richard Emms* and others, which was concurred, and Mr. *Blanchard, Mr. Giles, and Mr. Ashley,* added by the Board.

Captain *Long* brought up a Vote for allowing *Richard Emms*, a prisoner here, £20 for his subsistence, and also for his liberty to take passage for the *West-Indies*; which was read and concurred.

Also a Vote for giving *John Brazee and James Taylor*, two prisoners, leave to take passage for the *West-Indies*; which was read and concurred.

A Vote brought up for paying the Roll of Captain *Ebenezer Dearing*, amounting to £99 1s. 7½d., which was read and concurred.

Mr. *Clough* brought up a Vote for paying the Account of Captain *John Calfe* for countersigning money, amounting to £2 11s. 11d.; which was read and concurred.

A Vote paying two Rolls of Captain *Titus Salter's* Company, from the 17th of *March* to the 17th of *May*, amounting to £773 15s. 1d., brought up, read and concurred.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Friday, June 7, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Colonel *David Gilman* brought up a Vote directing Quartermaster *Gaines* to supply him, the said Colonel *Gilman*, with Powder to blow the rocks out of the fort building at *New-Castle*, which was read and concurred.

Mr. *Clough* brought up a Vote for one *John Griffith*, a soldier, to receive wages out of the Treasury from the time he was rendered incapable of doing his duty until the time of his discharge, which was read and concurred.

Resolved, That *Nicholas Gilman, Esq.,* Treasurer and Receiver-General of this Colony, be, and hereby is, fully authorized and empowered to receive and take in all those paper Bills of Credit, emitted on the credit of said Colony, bearing interest, and so pay such interest to the time of such exchange, and charge the amount of said interest in his account with said Colony; and that said Treasurer give notice of this order as soon as may be. Sent down for concurrence; which was brought up concurred.

A Vote was brought up appointing *George Gains* and *William Treferrin* a Committee to procure and transport Cannon, Powder, &c., from *Boston*; which was read and concurred.

Vote for *George Gains* to receive out of the Treasury £400, to be by him accounted for, brought up, read and concurred.

Vote for *Samuel Roby* to receive out of the Treasury £1 10s. 8d., for wages in Captain *William Prescott's* Company, being omitted in said *Prescott's* Roll by mistake, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote appointing a Committee to procure Gold and Silver to send to *Canada* for the use of the Troops, then brought up, read and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton* and Mr. *Folsom* added by the Board.

Vote for allowing and paying to *John Hunter* £4 13s., for so much Paper Money belonging to him casually destroyed, brought up, read and concurred.

A Vote appointing a Committee to examine into the cause or ground of a complaint exhibited to the Court by several soldiers against Captain *John Parker*, brought up, read and concurred. Mr. *Folsom* and Mr. *Blanchard* added.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock, A. M.

Saturday, June 8, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

A Vote to build a Bridge at *New-Castle*, and appointing a Committee to report the most proper place for erecting the same, brought up, read and concurred, with this amendment, That Mr. *Ashley* and Mr. *Giles* be joined to the Committee of the House, to repair to *New-Castle* and view all the proposed places for erecting a bridge there, and also the old bridge there, and report their opinion relative to the whole matter as soon as may be.

Upon reading the Petition of *Hugh Tollant*,

Voted, That the Committee of the Town of *Pelham* be directed forthwith to use their utmost endeavours to protect the said *Hugh Tollant* from the violence of any or every person, on his body or estate, until there can be an opportunity for some civil Magistrate to take cognizance of his complaint. And also whenever any process may issue from a civil authority, that they use their endeavours to apprehend any persons accused, that there may be an impartial inquiry and justice done; and that in this day of public calamity and distress, they would assist their brethren in the Colony to keep peace and good order in the same.

Vote appointing a Committee to name persons to be appointed Field-Officers for the Continental Battalion to be raised here, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton, Mr. Folsom, and the Secretary,* joined.

Vote appointing a Committee to draw a plan for carrying into execution the Report of the Committee on the complaint against Captain *John Parker*, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton* and Mr. *Giles* added.

Adjourned till Monday next, three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, June 10, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Several of the Members being on Committees, adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock, A. M.

Tuesday, June 11, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

A Vote appointing Mr. *Walker, Mr. Prescott, and Mr. Lovewell*, with such as the Board should join, a Committee to examine all Accounts laid in against the Colony, and report thereon; which was read, and Mr. *Hurd, Mr. Joseph Gilman, and Mr. John Taylor Gilman,* added by the Board after concurrence.

Vote for paying Dr. *Isaac Thom* £3 5s. 10d., for Medicines, and attendance on *John Simpson* and *John Foster*, soldiers wounded in *Bunker-Hill* battle, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote appointing Mr. *Walker, Mr. Patten, and Mr. Smith*, a Committee to frame and present to the House sundry Bills, brought up, read and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton, Mr. Clagett, and Mr. Giles,* added.

Vote for paying *James Aiken* 60s. for a coat lost by him in the *Bunker-Hill* battle, brought up; which was read and concurred.

Vote for paying *Joseph Greeley* £6 2s. for nursing his son wounded in *Bunker-Hill* battle, brought up, read and concurred.

Form of a Commission for the Chief-Justice of this Colony, brought up, read, and concurred.

A Vote appointing *Samuel Cutts*, *Timothy Walker*, and *John Dudley*, a Committee, with such as the Board should join, to make a draught of a Declaration of the General Assembly for Independence of the United Colonies on *Great Britain*, brought up, read, and concurred, with this amendment, that the Committee prepare a draught, setting forth the sentiments and opinions of the Council and Assembly of this Colony relative to the United Colonies forming themselves into independent States, in order that, when passed, the same may be transmitted to our Delegates at the Continental Congress; and that Messrs. *Hurd*, *Clagett*, and the Secretary, be added to the Committee.

Voted, That *John Taylor Gilman* be joined to the Committee for examining and adjusting Accounts for and against this Colony, in the room of Captain *John Emery*, who is gone out of the Colony.

The President made out an Order for *Samuel Ashley*, Esq., to receive out of the Treasury £3 5s., for thirteen days' service in Committee of Safety, before the 17th of November, 1775.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Wednesday, June 12, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

A Vote brought up, appointing *James Hackett* Lieutenant-Colonel and *David Copp* Major, of the Continental Battalion to be raised here; which was read and concurred, with this amendment, that *James Hackett*, Esq., *Thomas Tash*, Esq., and *David Copp*, Esq., be nominated to the honourable Continental Congress as the persons recommended by this Colony to be appointed Colonel and Major of the Continental Battalion ordered to be raised here.

The President made out an Order in favour of Colonel *Bartlett* for £6 5s., for twenty-five days' service in Committee of Safety, before the 17th of November, 1775.

A Vote appointing a Committee to confer upon the mode of raising the Battalion lately ordered to be raised in this State, brought up, read, and concurred; and Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Blanchard*, Mr. *Ashley*, and the Secretary, added.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Thursday, June 13, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

A Vote for raising a Battalion in pursuance of a Resolution of the Continental Congress, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for a Committee to join such as the Board should appoint to nominate sixteen persons, eight of whom to have orders to raise men for the Continental Battalion, brought up, read, and concurred; and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Blanchard*, Mr. *Clagett*, Mr. *Giles*, Mr. *Ashley*, and the Secretary, added by the Board.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Friday, June 14, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Vote for a Committee to join a Committee of the Board to nominate Officers for a Regiment to be raised to march into *Canada*, brought up, read, and concurred; and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Blanchard*, and the Secretary, added.

The remainder of this day spent in a Committee of both Houses.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Saturday, June 15, 1776.

Voted, That a Bounty of 40s., lawful money, over and above the £3 voted the 12th of January last, as a price for Guns, be now given for all good new Firearms manufactured in this Colony and delivered within one month from this date; 30s. Bounty for a second month, commencing at the expiration of the first month; and 20s. for a third month, being of the size, dimensions, and delivered agreeable to the

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aforsaid vote of the 12th of January last; the said Bounty to be paid as the price is therein directed to be paid. Sent down for concurrence; and was sent back from the House non-concurred.

Adjourned till Monday next, three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, June 17, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Vote for paying the Account of *Daniel Fowle*, for Printing for the Colony, amounting to £5 14s., brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for a Committee to consider the expediency of letting the Town of *Chesterfield* have Powder out of the Publick Magazine, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Blanchard*, Mr. *Ashley*, and Mr. *Giles*, added.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Tuesday, June 18, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Vote for the Selectmen of *Chesterfield* to have out of the publick store half a barrel of Gunpowder, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for reconsidering a vote for raising two Battalions immediately in this Colony, passed the 15th instant, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote appointing *James Hackett* Colonel, *Joseph Senter* Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Stephen Peabody* Major, of the Regiment to be raised for *Canada*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote appointing a Committee to join such as the Board should appoint, to consult about a proper method of sending to General *Schuyler* the hard money requested by Congress to be sent to him, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Wentworth*, and Mr. *Thompson*, added.

Vote appointing *John Drew*, *James Hadlock*, *William Harper*, *Joseph Dearborn*, *James Shepard*, *Augustus Blanchard*, *Samuel Weatherbee*, and *Joseph Parker*, Captains to command the eight Companies for the *Canada* Expedition, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for paying *Jonathan Dearborn* 12s. for going express on publick business from *Chester* to *Concord*, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote appointing *John Dudley* and *Pierce Long* and *John Smith* a Committee to join such as the Board should join, to give out Inlisting Orders to the several persons appointed to raise men in the *Canada* Regiment, make out their commissions, and equip them for their march, brought up, read, and concurred. Mr. *Hurd*, Mr. *Folsom*, and Mr. *Blanchard*, added.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Wednesday, June 19, 1776.

Vote appointing the following persons Muster and Paymasters, viz: Colonel *Walker* for Captain *Shepard's* Company, Colonel *Baker* for Captain *Drew's* Company, Captain *Worthen* for Captain *Hadlock's* Company, *John Dudley*, Esq., for Captain *Dearborn's* Company, Deacon *Nahum Baldwin* for Captain *Blanchard's* Company, Mr. *Elijah Grant* for Captain *Weatherbee's* Company, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., and *James Betton*, Esq., to receive out of the Treasury £30 to pay their expenses to *Albany*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for the Colonel and other Officers of the Militia to be aiding and assisting the Officers appointed to raise the Regiment for *Canada*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote to pay the Account, as balanced, of Major *John Bellows*, amounting to £19 7s. 7d., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote appointing *Benjamin Giles* and *James Betton*, Esqs., a Committee to carry money to General *Schuyler*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for paying the Roll of Captain *Eliphalet Daniel*, amounting to £154 12s., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Thursday, June 20, 1776.

Vote appointing a Committee to consult about providing Provisions for the *Canada* Expedition, and several other matters, brought up, read, and concurred; and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Folsom*, and Mr. *Thompson*, added by the Board.

Vote on the Complaints of several Committees against *Leonard Whiting*, *Benjamin Whiting*, *Samuel Cummings*, and *Thomas Cummings*, viz: that said Complaints were not supported, and that said persons should be acquitted; brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote to pay *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., and others, a Committee to view *New-Castle* Bridge, their expenses, being £3 13s. 10d., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote appointing a Committee to consult upon the expediency of sending Money to *Canada*, by persons employed by Colonel *Langdon*, on business for him, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Folsom*, and Mr. *Ashley*, added by the Board.

Vote for paying the Account of *Otis Baker*, amounting to 20s., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote of the House brought up, setting forth that Petitions had been preferred against Colonel *John Hole*, and the other Field-Officers of his Regiment, praying they might be dismissed, and that, after a full hearing, it appeared to the House that Colonel *John Hale* had exerted himself in the cause of his country; and no evidence appearing against the other Field-Officers, voted, that the Petitions be dismissed; which was read and concurred.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Friday, June 21, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Vote for *Otis Baker*, Esq., and others, the Mustermasters appointed for the *Canada* Regiment, each to receive out of the Treasury £780, to enable them to pay the officers and men, according to their direction, for which they are respectively to be accountable, brought up, read, and concurred. Warrants made out for each.

Vote for *Jacob Willson*, to be paid 28s., for boarding and nursing *James Winn*, a sick soldier, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for *Benjamin Giles* and *James Betton*, Esquires, to receive out of the Treasury £20, to be accounted for by them, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for the Field-Officers and Staff-Officers of the *Canada* Regiment to have two months' wages advanced them, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., to receive out of the Treasury £600, to be by him accounted for, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for appointing *Daniel Colburn* Second Major in Colonel *Thornton's* Regiment, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for paying Colonel *Thornton* £3 19s., for sending Expresses on publick business, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for Colonel *John Hurd* to receive out of the Treasury £350, to make provision at *Cohos* for the soldiers, he to be accountable therefor, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for Captain *Prentice* to receive out of the Treasury £116, to make provision for the Troops, for which he is to be accountable; brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for Colonel *Hurd* to receive 300 pounds of Gunpowder, 750 pounds of Bullets, and 1200 Flints, for the use of the Army destined for *Canada*. Captain *Prentice* 100 pounds of Gunpowder, 250 pounds of Bullets, and 400 Flints. Brought up, read, and concurred; with this amendment: that they each receive half the abovementioned quantities. Sent down for concurrence, and brought back non-concurred; and then the first vote concurred by the Board.

Vote for paying the Account of *Nicholas Nicolle*, amounting to £3 0s. 7d., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote appointing a Committee to consider of the expediency of erecting a Bridge at *New-Castle*, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Ashley*, and Mr. *Hurd*, joined by the Board.

Vote appointing Colonel *Hurd* and Captain *Prentice* a Committee to fix off the *Canada* Regiment, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for a Committee to consider the Petition of *Peter Neveau*, and report thereon, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton* and Mr. *Blanchard* added.

Vote for paying *Noah Emery*, Esq., Clerk of the House, £4 16s., for his service in *March* last, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Saturday, June 22, 1776.

Vote for paying the Account of *John Moulton*, Esq., amounting to £33 0s. 6d., for Blacksmith's work for the Cavalry; brought up, read, and concurred, with this amendment: that £25 10s. be paid, instead of the above sum; and sent back for concurrence.

Vote for paying Major *Thomas Bartlett* £2 9s., for hauling Cannon from *Nottingham* to *Durham*, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote to pay *John Shirley* £2 8s., for loss sustained at *Bunker-Hill* battle, brought up, read, and concurred, and order made out.

Vote for paying *Alexander Shirley* £12 11s., brought up, read, and concurred, and order made out.

Vote fixing the Rendezvous of the *Canada* Regiment at *Cohos*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for paying the Committee of *Greenland* £13 8s., for Pine Rafts, brought up, read, and concurred, and order made out.

Adjourned till Monday next, at three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, June 24, 1776.

Met according to adjournment, a number of the Members, but not enough to make a quorum.

Tuesday, June 25, 1776.

Vote for a Committee to examine the Account of Captain *John Moulton*, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Ashley*, and Mr. *Thompson*, joined.

Vote appointing a Committee to consult upon the expediency of procuring Boats for the use of the Troops at *New-Castle*, to be used in case of an alarm, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Ashley* and Mr. *Hurd* added by the Board.

Vote for a Committee to consult upon the most proper method of procuring Casks to head up the Saltpetre bought by the State, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Clagett* and Mr. *Thornton* added.

Vote brought up for paying *Jonathan Blanchard*, Esq., £1 14s. for sending an Express to *Walpole* on publick business, read and concurred, and an order made out.

Vote for paying *Ebenezer Collins* 14s., *Daniel Murray* 19s., *William Simpson* £1 8s., *Aaron Quimby* £1 5s. 9d., for Stoppages on their Wages, unjustly made by Captain *John Parker*, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for paying the Roll of Captain *Ebenezer Dearing*, amounting to £100 14s. 4d., from the 22d of *May* last to the 22d of *June* current, brought up, read, and concurred, and order made out.

Vote for *John Langdon*, Esq., to raise a Company of men, to consist of forty rank and file, to be styled Light-Infantry, he to command them, with the rank of Colonel, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for Deacon *Baldwin* to receive out of the Treasury £60, to pay for Guns for the Colony, he to be accountable therefor, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for paying the Roll of Captain *Titus Salter*, amounting to £199 14s. 7d., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for *Lydia McCrellis* to receive out of the Treasury £6 13s. 6d., to pay the Doctor's Bill in the last sickness of her late husband, who was a soldier, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Wednesday, June 26, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Hurd*, and Mr. *Thompson*, be a Committee to examine the Account of Captain *Titus Salter* against the Colony, together with such as the House shall join. Sent down for concurrence.

Vote for a Committee to consider and report their opinion on the Petition of *Joseph Leigh*, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Wentworth*, and Mr. *Ashley*, added by the Board.

Vote for a Committee to consider of the request of Colonel *Hurd* to have a Company of Rangers raised for a guard on *Connecticut River*, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Wentworth*, and Mr. *Folsom*, added.

Vote for Captain *Titus Salter* to receive out of the Treasury £89 3s. 9½d., in full of his Account against the Colony, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Whereas one Mr. *John Odin*, just arrived from the Continental Congress, has presented to the Council ten thousand Dollars, sent by the Congress for the use of this Colony:

*Voted*, That Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Folsom*, and Mr. *Hurd*, with such as the House shall join, be a Committee to receive said Money, deliver it to the Treasurer, and take his receipt therefor. Sent down for concurrence.

Vote to pay *Joseph Leigh* £6 3s., for three months' service as a soldier in Captain *Salter's* Company, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for paying *John Odin* £4 12s., for bringing Money from *Boston* to *Exeter* for the Colony, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Thursday, June 27, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Vote brought up for a Committee to endeavour to exchange a ton of Saltpetre for Gunpowder, read and concurred, and Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Ashley*, and Mr. *Hurd*, added by the Board.

Vote for paying *Robert Light* £2 2s., for Axes for the Colony, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for paying the Account of Mr. *John Pickering*, for drawing Bills for the General Assembly, amounting to £5, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for a Committee to consider the expediency of emitting a quantity of Bills for small change, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Wentworth* and Mr. *Hurd* joined by the Board.

Vote appointing a Committee to consider of and report what business they think is necessary to be done by the General Assembly this session, and what wages shall be paid the Members of both Houses, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Folsom*, and Mr. *Thompson*, added.

Vote for allowing 6s. per day to the Members of the Council and of the House of Representatives for their services in the General Assembly; also 6s. per day to the Secretary, and 6s. per day to the Clerk of the House, and 3s. per day to the Assistant Clerk, over and above their pay as Members, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote to pay *Richard Champney* £1 4s., for time and expenses to *Newbury* on publick business, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for sending to Colonel *Samuel Folsom* £300, to enable him to go on with erecting a Powder-Mill, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote appointing a Committee to consult the propriety of inlisting men out of the standing troops at *New-Castle*, brought up, read, and concurred. Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Wentworth*, and Mr. *Hurd*, added.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Friday, June 28, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

An Act entitled "An Act to remove any doubts that have or may arise concerning the legality of any Taxes granted by the late Congress of this Colony, and to enforce payment of Taxes for the future," having been read a third time,

*Voted*, That the same be enacted.

An Act entitled "An Act to abolish the Court of Appeals in this Colony, and to empower the Superior Court of Judicature to sustain and determine all matters pending in said Court of Appeals, and to prevent the absurd practice of granting appeals to the King of *Great Britain* in Council from the judgment of any Courts in this Colony in future," having been read a third time,

*Voted*, That the same be enacted.

A Vote appointing a Committee to consult upon the best and most effectual method of supplying this Colony with Firearms, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Folsom*, and Mr. *Wentworth*, added.

Vote of the House for paying the Roll of Captain *Eliphalet Daniel*, for five Privates not mustered, £10 12s. 11d., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

A Vote of the House appointing a large number of Civil Officers in the several Counties, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for paying the Account of *Nathaniel Sartel Prentice*, amounting to £7 2s., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote allowing the Recruiting Officers for *Canada* to enlist men from those stationed at *Portsmouth* and *New-Castle*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote directing the several Mustermasters to muster all the men inlisted, and make return by next *Wednesday* night, brought up, read, and concurred.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Saturday, June 29, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Thornton*, and Mr. *Thompson*, be a Committee to join with such as the House shall appoint, to report their opinion on the state of Colonel *Morrey's* Account with the Colony, and particularly concerning goods and stores in his hands, whether the Colony had better receive them or not; and thereby determine the expediency of his having an order on the Treasury or not. Sent down for concurrence.

Vote empowering the Mustermasters assigned for particular Companies to muster other Companies, brought up, read, and concurred.

An Act entitled "An Act for the better regulating Highways," read a third time, and voted to be enacted.

Vote for *Jonathan Hale*, Esq., to receive out of the Treasury £200, to buy Firearms for the Towns of *Haverhill* and *Bath*, he to give security to replace the same, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for *Jonathan Hale*, Esq., to receive two barrels of Gunpowder for the use of *Haverhill* and *Bath*; which was read and concurred, with this amendment, that said *Hale* receive said Powder for the use of *Haverhill*, *Bath*, and the Towns above, in this Colony. Sent down for concurrence; brought up, concurred, and order made out.

Vote for the Non-Commissioned Officers and Private Soldiers who will engage in the *Canada* Expedition, to have 38s. bounty given them, in addition to what has been already voted, brought up, read, and concurred.

The Council, taking into consideration the complaint of *Samuel Penhallow*, Esq., that he had, as a Civil Magistrate of this Colony, on a complaint made to him in said capacity, issued a warrant against a soldier in Colonel *David Gilman's* Regiment, for a flagrant breach of the peace, and applied to said *Gilman* for assistance to bring the offender to justice,



and that said Colonel *Gilman* had replied, that the soldiers under his command were subject to martial law, and were not subject to the Civil Magistrate for any offence, or to any effect:

*Voted*, It is the opinion of this Board that said Colonel *David Gilman* is ignorant of the laws and received rules and regulations always practised in the *English* Constitution; and that the military power setting up an authority uncontrollable by the civil power, is subversive of the laws, rights, and privileges of *Englishmen*; and what our inveterate enemies never attempted. And that said Colonel *David Gilman* be summoned to appear before the General Assembly forthwith, to answer for his conduct.

Sent down for concurrence, and was brought back concurred.

A Vote for *Richard Champney* to receive £200, to buy Arms for the Colony, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

*Samuel Penhallow*, Esq., applied to the Board for the payment of a Note signed by *Andrew McClary* and *Henry Dearborn* for £16 4s. for blanketing for the Army, as he says; but the matter being uncertain, by reason of *McClary's* death and *Dearborn's* captivity, it is now left for consideration.

N. B. Mr. *Penhallow* had made application for the same last *February*.

Vote appointing *Richard Champney* to go express to General *Ward*, and the General Court of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and for him to receive out of the Treasury £200, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Adjourned till *Monday* next, three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, July 1, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Vote appointing Captain *Worthen*, with such other as the Board should appoint, to be a Committee to purchase materials and erect a Bridge at *New-Castle*, brought up, read, and concurred, and *James Hackett*, Esq., joined by the Board.

Vote for Colonel *Henry Gerrish* to receive one hundred pounds Gunpowder out of the Colony store, to pay part of six hundred pounds borrowed of the Committee of *Newbury*, brought up, read, and concurred, and order made out.

Tuesday, July 2, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the whole Council resolve themselves into a Committee to confer with the House, on the measures necessary to be taken on the present alarming state of our affairs in *Canada*, &c. Sent down for concurrence; brought back concurred.

Vote for the Committees of *Plymouth*, *Compton*, and *Thornton*, to have out of the Treasury £250, for procuring Firearms, Powder, Lead, and Flints, they giving security to the Treasury to repay said sum; brought up, read, and concurred, and order made out.

Vote brought up for delivering Captain *Benjamin Hitchcock* two hundred pounds of Gunpowder, in consequence of an order from the Committee of *Newburyport*, for so much due from us to them; read and concurred, and order made out.

Vote for a Committee to consider of supplying the Towns of *Piermont*, *Orford*, *Alexandria*, *Wentworth*, *Warren*, *Lyme*, *New-Chester*, *Rumney*, and *Salisbury*, with Ammunition, brought up, read, and concurred; and Mr. *Wentworth*, Mr. *Ashley*, and the Secretary, added.

Vote for raising fifteen hundred men, instead of seven hundred and fifty voted before, to reinforce the Northern Army, and for a Committee to proportion them among the several Regiments of Militia to be raised by them, brought up, read, and concurred; and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Ashley*, Mr. *Blanchard*, and Mr. *Thompson*, joined by the Board.

Vote for Gunpowder, to be delivered as follows, viz: to the Town of *Wentworth*, 9 pounds; *Warren*, 9 pounds; *Lyme*, 30 pounds; *New-Chester*, 30 pounds; *Rumney*, 30 pounds; *Piermont*, 30 pounds; *Orford*, 15 pounds; *Alexandria*, 22 pounds; *Salisbury*, 25 pounds; Colonel *Belkows*, for his Regiment, 200 pounds; Colonel *Ashley*, for

his Regiment, 100 pounds: amounting in the whole to 500 pounds; brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for the following sums, to be delivered out of the Treasury, to buy Ammunition, viz: to *Israel Morey*, for *Orford*, £50; *Alexander Craige* and *Michael Dwyer*, for *Rumney*, £75; *Jonathan Chandler*, for *Piermont*, £50; they to give security for repaying the same.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Wednesday, July 3, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Vote for the Officers stationed at *New-Castle*, to receive reasonable expenses for recruiting men to fill up the vacancies in their Companies, made by the enlistment for *Canada*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for a Committee to confer on what sum of money is necessary to supply the Treasury, and report a plan, brought up, read, and concurred; and Mr. *Blanchard*, Mr. *Thornton*, and Mr. *Folsom*, joined by the Board.

Vote brought up for *Abner Fellows* and *Eliphalet Gale* to receive out of the Treasury, £4 6s., to purchase Ammunition, they giving security for paying the same, brought up, read, and concurred, and order made out.

Vote for paying the Account of *Thomas Hart*, amounting to £8 10s. 6d., for superintending the buildings at *Piscataquay Harbour*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for General *Folsom* to deliver *Samuel Curry* twenty-five pounds of Gunpowder for the Town of *Holderness*, to be accounted for, brought up, read, and concurred, and order made out.

Vote for *Samuel Curry* to receive £5 out of the Treasury, to buy Ammunition for the Town of *Holderness*, brought up, read, and concurred, and order made out.

An Act to invest the Overseers of the Poor with power more effectually to employ them, and to provide for bringing up their children more usefully, having been read a third time,

*Voted*, That the same be enacted.

An Act to establish an equitable method of making Rates and Taxes, and determining who shall be Legal Voters, in Town and Parish affairs, having been read a third time,

*Voted*, That the same be enacted.

An Act for opening Sluices in the Dams across *Piscataquay River*, &c., having been read a third time,

*Voted*, That the same be enacted.

An Act for empowering Committees to cause Sluices to be made in all the Dams across *Beaver-Brook*, &c., having been read a third time,

*Voted*, That the same be enacted.

An Act for establishing the style of Commissions which hereafter shall be issued, &c., having been read a third time,

*Voted*, That the same be enacted.

An Act to prevent the forging and altering Bills of Credit, &c., having been read a third time,

*Voted*, That the same be enacted.

An Act for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels, to defend the sea-coast, &c., having been read a third time,

*Voted*, That the same be enacted.

Vote for paying the abstract of Captain *Clement's* Roll, for soldiers enlisted out of his Company for *Canada*, amounting to £51 18s. 1d., and ditto for Captain *Brown's*, amounting to £16 7s. 5d., brought up, read, and concurred, and order made out.

Vote for Major *Jonathan Child* to receive out of the Treasury £50, to buy Ammunition, he to give security therefor, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

An Act for regulating Marriages, &c., having been read a third time,

*Voted*, That the same be enacted.

Vote for Colonel *Nicholas Gilman* to keep a Guard at the Powder-House in *Exeter*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote proportioning the 1500 men to be raised for *Canada* in the following manner, viz: Colonel *Whipple's* Regiment 115, Colonel *Evans's* 150, Colonel *Moulton's* 88, Colonel *Gilman's* 163, Colonel *Ashley's* 100, Colonel *Belkows's* 73,

late Colonel *John Hale's* 157, Colonel *Bartlett's* 111, Colonel *Thornton's* 66, Colonel *Enoch Hale's* 107, Colonel *Webster's* 55, Colonel *More's* 126, Colonel *Stickney's* 116, Colonel *Badger's* 73; and for General *Folsom* to give out orders accordingly; brought up, read, and concurred.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Thursday, July 4, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Voted, That two hundred Handbills be immediately printed and distributed in this Colony, in the following words:

"To the Selectmen and Committees of Safety, and all Civil Officers in the several Towns in this Colony:

"You, and each of you, are now called upon, in behalf of yourselves and your distressed country, to exert every nerve in forwarding the inlisting and making up the quotas of men in the respective places you belong to, that they may march forward and join their brethren under General *Sullivan*, and enable him to repel the Army coming against us from *Canada*."

Vote for a Committee to consider the expediency of adjourning, and to what time, and of the propriety of choosing a large Committee of Safety, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Wentworth*, and Mr. *Ashley*, added.

Vote for paying the Staff Roll of Colonel *David Gilman*, amounting to £83 1s., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote appointing *Moses Kelley* Lieutenant-Colonel of the Ninth Regiment of Militia, in the room of *David Gilman*, who has resigned, *Samuel Page* First Major, and *James Hurd* Second Major of said Regiment, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for Colonel *Weare* and Dr. *Dearborn* to receive £20 to buy Paper to print Bills of Credit on, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote to pay the Roll of Captain *John Calfe*, amounting to £325 9s. 10d., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote to pay the Roll of Captain *Caleb Hodgdon*, amounting to £329 12s. 3d., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote appointing a Committee to get two hundred and fifty copies of each of the Acts passed this Session printed, brought up, read, and concurred, and General *Folsom* added by the Board.

Vote for emitting £20,160 in Bills of Credit, for the use of the Colony, and for Dr. *Levi Dearborn*, with such as the Board should join, to get the same printed, and for *Philip White*, Esq., *John Smith*, and *Josiah Moulton*, Jun., to be a Committee to sign said Bills, brought up, read, and concurred, and *Meshech Weare*, Esq., joined with Dr. *Dearborn*, to superintend the press.

Vote appointing *Joshua Wingate* Colonel, *James Hacket* Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Samuel Connor* Major, of one of the Regiments to be raised for *Canada*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote appointing Captain *Pierce Long* to provide all necessaries for equipping and fixing off the Reinforcements for *Canada*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote appointing eight Mustermasters and Paymasters for the last Regiment voted to be raised for *Canada*, viz: Major *Bartlett*, Colonel *Sherburne*, *John Bell*, Major *Philbrick*, Colonel *Kelley*, Deacon *Knowles*, *Asa Davis*, and Colonel *Ashley*, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for the Mustermasters of the last Regiment voted to be raised to receive each out of the Treasury £940, to pay off the advance pay, &c., and the Mustermasters appointed for the First Regiment each £171, brought up, read, and concurred. Orders made out for all those who were to receive the £940, and to *Baldwin Hale*, *Ezekiel Worthen*, and *John Dudley*, for the £171.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock, A. M.

Friday, July 5, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Vote for a Committee to examine into the grounds of a complaint against Captain *George March*, as an enemy to his

country, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Folsom*, and Mr. *Wentworth*, added by the Board.

Vote appointing a Committee to give out Inlisting Orders, blank Commissions to the Officers, and Instructions to the Mustermasters of the two Regiments destined for *Canada*, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Folsom*, Mr. *Clagett*, and Mr. *Blanchard*, added by the Board.

Vote for a Committee to nominate persons out of whom to be appointed a Maritime Officer and a Naval Officer, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Thornton*, Mr. *Clagett*, and Mr. *Thompson*, joined.

An Act for establishing Courts of Law, &c., in this Colony, having been read a third time,

Voted, That the same be enacted.

Vote for appointing *Noah Emery*, Jun., Paymaster to the first Regiment of Recruits for the *Canada* Army, brought up, read, and concurred.

The Board having heard Colonel *David Gilman's* defence on the complaint of *Samuel Penhallow*, Esquire, respecting Colonel *Gilman's* asserting that the soldiers under his command were subject to martial law only, are of opinion that the sentiments conveyed in Colonel *Gilman's* letter plainly and in express words denied the right of the civil power to control the military, and thereby gave just reason for Mr. *Penhallow* to be alarmed at such a doctrine, especially from the commanding military officer of the standing troops in this Colony. And the Board do return Mr. *Penhallow* their sincere thanks for his attachment to, and care of, so essential and fundamental a principle of the Constitution and rights of a free people. Nevertheless do believe that the sentiments conveyed in the aforesaid letter escaped from Colonel *Gilman* through inattention or ruffle of his mind, and conveyed ideas different from his real sentiments.

Vote for a Committee to name a person for a Maritime Officer, and one or more for a Notary Publick or Notary Publicks, brought up, read, and concurred, and Mr. *Clagett*, Mr. *Thornton*, and Mr. *Thompson*, added by the Board.

Vote appointing *Eleazer Russell*, Esq., Maritime Officer for the Port of *Piscataquog*, and *Wyseman Clagett* and *John Pickering*, Esqs., Notary Publicks, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote appointing *Samuel Penhallow*, Esq., one of the Justices of the Inferior Court for the County of *Rockingham*, in the room of *George King*, Esq., who declines accepting thereof, brought up, read, and concurred. Also appointing *William Knight*, Esq., a special Justice of said Court; which was also concurred.

Vote appointing a Committee to nominate proper persons to serve as a Committee of Safety in recess of the General Assembly, brought up, read, and concurred, and Colonel *Thornton* added.

A Vote appointing Captain *Joseph Chandler* to command one of the Companies in the First *Canada* Regiment, in the room of Mr. *Hadlock*, who has resigned, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for *Samuel Jones*, of *Canaan*, and *Elisha Bingham*, of *Enfield*, to have twenty-five pounds of Gunpowder and £5 in Money, to buy Lead for said Towns, to be accounted for by them, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for paying the Roll of Captain *Timothy Clements*, amounting to £238 15s., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for paying the Roll of Captain *Nathan Brown*, amounting to £267 4s. 7d., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Saturday, July 6, 1776.

Resolve for *George March*, of *Stratham*, to confine himself to his farm in said *Stratham*, on pain of imprisonment; and that he recognise in the sum of £100, with two sufficient sureties in £50 each, to the Government and People of this Colony, to be of good behaviour until further order of the Court, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote appointing fifteen persons to act as a Committee of Safety during the recess of the General Assembly, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for paying Deacon *Isaac Williams* 20s. for the use of his room for Committees this Session, brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote for a Committee to confer upon the appointment of Mr. Connor and Mr. Baker, to be Lieutenant-Colonel and Major of Colonel *Wingate's* Regiment, brought up, read, and concurred, with this amendment, That the Committee name persons for Lieutenant-Colonel and Major of said Regiment; and Mr. Thornton, Mr. Folsom, Mr. Wentworth, Mr. Blanchard, and Mr. Thompson, added by the Board. Sent down for concurrence.

Vote for Colonel *Jonathan Chase* to receive out of the Colony store five barrels of Gunpowder, brought up, read, and concurred, with this amendment, That Colonel *Chase* receive three barrels, instead of five barrels. Sent down for concurrence, and brought back concurred.

Vote appointing *Samuel Connor* Lieutenant-Colonel, and

*Moses Baker* Major, of Colonel *Wingate's* Regiment, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for the Treasurer to hire £5,000 for the use of the Colony, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote establishing Fees to be taken in the Maritime Court, brought up, read, and concurred.

Vote for paying the Account of *Richard Champney*, amounting to £22 6s., brought up, read, and concurred, and warrant made out.

Vote promising a bounty of six per cent. upon all bar Lead, and ten Dollars per cent. upon all Sulphur manufactured in this Colony for a certain time, brought up, read, and concurred.

Adjourned till the first *Wednesday* in *September* next.

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, June 5, 1776

At three o'clock, P. M., the House met at *Exeter*, according to adjournment.

Read sundry Letters for *Philadelphia*.

Voted, That *John Dudley* and *Samuel Cutts*, Esquires, be a Committee to examine how much Silver and Gold coin there is in the Treasury, and make report as soon as may be. Which Committee made report, that there is now in the Treasury, in silver and gold coin, £859 12s., lawful money.

Voted, That Dr. *Dearborn*, Captain *Prentice*, and Mr. *Jacob Abbot*, be a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to draught a Vote concerning the procuring Firearms for the use of this Colony, and present the same to this House as soon as may be.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock.

Thursday, June 6, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Voted, That a Committee be chosen in this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult what business is most necessary to be entered upon immediately, and to make report to this House as soon as may be; and that Captain *Prentice*, Colonel *Walker*, *James Betton*, Esq., *Richard Downing*, Esq., and *John Dudley*, Esq., be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Which Committee, being joined by a Committee of the honourable Board, made the following Report, viz:

The Committee of both Houses appointed to consider what business is necessary to be done this session, recommend the following things, viz: A Table of Fees to be completed. A determination about opening the Courts of Law. The Civil List to be filled up, and Commissions for the several Courts to be made out. An Act to enforce the payment of the Colony Taxes and others. An Act to prevent the alteration and counterfeiting the Bills of Credit of this and the neighbouring Colonies, and to make the Bills of Credit of said Colonies a legal tender. An Act to regulate Taxation, and the sum to be raised for this year. An Act to regulate the Militia. An Act for abolishing the Court of Appeals in this Colony, and for determining how Appeal shall be made, and heard, from decrees of the Judges of Probate, for the future. That the persons who have laid out the Colony's money may be compelled to render accounts thereof; that the sending our accounts to *Philadelphia* be no longer delayed; and that attested accounts of the number of the People be procured immediately. Necessary orders to be made out for raising the Continental Battalion. Some directions about Saltpetre to be given. Directions in what name Writs, &c., shall issue. A Resolve that all persons shall be prosecuted, who, after the sitting of the Courts of Sessions in the respective Counties, shall sell liquors without license; and that no person be licensed without procuring a certificate that they have paid their Excise for the year 1775. An Act for the better observation of the Lord's Day. An Act imposing a Fine on all Justices of the Peace and Ministers, for joining persons in wedlock without a Certificate from the Clerk or Clerks of the Towns where the persons married live, that they have been lawfully published. To revive the late Highway Act. To make the Courts of Probate circular. Some further directions about Firearms. An Act for making Captures on the Sea, &c., and for condemning them; and to commission the Judge and Register of the Admiralty.

M. THORNTON, Chairman.

Voted, To choose a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consider the Petitions of *Richard Emms*, *John Frazier*, and *James Taylor*, and to make report to this House as soon as may be; and that *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., Captain *Long*, and Major *Tash*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Voted, To choose a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to examine all Accounts against this Colony, and report thereon to this House as soon as may be; and that Colonel *Walker*, *Henry Prescott*, Esq., and *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Voted, That the Pay-Roll of Captain *Ebenezer Dearing*, amounting to £99 17s. 1½d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury; and that the President of the Council give order of payment accordingly.

Voted, That Deacon *Nahum Baldwin* be Mustermaster to the Forces raised and to be raised in this Colony for the current year, until further order of this Colony.

Voted, That Captain *Richard Emms*, now a prisoner in this Colony, receive out of the Treasury £20 for and towards his subsistence; and that the President of the Council give order of payment accordingly; and that said *Emms* have leave to depart this Colony for any Foreign Port in the *West-Indies*, as passenger only.

Voted, That Captain *John Frazier* and Mr. *James Taylor* have liberty to depart from this Colony, separately, in any vessel bound to the Foreign *West-India* Islands, as passengers.

Voted, That the Account of Captain *John Calfe*, amounting to £2 11s., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury; and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

Voted, That the Pay-Roll of Captain *Titus Salter's* Company, from *March* 17th to *April* 16th, 1776, amounting to £246 0s. 1d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury; and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

Voted, That the Pay-Roll of *Titus Salter's* Company, from *April* 16th to *May* 17th, 1776, amounting to £197 15s., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

Upon reading the Petition of *John Griffith*,

Voted, That he be paid wages as a soldier in Captain *Ebenezer Dearing's* Company from the time of his enlistment until the time of his discharge.

Adjourned to half past two o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

Upon reading the Petition of a number of persons, praying that several Petitions against Lieutenant-Colonel *Folsom* may be dismissed,

Voted, That the Petition now presented and read, be dismissed.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, June 7, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Voted, That Quartermaster *Gains* furnish Colonel *David Gilman* with what Powder shall be necessary to clear the rocks out of the Fort now building at *Great-Island*.

Voted, That *George Gains*, Esq., and Captain *William Trefethen* be a Committee of this House to repair to *Boston*, and other parts of *Massachusetts-Bay*, to search for, inquire

after, and receive of the Commanding Officer, or any other person or persons, who may have in their care or possession any Cannon belonging to this Colony, according to the Resolve of Continental Congress; and also to receive the Powder lent by this Colony to the Continental Army, and to transport the said Cannon to *Portsmouth* in this Colony, and the Powder to *Exeter*, on the most reasonable terms, as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That *George Gains*, Esq., have and receive out of the Treasury £400, to be by him accounted for; and that the President of the Council give order of payment accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Robey*, a soldier in Captain *William Prescott's* Company, (who was left out of the roll,) be allowed and paid out of the Treasury £1 8s. 6d., in full for twenty-three days' service in said Company; and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

Upon hearing the complaint of *Aaron Quimby*, *Ebenezer Collins*, and *Daniel Murray*, against Captain *John Parker*, for wronging them in making up his Muster Roll, &c.,

*Voted*, That Colonel *Badger*, Captain *Prentice*, Captain *Worthen*, Major *Tash*, and Major *Kelley*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to examine into the Roll of said *Parker*, and his accounts and vouchers, and make report to this House as soon as may be.

Upon reading and considering the Petition of *John Hunter*, concerning his losing Paper Money, to the value of fifteen Dollars and a half:

*Voted*, That the said *John Hunter* have and receive out of the Treasury £4 13s. for his said loss, and that the President give order of payment.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Samuel Sherburne*, *Richard Downing*, Esq., Colonel *Stephen Evans*, Captain *Josiah Moulton*, *Samuel Dudley*, Esq., Captain *Pierce Long*, and Major *Tash*, be a Committee of this House, who, with a Committee of the honourable Board, are desired and empowered to exchange Paper Currency for Gold and Silver, for the use of this Colony, and report what sums they do or can exchange as soon as may be.

The following Vote of Council was brought from the Board, viz:

"Colony of New-Hampshire, in Council, }  
June 7, 1776. }

"Resolved, That *Nicholas Gilman*, Esq., Treasurer and Receiver-General of this Colony, be, and is hereby, fully authorized and empowered to receive and take in all those Paper Bills of Credit emitted on the credit of said Colony, bearing interest, and to pay such interest to the time of such exchange, and charge the amount of said interest in his account with said Colony; and that the Treasurer give notice of this Order as soon as may be."

The above Vote or Resolve of Congress being read,

*Voted*, That the same be concurred.

Read sundry Petitions, &c.

*Voted*, To build a Bridge from the westerly end of *New-Castle* to *Ward's Island*, and from thence to *Adams's Island*, so called, or somewhere across the water, so as to secure a retreat for our forces to be stationed at *New-Castle* in case of a defeat; and that Mr. *Baldwin*, Major *Downing*, and Colonel *Walker*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to look out and discover the best place where, and the manner how, the said Bridge shall be built, and to make report thereon to this Court as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Walker*, Major *Downing*, Major *Kelley*, Mr. *John Smith*, third, Captain *Long*, Major *Belhows*, Captain *Wilson*, Mr. *Emerson*, and Mr. *Knowles*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to nominate to this House three persons for Colonel, three for Lieutenant-Colonel, and three for Major, of the Regiment now to be raised in this Colony on the Continental establishment; for this House to nominate one of each three for the said Offices.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, June 8, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

Upon information from the Committee of Safety or Correspondence of the Towns of *Ipswich* and *Rindge*, against *Jonathan Parker*, for altering and uttering Paper Bills of Credit of this Colony contrary to law,

*Voted*, That *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., *Ichabod Rollins*, Esq., *John Dudley*, Esq., *James Betton*, Esq., *Matthew Patten*, Esq., *Samuel Sherburne*, Esq., and Colonels *Stephen Evans*, *Hale*, and *Baker*, be a Committee of this House to examine into the matter informed of, and make report to this House as soon as may be.

The Committee of both Houses to examine Captain *Parker's* Roll, &c., made report, as on file; which being read and considered,

*Voted*, That the same be received, accepted, and filed.

And further *Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult in what manner and how the said *John Parker* shall be proceeded against, concerning the premises; and that Major *Belhows*, *Ichabod Rollins*, Esq., *Matthew Patten*, Esq., Colonel *Sherburne*, and Colonel *Hale*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., Commissary, have, and receive out of the Treasury, to be by him accounted for, £600, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That *Theophilus Dame* be appointed First-Colonel of the Battalion now to be raised in this Colony, to be on the Continental establishment, and that Colonel *David Gilman* be Lieutenant-Colonel, and Major *James Hackett* be Major of said Battalion.

*Voted*, That *James Aikin* be allowed and paid out of the Treasury £3 for his boat, lost at *Bunker Hill* fight, and that the President give order of payment.

Adjourned till Monday, the 10th instant, at three of the clock, afternoon.

Monday, June 10, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the price of good merchantable Saltpetre, that shall be manufactured in this Colony, and brought in to Doctor *Josiah Gilman*, or the Receiver thereof for this Colony for the time being, for the space of one year from and after the 8th day of June instant, shall be four shillings per pound, to be paid out of the Treasury upon the said Receiver's certificate, the manufacturer or producers of the said Saltpetre to be under oath that the same was manufactured in this Colony.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Samuel Greeley*, amounting to £6 0s. 2d., for doctoring, billeting, and nursing his son *Joseph*, (being wounded at *Bunker-Hill* fight,) be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to frame, draw up, and present to this House, the following Acts for Laws for this Colony, viz:

1st. An Act for establishing the Table of Fees for the several Officers in this Colony.

2d. An Order or Resolve for opening the Courts of Justice.

3d. An Act to enforce the payment of Taxes in this Colony.

4th. An Act to prevent the alteration and counterfeiting the Bills of Credit for this and the neighbouring Colonies, and to make the said Bills of Credit a legal tender.

5th. An Act to regulate Taxation, and to ascertain the sum to be raised as a Colony Tax, for the current year.

6th. An Act for regulating the Militia.

7th. An Act for abolishing the Court of Appeals in this Colony, and for determining how and by whom appeals shall be made and heard from decrees of the Judges of Probate in this Colony, in future.

8th. An Act or Resolve in what name, and in what form, Writs and Processes shall be issued in future.

9th. An Act for the better observation of the Lord's Day.

10th. An Act to impose a Fine on all Justices of the Peace and Ministers of the Gospel, who shall presume to join persons in Matrimony without a Certificate from the Clerk or Clerks of Towns or places where the persons so married live that they have been lawfully published.



11th. An Act to revive the late Highway Act.

12. An Act to make the Courts of Probate circular.

13th. An Act for making Captures on the Seas, and for condemning them, and to regulate the Trials of said Captures.

14th. An Act to prevent the stopping or obstructing the course or passage of Fish into the several rivers, brooks, and ponds in this Colony, where Fish usually passed.

And that *Timothy Walker, Matthew Patten, Esq., and Mr. John Smith*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Adjourned till eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, June 11, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

Read the form of the Commission for the Chief Justice of the Superior Court, and voted that the same be transcribed, sealed with the Colony seal, and delivered to the Honourable *Meshech Weare, Esq.*

*Voted*, That *Samuel Cutts, Timothy Walker, and John Dudley, Esquires*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to make a draught of a Declaration of this General Assembly for Independence of the United Colonies on *Great Britain*.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the Account of the Committee of Safety of *Greenland*, amounting to £13 8s., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Vote of the 8th *June* instant, for choosing Field-Officers of the Battalion now to be raised in this Colony, to be on the Continental establishment, according to the Resolution of the Continental Congress, exclusive of the Regiment now on duty at *New-Castle* and at or near *Piscataqua* Harbour, be reconsidered.

*Voted*, That *John Taylor Gilman* be joined to the Committee for examining and adjusting Accounts for and against this Colony, in the room of Captain *John Emery*, who has gone out of the country.

This Vote having passed in Council this day and sent down, is concurred by the House.

*Voted*, That Major *James Hackett* be the first officer of the Battalion now to be raised in this Colony on the Continental establishment, that Major *Thomas Tash* be the second officer, and Major *David Copp* the third officer of said Battalion.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, June 12, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *Matthew Patten, Henry Prescott, and Jonathan Lovewell, Esquires*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to examine into the matter of the Petition of the Honourable *William Parker, Esquire*, for his last year's salary, and to see if there is any moneys due him from the Colony, and make report thereon as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That a Committee of five Members of this House be chosen, to confer with a Committee of the honourable Board, upon the mode of raising the Battalion now to be raised in this Colony on the Continental establishment, and to make report to this House as soon as may be; and that Colonel *Badger, Colonel Morey, Colonel Sherburne, Jonathan Lovewell, Esquire, and Colonel Hale*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the Amendment of the honourable Council on the Vote for appointing Officers for the new Battalion, &c., be concurred.

*Voted*, That *John Dudley, Esquire, Captain Harriman, and Major Bartlett*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the Board, to consult upon the expediency of delivering out Powder from the Colony stores to the several Colonels or Captains or Selectmen of the several Towns, and if expedient, then how, and in what manner, and on what conditions the same shall be delivered out, and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Upon reading the Petition of *Maurice Lynch, John Duncan, and Samuel Moore*, a Committee of part of the Society Lands, praying to be incorporated by the following bounds, viz: "Beginning at the northeast corner of said Township, which is the northwest corner of *Deering*, and running southerly according to the course of *Contoocook River*, which river is the west line of *Deering*, so as to make five miles in a straight line; thence westerly, on the north line of No. 3 in the original plan of said Society, to the east line of *Parkersfield*; thence northerly, on said *Parkersfield* and *Stoddard*, to *Cammell's Gore* and *Hillsborough*, to the bounds first mentioned."

And considering the same,

*Voted*, That the same lie for consideration.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, June 13, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee of both Houses appointed to confer upon a mode of raising the Battalion ordered by the Continental Congress, made report: That they would recommend the appointment of eight persons most likely to enlist the men and perform the services, and give out orders for each to enlist a Company, with liberty for them to name Subalterns to serve under them, to be commissioned if they raise the Companies.

*M. Thornton, Chairman.*

Which Report being read and considered,

*Voted*, That the same be received and accepted.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of sixteen persons of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to nominate to this House sixteen persons, eight of whom to enlist the men for the Battalion to be raised by order of the Continental Congress, and to make the said nomination as soon as may be; and that Colonel *Sherburne, Colonel Evens, Captain Worthen, Samuel Dudley, Esq., Samuel Kimball, Esq., Doctor Nichols, Mr. John Bell, John Dudley, Esq., Matthew Patten, Esq., Colonel Badger, Colonel Walker, Major Ellis, Mr. Shattuck, Mr. Grout, Mr. Emerson, and Colonel Morey*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Upon considering the motion of Captain *Benjamin Connor*, that he may receive the bounty of £50, heretofore voted for the greatest quantity of Saltpetre to be manufactured in this Colony, and brought in by the 8th day of *June* instant; the question was put, whether the partnership between said *Conner* and *Mr. Call* was in fact dissolved, in the opinion of this House; and a vote thereon being put,

It passed in the negative.

*Voted*, That *Doctor Levi Dearborn, Colonel Baker, Ebenezer Smith, Esq., Doctor Nichols, and Mr. Grout*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together, and make report to this House what person is entitled to the £50 bounty voted by the late Congress to be given to such inhabitants of this Colony as should manufacture in this Colony, and bring in, the greatest quantity of Saltpetre by the 8th day of *June* instant.

*Voted*, That all Bonds, Recognisances, and Securities, for Moneys, or any other Forfeitures heretofore usually given to the King, shall henceforward be given and taken to the present Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the Speaker for the time being, for the use of this Colony; and where the matter relates to any particular County, upon non-performance of the condition, that the penalty shall and may be sued for and recovered in the name of the said Speaker, for the use of said County.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, Not to recommend any other persons than those already recommended by this Court to the Continental Congress, for Field-Officers to command the Battalion ordered to be raised on the Continental establishment.

*Voted*, That *Mark Wiggim, of Stratham, John Brewster, of Rochester, Moses Leavitt, of Northampton, James Hill, of New-Market, Joseph Dearborn, of Chester, Stephen Peabody, of Amherst, John Calfé, of Kingston, and Ebenezer Webster, of Salisbury*, be appointed Captains in the

Battalion now to be raised in this Colony, on the Continental establishment.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, June 14, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To raise £5,000 for the Colony Tax for the current year, to be assessed on the polls and estates within this Colony, and to be collected and paid into the Treasury on or before the 1st day of *March* next.

Received a Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., enclosing the Resolves and Requisitions of the Continental Congress, about raising the Militia, &c., to send to *Canada*, and sent the same up to the Board by Mr. *Cutts*.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That this House resolve themselves into a Committee of the Whole House to join the Council, or such of their Members as they shall appoint, to converse together concerning the requisition of the Continental Congress for a Battalion to be raised and sent from this Colony to *Canada*, and other matters concerning raising and equipping the said Battalion.

Which Committee of the Whole House being joined by a Committee of the Whole Board, the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq., in the chair, and conferring on the premises, came to the following Resolution, viz:

That there be forthwith raised and equipped in this Colony a Regiment of seven hundred and fifty men, including Officers; and that each Non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier receive a bounty of £6.

And the question being put, whether the Troops now on duty at or near *New-Castle*, &c., shall have leave to enlist into the said Regiment, or into the Continental Battalion, and a vote being put thereon, it passed in the negative.

Also, *Resolved*, That the Officers and Soldiers have the same Wages as the Continental Troops have.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of sixteen Members of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together and nominate to this House proper persons for Field-Officers, and for Captains of Regiments now to be raised for *Canada*, and how and in what manner the said Regiment shall be enlisted and equipped, and to make report thereon to this House as soon as may be; and that Major *Barker*, Colonel *Baker*, Captain *Moulton*, Mr. *Wheeler*, Robert *Willson*, Esq., James *Betton*, Esq., Major *Philbrick*, Mr. *Abbott*, Major *Kelley*, Colonel *Hale*, Mr. *Robinson*, Colonel *Gerrish*, Colonel *Smith*, Major *Bellows*, Colonel *Morey*, and Mr. *Brainard*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, June 15, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

An Act for establishing the style of Commissions, and altering the style of Writs and Law Processes, &c., read a first time.

An Act to prevent the forging and altering Bills of Publick Credit, &c., read a first time.

The Committee of both Houses appointed to prepare a Draught setting forth the sentiments and opinion of the Council and Assembly of this Colony, relative to the United Colonies setting up an independent State, made Report as on file. Which Report being read and considered,

*Voted unanimously*, That the Report of said Committee be received and accepted, and that the Draught by them brought in be sent to our Delegates at the Continental Congress forthwith, as the sense of this House.

*Voted*, To raise and equip forthwith in this Colony a Regiment of seven hundred and fifty men, including Officers, to be sent immediately to *Canada*, to reinforce our Army there; and that each Non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier receive a bounty of £6 on their being mustered and enrolled, and to receive the same Wages as the Continental Troops have, and that the Officers and Soldiers receive one month's advance wages upon their being ready to march, and to continue in the service until the first day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged by the Continental Congress.

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And that *Isaac Wyman*, Esq., be Colonel of the said Regiment, and *Joseph Senter*, Esq., be Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Edward Sherburne*, Esq., be Major of said Regiment; that *John Drew*, of *Barrington*, *Henry Elkins*, of *Hampton*, *William Harper*, of *Brintwood*, *Daniel Reynolds*, of *Londonderry*, *James Shepard*, of *Canterbury*, *Augustus Blanchard*, of *Merrimack*, *Samuel Wetherbee*, of *Charlestown*, and *Joseph Parker*, of *New-Ipswich*, be Captains in the said Regiment.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Daniel Fowle*, Esq., amounting to £5 14s., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

The Draught made by the Committee of both Houses, relating to Independency, and voted as the sense of this House as in the preceding page, is as follows, viz:

Whereas it now appears an undoubted fact, that notwithstanding all the dutiful Petitions and decent Remonstrances from the *American Colonies*, and the utmost exertions of their best friends in *England* on their behalf, the *British Ministry*, arbitrary and vindictive, are yet determined to reduce, by fire and sword, our bleeding country to their absolute obedience; and for this purpose, in addition to their own forces, have engaged great numbers of foreign mercenaries, who may now be on their passage here, accompanied by a formidable Fleet, to ravage and plunder the sea-coast; from all which we may expect the most dismal scenes of distress the ensuing year, unless we exert ourselves by every means and precaution possible: And whereas we, of this Colony of *New-Hampshire*, have the example of the most respectable of our sister Colonies before us for entering upon that most important step of a disunion from *Great Britain*, and declaring ourselves free and independent of the Crown thereof, being impelled thereto by the most violent and injurious treatment, and it appearing most necessary in this most critical juncture of our publick affairs; that the honourable the Continental Congress, who have this most important object under their immediate consideration, should be also informed of our Resolution thereon without loss of time: We do hereby declare, that it is the opinion of our Assembly that our Delegates at the Continental Congress should be instructed, and they are hereby instructed, to join with the other Colonies in declaring the Thirteen United Colonies a free and independent State, solemnly pledging our faith and honour that we will, on our parts, support the measure with our lives and fortunes; and that in consequence thereof, they, the Continental Congress, on whose wisdom, fidelity, and integrity, we rely, may enter into and form such alliances as they may judge most conducive to the present safety and future advantage of these *American Colonies*, provided the regulation of our internal police be under the direction of our own Assembly.

Entered according to the original.

Attest:

NOAH EMERY, Clerk.

*Voted*, That Deacon *Nahum Baldwin*, Captain *Prentice*, *Matthew Patten*, Esq., Colonel *Hale*, and Mr. *Grout*, be a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to give out Inlisting Orders to the several Officers of the Regiment now to be raised for *Canada*; and to commissionate the Officers, and make all necessary preparations for, and equip the said Regiment as soon as possible.

Adjourned to *Monday* next, at ten o'clock, forenoon.

Monday, June 17, 1776.

Met according to adjournment; and there being but a thin House, adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

Then met according to adjournment.

An Act concerning Taxes, and for ascertaining who are Legal Voters in Town and Parish Meetings; read a first time.

An Act preventing the Altering, Forging, &c., of the Bills of Credit, &c.; read a second time.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House to confer with a Committee from the honourable Board, on the expediency of furnishing the Town of *Chesterfield* with Powder to defend themselves against the attempts and assaults of all persons who appear by their conduct inimical to this country, and to make report to this House as soon as may be; and that Captain *Prentice*, Major *Bellows*, and Dr. *Dearborn*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, June 18, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That a half-barrel of Gunpowder be delivered out of the Powder-House in *Exeter* to the Selectmen of *Chesterfield*, or their order, for the use of said Town of *Chesterfield*, and that the said Selectmen of *Chesterfield*, or some person, give a receipt therefor, and promise to account with the Treasurer of this Colony for the same.

*Voted*, That Major *James Hackett* be First Colonel of the Regiment now to be raised for *Canada*, and that *Joseph Senter* be Lieutenant-Colonel, and Colonel *Stephen Peabody* be Major of said Regiment.

Adjourned to half-past two, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together, and nominate to this House certain persons to take the hard Money now collected in this Colony, and carry the same to General *Schuyler* at *Ticonderoga*, or wherever he may be found, for the support and supply of our Troops in *Canada*, and to make report as soon as may be; and that Major *Bartlett*, Captain *Long*, and Deacon *Baldwin*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That *John Drew* of *Barrington*, *James Hadlock* of *Southampton*, *William Harper* of *Brintwood*, *Joseph Dearborn* of *Chester*, *James Shephard* of *Canterbury*, *Augustus Blanchard* of *Merrimack*, *Samuel Wetherbee* of *Charlestown*, and *Joseph Parker* of *New-Ipswich*, be Captains in the Regiment now to be raised and sent to *Canada*.

*Voted*, That *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., of the Council, and *Matthew Patten*, Esq., and *Nahum Baldwin*, Esq., of this House, be a Committee to receive what Gold and Silver Coin is now in the Treasury, and to carry the same to the Hon. General *Schuyler* at *Ticonderoga*, or *Albany*, or wherever he may be, for the necessary supply of our Troops at *Canada*, and take his receipt for the same on account of this Colony.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Jonathan Dearborn*, amounting to 12s., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to give out Inlisting Orders to the several Officers of the Regiment now to be raised and sent into *Canada*, and to commissionate the Officers, and make all necessary preparations for, and equip the said Regiment as soon as possible; and that *John Dudley*, Esq., Captain *Pierce Long*, and Mr. *John Smith*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, June 19, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment, and the Speaker being absent, the House made choice of *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., for their Speaker, *pro tempore*, who took the Chair accordingly; soon after which, the Speaker came in, and resumed the Chair.

*Voted*, That it be, and hereby is, recommended to all Colonels, and other Officers of the Militia in this Colony, to be aiding and assisting to the several Officers appointed to inlist Soldiers for the Regiment to be sent into *Canada*, by all good means in their power, that the said Regiment may be raised with all convenient speed.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Baldwin* and *Matthew Patten*, Esq., be excused from going to *Canada*, to carry the hard Money now in the Treasury to General *Schuyler*.

*Voted*, That *James Betton*, Esq., be joined to the Hon. *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., as a Committee to receive out of the Colony Treasury, and convey to General *Schuyler*, or to the Commanding Officer of the Continental Forces in *Canada*, all the hard Money in the Treasury, for the support of our said Forces, and to take his receipt for the same on account of this Colony.

*Voted*, That *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., and *James Betton*, Esq., receive out of the Treasury £30, lawful money, to be by them accounted for, and that the President give order of payment accordingly.

*Voted*, That the balance of the Account of Major *John Bellows*, amounting to £19 7s. 7d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the several Mustermasters, hereafter named, receive out of the Treasury sufficient Moneys to pay off the Troops going to *Canada*, for their bounty and their month's advance wages; and that they pay them in their several departments, upon their being mustered and enrolled; and that Colonel *Timothy Walker* be Mustermaster of Captain *Shepard's* Company, Colonel *Otis Baker* of Captain *Drew's* Company, Captain *Ezekiel Worthen* of Captain *Hadlock's* Company, *Samuel Dudley*, Esq., of Captain *Harper's* Company, *John Dudley*, Esq., of Captain *Dearborn's* Company, Deacon *Nahum Baldwin* of Captain *Blanchard's* Company, Mr. *Elijah Grout* of Captain *Wetherbee's* Company, and Colonel *Enoch Hale* of Captain *Parker's* Company.

"The Committee of both Houses beg leave to recommend the reconsidering of two Votes lately passed, viz: one for raising a Battalion agreeable to a Resolve of the Continental Congress, probably to be stationed at *Portsmouth*, and nominating Field and other Officers for the same, and a Vote appointing Officers for a Battalion to be sent into *Canada*. And they further recommend the six gentlemen voted for Field-Officers for the two above mentioned Battalions, with others who may be named, in lieu of those who decline the service, stand nominated to appoint eight of them for the second *Canada* service. "M. THORNTON, Chairman."

*Voted and Resolved*, That the Vote of this House of the 11th instant, appointing Major *Hackett*, Major *Tash*, and Major *Copp*, to the command of the Battalion to be raised agreeable to a Resolve of the Continental Congress, to be stationed at *Portsmouth*; and the Vote of this House of the same day, for raising and equipping the said Battalion; and also a Vote of this House, of the 15th instant, appointing Officers for a Regiment to be sent into *Canada*, &c.;—that each and every of said Votes be, and hereby are, reconsidered and made null and void.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Thomas Clough* go to *Moultonborough* and *Canterbury*, and carry a Letter to Colonel *Senter* and a Letter to Captain *Shepard*, and to return and report his doings as soon as may be.

The following Letter was presented to the House, viz:

"To the Honourable House of Representatives for the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:

"Agreeable to the request of the late Congress of the Colony aforesaid to the Committees of Safety of the several Towns of the Colony, the Committees of the Towns of *Dunstable*, *Hollis*, *Merrimack*, and *Litchfield*, in said Colony, herewith return the names of Captain *Leonard Whiting*, *Benjamin Whiting*, and *Samuel Cummings*, Esqs., and *Thomas Cummings*, of *Hollis*, suspected persons of being unfriendly or inimical to the liberties and rights of the United Colonies, together with the evidences of such suspicion; which is humbly submitted to the examination and decision of the said honourable House of Assembly, agreeable to the handbills.

"Dated at *Dunstable*, 15th of June, 1776.

"REUBEN DOW, Chairman of Committee.

Whereas the Committees of Safety for the Towns of *Dunstable*, *Hollis*, *Merrimack*, and *Litchfield*, have returned the names of *Leonard Whiting*, *Benjamin Whiting*, *Samuel Cummings*, Esqs., and *Thomas Cummings*, as persons suspected of being unfriendly or inimical to the liberties of the United Colonies, together with the evidences of such suspicion; which having been heard and fully considered, and also the said *Leonard Whiting*, *Benjamin Whiting*, *Samuel Cummings*, and *Thomas Cummings*, being heard by counsel upon their petition before both Houses, it appears to this House that the said suspicion is not sufficiently supported, and that the said *Leonard Whiting*, *Benjamin Whiting*, *Samuel Cummings*, and *Thomas Cummings*, be acquitted, and fully discharged.

*Voted*, That the Pay-Roll of Captain *Eliphalet Daniel*, for his Company of Matrosses, from the 17th of May, 1776, to the 17th of June instant, amounting to £154 12s., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.



*Voted*, That *Noah Emery*, Esq., Clerk of this House, receive out of the Treasury 6s. per day for his services as Clerk of this House, over and above his wages as Member of the House during the last session of this House in *March* last, amounting to £4 16s., and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Isaac Wyman* be appointed First Colonel of the Regiment now to be raised and sent into *Canada*, in the room and stead of Major *James Hackett*, who was appointed, and has resigned.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

—  
Thursday, June 20, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of three Members of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer and consult upon the best method of procuring Provisions and other necessities for the Regiment going into *Canada*, and to make report to this House as soon as may be; and that Captain *Prentice*, Colonel *Walker*, and Captain *Long*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose; and also to consult upon the best method of getting Shots and Balls belonging to this Colony, now in store at *Mystick*, and to write to General *Washington* for an order to receive the Powder loaned by this Colony for the supply of the Continental Army; and also to try and borrow some Cannon from the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Samuel Moore* be a Monitor to this House.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Samuel Ashley*, *Benjamin Giles*, *Timothy Walker*, Junior, *Nahum Baldwin*, and *Richard Downing*, Esqrs., (for their expenses as a Committee to *Portsmouth* to look out a proper place for a Bridge to *New-Castle*,) amounting to £3 13s. 10½d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, P. M.

—  
Met according to adjournment.

Upon reading sundry Petitions of the Officers and Soldiers of the Sixth Regiment of the Militia, praying that Colonel *John Hale* and the other Field-Officers appointed for said Regiment may be discharged and dismissed from their said appointment, and some others appointed in their room, the Petitioners and the said Field-Officers being heard upon their evidence before both Houses, it appears to this House that the said *John Hale*, Esq., has carried and behaved himself as a good friend to the cause of liberty, and has in many cases exerted himself for the good of the *American* cause, now contending for; and no evidence appearing against the other Field-Officers of said Regiment, it is therefore voted and resolved by this House that the said Petitions be, and hereby are, dismissed.

*Voted*, To have a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult upon the matter of sending what hard Money we have to *Canada*, by the same guard Captain *Langdon* proposes to send what he has collected by, or in what manner the same shall be sent, and to make report thereon to this House as soon as may be; and that *John Dudley*, Esq., Captain *Josiah Moulton*, and Colonel *Samuel Sherburne*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the balance of the Account of Colonel *Otis Baker*, amounting to 20s., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

*Voted*, That *Jacob Wilson* receive out of the Treasury 28s., in full for boarding and nursing *James Winn*, a sick soldier, and for his watchers, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Field-Officers and the Staff-Officers of the Regiment destined for *Canada* be paid out of the Treasury, each two months' advance pay, instead of the one month's advance pay heretofore voted them, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Otis Baker*, Mr. *Elijah Grout*, Colonel *Timothy Walker*, *Samuel Dudley*, Esq., *John Dud-*

*ley*, Esq., Deacon *Nahum Baldwin*, Colonel *Enoch Hale*, and Captain *Ezekiel Worthen*, the several Mustermasters appointed to pay off the Troops destined for *Canada*, receive, each of them, out of the Treasury £780, to pay off the Soldiers (by them severally to be mustered) their bounty of \$20 each, and their one month's advance pay, and to pay off the Captains and Subaltern Officers of said Troops two months' advance pay, instead of the one month's pay heretofore voted them; and that the said Mustermasters be severally accountable for said sum, and that the President give order of payment accordingly.

The Committee appointed to report their opinion of the necessities to fix off the *Canada* Regiment, agree to report, that Colonel *Hurd* be appointed to fix off all the Companies from *Cohos*, with ten days' provisions—except Captain *Parker's* and Captain *Wetherbee's* Companies, who we would recommend to be fixed off by Captain *Prentice*, at *Charlestown*, with ten days' provisions—to proceed by way of *Crown Point*; and that the persons appointed Mustermasters deliver each Company a day's provision for every twenty miles' travel, from the place they march from, until they come to *Cohos* or *Charlestown*—otherwise pay to each man 1d. per mile for said distance; and that said *Hurd* and *Prentice* deliver each man a quart of rum, and that six dozen of axes be immediately provided at *Exeter*, and sent forward.

M. THORNTON, Chairman.

Which Report being read,

*Voted*, That the same be received and accepted, and that orders issue from the honourable the President accordingly.

*John Hale*, Esq., Colonel of the Sixth Regiment of Militia in this Colony, together with *Robert Reid*, Esq., his Lieutenant-Colonel, and *William McQuiston*, Esq., his Major, came into the House and desired leave to resign their respective commissions appointing them to the command of said Regiment.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—  
Friday, June 21, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

The form of Orders for the Mustermasters was presented, read, and accepted.

*Voted*, That *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., and *James Betton*, Esq., receive out of the Treasury £20, to be by them accounted for, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Baker*, Mustermaster for Captain *Drew's* Company, receive out of the Treasury £20; and that Captain *Worthen*, Mustermaster of Captain *Hadlock's* Company, receive out of the Treasury £30; and that *John Dudley*, Esq., Mustermaster of Captain *Dearborn's* Company, receive out of the Treasury £30; and that *Samuel Dudley*, Esq., Mustermaster of Captain *Harper's* Company, receive out of the Treasury £30; and that Colonel *Walker*, Mustermaster of Captain *Shepard's* Company, receive out of the Treasury £20; and that Deacon *Nahum Baldwin*, Mustermaster of Captain *Parker's* Company, receive out of the Treasury £20: in addition to the sums before voted for them, to pay off the Officers and Soldiers destined for *Canada*; and that the honourable President give orders of payment accordingly.

*Voted*, That Captain *Daniel Colburn*, of *Pelham*, be Second Major of Colonel *Thornton's* Regiment, in the room and stead of *James McGregor*, who refuses to accept that office.

Upon a motion made in the House for appointing a Second Major to the First Regiment in this Colony, in the room of *Ephraim Pickering*, who was lately appointed to that office,

*Voted*, That Lieutenant-Colonel *Joshua Wentworth* and the said *Ephraim Pickering* be desired to appear before this House on *Wednesday* next, to show cause why the said Regiment is not yet settled, and why the said motion may not be granted.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consider of a method to carry into execution the vote of this House for building a Bridge at *New-Castle*; and that Major *Downing*, Deacon *Nahum Baldwin*, and Colonel *Samuel Sherburne*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.



*Voted*, That the Account of *Nicholas Nicolle*, amounting to £3 5s. 7d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That Captain *Prentice* receive out of the Treasury £116, to provide and fix off the Troops destined for *Canada*, and that he be accountable for the same, and that the President give order of payment accordingly.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Hurd* receive out of the Treasury £350, to provide for and fix off the Troops destined for *Canada*, to be by him accounted for, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Account of Colonel *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., amounting to £3 19s., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That Captain *Prentice* receive of the Quartermaster 100 pounds of Powder, and 250 pounds of Bullets, and 400 Flints, for the use of the Troops destined for *Canada*, and that the President give order accordingly.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Hurd* receive of the Quartermaster 300 pounds Powder, 750 pounds Bullets, and 1200 Flints, for the use of the Troops destined for *Canada*, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of three persons of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult about constituting a Court to sustain Appeals from the sentences or decrees of the Judges of Probate in this Colony, or to point out what Court shall sustain such Appeals, and whether the parties shall be sustained by a Jury; and to make report as soon as may be; and that *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., *John Dudley*, Esq., and Colonel *Walker*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Walker*, Colonel *Sherburne*, and Major *Downing*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to examine into the complaints and grievances of *Peter Neveau*, a poor Frenchman, now inhabiting within this Colony, and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That the Account of Captain *John Moulton*, amounting to £33 0s. 6d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

Adjourned till eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, June 22, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment, and made a collection in the House for *Peter Neveau*, a poor Frenchman, and delivered the same, being £2 14s. 9d., into the hands of Deacon *James Knowles*, for the use of said *Peter Neveau*.

The House having taken into their serious consideration the distressed and unhappy situation of *Peter Neveau* and his family, do hereby recommend to the Committee of Safety of *Wakefield*, that they, together with Deacon *Knowles* and Mr. *Balch*, inquire into the circumstances of the said *Neveau* and family, and see that he is not injured by his neighbours, or any person whatsoever.

*Voted*, That there be but one place of Rendezvous in this Colony for the Troops destined for *Canada*, and that it be at *Haverhill*, on *Connecticut River*.

*Voted*, That *Alexander Shirley* receive out of the Treasury £2 11s., in full for his coat and knapsack, lost at *Bunker-Hill* fight, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That *John Shirley* receive out of the Treasury £2 8s., in full for his coat and jacket, lost at *Bunker-Hill* fight, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Morey* receive out of the Treasury £150, to be by him accounted for, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Account of the Committee of Safety of *Greenland*, amounting to £13 8s., (for Fire Raft,) be allowed, and paid out of the Treasury; and that the President give order of payment.

Adjourned to Monday next, at three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, June 24, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

An Act for altering the style of Commissions and Law Processes, was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

An Act to prevent the counterfeiting or altering the Bills of Credit of the United Colonies, or either of them, and for preventing the depreciation thereof, was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

An Act for assessing Taxes, &c., and for ascertaining who are Legal Voters in Town and Parish Meetings, was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

*Voted*, That *Aaron Quimby* receive out of the Treasury £1 5s. 9d., being a stoppage against his wages on the roll of Captain *John Parker*, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That *Ebenezer Collins* receive out of the Treasury 14s., being a stoppage out of his wages on the roll of Captain *John Parker*, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That *Daniel Murray* receive out of the Treasury 19s., being a stoppage out of his wages on the roll of Captain *John Parker*, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That *William Simpson* receive out of the Treasury £1 8s. 1d., being a stoppage out of his wages on the roll of Captain *John Parker*, and that the President give order of payment.

The Petition of *John Colby* being read,

*Voted*, That he be heard thereon on the first Tuesday of the next session of this Assembly.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, June 25, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of three of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult upon the expediency of procuring and securing a number of Boats for the transporting reinforcements to our Troops at *New-Castle*, in case of necessity, and to make report to this House as soon as may be; and that Deacon *Baldwin*, Captain *Worthen*, and Major *Downing*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Balch*, Captain *Prentice*, and Captain *Simonds*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult upon the matter and manner of procuring Casks for the Saltpetre now procured, and that hereafter may be procured, in this Colony, and also for Powder, and make report thereon as soon as may be.

"The Committee of the Council and Assembly appointed to consult upon the matter and manner of procuring Casks for the Saltpetre now procured, &c., have maturely considered the same, and do humbly report, that one hundred and twenty new Barrels be provided for the purposes in the Resolve set forth, each Barrel to contain sixteen gallons, which, they think, will be sufficient at present.

"M. THORNTON, Chairman."

*Voted*, That Major *Tash*, Colonel *Morey*, and Captain *Prentice*, be a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together upon the Account of Captain *John Moulton* against this Colony, and make report as soon as may be.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer upon the expediency of seizing and securing Major *Robert Rogers*, in consequence of sundry informations against him, as inimical to the rights and liberties of this country, and to make report thereon to this House as soon as may be; and that Captain *Harriman*, Major *Philbrick*, and Mr. *Bell*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the Pay-Roll of Captain *Ebenezer Dear- ing*, from May 22 to June 22, 1776, amounting to £100 14s. 4½d., be allowed, and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

The Maritime Act was read a second time. An Act to enforce the payment of Taxes, &c., read a first time. An Act to abolish the Court of Appeals, &c., read a first time.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Deacon *Nahum Baldwin* receive out of the Treasury £60, lawful money, towards procuring Firearms, to be by him accounted for, and that the President give order of payment.

An Act for abolishing the Court of Appeals, &c., was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

*Voted*, That the Muster-Roll of Captain *Titus Salter*, from the 17th of *May* to the 16th of *June*, 1776, amounting to £199 14s. 7d., be allowed, and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment accordingly.

*Voted*, That Captain *John Langdon*, of *Portsmouth*, be Captain of a Company of Light-Infantry in *Portsmouth*, and that he be commissioned therefor, with the rank of Colonel; that his Lieutenant (by him to be nominated) be commissioned, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel; and that his Ensign be commissioned, with the rank of Major; and that the said Company consist of forty men, rank and file, and that the President give out Commissions accordingly. The said Company to be under the command of the General Officer of the Militia for this Colony.

"The Committee appointed to consider of a method to carry into execution the Vote of this House for building a Bridge at *New-Castle*, recommend that a Committee be chosen to purchase materials suitable to build said Bridge or Bridges in the places recommended by the Committee, of fourteen feet width in the clear, in a substantial manner, according to their best skill and judgment, and with all the expedition that may be; and also that it be recommended to the commanding officer of the Troops in the District of *Portsmouth* to furnish forty able and suitable men to assist in this business, the men to be allowed one pistareen per day more than common wages, and excusable from other duties.

J. HURD, for the Committee.

"Exeter, June 25, 1776."

The above Report being read and considered,

*Voted*, That Captain *Worthen*, together with one to be appointed from the honourable Council, be a Committee to purchase materials suitable to build a Bridge of fourteen feet width in the clear, in the place mentioned in the report of a Committee sent to view the best place for building a Bridge from the main land to *New-Castle*, in a substantial manner, according to their best skill and judgment, and with all the expedition that may be, and also to oversee the said work while building said Bridge; and that they employ four good Carpenters on the said work, and as many of the Troops at *New-Castle* as occasion may require, which Troops shall receive one gill of rum each per day whilst on the said work, beside their rations and wages as soldiers.

*Voted*, That there be procured, at the charge of this Colony, one hundred and twenty new, good, tight oak Casks, to contain sixteen gallons each, for the purpose of securing in them the Saltpetre already procured and hereafter to be procured for the use of this Colony, and also to secure Powder in, as this Colony may have occasion; and that Doctor *Josiah Gilman* and Mr. *Nathaniel* ——— be a Committee to procure the said Casks.

*Voted*, That *John McClary*, Esquire, and Mr. *Bell* be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consider the Petition of *Joseph Leigh*, this day presented to this House, and to make report thereon as soon as may be.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, June 26, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Captain *Titus Salter* be allowed and paid out of the Treasury £89 3s. 9½d., in full for his Account, and that the President give order of payment accordingly.

*Voted*, That the Vote of the honourable Council, sent to this House this day, appointing Colonel *Thornton*, General *Folsom*, Colonel *Hurd*, and *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esquire, a Committee to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to examine the Account of Captain *Titus Salter*, and confer together on an allowance thereof, and make report thereon, be concurred, and Captain *Prentice*, *Ichabod Rollins*, Esq., *Richard Downing*, Esq., Colonel *Walker*, and Colonel *March*, be joined on the part of this House.

An Act for establishing a Court Maritime, &c., was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of three of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consider a Petition of Colonel *Ashley*, Colonel *Hurd*, Major *Bellows*, *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., and Colonel *Morey*, for a Company of Rangers, &c., and make report to this House as soon as may be; and that Captain *Prentice*, *John McClary*, Esq., and *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

The following Vote of Council was brought down from the honourable Board, viz:

"Colony of New-Hampshire, in Council, }  
June 26, 1776. }

"Whereas, one Mr. *John Odlin* has just arrived and presented to the Council \$10,000 from the honourable Continental Congress for the use of this Colony:

"*Voted*, That Colonel *Thornton*, General *Folsom*, and Colonel *Hurd*, be a Committee, to join with such as the honourable Board shall appoint, to receive and tell over said Money and deliver it to the Treasurer, and take his receipt therefor.

"Sent down for concurrence.

"E. THOMPSON, Secretary."

The above Vote of Council read and concurred, and Captain *Simonds*, *John Dudley*, Esq., and Captain *Prentice*, are added on the part of the House.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

An Act concerning Marriages, &c., was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

*Voted*, That a Committee of five persons of this House join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together upon the expediency of purchasing or borrowing a quantity of Powder, or of exchanging of Saltpetre in the *Massachusetts* Colony for Powder, and in what manner the exchange shall be made, and make report thereon as soon as may be; and that Colonel *Morey*, *Ichabod Rollins*, Esq., Doctor *Dearborn*, Captain *Prentice*, and Captain *Moulton*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose; and also to consider the expediency of supplying the frontier Towns in this Colony with Powder, and also what Towns shall be supplied, and with how much.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of three Members of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to inquire into the cause why the First Regiment in this Colony is not settled, according to the order of this House; and why Major *Ephraim Pickering* is objected to by some part of said Regiment as Second Major thereof, and to make report thereof to this House as soon as may be; and that *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., *Daniel Brainard*, Esq., and Captain *Harriman*, be a Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That *Joseph Leigh* receive out of the Treasury £6 3s., in full for his service to this Colony as a soldier under the command of Captain *Salter*, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Account of Mr. *John Odlin*, amounting to £4 12s., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Ensign of Colonel *Sherburne's* Company of Cadets have the same rank as the Ensign of Colonel *Langdon's* Company of Light-Infantry.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, June 27, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult upon the expediency of emitting a quantity of Small Bills for the benefit of change, and to make report how much, and in what manner, the same shall be emitted, and that Doctor *Dearborn*, Captain *Long*, and *John McClary*, Esq., be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Which Committee being joined by a Committee of the honourable Board, made report, as on file. Whereupon it is voted, that there be forthwith emitted, on the credit of

this Colony, the sum of £3,400, in manner following, viz:

6,000 bills, at 3d. each, is - - - -	£75
6,000 bills, at 4d. each, is - - - -	100
6,000 bills, at 5d. each, is - - - -	125
6,000 bills, at 7d. each, is - - - -	175
6,000 bills, at 8d. each, is - - - -	200
6,000 bills, at 10d. each, is - - - -	250
6,000 bills, at 1s. each, is - - - -	300
6,000 bills, at 1s. 3d. each, is - - -	375
6,000 bills, at 2s. each, is - - - -	600
6,000 bills, at 4s. each, is - - - -	1,200
	<u>3,400</u>

Whereof £1,700 to be received by a tax on the Polls and Estates of the rateable inhabitants of this Colony by the 26th day of *January*, 1787, and the remaining £1,700 by the 26th day of *January*, 1788, and that the said bills be emitted in the following form:

"Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, June 28, 1776.

— pence. No. —, — pence.  
 "The possessor of this bill shall be paid by the Treasurer of this Colony —, by the 26th day of *JANUARY*, 1778. And this bill shall be received for the aforesaid sum in all payments. By order of the Council and Assembly.

— pence. — pence."

And that Doctor *Dearborn*, together with such of the Council as shall be appointed by the honourable Board, be a Committee to procure the materials and inspect the printing of said Bills; and when so done, to deliver the same to the Treasurer, and take his receipt therefor; and that six persons of this House, with such as the honourable Board shall appoint, be a Committee to sign the said Bills; and that one signer to each of said Bills shall be sufficient; and that *Noah Emery*, Esq., Captain *Pierce Long*, Mr. *John Smith*, *Philips White*, Esq., Major *Samuel Philbrick*, and Major *Benjamin Barker*, be the Committee of this House for the purpose aforesaid.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult together and to make report what business is most necessary to be done at this session; and at what time and to what time the General Assembly shall be adjourned; and also to consult in what manner and how the Members of both Houses shall receive their pay; and that *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., *John Dudley*, Esq., and Captain *Prentice*, be the Committee of the House for the purposes aforesaid.

Which Committee being joined by a Committee of the Council, made report as follows, viz:

"The Committee of both Houses agree to report that they think it necessary a vote should pass, directing the Secretary that he should make out commissions of the peace for each County, agreeable to the Acts, Votes, and Resolves of the General Assembly; and for the President to sign them. That the several Acts under consideration be finished and passed. And considering the necessity of raising the *Canada* Regiment, and uncertainty of recruiting officers raising the men, think it absolutely necessary for the Court to set next week. That the Judge of Maritime Affairs be commissioned without delay. M. THORNTON, Chairman."

*Voted*, That the wages of the several Members of the honourable Council and of this House be 6s. per day for their attendance during the current year; and that the Secretary and the Clerk of this House receive for their services, as Secretary and Clerk, 6s. per day each, over and above their wages as Members; and that Mr. *John Smith* receive, for his services in this House as Assistant Clerk, 3s. per day over and above his wages as a Member of this House.

An Act for the better regulating Highways, was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Robert Leight*, for Axes, amounting to £2 2s. be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Account of *John Pickering*, Esq., for drawing Acts, &c., amounting to £5, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Richard Champney*, amounting to 24s. 6d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Folsom*, Esq., have the loan of £300 out of the Treasury, for the term of one year, to enable him to prosecute the building a Powder-Mill in *Exeter*, he giving bond, with sufficient sureties, to the Treasurer of this Colony for the repayment of said sum at the end of said term, and that the President give order accordingly.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, June 28, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board to take into consideration the matter of Colonel *Bayley's* Letter received this day, and make report thereon as soon as may be; and that Captain *Long*, *John Dudley*, Esq., Colonel *Morey*, and Captain *Moulton*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

An Act to empower sundry Committees to open Sluices on *Beaver-Brook*, was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

An Act for opening Sluices in each Dam across *Piscataqua River*, &c., was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

A Petition of *Samuel Gutterson*, in behalf of the Inhabitants of the One-Mile Slip and *Duxbury* Farm, lying in the County of *Hillsborough*, praying to be empowered to manage the prudential affairs of their District in a legal way, with good order and safety, being read and considered,

*Voted*, That the prayer thereof be granted, and that the Petitioner thereof have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult upon the best and most effectual method of supplying this Colony with Firearms, and to make report as soon as may be; and that Colonel *Sherburne*, Colonel *Baker*, Dr. *Nichols*, Captain *Prentice*, and Colonel *Morey*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the Account of Captain *Nathaniel Sartel Prentice*, amounting to £7 2s. 4d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

An Act for the more strict observation of the *Lord's Day* in this Colony was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

*Voted*, That the Treasurer of this Colony receive into the Treasury, in exchange for the Paper Bills of this Colony, any quantity of Copper Coin, made in this Colony, of the weight of five pennyweight and ten grains each, to the amount of any sum not exceeding £1,000, lawful money; three of which Coppers shall be received and paid for two pence, lawful money, in all payments; which Coppers shall have the following device, viz: A pine tree, with the word *American* liberty on one side, and a harp and the figures 1776 on the other side.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

An Act against counterfeiting Bills of Credit, &c., was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

An Act to regulate Taxation, &c., was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

"The Committee of both Houses agree to report that they advise the raising two hundred men to guard the Western frontiers, and that inlisting orders be delivered to persons to raise four Companies, of fifty men each; which Companies, when raised, to choose a Captain, Lieutenant, and Ensign, to each Company. And that they would advise that the raising the men be attempted on *Pemigewasset River* and across the middle of the Colony, to be inlisted for five months; Officers and Soldiers to have the same wages as the other Colonial Troops, and 40s. bounty—one month's wages to be advanced; that Colonel *Ashley*, Colonel *Con-*

nor, *Samuel Emerson*, Esq.; and Colonel *Hurd*, be recommended to inlist the Companies, muster, pay them, and deliver Commissions to the persons chosen Officers by the Soldiers. And it is further recommended that Colonel *Hurd* be appointed to give orders to the several Companies, from time to time, about their scouting route, &c.

"M. WEARE, Chairman."

The following Vote of Council was brought down from the honourable Board, viz:

"In Council, June 28, 1776.

"Voted, That General *Nathaniel Folsom*, Colonel *Matthew Thornton*, and *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esq., be a Committee, to join a Committee of the honourable House, to report their opinion on the state of Colonel *Morey's* Account, and in particular concerning goods and stores in his hands—whether the Colony had best receive them or not, and thereby determine the expediency of his having an order on the Treasury for money."

The above Vote of Council read and concurred, and Captain *Prentice*, Captain *Harriman*, Captain *Moulton*, Captain *Simonds*, and Colonel *Evans*, are added on the part of the House.

Voted, That the Officers appointed to inlist the Regiment now destined for *Canada*, have liberty to inlist such men, now in the service of this Colony at *New-Castle*, as see fit to inlist in said Regiment destined for *Canada*; and that Colonel *David Gilman*, commander of said Regiment at *New-Castle*, be forthwith informed of this Vote, and that he, and his Officers under him, have leave to recruit such number of Soldiers as shall so inlist out of said Regiment.

Adjourned for ten minutes.

Met according to adjournment.

Voted, That the several Mustermasters appointed to muster the several Companies destined for *Canada*, immediately repair to their several places of destination, and muster whatever Troops are inlisted by the several Recruiting Officers, and return to this House a Roll of such Soldiers so inlisted, and to what Regiment they respectively belong, on or before *Wednesday* night next week.

Voted, That if any or either of the several Recruiting Officers appointed to inlist the Soldiers destined for *Canada*, shall represent to any or either of the Mustermasters appointed to muster their respective Companies, and resign their respective claim to the command of such Company respectively; and any other respectable man shall raise such Company, and cause them to be mustered by such Mustermaster, that then the said Mustermaster may proceed to pay off such Soldiers, in the same manner as if inlisted by such Inlisting Officer.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, June 29, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

Voted, That Mr. *Richard Champney* be sent express to General *Ward*, in *Boston*, and make application to him to replace to this Colony the quantity of Powder furnished and lent to General *Washington* last year, for the use of the Continental Army; and in failure of that, that he be empowered to borrow, for this Colony, thirty or forty barrels of Powder, for the present urgent necessity; and if that cannot be obtained, either from General *Ward* or the *Massachusetts* Assembly, that he propose an exchange of Saltpetre, as much as can be spared from our present stock, for Powder, on the best terms he can; and also to purchase Powder from any private hands, if to be procured; and that he be directed to inquire for, and purchase a number of Firearms in *Massachusetts*, if any can be had, and immediately to forward the same to *Exeter*, as soon as may be.

Voted, That *Jonathan Hale*, Esq., of *Haverhill*, in this Colony, have and receive out of the Treasury £200, for the purchasing Firearms for the use of the inhabitants of the Towns of *Haverhill* and *Bath*, at *Cohos*, he giving security to the Treasurer to replace the said sum in the Treasury when called for; and that the President give order accordingly.

Voted, That *Jonathan Hale*, Esq., of *Haverhill*, in this Colony, have and receive out of the Colony stores, two barrels of Powder for the use of the inhabitants of *Haverhill*

and *Bath*, to be by him accounted for; and that the President give order accordingly.

Voted, To choose a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to take under consideration the several Petitions of the Towns of *Plymouth*, *Campton*, *Thornton*, *Haverhill* and *Bath*, concerning Arms and Ammunition, and to make report thereon as soon as may be; and that Captain *Caleb Page*, *Daniel Brainard*, Esq., and Captain *Harriman*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Voted, To choose a Committee of this House to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer upon the expediency of raising or adding to the Bounty of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of this Colony for *Canada*, and to report thereon as soon as may be; and that Doctor *Dearborn*, Captain *Moulton*, and Colonel *Evans*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Which Committee, being joined by a Committee of the Council, reported as their opinion, that an addition of 38s. is necessary on this occasion.

Voted, That there be added to the Bounty already given to the Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of this Colony destined for *Canada*, the sum of 38s. each.

Vote to give £3 for all good new Firearms, agreeable to a former Vote, for one year from this time.

Voted, That Mr. *Stephen Seavey* have and receive out of the Treasury £10, to be by him accounted for; and that the President give order of payment.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Speaker being absent,

Voted, That *Nathaniel Sartel Prentice* be Speaker *pro tempore*.

Voted, That Mr. *Richard Champney* receive out of the Treasury £200, for the purpose of purchasing Firearms and Powder, and to be by him accounted for; and that the President give order for payment accordingly.

An Act concerning Marriages, &c., was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

An Act to regulate Taxation was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

An Act empowering Selectmen, &c., to bind out poor persons, &c., was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

The following Vote was sent down from the honourable Board, viz:

"Colony of New-Hampshire, in Council, }  
June 29, 1776. }

"The Council having taken into consideration the complaint of *Samuel Penhallow*, Esq., that he had, as a Civil Magistrate of this Colony, on a complaint made to him in said capacity, issued a warrant against a soldier in Colonel *David Gilman's* Regiment, for a flagrant breach of the peace, applied to said Colonel *Gilman* for assistance, to bring the offender to justice; and that said Colonel *Gilman* had replied that the soldiers under his command were subject to martial law, and were not subject to the Civil Magistrate for any offence, or to that effect:

"Voted, That it is the opinion of the Board that the said Colonel *David Gilman* is ignorant of the laws and received rules and regulations always practised in the *English* Constitution; and the military power setting up an authority uncontrollable by the Civil Magistrate, is subversive of the laws, rights, and privileges of *Englishmen*, and what our present inveterate enemies never attempted; and that Colonel *David Gilman* be summoned to appear before the General Assembly forthwith, to answer for his conduct."

The above Vote of Council being read and considered, Voted, That the same be concurred.

Adjourned to *Monday* next, at three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, July 1, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

An Act for establishing the style of Commissions, and for altering the style of Writs, &c., was read a second time.

Voted, That General *Nathaniel Folsom* be directed to deliver to Colonel *Henry Gerrish* one hundred pounds weight of Powder out of the Colony stores, and take his



receipt for the same, agreeable to the request of *George Gaines, Esq.*, by order from the Committee of *Newburyport*; and that the President give directions accordingly.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult and examine into the expediency of delivering Powder to the inhabitants of *Piermont, Orford*, and *Alexandria*, and in what quantity, and on what condition the same shall be delivered to each of said Towns, and to make report thereon as soon as may be; and that Captain *Moulton*, Deacon *Knowles*, and Mr. *Wheeler*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

An Act for establishing the style of Commissions, and for altering the style of Writs, &c., was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

*Voted*, That Captain *Prentice*, Doctor *Dearborn*, and Major *Philbrick*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to try and see how cheap they can get two hundred and fifty copies of each of the Acts and Laws passed in this present session, printed, and to get them printed in the cheapest manner they can, as soon as may be, at the charge of this Colony.

Adjourned to to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, July 2, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the Committees of *Plymouth, Campton*, and *Thornton*, have and receive out of the Treasury £250, for the purpose of purchasing Firearms, Powder, Lead, and Flints, for the use of said Towns; they giving security to the Treasurer to repay said sum when required; and that the President give order accordingly.

*Voted*, That General *Folsom* deliver to Captain *Benjamin Hickocks* two hundred pounds weight of Powder out of the Colony stores, according to the desire of the Committee of *Portsmouth*, in consequence of an order from the Committee of *Newburyport*, and that the President give order accordingly.

The whole Council and House being resolved into a Committee of both Houses, to confer on the necessary measures to be immediately pursued in the present alarming circumstances of our *Canada* affairs, &c.:

Having met in the Town-House, at *Exeter*, the Honourable *Meshech Weare, Esq.*, in the chair, after conferring upon the said measures;

*Voted*, That the General Court proportion to each Colonel or Commanding-Officer of each Regiment in this Colony, how many men shall be raised in each Regiment forthwith, to reinforce our Army in *Canada*; and that the said Colonels and Commanding Officers shall be directed to proportion the said men among the several Companies in their respective Regiments, including the Alarm List; and that the number of men to be raised shall be fifteen hundred, including the seven hundred and fifty men already voted to be raised for that service; and that they remain in the service till the 1st day of *December* next, and have the same allowance, pay, and bounty, as those heretofore appointed to be raised for *Canada*.

The above Vote being read,

*Voted*, That the same be made a Resolve of this House.

Also, *Voted*, That Captain *Long*, Mr. *Abbot*, and Captain *Moore*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to make a proportion of what number of men shall be raised in each Regiment in this Colony for a reinforcement of our Army in *Canada*.

*Voted*, That there be paid by the Treasurer, for all such good Firearms as shall be manufactured in this Colony; and brought to the Treasurer, agreeable to a former vote of this House, within one year from this time, 10s. each, in addition to the £3 heretofore voted.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of three of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult and examine into the expediency of delivering Powder to the inhabitants of *Walpole, Westmoreland, New-Chester, Rumney, Wentworth, Warren, Lyme*, and *Salisbury*, and what quantity and on what condition the same shall be delivered to each of said Towns, and make report thereon as soon as may be; and that Captain *Moulton*, Deacon *Knowles*, and Mr. *Wheeler*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That there be delivered to the Towns hereafter named, and to the several Colonels hereafter named, the several quantities of Powder hereafter mentioned, (they being accountable for the same,) viz: To the Town of *Wentworth*, 9 pounds weight; to the Town of *Warren*, 9 pounds weight; to the Town of *Lyme*, 30 pounds weight; to the Town of *New-Chester*, 30 pounds weight; to the Town of *Rumney*, 30 pounds weight; to the Town of *Piermont*, thirty pounds weight; to the Town of *Orford*, 15 pounds weight; to the Town of *Alexandria*, 20 pounds weight; to the Town of *Salisbury*, 25 pounds weight; to Colonel *Benjamin Bellows*, for his Regiment, to be divided between them in due proportion, 200 pounds weight; and to Colonel *Samuel Ashley*, for his Regiment, to be divided between them in due proportion, 100 pounds weight; amounting in the whole to 500 pounds weight, to be accounted for as aforesaid; and that the President give orders accordingly.

*Voted*, That Major *Alexander Craige* and *Michael Dwyer* have and receive out of the Treasury £45, for the purpose of purchasing Firearms, Lead, and Flints, for the use of the Town of *Rumney*, in this Colony; they giving good security to the Treasurer for the repayment of said sum into the Treasury when required; and that the President give order accordingly.

*Voted*, That Captain *Jonathan Chandler* have and receive out of the Treasury £50, for the purpose of purchasing Firearms, Lead, and Flints, for the use of the Town of *Piermont*, in this Colony, he giving good security to the Treasurer for the repayment of said sum when required, and that the President give order accordingly.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Israel Morey* have and receive out of the Treasury £50, for the purpose of purchasing Firearms, Lead, and Flints, for the use of the Town of *Orford*, in this Colony, he giving good security to the Treasurer for the repayment of said sum into the Treasury when required, and that the President give order accordingly.

Whereas it is strongly suspected that Major *Robert Rogers*, and one *Samuel Dyer* are inimical to the rights and liberties of *Americans*: Therefore,

*Voted*, That it be, and hereby is, strongly recommended to the several Committees of Safety and of Correspondence in this Colony, or either or any of them, that they take effectual care to seize the bodies of the said *Samuel Dyer* and *Robert Rogers*; whenever or wherever found in this Colony, and to secure them, or either of them, under a proper guard; and convey them or either of them to this House, or Committee of Safety of this Colony, as soon as may be, for examination.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, July 3, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the following numbers of men be raised in the several Regiments hereunder mentioned, for the reinforcement of our Army in *Canada*, viz: Colonel *Whipple's* Regiment, 115; Colonel *Evans's* Regiment, 150; Colonel *Moulton's* Regiment, 88; Colonel *Gilman's* Regiment, 163; Colonel *Ashley's* Regiment, 100; Colonel *Bellows's* Regiment, 73; late Colonel *John Hale's* Regiment, 157; Colonel *Bartlett's* Regiment, 111; Colonel *Thornton's* Regiment, 66; Colonel *Enoch Hale's* Regiment, 107; Colonel *Webster's* Regiment, 55; Colonel *Moore's* Regiment, 126; Colonel *Stickney's* Regiment, 116; Colonel *Badger's* Regiment, 73—1,500.

And that General *Folsom* give orders to the several Colonels or Commanding Officers of said Regiments accordingly.

"The Committee on Colonel *Morey's* Account agree to report that the goods Colonel *Morey* has on hand, for which he charges £100, ought to remain as his own property, and the charge against the Colony taken off. And the state of the Account being such that they cannot at present enter into an examination thereof, they would recommend that no money be paid thereon until a proper settlement can be made.

M. THORNTON, Chairman."

Which Report being read:

*Voted*, That the same be received and entered as a resolve of this House.

*Voted*, That Captain *Nathaniel Sartel Prentice* have and receive out of the Treasury the sum of £200, for the purpose of purchasing Firearms, Lead, and Flints, for the use of Colonel *Bellows's* Regiment, he giving good security for the repayment of said sum when required; and that the President give order accordingly.

Whereas sundry Soldiers have inlisted out of the Regiment under command of Colonel *David Gilman*, at *New-Castle*, into the Regiment now going to *Canada*: It is hereby

*Voted and Ordered*, That the reasonable expenses of such of the Officers in said *Gilman's* Regiment as shall recruit Soldiers to fill up said Regiment, shall be paid by the Colony.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of three Members of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together and nominate to this House a number of persons for Field-Officers for the new Regiment now to be raised to reinforce our Army in *Canada*; and to make report thereon; and that *John McClarey*, Esq., Major *Barker*, Colonel *Evans*, Deacon *Baldwin*, Captain *Moore*, Mr. *Rounsival*, and Deacon *Knowles*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That Captain *Worthen* be appointed Mustermaster of the Soldiers inlisted for the *Canada* reinforcement, now at *New-Castle*, and that he pay them off their Bounty and one month's advance wages, and that he return a Roll thereof to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That *Abner Fellows* and *Eliphalet Gale* have and receive out of the Treasury £4 6s., for the purpose of purchasing Firearms, Lead, and Flints, for the use of the Towns of *New-Chester* and *Alexandria*, they giving good security to the Treasurer for the repayment of said sum into the Treasury, and that the President give order accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Curry* have and receive out of the Treasury £5, for the purpose of purchasing Firearms, Lead, and Flints, for the use of the inhabitants of *New-Holderness*, he giving good security for repayment of said sum into the Treasury when required, and that the President give order accordingly.

*Voted*, That General *Nathaniel Folsom* deliver to *Samuel Curry*, for the use of the inhabitants of *New-Holderness*, 25 pounds of Powder, out of the Colony stores, to be by them accounted for, and that the President give order accordingly.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Nicholas Gilman* be desired and directed to keep a Guard of two men every night, and one man every day, about the Powder-House in *Exeter*, in order to secure it from being destroyed, and that he give orders to said Guard daily for their conduct in that affair, until further order of the Court or of the Committee of Safety, and that the charge of said Guards be paid by the Colony.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to receive the Returns of the Mustermasters appointed to muster Troops destined to *Canada*, and to make report to this House thereon, and from time to time to report when any sufficient number of said Troops are ready to march; and that Captain *Harri-man*, Captain *Moulton*, and Captain *Prentice*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Colonel *David Gilman* appearing before both Houses to answer the complaint of *Samuel Penhallow*, Esq., as on file, &c., and being fully heard, and the matter duly considered, it is

*Voted and Resolved*, That the said complaint be dismissed.

*Voted*, That the extract from Captain *Timothy Clements's* Roll, amounting to £51 18s. 1d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the extract from Captain *Nathan Brown's* Roll, amounting to £16 7s. 5d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the balance of the Account of *Daniel Warner*, Esq., amounting to £26 19s. 5½d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

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*Voted*, That Major *Jonathan Childs* have and receive out of the Treasury £50, for the purpose of purchasing Firearms, Lead, and Flints, for the use of the Town of *Lyme*, he giving good security to the Treasurer for the repayment of the said sum into the Treasury when required, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted and Resolved*, That there be emitted £20,160, lawful money, upon the credit of this Colony, for the use and service thereof, in Bills of the following denominations, viz:

3,200 bills of six dollars, is	- - - - -	£5,760
3,200 bills of five dollars, is	- - - - -	4,800
3,200 bills of four dollars, is	- - - - -	3,840
3,200 bills of three dollars, is	- - - - -	2,880
3,200 bills of two dollars, is	- - - - -	1,920
3,200 bills of one dollar, is	- - - - -	960

In the whole, - - - - - £20,160

And that the same be redeemed by a tax on the Polls and Estates of the rateable inhabitants of this Colony, in the following manner, viz: £5,000 by the 26th of *January*, 1789; £5,000 by the 26th of *January*, 1790; £5,000 by the 26th of *January*, 1791; £5,160 by the 26th of *January*, 1792. And that the said bills be of the same form as those emitted by vote of this Assembly of the 26th of *January* last past; and that Dr. *Levi Dearborn*, together with such Member of the honourable Board as they shall appoint, be a Committee to procure the materials and superintend the press while the said Bills are printing, and to deliver the same to the Treasurer of this Colony, (for the time being,) and take his receipt therefor; all which Bills, after their redemption, shall be burnt to ashes in the presence of the Council and Assembly; and that *Philips White*, Esq., Mr. *John Smith*, and Mr. *Josiah Moulton*, the third, or any two of them, be a Committee to sign the said Bills.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, July 4, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the Staff-Roll of Colonel *David Gilman*, up to the 30th of *June*, inclusive, amounting to £83 1s., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

A Message came down from the honourable Board, by Colonel *Thornton* and General *Folsom*, advising that the General be directed to send out orders to the several Colonels and Commanding Officers of each Regiment, to raise, at present, their several quotas of only seven hundred and fifty men for the *Canada* expedition, instead of the fifteen hundred men voted to be raised for that expedition; which Message being considered,

*Voted*, That this House adhere to the same.

And, in about half an hour afterwards, a new requisition for more men being laid before the House,

*Voted*, That the last mentioned vote of adherence to the said advice of Council be, and hereby is, reconsidered and made null and void.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer upon the expediency of choosing a large Committee of this House, to be joined to a Committee of the honourable Board, as a Committee of Safety, to transact the business of both Houses in the recess of the Court, and to consult what time the General Assembly shall be adjourned from, and also to what time, and make report as soon as may be; and that *Ichabod Rollins*, Esq., Colonel *Walker*, *John McClary*, Esq., Mr. *Abbot*, and Deacon *Baldwin*, be the Committee of this House for the purpose aforesaid.

The Committee of both Houses appointed to confer about choosing a Committee and an adjournment, beg leave to report their opinion, as follows, viz: That the Committee of Safety consist of twelve persons; and that the General Assembly be adjourned this week, as soon as the publick business will permit, to the first *Wednesday* in *September* next.

M. THORNTON, Chairman.

*Voted*, That Captain *Pierce Long* be appointed to provide all necessaries for equipping and fixing off the reinforcements for the *Canada* expedition.

*Voted*, That the Pay-Roll of Captain *John Calfe*,

amounting to £325 9s. 10d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Pay-Roll of Captain *Caleb Hodgdon*, amounting to £329 12s. 3d., be allowed.

*Voted*, That Major *Moses Kelley*, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Ninth Regiment of Militia in this Colony, be Colonel, in the room of Colonel *David Gilman*, (who is advanced,) and that Major *Samuel Page* be First Major, and Captain *James Head* be the Second Major, of said Regiment.

*Voted*, That three hundred Handbills be immediately printed and distributed in this Colony, in the following words, viz:

“*Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE to the Selectmen and Committees of Safety and of Correspondence, and to all Officers, civil and military, in the several Towns in this Colony:*

“You, and each of you, are now called upon, in behalf of yourselves and your distressed country, to exert every nerve in forwarding the inlisting and making up the quotas of men in the respective places you belong to, that they may march forward and join their brethren under General *Sullivan*, and enable him to repel the Army coming against us from *Canada*.”

*Voted*, That eight Mustermasters be appointed for the eight Companies of Militia last voted to be raised for the reinforcement of our Army in *Canada*, viz: one for each of said Companies, who shall be empowered to muster the said respective Companies, pay them off, and see them fixed for marching, and give them marching orders; and also, that they receive blank commissions for the Captains and subaltern officers of their respective Companies; and when said officers shall be chosen by the soldiers, then to fill up said commissions and deliver them to the said respective officers, that they may march immediately; and that the said Mustermasters have power to preside at the meeting of the soldiers, to see a fair choice of the respective officers; and that Major *Bartlett*, Colonel *Samuel Sherburne*, Mr. *John Bell*, Major *Samuel Philbrick*, Colonel *Moses Kelley*, Deacon *James Knowles*, Mr. *Asa Davis*, and Colonel *Samuel Ashley*, be the Mustermasters of the said Companies.

*Voted*, That the Honourable Colonel *Weare* and Doctor *Dearborn* have and receive out of the Treasury £20, for the purpose of purchasing Paper, &c., for printing the Bills of Credit, and the Laws of this Colony, to be by them accounted for; and that the President give order accordingly.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Joshua Wingate* be appointed First Colonel of the Second Regiment now raising in this Colony for a reinforcement to our Army in *Canada*, and that Major *James Hackett* be Lieutenant-Colonel, and that Lieutenant-Colonel *Samuel Connor* be Major of said Regiment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer upon the expediency of appointing a Paymaster or Paymasters to the two Regiments now destined for *Canada*, and to make report as soon as may be; and that Captain *Long*, *John Dudley*, Esq., and Colonel *Walker*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Which Committee, being joined by a Committee of the Council, made the following Report, viz:

“The Committee of both Houses, appointed to consult on the expediency of appointing Paymasters for the two Battalions to be raised to join the Northern Army, are of opinion that they ought to be immediately appointed.

“July 4, 1776.”

“M. THORNTON, *Chairman*.”

*Voted*, That Captain *Joseph Chandler* have inlisting orders to enlist a Company of Soldiers for the *Canada* expedition, in the room of Captain *Hadlock*, who resigns.

*Voted*, That the several Mustermasters and Paymasters of the several Companies of the last Regiment destined for *Canada* have and receive out of the Treasury £940 each, for the purpose of paying off the several Companies their bounty and advance wages, and to be by them severally accounted for; and that the Mustermasters and Paymasters of the First Regiment destined for *Canada*, and now raising for that purpose, have and receive out of the Treasury £171 each, for the purpose of paying off the additional bounty voted to the Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of the said First Regiment; and that the President give orders accordingly.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, July 5, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

Upon the information of the Committee of Safety of *Stratham* against Captain *George March*, as a person being inimical to the liberties of this country, &c.,

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to examine into the matter of their complaint and information, and to report thereon as soon as may be; and that Captain *Prentice*, Captain *Harriman*, and *Matthew Patten*, Esq., Mr. *Samuel Moore*, and Doctor *Nichols*, be the Committee for that purpose.

Which Committee, being joined by a Committee of the honourable Council, made report, that upon questioning said *George March*, and after reading sundry testimonies, they are of opinion that said *March* is inimical to his country, and that he ought to be taken care of in such manner as the said Houses shall judge proper.

M. THORNTON, *Chairman*.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to give out inlisting orders, blank commissions, and instructions, to the Mustermasters and Paymasters of the two Regiments now destined for *Canada*; and that Colonel *Evans*, Captain *Long*, and Mr. *Gibson*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That Major *Joseph Bass*, of *Portsmouth*, be appointed Paymaster to the Second Regiment, now to be raised in this Colony, and destined for *Canada*, he giving bond in a respectable sum, with sufficient sureties, for the faithful discharge of his said trust.

*Voted*, That *Noah Emery*, Jun., of *Exeter*, be appointed Paymaster to the First Regiment, now to be raised in this Colony, destined for *Canada*, he to give bond, with two sufficient sureties, in a respectable sum, for the faithful discharge of his said trust.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to nominate a proper person for a Maritime Officer, and also a proper person or persons for a Notary Publick or Notaries Publick, for this Colony; and that Mr. *Cutts*, Colonel *Walker*, and *John Dudley*, Esq., be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

An Act for establishing Courts of Law for the administration of justice within this Colony, was read a third time, and passed to be enacted.

*Voted and Resolved*, That the several Courts of Law within this Colony be, and hereby are, prohibited from trying any civil actions until the next Session of this Assembly; and that they proceed as usual to hear and try all capital crimes, misdemeanors, trovers, trespasses, assaults, batteries, robberies, thefts, and other breaches of the peace, committed within their respective jurisdictions; and that the fees to be taken or taxed in the several Courts shall be taken according to the last Table of Fees established in this Colony, until the last of the next session of this Assembly, or until otherwise ordered by the General Assembly, and no longer.

*Voted*, That the Constable of *Exeter* be directed to seize the body of *George March*, and safely keep him till called for by this House, to be examined and tried on suspicion of his being inimical to the liberties of this Colony; and that the Clerk make out a warrant accordingly, and send out summons for witnesses by Major *Barker*.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult and nominate a proper person, or proper persons, out of whom this House shall appoint one, to be a Justice of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in the County of *Rockingham*, in the room and stead of *George King*, Esq., who refused to accept that office; and also to nominate some proper person to be a Special Justice of said Court, in case of the death or incapacity of either of the standing Justices, and to make report as soon as may be; and that Major *Downing*, Captain *Long*, and Captain *Worthen*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That *Eleazer Russell*, Esq., of *Portsmouth*, be appointed Maritime Officer of the Port of *Piscataqua*; and that the Honourable *Wyseman Clagett*, Esq., and *John Pickering*, Esq., be appointed Notaries Publick and Tabelions for this Colony.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Penhallow*, Esq., of *Portsmouth*, be appointed a Justice of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the County of *Rockingham*, in the room and stead of *George King*, Esq., who refuses to accept that office.

*Voted*, That *William Knight*, Esq., be appointed a Special Justice of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the County of *Rockingham*, in case of the death or incapacity of either of the standing Justices.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to nominate fifteen persons of the Council and of this House, to be a Committee of Safety for this Colony, to transact the business of both Houses in the recess of the General Court; and that *Colonel Walker*, *Colonel Baker*, *Captain Prentice*, *Mr. Brainard*, *Mr. Bell*, and *John McClary*, Esq., be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That *Simeon Dearborn*, Esq., and *Mr. Nathaniel Balch*, have and receive out of the Colony stock, thirty pounds of Powder, for the use of the inhabitants of the Town of *Wakefield*, to be by them accounted for, and that the President give order accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Jones*, of *Canaan*, and *Elisha Bingham*, of *Enfield*, receive out of the Colony stock seventy-five pounds of Powder, for the use of the inhabitants of the said Towns of *Canaan* and *Enfield*, and to be by them accounted for; and that the President give order accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Jones*, of *Canaan*, and *Elisha Bingham*, of *Enfield*, have and receive out of the Treasury £5, for the purpose of purchasing Lead and Flints for the use of the inhabitants of said Towns, they giving good security to the Treasurer for the repayment of said sum when requested; and that the President give order accordingly.

The Council and House, taking into consideration the accusations laid against *Captain George March*, of *Stratham*, as being inimical to the liberties of this country, and a full hearing being had thereon before both Houses, and sundry witnesses being sworn and examined, it appears to this Court that the said *George March* has uttered many things against the liberties and privileges of this country:

It is therefore *Voted and Resolved*, That the said *George March* confine himself to the limits of the farm which he now improves in *Stratham*, on pain of imprisonment, and that he recognise to the Government and People of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, in the sum of £100, with two sureties in £50 each, for his good behaviour, until further order of this Court, and that, in the mean time, he be disarmed by the Committee of Safety of *Stratham*.

*Voted*, That the Pay-Roll of *Captain Nathan Brown*, up to *July 1st*, 1776, amounting to £267 4s. 7d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Pay-Roll of *Captain Timothy Clement*, up to *July 1st*, 1776, amounting to £238 15s., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq., *Matthew Thornton*, *Nathaniel Folsom*, *Ebenezer Thompson*, and *Wyseman Clagett*, Esquires, of the Council, and the Honourable *Philips White*, Esq., *John Dudley*, *Timothy Walker*, *Matthew Patten*, *Otis Baker*, *Josiah Moulton*, *Benjamin Parker*, *Nathaniel Sartel Prentice*, and *Pierce Long*, Esquires, of this House, be a Committee of Safety for this Colony, to transact all the business of both Houses in the recess of the General Court; with all the power and authority that any Committee of Safety of this Colony, before chosen or appointed, have had and exercised, and to appoint and commission officers, in case of the death or refusal of those that are already appointed; and on any emergency, to call the Council and House together, as occasion may require; and that any eight of said Committee be a quorum to do business.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, July 6, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

An Act for forming and regulating the Militia was read a third time, and passed to be enacted; also, the Articles of War, &c.

The Bill of Fees for the Court Maritime\* was read a third time and passed.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety have and receive out of the Treasury 6s. per day each, for the time they sit in Committee, and also pay for their travel as the Members of the General Assembly are paid.

*Voted*, That *Nicholas Gilman*, Esq., Treasurer of this Colony, be desired to borrow, on the credit of this Colony, £5,000, lawful money, for the supply of the Treasury.

*Voted*, That *Deacon Isaac Williams* have and receive out of the Treasury 20s., for the use of his room this session for Committees, &c., and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That *Colonel Jonathan Chase* receive out of the Colony stock three barrels of Powder, for the use of his Regiment and the Frontiers adjacent, and that the President give orders accordingly.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of five Members of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together upon the choice of Lieutenant-Colonel *Connor* and *Captain Baker*, as Field-Officers of *Colonel Wingate's* Regiment, and to make report as soon as may be; and that *Major Tash*, *Colonel Evans*, *Major Kelley*, *Ichabod Rollins*, Esq., and *Captain Harriman*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Joshua Wiggin*, Doorkeeper and Bellringer for the House, amounting to £4 18s., be allowed, and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, To raise four Companies of Rangers, of fifty men in a Company, three commissioned officers included, to range on the frontiers of this Colony, to guard the said frontiers against the incursions of the enemy, and to be paid the same wages the Colony Troops had last year, and also

\* COLONY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE,  
In the House of Representatives, July 6, 1776. }

*Resolved*, That the within Bill of Fees for the Court Maritime in this Colony, and for the several officers of said Court, be a rule for the said officers as to taking their fees in all cases maritime in said Court, until further order of the General Assembly.

Sent up for concurrence.

P. WHITE, Speaker.

In Council, eodem die, read and concurred.

E. THOMPSON, Secretary.

Court Maritime Fees.

	s.	d.
To the Attorney or Advocate-General for drawing a libel.....	6	0
To the Judge for allowing the same.....	3	0
To the Register for filing.....	2	0
For a citation for appearance, seal and service, viz: 2s. to the Judge, 2s. to the Register, and to the Marshal, 3s.....	7	0
For a summons for witnesses, and seal, viz: to the Judge, 1s., and to the Register, 1s.....	2	0
For filing papers and taxing costs, viz: to the Judge, 1s., and to the Register, 1s.....	2	0
For an interlocutory decree, and recording, viz: to the Judge, 4s., to the Register, 1s., and to the Marshal, 3s.....	8	0
To the Crier, 1s., and to the Register for enactment, 1s.....	2	0
For a decree definitive, and recording, viz: to the Judge, 10s., to the Register, 6s.....	16	0
To the Marshal for witness summoned within a mile, 6d.; if above, 3d. per mile.....	0	6
To the Marshal for bail-bond paid by the person bailed.....	0	9
For levying execution, the same as Sheriff; and for travel, as in Sheriff's fees.		
For executing a warrant for debtors deserted, &c.,		
On board a ship at wharf.....	4	0
At New-Castle, or up the river above Portsmouth.....	8	0
For taking a vessel into custody, upon an arrest for wages.....	6	0
For taking every evidence in Court, and summoning, viz: to the Judge, 6d., to the Register, 6d., and to the Marshal, 6d.....	1	6
For the Advocate's fees.....	6	0
To the Register for copy of a libel.....	1	0
To copy of information.....	1	6
To copy of defence.....	1	9
For a retraxit, viz: to the Judge, 4s., to the Register, 1s. 6d., Marshal, 1s., Doorkeeper, 6d.....	7	0
For a warrant of appraisement or inventory for debtors or deserters, viz: to the Judge, 2s., to the Register, 4s.....	6	0
For sailors' wages, 1s. to each man to the Register for adjusting their accounts.....	1	0
To the Register for entering a motion of appeal.....	4	0
To the Judge for allowing or disallowing the same.....	8	0
For copies of every case, as the Clerk of the Supreme Court.		
To the Register for every adjournment.....	0	8
To the Marshal for summoning appraisers, each 1s.....	1	0
To the Doorkeeper and bell.....	0	9
To jurors, and officers who summon them, same as Supreme Court.		



a blanket to each non-commissioned officer and soldier, and to remain in the said service till the first day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged; and that the several Companies be raised in the several Regiments of Colonel *Morey*, Colonel *Hobart*, and Colonel *Chace*, and that they receive their orders, directions, and commissions, from the Committee of Safety, in the recess of this Court.

*Voted*, That Captain *Prentice*, Colonel *Evans*, John *Dudley*, Esq., *Matthew Patten*, Esq., *Ichabod Rollins*, Esq., Captain *Moulton*, Major *Tash*, Colonel *Sherburne*, and *Daniel Brainard*, Esq., be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to nominate to this House sundry proper persons for Lieutenant-Colonel and Major of Colonel *Wingate's* Regiment, destined for *Canada*, and to make report as soon as may be; and also to nominate to this House proper persons for Field-Officers for Continental Battalions to be destined to *New-Castle* and *Piscataqua Harbour*.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Richard Champney*, amounting to £22 6s. 2d., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give order of payment.

*Voted*, That Lieutenant-Colonel *Samuel Connor* be appointed the Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment destined for *Canada* under the command of Colonel *Wingate*, and that Captain *Moses Baker* be appointed the Major of the said Regiment.

Adjourned for one hour, and then met.

*Voted*, That any person who shall manufacture in this Colony good Sulphur, and bring in the same to Dr. *Josiah Gilman*, at *Exeter*, within six months next ensuing, shall receive out of the Treasury at and after the rate of \$10 for every hundred weight, upon certificate of the said Dr. *Josiah Gilman* that he has received the same of such person for the use of this Colony, such person being under oath that the same was manufactured in this Colony; and that any person who shall manufacture in this Colony good Bar-Lead within six months next ensuing, and deliver the same to *Nicholas Gilman*, Esq., Receiver-General, (who is to put such person on oath that the same was manufactured in this Colony,) shall be entitled to £6 per hundred weight therefor out of the Treasury.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety be directed to remonstrate to the Continental Congress against allowing any person or persons extravagant commissions for transacting the publick business in this distressing day.

*Voted*, That the Members of the honourable Council and of this House be paid out of the Treasury 6s. per day each for each day's attendance in this Session, and 2d. per mile travel to and from their respective homes, and that the consideration of the method how the same shall be replaced in the Treasury be postponed to a future day, and that the Secretary and the Clerk of the House make out the Pay-Rolls accordingly.

The House adjourned to the first *Wednesday* in *September* next, at three of the clock, afternoon, then to meet at the Court-House in *Exeter*.

#### ACTS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

*An Act for establishing the style of Commissions, which shall hereafter be issued, and for altering the style of Writs, Processes, and all Law Proceedings within this Colony; and for directing how Recognisances to the use of this Colony shall in future be taken and prosecuted.*

Whereas the hostile and vindictive proceedings of the *British* Administration against the United Colonies have obtained the sanction of the King of *Great Britain*, notwithstanding the frequent and dutiful Remonstrances of these Colonies against such cruel measures; and by his command a powerful Navy and Army are come and coming, with avowed purposes of spreading slaughter and desolation through this Continent, by which the good people of this Colony have been necessitated to have recourse to arms to repel such force, and to protect their lives and fortunes: And whereas, under such circumstances, the absurdity of issuing Commissions, Writs, Processes, or other proceedings in law and in Courts of Justice within this Colony, in the name and style of the King of *Great Britain*, is very apparent, and tends to keep up ideas inconsistent with the form and safety of

this Government, and to give the people of this Colony great uneasiness:

*Be it therefore enacted by the Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That all Civil Commissions, Writs, and Precepts, for convening the General Court or Assembly, which hereafter shall be made out in this Colony, shall be in the style and name of the Government and People of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*; and all Commissions, both civil and military, shall be dated in the year of the Christian era, and shall not bear the date of the year of the reign of any King or Queen of *Great Britain*.

And that all Writs, Processes, and Proceedings in Law, and in any of the Courts of Justice in this Colony, which have been used or accustomed, or by any laws of this Colony, are required to be issued, used, or practised in law, and in any of the Courts of Justice in this Colony, in the name and style of the King of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, &c., or in any other words implying or intending the same, shall, from and after the passing this Act, be made, issued, used, and practised in the name and style of the Government and People of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, and no other, and shall bear the date of the year of the Christian era, and shall not bear the date of the year of the reign of any King or Queen of *Great Britain*, until some accommodation of the *American* Congress, or Act, Order, or Resolve, of a General *American* Legislature, or of the Legislature of this Colony, shall be made and passed, otherwise directing and prescribing.

*And be it enacted*, That all Commissions, civil and military, which have been issued by the Congress or General Assembly of this Colony before the passing of this act, shall have the same force and effect as if this act had never been made, the style and date therein notwithstanding.

*And be it further enacted*, That all Recognisances that heretofore have been used and accustomed to be taken to the King of *Great Britain*, by the style and title of our sovereign Lord the King, shall, from and after the date hereof, be taken to the Government and people of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*; and when *scire facias*, or other legal process, shall be issued thereon against the recognisor or recognisors, they shall be in the name and behalf of the said Government and people; and when judgment shall be rendered thereon, the money recovered and levied, shall be paid into the Treasury of this Colony for the use of the same.

*And be it further enacted*, That all suits upon Recognisances which have been taken heretofore, within this Colony, to the King of *Great Britain*, or otherwise, under any name, character, or form of words whatsoever, that have been, or that may be hereafter forfeited, (if any suits should be brought thereon,) shall, from and after the passing of this Act, be commenced and prosecuted in the name and behalf of the Government and people of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, and not in the name of the said King; and the money recovered and levied on such suits, shall be likewise paid into the Treasury of this Colony, for the use and benefit of the said people.

*An Act to prevent the forging and altering Bills of Publick Credit, and for preventing the depreciation thereof; and for making the Bills of Credit of the United Colonies, and the Bills of this Colony, a tender in all payments.*

Whereas, by reason of the unjustifiable attacks committed against the United Colonies of *America* by the Troops of *Great Britain*, and the difficulty of collecting Money, Plate, and Bullion, to support the charges of their necessary defence, the Congress of said Colonies have thought fit, for the carrying on the publick affairs, and answering the present demands of soldiers and seamen employed by them, to order the imprinting and signing a certain number of Bills of Publick Credit of several sums, by Commissioners thereunto duly appointed and authorized: And whereas the Congress and General Assembly of this Colony have also, for the payment of seamen and soldiers employed in defence of the same, ordered that a certain number of Notes and Bills of Credit of several sums should be imprinted, and signed by Commissioners thereunto duly authorized and appointed: And whereas several of the United Colonies have, by their Gov-

ernments, severally ordered the imprinting and signing a certain number of Bills of Publick Credit, for answering the demands of soldiers and seamen by them severally employed for their necessary defence; all which Bills have obtained a good currency, and have very much facilitated the carrying on the present war: nevertheless, some wicked persons, intending to defraud the inhabitants of the Colonies aforesaid, and for the sake of base and unlawful gain, have forged, altered, and uttered several Counterfeit Notes and Bills of the same, in imitation of the true Notes and Bills of this Colony, thereby imposing a vile cheat on unwary and less discerning persons: For the prevention of which evils in future,

*Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That whosoever shall presume to forge or counterfeit any Note or Notes, Bill or Bills, of the tenor, or in imitation of the Bills of Credit of the United Colonies, established by any resolve of the *American Congress*, or the Convention, Congress, or Government of this, or any of the United Colonies of *America*, heretofore emitted, or that may hereafter be emitted, or that shall utter any such counterfeit and forged Notes or Bills, knowing them to be such, or that shall counsel, advise, assist in, or procure the forging, counterfeiting, imprinting, or signing of any such false Notes or Bills, or engrave any plate, or make any instrument to be used in forging and counterfeiting such Notes or Bills, every person so offending, and being thereof convicted before the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize, and General Jail Delivery for said Colony, shall be punished by being set on the gallows for the space of one hour, with a rope round the neck, and pay a fine for the use of this Colony not exceeding fifty pounds, and suffer six months imprisonment, and be publickly whipped, not exceeding thirty-nine stripes, and be incapable of holding any office under the Government of this Colony, or shall suffer all or any of the foregoing punishments in the discretion of the Court before whom the trial shall be, according to the nature and circumstances of the offence, and shall pay to the person or persons that shall be defrauded by such forgery, treble damages. And if such offender or offenders shall not be able to pay the charges of his or their imprisonment, the Court before whom the conviction is, shall order that, at the expiration of said term of imprisonment, such person or persons shall be sold in service a time sufficient to pay the same.

*And it is also enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That whosoever shall make discovery and give information of such vile and wicked practice of making or knowingly putting off any false and counterfeit Note or Bill, as aforesaid, so that the person or persons guilty thereof may be rendered to justice and convicted, every such informer shall have and receive, as a reward for his good services, on every such conviction, the sum of ten pounds, to be ordered out of the publick Treasury of this Colony by the President of the Council for the time being, on a certificate from the Court before whom the conviction shall be, that such person did inform of such offence according to this act.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That every person convicted of altering or increasing the sum or figures set and expressed in the Notes or Bills of Credit of the said United Colonies, or either of them, or of forging or counterfeiting any hand, name, or stamps, or other private mark, that shall be or has been made, or set thereon, shall be, for either of said offences, punished in the same manner as is provided by this act against those who shall forge or counterfeit such Notes or Bills.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any person or persons shall, directly or indirectly, receive or pay any of the Bills aforesaid for a less sum than is in them expressed, such person shall be incapable ever after of holding any civil or military office in this Colony; and for every such offence pay a fine of fifty pounds, to be recovered before any court of record in the County where the same offence may be committed, by bill, plaint, or indictment; one moiety whereof shall be to the use of the person who shall sue or inform for the same, and the other moiety to the use of this Colony.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any person or persons shall set, or offer his, her, or their goods, wares, or merchandise, at a smaller or less price in gold or silver than what they are by him, her, or them, set at in the paper currency of the United Colonies, or either

of them, he, she, or they, shall pay a fine of fifty pounds; one moiety thereof to the use of the person who shall sue for and recover the same, and the other moiety to the use of the town where the offence is committed.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the Bills of Credit of the United Colonies that are or shall be established by the *American Congress*, and the Bills of this Government, that are or shall be emitted, shall be received in all payments within this Colony, and a tender of the same may be pleaded in bar to any action brought for the recovery of any money, or species of money, due by deed or simple contract, or in any way and manner whatever. And all Justices, Sheriffs, Grand Jurors, and Tithingmen, are hereby strictly commanded to bring to justice all persons offending against this act, or any part of it.

*An Act to abolish the Court of Appeals in this Colony, and to empower the Superior Court of Judicature to sustain and determine all matters pending in said Court of Appeals, and to prevent the absurd practice of granting appeals to the King of GREAT BRITAIN in Council from judgments of any Courts in this Colony in future.*

Whereas the granting such a multiplicity of appeals from Court to Court and trials consequent thereupon as hath been heretofore practised within this Colony hath been found to promote litigation, protract suits, and increase the charges thereof, rather than to serve the ends of justice in this Colony: And whereas the allowance of appeals in any cases to said Court of Appeals or to the King of *Great Britain* is depriving the people of this Colony of their great, inestimable, and inherent right of trial by jury, and opening a door for arbitrary decisions of their property, even in the causes of the greatest moment: Therefore,

*Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives for said Colony, in General Court assembled,* That the said Court of Appeals heretofore held in this Colony shall be, and hereby is, totally abolished, and that no appeal heretofore granted by the laws of this Colony to the said Court of Appeals or to the King of *Great Britain* in Council from the judgment or sentence of any Court whatever in this Colony shall be granted; and that all appeals from any sentence of any Judge of Probate for any County in this Colony, which heretofore might by the laws thereof be granted to said Court of Appeals, shall for the future be granted only to the Superior Court of Judicature next to be holden for the same County wherein the same appeal may be granted, which said Superior Court shall hear and finally determine all causes and matters as may be brought before them by appeals from any Court of Probate within this Colony.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That all appeals heretofore granted to, and matters now pending in, said Court of Appeals, may and shall be sustained, heard, and determined by the said Superior Court in the County where the action or appeal originated. All causes and matters now pending before said Court of Appeals by appeals from the Superior Court heretofore held in this Colony, may be brought before the Superior Court of Judicature established in this Colony, by writ of review, any time within three years from the passing of this act; and all causes or matters now pending in said Court of Appeals by appeal from any Court of Probate in this Colony may, and shall be, brought before the last-mentioned Superior Court, by entering the appeal there any time within two years, in the same manner as if it had been first granted to that Court.

*An Act for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels to defend the sea-coast of AMERICA, and to cruise on the enemies of the United Colonies, as also for erecting a Court to try and condemn all Ships and other Vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and all goods, wares, and merchandises belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of GREAT BRITAIN taken on the high seas.*

Whereas it has been expressly resolved by the Grand Congress of *America*, "That each Colony, at their own expense, make such provision by armed vessels, or otherwise, as their respective Assemblies, Conventions, or Committees of Safety shall judge expedient and suitable to their circumstances and situations, for the protection of their har-

bours and navigation on the sea-coast against all unlawful invasions, attacks, and depredations, from cutters and ships of war;" and also that it should be lawful for the inhabitants of the United Colonies to fit out armed vessels to cruise on the enemies thereof, and that all ships and other vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and all goods, wares, and merchandise, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of *Great Britain*, taken on the high seas, or between high-water and low-water mark, should be deemed and adjudged a lawful prize, (excepting such vessels as may be taken in bringing any settlers, arms, ammunition, or warlike stores, to and for the use of the United Colonies, or any of the inhabitants thereof who are friends to the *American* cause, and warlike stores and effects of such settlers:) Therefore, for the more effectually carrying into execution the purposes aforesaid,

*Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled,* That all armed and other vessels that have at any time since the nineteenth day of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, been engaged in making unlawful invasions, attacks, or depredations, on the sea-coasts of *America* or the navigation thereof, or used in supplying the fleet or army which have been, or shall at any time be, employed against the United Colonies, or employed by the enemy in any respect whatsoever; and those vessels which have been carrying supplies of any kind to the enemy, or whose masters or supercargoes shall have designs of carrying supplies of any kind to the enemy, or that shall be returning from the enemy after having carried such supplies, and shall be found hereafter on the high seas, and shall be brought into the harbour of *Piscataqua*, or any other place within this Colony, or found within the same, and be convicted of any of the offences aforesaid, such vessel or vessels, with their appurtenances and cargoes, shall be deemed forfeited, and shall be condemned and disposed of as by this act is hereafter ordered and directed. And in pursuance of a resolve of the *American* Congress:

*Be it further enacted,* That all ships and other vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and all goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of *Great Britain*, taken on the high seas, or between high-water and low-water mark, and being brought into, or lying within, the Colony aforesaid, since the date aforesaid, shall be deemed and adjudged lawful prize; and the Judge of the Court Maritime, hereafter mentioned, shall be, and is hereby, empowered to proceed upon, try, adjudge, and condemn, all such vessels, with their cargoes and appurtenances, and all such *British* merchandises and property as shall be taken as aforesaid.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the Council of this Colony, or the major part of them, shall be fully empowered to commission with letters of marque and reprisal any person or persons within this Colony, who shall, at his, or their own, or at the Colony's expense, fit out and equip for the defence of *America*, any vessel, as also any person who shall, by the owner of such vessel, be recommended therefor; and that all such persons, so commissioned as aforesaid, shall have full power, with such other persons as they shall engage to their assistance, to sail on the seas, attack, take, and bring into port in this Colony, all vessels offending or employed by, or being the property of, the enemy, as aforesaid; and also to retake and bring in as aforesaid any vessel or vessels that may be taken from any person or persons by said enemy.

*Provided always, and be it further enacted,* That the master or owner of such vessel shall, at the time he receives such commission, enter into bond, with one sufficient surety at least, for the faithful discharge of his office, and observing the law of this Colony relating to armed vessels; which bond shall be in the form following, viz:

"Know all men by these presents, that we, A B and C D, are holden, and stand firmly bound and obliged, unto E F, Treasurer and Receiver-General of the Colony aforesaid, in the full and just sum of £5,000, to be paid unto the said Treasurer and Receiver-General, or to his successor in said office. To the true payment whereof, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

"Sealed with our seals the day of , A. D., 17 ."

The condition of the aforewritten obligation is such, that whereas the said A B hath, on the day of the date hereof,

received a commission to command an armed vessel called ———, burden about ——— tons, to make reprisal of all armed and other vessels, which shall be found infesting the sea-coast, or upon the high seas, or between high and low-water mark; such vessels being the property of, or belonging to, any inhabitant or inhabitants of *Great Britain*, (excepting such vessels as may be taken in bringing any settlers, arms, ammunition, or warlike stores, to and for the use of the United Colonies, or any of the inhabitants thereof, who are friends to the *American* cause, and warlike stores and effect of such settlers:) If, therefore, the said A. B. shall in and by all things well and truly observe and fulfil such instructions as he shall receive from the Council of this Colony, and shall, in all things and respects, conform himself to the directions given in and by an act entitled "An Act for encouraging the fixing out of armed vessels to defend the sea-coast of *America*, and to cruise on the enemies of the United Colonies; as also for erecting a court to try and condemn all ships or other vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and all goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to the inhabitants of *Great Britain*, taken on the high seas,"—then the above-written obligation to be void; otherwise to remain in full force.

*And be it further enacted,* That there shall be erected and constantly held in the town of *Portsmouth*, or some town or place adjacent, in the County of *Rockingham*, a Court of Justice, by the name of the Court Maritime, by such able and discreet person as shall be appointed and commissioned by the Council and Assembly for that purpose, whose business it shall be to take cognizance and try the justice of any capture or captures of any vessel or vessels that have been, may, or shall be, taken by any person or persons whomsoever, and brought into this Colony, or any the captures that have or shall be taken and brought thierinto.

*And be it further enacted,* That any person or persons who have been or shall be concerned in the taking and bringing into this Colony any vessel or vessels employed or offending, or being the property as aforesaid, shall jointly, or either of them, by themselves, or by their attorneys or agents, within twenty days after being possessed of the same in this Colony, file before the said Judge a libel in writing, therein giving a full and ample account of the time, manner, and cause of the taking such vessel or vessels. But in case of any such vessel or vessels already brought in as aforesaid, then such libel shall be filed within twenty days next after the passing this act, and at the time of filing such libel, shall also be filed all papers on board such vessel or vessels, to the intent that the jury may have the benefit of the evidence therefrom arising. And the Judge shall, as soon as may be, appoint a day to try by a jury the justice of the capture of such vessel or vessels, with their appurtenances and cargoes; and he is hereby authorized and empowered to try the same. And the same Judge shall cause a notification thereof, and the name, if known, and description of the vessel so brought in, with the day set for the trial thereon, to be advertised in some newspaper printed in the said Colony, if any such paper there be, twenty days before the time of the trial; and for want of such paper, then to cause the same notification to be affixed on the doors of the Town-House, in said *Portsmouth*, to the intent that the owner of such vessel, or any persons concerned, may appear, and show cause, if any they have, why such vessel, with her cargo and appurtenances, should not be condemned as aforesaid. And the said Judge shall, seven days before the day set and appointed for the trial of such vessel or vessels, issue his warrant to any Constable or Constables within the County aforesaid, commanding them, or either of them, to assemble the inhabitants of their towns respectively, and to draw out of the box, in manner provided for drawing jurors to serve at the Superior Court of Judicature, so many good and lawful men as the said Judge shall order—not less than twelve, nor exceeding twenty-four; and the Constable or Constables shall, as soon as may be, give any person or persons so drawn to serve on the jury in said Court due notice thereof, and shall make due return of his doings therein to the said Judge at or before the day set and appointed for the trial. And the said jurors shall be held to serve on the trial of all such vessels as shall have been libelled before the said Judge, and the time of their trial published at the time said jurors are drawn, unless the Judge shall see



cause to discharge them, or either of them, before; and if seven of the jurors shall appear, and there shall not be enough to complete the number of twelve, (which shall be a panel,) or if there shall be a legal challenge to any of them, so that there shall be seven, and not a panel, it shall and may be lawful for the Judge to order his Clerk, the Sheriff, or other proper officer attending on said Court, to fill up the jury with good and lawful men present; and the said jury, when so filled up and empannelled, shall be sworn to return a true verdict on any bill, claim, or memorial, which shall be committed to them, according to law and evidence. And if the jury shall find that any vessel or vessels, against which a bill or libel is committed to them, have been offending, used, employed, or improved as aforesaid, or are the property of any inhabitants of *Great Britain* as aforesaid, they shall return their verdict thereof to the said Judge, and he shall thereupon condemn such vessel or vessels, with their cargoes and appurtenances, and shall order them to be disposed of, as by law is provided. And if the jury shall return a special verdict, therein setting forth certain facts relative to such vessel or vessels, (a bill against which is committed to them,) and it shall appear to the said Judge by said verdict that such vessel or vessels have been infesting the sea-coast of *America*, or navigation thereof, or that such vessels have been employed, used, improved, or offending, or are the property of any inhabitant or inhabitants of *Great Britain*, as aforesaid, he, the said Judge, shall condemn such vessel or vessels, and decree them to be sold, with their cargoes and appurtenances, at publick vendue, and shall also order the charges of said trial and condemnation to be paid out of the money such vessel and cargo, with her appurtenances, shall sell for, to the officers of the Court, according to the table of fees last established by law of this Colony, and shall order the residue thereof to be delivered to the captors, their agents or attorneys, for the use and benefit of such captors, and others concerned therein. And if two or more vessels (the commanders whereof shall be properly commissioned) shall jointly take such vessel, the money which she and her cargo shall sell for, after payment of charges as aforesaid, shall be divided between the captors, in proportion to their men. And the said Judge is hereby authorized to make out his precept, under his hand and seal, directed to the Sheriff of the County aforesaid, or, if thereto requested by the captors or agents, to any other person to be appointed by the said Judge, to sell such vessel and appurtenances and cargo, at publick vendue, and such Sheriff, or other person, after deducting his own charges for the same, to pay and deliver the residue, according to the decree of said Judge.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That if any Constable within the said County shall neglect or refuse to obey the warrant of the Judge for returning said jurors as aforesaid, he shall pay a fine, as the said Judge shall order, not exceeding the sum of forty shillings; and if any juror so drawn, and having notice as aforesaid, shall not appear at the time and place directed in such warrant, or shall refuse, without reasonable excuse, to serve on such Jury, he shall pay such fine as the Judge shall order, not exceeding the sum of forty shillings. But before such fine shall be awarded, the Judge shall summon such juror to appear before him to show forth the reason of his neglect; and if such reason shall not be satisfactory to the said Judge, then he shall issue his warrant of distress for such fine, if the said juror shall neglect to pay the same, and (excepting the style and shall) in such manner as is directed for the recovery of fine of jurors who shall neglect or refuse to serve in the Inferior Court of Common Pleas. Which fines so recovered shall be paid into the Treasury of this Colony, for the use thereof.

*And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That any person or persons claiming the whole or any part or share, either as owner or captor of any such vessel or vessels, against which a libel is so filed, may jointly, or by themselves, or by their attorneys or agents, five days before the day set and appointed for the trial of such vessel or vessels, file their claim before the said Judge; which claim shall be committed to the Jury with the libel which is first filed, and the Jury shall thereupon determine and return their verdict of what part or share such claimant or claimants shall have of the capture or captures; and every person or persons who shall neglect to file his or their claim in manner as aforesaid, shall be forever barred therefrom.

*And be it further enacted*, That no person who shall take and bring in any vessel as aforesaid, shall use or improve such capture before condemnation; and every person who shall file the first libel against such vessel or vessels, shall be held to pay all fees established by law, in the same manner as hath been used and accustomed in the courts of common law within the Colony.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That every vessel which shall be taken and brought into this Colony by the armed vessels of any of the United Colonies of *America*, and shall be condemned as aforesaid, the proceeds of such vessels and cargoes shall go and be, one-third part to the use of the captors, and the other two-thirds to the use of the Colony, at whose charge such armed vessel was fitted out. And where any vessel or vessels shall be taken by the Fleet and Army of the United Colonies, and brought into this Colony, and condemned as aforesaid, the said Judge shall distribute and dispose of the said vessels and cargoes according to the resolves and orders of the *American Congress*.

*And be it enacted*, That the process and proceedings upon any vessel which has been or shall be retaken from the enemy by any person or persons, shall be in the same manner as herein provided for other vessels. And any vessels of any of the inhabitants of the United Colonies which have been or shall be hereafter retaken from the enemy, before condemnation thereof had, the moneys which they and their appurtenances and cargoes shall sell for, shall be disposed of as follows, viz: If they have been in the possession of the enemy less than twenty-four hours, then one-eighth part shall go to the use of the recaptors; if more than twenty-four and less than forty-eight hours, then one-fifth part shall go to the recaptors; and if more than forty-eight and less than ninety-six hours, then one-third part; and if more than ninety-six hours, one-half shall go to the recaptors; and in every case the residue to the owner or owners, unless such vessel or vessels shall, after being so brought in, be legally condemned as a prize; in which case the recaptors shall have the whole.

*And be it further enacted*, That any person, owner, captor, or claimant, may take affidavits in any cause to be tried in the Court Maritime aforesaid, before any Justice of the Peace, under the regulation provided by the laws of this Colony for taking affidavits to be used in civil actions in any of the courts of common law. And any person on board such captures, when they surrender, may be admitted as a witness to testify to any fact in dispute between any of the captors. And the Clerk appointed by the said Judge is empowered to make out a summons to any person named as a witness by either party. And if any person served with such summons, and having the legal fees for his travel rendered him, shall unnecessarily refuse to appear and give evidence in such cause, he shall suffer such penalty as is provided by the laws of this Colony against witnesses who shall neglect to appear when legally summoned to give evidence in the Superior Court of Judicature.

And whereas the honourable Continental Congress have recommended that, in certain cases, an appeal should be granted from the Court aforesaid:

*Be it therefore enacted*, That from all judgments or decrees hereafter to be given in the said Court Maritime, on the capture of any vessel, appurtenances, or cargoes, where such vessel is taken, or shall be taken, by any armed vessel fitted out at the charge of the United Colonies, an appeal shall be allowed to the Continental Congress, or to such person or persons as they already have, or shall hereafter appoint, for the trials of appeals: *Provided*, The appeal be demanded within five days after definitive sentence given, and such appeal shall be lodged with the Secretary of the Congress within forty days afterwards: *And provided*, The party appealing shall give security to prosecute said appeal with effect. And in case of the death of the Secretary during the recess of the Congress, the said appeal shall be lodged in Congress within twenty days after the next meeting thereof; and that from the judgment, decrees, or sentence of said Court, on the capture of any vessel or cargo which have been, or shall hereafter be, brought into this Colony, by any person or persons, (excepting those who are in the service of the United Colonies,) an appeal shall be allowed to the Superior Court of Judicature, which shall next be held in the County aforesaid.



And whereas, no provision has been made by any of the said resolves for an appeal from the sentence or decree of the said Judge, where the capture of any such vessel or vessels may be made by a vessel in the service of the United Colonies, and of any particular Colony or person, together: Therefore,

*Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That, in such cases, the appeal shall be allowed to the next Superior Court, as aforesaid: *Provided,* The appellant shall enter into bonds, with sufficient sureties, to prosecute his appeal with effect. And such Superior Court, to which the appeal shall be, shall take cognizance thereof, in the same manner, as if the appeal was from the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, and shall condemn or acquit such vessel or vessels, their cargoes and appurtenances, and in the sale and disposition of them, proceed according to this act. And the appellant shall pay the Court and Jury such fees as are allowed by law in civil actions.

*And be it further enacted,* That when there shall be on

board such capture any goods perishable by nature, the Judge aforesaid shall be, and hereby is empowered, to give license for the sale of such goods before the trial, and after a libel is filed as aforesaid: *Provided,* The person or persons filing said libel shall give security to the Judge for the payment of such moneys, as such goods are reasonably worth, to the captor or captors thereof, if the same shall be condemned, and if otherwise, to the owners thereof.

*And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That when any merchant ship or vessel shall be taken by virtue of any resolve aforesaid, the wages of seamen and mariners who shall be taken on board the same, shall be paid out of the proceeds of the prize, up to the time of condemnation.

*And be it further enacted,* That the said Judge shall appoint an able Clerk, who shall keep a true and fair record of all the proceedings of the said Court, and shall be duly sworn to act in said office with truth and fidelity: And his attestations shall be received as evidence in all courts of law.

#### GENERAL LEE TO EDMUND PENDLETON.

Charlestown, July 7, 1776.

SIR: Mr. Rutledge will inform you by this express of the outrages committed by the *Cherokees*, which must be construed as the commencement of a war. As it is now certain that a capital and favourite part of the plan laid down by our enemies is to lay waste the Provinces, burn the dwellings of the inhabitants, and mix men, women, and children, in one common carnage by the hands of the *Indians*; and as this part of the plan, though a piece of inhumanity, is certainly more big with mischievous consequences than the rest, it appears to me absolutely necessary to crush the evil before it arises to any dangerous height. Indeed, if we avail ourselves of the event, it may prove a fortunate one. Perhaps we ought in policy to have wished for it. We can now, with the greatest justice, strike a blow which is necessary to intimidate the numerous tribes of *Indians* from falling into the measures of our enemies; and as these *Cherokees* are not esteemed the most formidable warriors, we can, probably, do it without much risk or loss. I think, then, sir, that without a moment's delay, a body of your frontier riflemen should be immediately furnished, and march into the country of the *Overhill Cherokees*, and make a severe, lasting, and salutary example of them. The *Carolínians* propose at the same time attacking their lower towns, and, with the coöperation of *Virginia*, entertain no doubt of success.

*Clinton's* army and *Parker's* squadron are pretty much in the same situation as when I wrote last. They daily, indeed, make some alterations in the position of their land troops, from one island to another; perhaps for new air or water, of which, the deserters say, they are in great want. They tell us, likewise, that considerable sickness prevails in the army, and greater discontents from hard duty and bad diet. The spirit of desertion begins to show itself. Five soldiers came over these two last nights, who assure us that, were they not on an Island from which it is difficult to escape, two-thirds of their army would soon be with us. I am myself inclined to believe them. Upon the whole, when I consider the difficulties which the enemy's Generals have to encounter, the temper and disposition of their troops, and the improving spirit of ours, I assure myself that the game is in our hands: *God* give us more grace than to shuffle it away.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Hon. Edmund Pendleton, President of the Convention of *Virginia*.

#### GENERAL LEE TO PATRICK HENRY.

Williamsburgh, May 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: If I had not the highest opinion of your character and liberal way of thinking, I should not venture to address myself to you. And if I were not equally persuaded of the great weight and influence which the transcendent abilities you possess must naturally confer, I should not give myself the trouble of writing, nor you the trouble of reading this long letter. Since our conversation yesterday, my thoughts have been solely employed on the great question, whether Independence ought or ought not to be imme-

diately declared. Having weighed the argument on both sides, I am clearly of the opinion that we must, as we value the liberties of *America*, or even her existence, without a moment's delay declare for Independence. If my reasons appear weak, you will excuse them for the disinterestedness of the author, as I may venture to affirm, that no man on this Continent will sacrifice more than myself by the separation. But if I have the good fortune to offer any arguments which have escaped your understanding, and they should make the desired impression, I think I shall have rendered the greatest service to the community.

The objection you made yesterday, if I understood you rightly, to an immediate Declaration, was, by many degrees, the most specious; indeed it is the only tolerable one that I have yet heard. You say, and with great justice, that we ought previously to have felt the pulse of *France* and *Spain*. I more than believe, I am almost confident, that it has been done; at least I can assert, upon recollection, that some of the Committee of Secrecy have assured me that the sentiments of both these Courts, or their agents, had been sounded, and were found to be as favourable as could be wished. But, admitting that we are utter strangers to their sentiments on the subject, and that we run some risk of this Declaration being coldly received by these Powers, such is our situation that the risk must be ventured.

On one side there are the most probable chances of our success, founded on the certain advantages which must manifest themselves to *French* understandings by a treaty of alliance with *America*. The strength and weakness, the opulence and poverty of every State are estimated in the scale of comparison with her immediate rival. The superior commerce and marine force of *England* were evidently established on the monopoly of her *American* trade. The inferiority of *France*, in these two capital points, consequently had its source in the same origin. Any deduction from this monopoly must bring down her rival in proportion to this deduction.

The *French* are, and always have been, sensible of these great truths. Your idea, that they may be diverted from a line of policy which assures them such immense and permanent advantages by an offer of partition from *Great Britain*, appears to me, if you will excuse the phrase, an absolute chimera. They must be wretched politicians, indeed, if they would prefer the uncertain acquisition, and the precarious, expensive possession of one or two Provinces, to the greater part of the commerce of the whole. Besides, were not the advantages from the latter so manifestly greater than those that would accrue from the imagined partition scheme, it is notorious that acquisition of territory, or even Colonial possessions, which require either men or money to retain them, are entirely repugnant to the spirit and principles of the present *French* Court. It is so repugnant, indeed, that it is most certain they have lately entertained thoughts of abandoning their *West-India Islands*. *Le commerce et l'économie* are the cry, down from the King to the lowest Minister. From these considerations, I am convinced that they will immediately and essentially assist us if Independence is declared.

But allowing that there can be no certainty, but mere

chances, in our favour; I do insist upon it, that these chances render it our duty to adopt the measure, as, by procrastination, our ruin is inevitable. Should it now be determined to wait the result of a previous formal negotiation with *France*, a whole year must pass over our heads before we can be acquainted with the result. In the mean time we are to struggle through a campaign, without arms, ammunition, or any one necessary of war. Disgrace and defeat will infallibly ensue; the soldiers and officers will become so disappointed that they will abandon their colours, and probably never be persuaded to make another effort.

But there is another consideration still more cogent. I can assure you that the spirit of the people cries out for this Declaration; the military, in particular, men and officers, are outrageous on the subject; and a man of your excellent discernment need not be told how dangerous it would be in our present circumstances, to dally with the spirit, or disappoint the expectations of the bulk of the people. May not despair, anarchy, and finally submission, be the bitter fruits? I am firmly persuaded that they will; and, in this persuasion, I most devoutly pray that you may not merely recommend, but positively lay injunctions, on your servants in Congress to embrace a measure so necessary to our salvation.

Yours, most sincerely,

CHARLES LEE.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL LEE.

New-York, May, 1776.

MY DEAR LEE: Your favour of the 5th ultimo, from *Williamsburgh*, the first I have received from you since you left this city, came to my hands by the last post. I thank you for your kind congratulations on our possession of *Boston*. I thank you for your good wishes in our future operations, and hope that every diabolical attempt to deprive mankind of their inherent rights and privileges, whether made in the east, west, north, or south, will be attended with disappointment and disgrace, and that the authors in the end will be brought to such punishment as an injured people have a right to inflict.

General *Howe's* retreat from *Boston* was precipitate beyond anything I could have conceived. The destruction of the stores at *Dunbar's* camp, after *Braddock's* defeat, was but a faint image of what was seen at *Boston*: artillery carts cut to pieces in one place, gun-carriages in another; shells broke here, shot buried there; and everything carrying with it the face of disorder and confusion, as also of distress.

Immediately upon their embarkation, I detached a brigade of five regiments to this city, and upon their sailing, removed with the whole Army hither, except four regiments at *Boston* and one at *Beverly*, &c., for the protection of those places, the stores and barracks there, and for erecting works for defending the harbour of the former. Immediately upon my arrival here, I detached four regiments, by order of Congress, to *Canada*, (to wit: *Poor's*, *Patterson's*, *Greaton's*, and *Bond's*,) under the command of Brigadier *Thompson*; and since that, by the same authority, and in consequence of some unfavourable accounts from that quarter, General *Sullivan* and six other regiments (namely, *Stark's*, *Read's*, *Wayne's*, *Irvine's*, *Winds's*, and *Dayton's*) have moved off for that department; the last four regiments are from *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*. The first brigade arrived at *Albany* on the 24th ultimo, and were moving on when accounts came from thence on the 27th. The other brigade must all be at *Albany* before this, as some of the regiments sailed ten days ago, and the last four and the winds very favourable. This has left us very weak at this place; whilst I have my fears that the reinforcement will scarce get to *Canada* in time, for want of teams to transport the troops, &c., to *Fort George*, and vessels to convey them on afterwards.

We have done a great deal of work at this place. In a fortnight more, I think the city will be in a very respectable posture of defence. *Governour's Island* has a large and strong work erected, and a regiment encamped there. The point below, called *Red Hook*, has a small, but exceedingly strong barbette battery; and several new works are constructed, and many of them almost executed at other places.

General *Ward*, upon the evacuation of *Boston*, and finding that there was a probability of his being removed from

the smoke of his own chimney, applied to me, and wrote to Congress, for leave to resign. A few days afterwards, some of the officers, as he says, getting uneasy at the prospect of his leaving them, he applied for his letter of resignation, which had been committed to my care; but, behold! it had been carefully forwarded to Congress, and, as I have since learned, judged so reasonable, (want of health being the plea,) that it was instantly complied with. Brigadier *Frye*, previous to this, also conceiving that there was nothing entertaining or profitable to an old man, to be marching and countermarching, desired, immediately on the evacuation of *Boston*, (which happened on the 17th of *March*,) that he might resign his commission on the 11th of *April*. The choice of the day became a matter of great speculation, and remained profoundly mysterious till he exhibited his account, when there appeared neither more nor less in it than the completion of three calendar months, the pay of which he received without any kind of compunction, although he had never done one tour of duty, or, I believe, had ever been out of his house from the time he entered till he quitted *Cambridge*.

So much for two Generals. I have next to inform you, that the Paymaster-General, Colonel *Warren*, not finding it convenient to attend the Army, from the various employments and avocations in which he was engaged, also resigned his commission, and is succeeded by your old aid, *Palfrey*.

When I was speaking of the distressed situation of the King's troops, and the Tories, at their evacuation of *Boston*, I might have gone on and added, that their misfortunes did not end here: It seems, upon their arrival at *Halifax*, that many of the former were obliged to encamp, although the ground was covered deep with snow; and the latter to pay six dollars a week for sorry upper rooms, and stow in them men, women, and children, as thick, comparatively, as the hair upon their heads. This induced many of these gentry to return and throw themselves upon the mercy and clemency of their countrymen, who were for sending them immediately back, as the most proper and severest punishment they could inflict; but death being preferred to this, they now wait in confinement any other that may be thought due to such paricides.

All the ships-of-war have left this place, and gone down to the *Hook*, except the *Asia*, which lies five miles below the *Narrows*, and about twelve or fourteen from hence. I could have added more; but my paper will not admit of it. With compliments, therefore, to the gentlemen of my acquaintance with you, and with the most fervent wishes for your health and success,

I remain, your most affectionate,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General Lee.

THOMAS BURKE TO GENERAL LEE.

Tyaquin, North-Carolina, June 11, 1776.

SIR: This moment yours of the 1st instant came to my hand. The note enclosed, directed to the commanding officer of the corps of *Virginia* forces intended for the station of *Hillsborough*, I will use my best endeavour to transmit, as soon as I can learn who he is, or for what part of *Virginia* they are ordered; of both I am now entirely uninformed, having heard nothing of such destination until I received your letter. If I can get no information in my neighbourhood, I will send your note to the commanding officer of *Halifax*, or of *Mecklenburgh* County, who, being stationed contiguous to this, are most likely to have received orders to march hither.

I cannot say, sir, that I rejoice that the enemy have abandoned their design on this Colony. Their force could not have effected much against us; but they may prove troublesome to some of our southern neighbours, who are probably not so well provided for defence as we are.

I beg leave, sir, to wish you all possible success in your generous efforts for the defence of the undoubted rights of mankind. Had the scene of action been where we first expected it, I intended to have put myself, as a volunteer, under your command, and to have contributed my little assistance towards that success which, I am assured, would have attended your command. Remote as the scene may be, I shall not bear absence from it with much patience, and, were it not almost ruin to my private affairs, no cam-

paign should pass without receiving the little assistance I could personally give; for though I am no military character, nor ambitious of such distinction, the cause in which we are now engaged, and in which I have unremittingly struggled since the stamp act, makes me anxious to be a witness and an actor, however inconsiderable, in every scene of importance, whether military or civil, which may relate to it.

I have the honour to be, with singular respect, sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS BURKE.

To Major General Lee.

GEORGE JOHNSON TO GENERAL LEE.

Philadelphia, June 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I heartily thank you for your letter, and regret that I cannot have the pleasure of meeting you. The great wish of my life is to see peace between two countries I almost equally love; while it is a question whether this or an exterminating war is to take place. I meant, in words I had learned from you, to set before you the many and mutual advantages both would derive from an agreement; and as the terms now offered are more for the interest of your favourite *America* than you ever hoped to obtain, I should have made no scruple to ask your good offices, and to engage my own, to remove any obstacles that might obstruct the peace. I should think it a greater honour to contribute in the smallest degree to this, than to have the greatest share in bringing about victory; these, to a thinking man like you, who has many friends on both sides, subject him to a double regret.

I may not find another occasion of meeting you easily; but I would travel far to have the pleasure of embracing you as a fellow-subject of the same empire, and a friend. You will see, by some speeches in the House of Commons, that others whom you value have the same wish. A celebrated poem, just published, says:

"By virtue, captive Lee is doubly blest."

A pamphlet, written by Governour *Johnstone's* brother, is much applauded by the nation, where a spirit prevails like that between tender relations, who are more disposed to love and respect, after a quarrel has convinced both of the advantage and value of friendship. I send you the pamphlet.

You do Sir *H. Clinton* great justice in believing him to be incapable of an inhuman or illiberal measure; you may, with great confidence, assert, that he had no share in the havoc that you say has embittered people's minds to a degree of madness. Your letter to me is the only notice he has of the burnings you mention. If any other houses besides magazines were destroyed, it must have been by the wantonness of soldiers, as the officer who formed the plan for destroying the preparations for the invasion of the island confined it to this object. The destruction of houses was no part of his project; otherwise he would have mentioned the success of it, which he has not done. I will deliver the messages you give me, and will ever seek every occasion to show that I am, with regard, dear sir, your most affectionate friend and humble servant,

GEORGE JOHNSON.

To Major-General Lee.

P. S. Sir *Henry Clinton* bids me thank you for your letter, and charges me to enclose one he has received for you from *England*.

GENERAL LEE TO COLONEL THOMPSON.

Charlestown, June 21, 1776.

SIR: It is a certain truth that the enemy entertain a most fortunate apprehension of *American* riflemen. It is equally certain that nothing can diminish this apprehension so infallibly as a frequent ineffectual fire. It is with some concern, therefore, that I have been informed that your men have been suffered to fire at a most preposterous distance. Upon this principle, I must entreat and insist, that you consider it as a standing order, that not a man under your command is to fire at a greater distance than one hundred and fifty yards, at the utmost; in short, they must never fire without almost a moral certainty of hitting their object. Distant firing has a doubly bad effect; it encourages the enemy, and adds to the pernicious persuasion of the *American* soldiers, viz: that they are no match for their antagonists at close fighting. To speak plainly, it is almost a sure method of

making them cowards. Once more, I must request that a stop be put to this childish, vicious, and scandalous practice. I extend the rule to those who have the care of the field-pieces; four hundred yards is the greatest distance they should be allowed to fire at. A transgression of this rule will be considered as the effect of flurry and want of courage. Those who are accused of transgressing will be proceeded against, as acting from these principles.

I have, sir, the greatest opinion of your good sense and spirit, and flatter myself that you will not only issue orders of restriction on this head, but that you will be attentive that they are rigorously put in execution.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To Colonel Thompson.

P. S. I am likewise informed that your men pass without order or orders to *Long-Island*. Is this wise? Is it soldierlike? Is it to show the enemy where our weakness is?

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 7, 1776.

SIR: I have sent you three vessels at the request of Mr. *Purviance*, which I hope is right. He tells me that Mr. *Tilghman* spoke to him about the one that is to carry troops to *Elk*. I give you a line by each vessel, for fear that one may be before the others in getting down. They are to have 17s. 6d. per day while in the service. Each vessel will carry a company. They ought to be well ballasted, as the soldiers will be a top-heavy load. The skipper will hand you this from your humble servant,

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the Chairman of the Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

P. S. The vessels will find all they want for their own use.

E. JOHNSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Lower Marlborough, July 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The day I fixed on, in the week before last, to search into the cliffs on this river for salt, proved rainy, and thereby I was disappointed in many hands engaged; but, however, with what I had, I sunk a shaft, ten feet square and five feet deep, in the inside of the cliffs, free from any tide that ever flowed since the Deluge, and have found since, that a few days sun thereon has brought out some appearances of saline particles; so that I conclude that this earth will yield salt, and have ordered it to be tried, the success of which you shall know by next post. If this earth yields salt, the whole clift must also yield it, and of course the quantity is inexhaustible. Report says that the cliffs both north and south of this, on the same side of the river, are impregnated with salt. I have not seen any of them, except a small bank at my own plantation, at the mouth of *Hunting Creek*, south of the first-discovered clift, which is very salt; and shall, as soon as my harvest is secured, make some large experiments on, and, if successful, set to work to make what I can.

The owner of the land of the first-discovered clift will come upon no settled, fixed plan of proceeding to erect either a publick or private saltern; but says that, after harvest, he will join me in trying further experiments. The expense attending my sinking the shaft, in hire of negroes, provisions, and cooking for them, cost me twenty-five shillings currency, which I have paid; and if agreeable to you to charge to my saltpetre account, please to give me your order, or otherwise, as you may think proper. The time of my engagement, with my labour at my saltpetre manufactory, expired a few days ago, and we have not done anything since. My manager has brought in his account, and thirty-four pounds of good crude nitre, for which he demands a quarter of a dollar. Being informed that the *May* Convention gave him that sum, I have only paid a shilling, with promise to make it agreeable to the orders I am empowered to act by. I shall hire another labourer soon, to go on with the business, and shall continue it as long as I can find materials impregnated sufficiently. In a few months, the quantity of earth, &c., I have in my shed, will, I expect, yield two hundred pounds. The thirty-four pounds made at the manufactory, five-and-a-half pounds I bought, returned to the Con-



vention in my account, makes thirty-nine-and-a-half pounds in my hands. Please to give me orders what I am to do with it.

I am, gentlemen, with all due respect, your humble servant,  
E. JOHNSON.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
In Committee, Baltimore, July 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Colonel *Ware* having informed us that he had drawn a plan of a fortification to be added to the works at *Whetstone Point*, we shall be glad to know whether you mean it should be finished, and if so, what further sum of money you will apply to that purpose; and we should be much obliged if you would favour us with the plan left with you.

I am, gentlemen, on behalf of the Committee, your most obedient servant,  
WILLIAM LUX, *Vice-Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.  
Annapolis, July 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Convention have given no order for laying out any further sum of money on the fortifications at or near *Baltimore Town*. If more money had been necessary, application should have been made to that respectable body. We consider ourselves not at large to comply with your request in advancing a further sum, and so we have repeatedly intimated when the plan was first offered to us. We send it you enclosed; and are your most obedient servants.

P. S. If the money you have for erecting fortifications be not expended, you will apply it to erecting the fortification desired.

COLONEL SMALLWOOD TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Sunday, July 7, 1776.

The bearers, *Michael Hart* and *Lawrence Keenan*, of the Artillery Company, having been released from jail, prosecution against them being withdrawn, have applied for a discharge, the date of which will properly commence the 7th day of *May*, when they were imprisoned, as I ordered them to be given up at that time to the civil power; and having no authority to discharge them, must refer them to the honourable Council of Safety for their discharges.

W. SMALLWOOD.

RICHARD TOOTELL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Annapolis, July 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As the Surgeon-Major and his assistant must march with the battalion which was stationed in this city, to which corps they belong, I presume the deficiency of that battalion will be immediately supplied with Militia.

The troops stationed here for the safety of the city will stand in need of a Surgeon-Major and an assistant. I petition your Honours for the office of Surgeon-Major to the abovementioned troops.

I am, with great respect, your Honours' most obedient humble servant,  
RICHARD TOOTELL.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL BUCHANAN.  
[No. 2.] Annapolis, July 7, 1776.

SIR: You will perceive by the enclosed resolve that the Convention have directed the place of the regulars that are to march from *Baltimore Town* to *Philadelphia* should be supplied by the companies of the neighbouring Militia till the Flying-Camp can be ready. We must request, therefore, that you will consider what companies of your County may with the greatest convenience be stationed at *Baltimore Town*, and give orders for their march to that station as soon as the regulars leave it. We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Buchanan*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL WEEMS.  
[No. 3.] Annapolis, July 7, 1776.

SIR: You will perceive by the enclosed resolves that the Convention have directed the place of the regulars that are

to march from hence to *Philadelphia* should be supplied by three companies of the neighbouring Militia till the Militia for the Flying-Camp can be ready. We shall be glad to see you as soon as you possibly can, that we may determine what companies of your battalion may with the greatest convenience be stationed at this place. We are, &c.

To Colonels *Weems* and *Hammond*, respectively.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN VEAZEY AND  
LIEUTENANT HARRISON.

[No. 4.] Annapolis, July 7, 1776.

SIR: You will perceive by the enclosed resolves that your company is to march immediately to *Philadelphia*. The service requires the utmost despatch. We think it will be the most expeditious as well as convenient way to go to the head of *Elk* by water, and therefore recommend it to you to endeavour to procure a vessel for the purpose of transporting your troops thither. If, however, you cannot get one immediately, you will march up as speedily as possible. Wagons will be ready for you at the head of *Elk* to carry your baggage and a proper supply of provisions to *Philadelphia*. If a vessel is not to be had, you will please to get the necessary carriages in *Talbot* for your baggage, and lay in a sufficient quantity of provision for your men until you can reach the head of *Elk*. Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion will set off by water to-morrow or *Tuesday*. We are, &c.

To Captain *Edward Veazey* and Lieutenant *Harrison*, respectively.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN VEAZEY.

[No. 5.] Annapolis, July 7, 1776.

SIR: You will perceive by the enclosed resolves that your company is to march immediately to *Philadelphia*. The service requires the utmost despatch. Wagons will be ready for you at the head of *Elk*, to carry your baggage and a proper supply of provisions from thence to *Philadelphia*. You will please to get the necessary carriages in *Kent* for your baggages, and lay in a sufficient quantity of provisions for your men until you can reach the head of *Elk*. Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion will set off to-morrow or on *Tuesday* by water, and so we expect will Lieutenant *Harrison's* division of your company, as we have given him his orders.

We are, &c.

To Captain *Edward Veazey*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO RICHARD BUCHANAN.

[No. 6.] Annapolis, July 7, 1776.

SIR: We are despatching the troops from hence to *Philadelphia*. Including those for *Baltimore*, they will amount to one thousand men, and they are to go by water to the head of *Elk*; when they arrive there, perhaps they may be at a loss for a supply of provision for their march, which may take them up four days from thence. We therefore think it necessary that you, or Mr. *Cummings*, or some person for you, should be there, to be ready to supply them, in case they should be in want. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Richard Buchanan*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JOHN ADAMS, DATED PHILADELPHIA, JULY 7, 1776.

The design of our enemy now seems to be a powerful invasion of *New-York* and *New-Jersey*. The *Halifax* fleet and army is arrived, and another fleet and army under Lord *Howe* is expected to join them. We are making great preparations to meet them, by marching the Militia of *Maryland*, *Pennsylvania*, and *New-Jersey*, down to the scene of action, and have made large requisitions upon *New-England*. I hope, for the honour of *New-England* and the salvation of *America*, our people will not be backward in marching to *New-York*. We must maintain and defend that important post at all events. If the enemy get possession there, it will cost *New-England* very dear. There is no danger of the small-pox at *New-York*; it is carefully kept out of the city and the Army. I hope that your brother, and mine too, will go into the service of their country at this critical period of its distress.



Our Army at *Crown-Point* is an object of wretchedness enough to fill a humane mind with horror; disgraced, defeated, discontented, dispirited, diseased, naked, undisciplined, eaten up with vermin; no clothes, beds, blankets; no medicines; no victuals, but salt pork and flour. A chaplain from that Army preached a sermon here the other day, from "Cursed is he that doeth the work of the Lord deceitfully." I knew better than he did who the persons were who deserved these curses; but I could not help myself, nor my poor country, any more than he. I hope that measures will be taken to cleanse the Army at *Crown-Point* from the small-pox, and that other measures will be taken in *New-England*, by tolerating and encouraging inoculation, to render that distemper less terrible.

I am solicitous to hear what figure our new Superior Court made in their eastern circuit: what business they did; whether the grand juries and petit juries were sworn; whether they had tried any criminal, or any civil actions; how the people were affected at the appearance of courts again; how the Judges were treated—whether with respect, or cold neglect, &c. Every Colony upon the Continent will soon be in the same situation. They are erecting Governments as fast as children build cob-houses; but, I conjecture, they will hardly throw them down again so soon.

The practice we have hitherto been in, of ditching round about our enemies, will not always do. We must learn to use other weapons than the pick and the spade. Our armies must be disciplined, and learn to fight. I have the satisfaction to reflect that our *Massachusetts* people, when they have been left to themselves, have been constantly fighting and skirmishing, and always with success. I wish the same valour, prudence, and spirit, had been discovered everywhere.

JOSEPH HART TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 8, 1776.]

Warminster, Bucks County, July 7, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: This day, Mr. *Wynkoop* delivered me your letter of the 3d instant, directed to the Committee of our County, requesting that the troops we are raising to form the Flying-Camp might be immediately sent to *New-Brunswick*. This I dare say our Committee will readily comply with; but they are not yet formed, and to-morrow the election must be attended. On *Wednesday*, however, our Committee are to meet to appoint officers; and when that is done, I am of opinion the men will turn out immediately, and which I believe our Committee will encourage, to the utmost of their abilities.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH HART

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President.

GEORGE ROSS TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Lancaster, July 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The present situation of publick affairs having made it necessary that the Militia of *Pennsylvania* should be immediately marched to the *Jerseys*, to act until the Flying-Camp shall be formed, and the resolves of the Congress and Committee lately convened at *Philadelphia*, directing and approving of this measure, having been made known to the Associators here, they have almost to a man determined to march on this service. The Committee, considering the dangerous situation of the town, exposed to the fury and ravages of near four hundred of the prisoners taken at *Chamblly* and *St. John's*, who are stationed here, and cannot be confined day or night, in the present open state of our barracks, have been under the necessity of checking the ardour of the Associators in the town, and permit but a part to leave the place; but as these will have our best arms with them, and those who remain are not in numbers equal to those prisoners, the remainder of the inhabitants and their property are, we think, rather too much exposed. Upon these prisoners first coming to *Lancaster*, the Committee asked the sentiments of Congress as to enclosing the barracks ground, and keeping a guard over them there. The Congress then thought this measure unnecessary, doubtless from a persuasion that by the prisoners mixing and working with the inhabitants, they would learn and be convinced of the

justness of our cause, and become rather the friends than enemies of the rights of *America*. But experience evinces the contrary. By their mixing with the people, they have done much mischief. They adhere, with an extraordinary degree of firmness, to their tyrannical master and his cause, and every action and expression convinces us that they would seize every opportunity to promote it and distress us.

We have lately found several of them in the dress of our riflemen, and as that dress is now become a kind of passport for those who wear it, we cannot help hinting to Congress the danger of these people carrying intelligence between our enemies in that garb, and that, as they are now placed, we cannot prevent it. Indeed, it is probable that the officers from *Lebanon* have gone off in that disguise. We have had it hinted that some of them are travelling through the country, procuring signers to some paper, which, it is more than probable, is of bad tendency, and shall therefore endeavour to detect them. That they have had the most early intelligence of events which have happened in *Canada*, we have had experience. We therefore cannot help mentioning to Congress our opinion as to the necessity of having them in some manner secured, so as to prevent their straggling, carrying intelligence, or insulting or injuring the inhabitants; and that, while at liberty, they are a dangerous set of people, and beg leave to request the direction of Congress in the premises.

As it is proposed to march part of the town Militia on *Thursday* next, we shall be happy in having the sentiments and directions of Congress before that time.

And have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

GEORGE ROSS, *Chairman*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President of the Honourable Continental Congress.

DOCTOR COCHRAN TO THOMAS MCKEAN.

New-Brunswick, July 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The bearer, Lieutenant *Woodman*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, taken prisoner at *Ticonderoga* last summer, has resided in this town ever since, on his parole. As far as I know, he has behaved himself with decency respecting publick matters; nor do I find that he has ever been charged with taking part either with one side or the other. He has made a \_\_\_\_\_ in this town, and is at present employed in repairing it. He is married to a daughter of Mr. *Legrance*, of this place, and has a family of six children, which renders his removal from hence rather distressing; therefore, if any indulgences, consistent with the publick safety, can be allowed him, I hope they will not be improperly bestowed. I know your readiness to do acts of humanity; therefore leave the matter of it particularly to your own judgment and the publick security.

I am, dear sir, your very obedient, humble servant,

JOHN COCHRAN.

To *Thomas McKean*, Esq., *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabethtown, July 7, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: By Captain *Swan*, of the new levies, just going off for the city, I take the liberty of enclosing a rough draught of the *Sound* and *Jersey* shore, from *Elizabeth Point* to *Amboy*, with an abstract of the different posts I have directed along the same. Although this may not be of any essential service, yet I thought it not amiss, as it might give you an idea of what I had done, that your Excellency might rectify anything that was amiss in the arrangement.

Since writing the above, a deserter is brought in to me, whose examination I have taken, and enclose it; and forward this by express, lest it should be delayed. I have also this moment received intelligence from *Philadelphia*, that the *Pennsylvania* forces marched the 5th instant to our assistance, and that the principal part of the strength of *Pennsylvania* will soon be on their march, for the same benevolent purpose.

I received your Excellency's letter respecting the persons apprehended at *Amboy*, and I shall send them all (except

*Smyth*, whom I think I can trust on his parole) to the Convention to-morrow morning.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most humble servant,  
 WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.  
 To General Washington.

GENERAL HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

Staten-Island, July 7, 1776.

MY LORD: The *Mercury* packet is despatched to inform your Lordship of the arrival of the *Halifax* fleet, on the 29th of June, at *Sandy-Hook*, where I arrived four days sooner in the *Grayhound* frigate. I met with Governour *Tryon*, on board of ship at the *Hook*, and many gentlemen, fast friends to Government, attending him, from whom I have had the fullest information of the state of the Rebels, who are numerous, and very advantageously posted, with strong intrenchments both upon *Long-Island* and that of *New-York*, with more than one hundred pieces of cannon for the defence of the town towards the sea, and to obstruct the passage of the fleet up the *North River*, besides a considerable field-train of artillery. Having made inquiries of these gentlemen respecting the face of the country between *Gravesend Bay* in *Long-Island*, and the enemy's works in the neighbourhood of *Brooklyn*, their accounts were so satisfactory that I had determined to disembark the Army at *Gravesend*; and with this intention the fleet moved up to the bay, on the 1st instant, in the evening, in order to land the troops at the break of day next morning; but being more particularly informed during the night of a strong pass upon a ridge of craggy heights covered with wood, that lay in the route the Army must have taken, only two miles distant from the front of the enemy's encampment and seven from *Gravesend*, which the Rebels would undoubtedly have occupied before the King's troops could get up to it; and from the minutest description, judging an attack upon this post, so strong by nature, and so near the front of the enemy's works, to be too hazardous an attempt, before the arrival of the troops with Commodore *Hottham*, daily expected, I declined the undertaking, and passing the *Narrows* with three ships of war and the first division of transports, landed the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry as the ships came up, to the great joy of a most loyal people, long suffering on that account under the oppression of the Rebels stationed among them, who precipitately fled on the approach of the shipping. The remainder of the troops landed during the next day and night, and are now distributed in cantonments, where they have the best refreshments.

In justice to Captain *Reynar*, of his Majesty's ship *Chat-ham*, who was directed by the Admiral to make the disposition of boats for landing the troops, and to Captain *Curtis*, commanding the *Senegal* sloop-of-war, who was to superintend the execution, I must express my entire satisfaction in the conduct of those gentlemen, and the dependence to be placed upon their future services in this line.

I propose waiting here for the *English* fleet, or the arrival of Lieutenant-General *Clinton*, in readiness to proceed, unless by some unexpected change of circumstances in the meantime, it should be found expedient to act with the present force. In case Lieutenant-General *Clinton's* southern operations should prevent his joining the Army here, I am apprehensive the possession of *Rhode-Island*, though of the most important nature, must be deferred until the arrival of the second embarkation from *Europe*, unless General *Carleton* should penetrate early into this Province, which may enable me to spare a corps adequate to that service. But as I must esteem a previous impression upon the enemy's principal force, collected in this quarter, to be the first object of my attention, I shall hold it steadily in view, without losing sight of those which, comparatively, may be esteemed collateral.

Vice-Admiral *Shulldham* was joined on his voyage by six transports belonging to the Highland corps, having three companies of the Forty-Second and three of the Seventy-First on board. There is no other intelligence of this embarkation, excepting an account published in the *New-York* papers, that two transports of the fleet were taken by the enemy's privateers, and carried into *Boston*; that Major *Menzies* was killed in the engagement, and Lieutenant-Colonel *Campbell*, of the Seventy-First, made prisoner, with sixteen other officers, and about four hundred and fifty men. Sir *W. Erskine* is among those that are absent.

Governour *Franklin*, who for a long time maintained his ground in *Jersey*, has been lately taken into custody at *Am-boy*, and is at this time detained a prisoner in *Connecticut*; and the Mayor of *New-York* has been confined a few days ago, upon a frivolous complaint of his sending intelligence to Governour *Tryon*, brought to trial, and condemned to suffer death; but, by the last intelligence, the sentence was not carried into execution.

Notwithstanding these violent proceedings, I have the satisfaction to inform your Lordship, that there is great reason to expect a numerous body of the inhabitants to join the Army from the Provinces of *York*, the *Jerseys*, and *Connecticut*, who, in this time of universal oppression, only wait for opportunities to give proofs of their loyalty and zeal for Government. Sixty men came over two days ago, with a few arms, from the neighbourhood of *Shrewsbury*, in *Jersey*, who are all desirous to serve; and I understand there are five hundred more in that quarter ready to follow their example. This disposition among the people makes me impatient for the arrival of Lord *Howe*, concluding the powers with which he is furnished will have the best effect at this critical time; but I am still of opinion that peace will not be restored in *America* until the Rebel Army is defeated.

I beg leave to represent to your Lordship the inconvenience arising from the want of camp-equipage at this time, which may continue during the course of this rebellion, unless sent out the year before it is to be used; also the necessity of an early supply of woollens, linen, and shoes, for the Provincial troops that I may retain in pay during the winter, as these things are not to be had here on any terms, and the distress of the inhabitants in general is so great, from the want of those articles, that the friends of Government will suffer much, without assistance from *Europe*.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Blunt*, of the Fourth Regiment, who has my leave to return to *Britain* from the particular situation of his affairs, will deliver this despatch; and I have the honour to be, &c.,  
 W. Howe.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, July 7, 1776.

SIR: I have been honoured with your favours of the 3d and 4th instant, and return you my sincere thanks for your kind intention to afford me every assistance in your power at this truly critical and alarming period. The situation of our affairs calls aloud for the most vigorous exertions, and nothing less will be sufficient to avert the impending blow. From four prisoners, taken the other day, we are informed that General *Howe* has already about ten thousand men, being joined by the regiment from the *West-Indies* and some of the Highland troops in his passage hither; that he is in daily expectation of the arrival of Admiral *Howe*; and that nothing would be attempted till he came, having come from *Halifax* in consequence of advices received a few days before from *England*, that the Admiral was ready to sail with a fleet of one hundred and fifty ships, with a large reinforcement to join him here. These armies, when united, you will readily conceive, will be extremely formidable, and such as will require a large and numerous one, on our part, to oppose them. But yet I have been under the necessity of informing Colonel *Silliman* that it will be impossible to subsist the horses of the three regiments ordered; and if it could be done, the expense would be enormous, and what I do not apprehend I have authority to assent to. At the same time, knowing the important advantages that may result from their aid, I have entreated his exertions to prevail on the men to come themselves. I hope, on the one hand, they will see the propriety of my objecting to their horses, and on the other, the necessity there is of coming themselves. My anxiety leads me to request a continuance of your good offices in forwarding the battalions ordered with all possible despatch. The interest of *America* is now in the balance, and it behooves all attached to her sacred cause, and the rights of humanity, to hold forth their utmost and most speedy aid. I am convinced nothing will be wanting in your power to effect.

The situation of the Northern Army is certainly distressing, but no relief can be afforded by me. This, I am persuaded, you will readily agree to. I should suppose, if proper precautions are taken, the small-pox may be prevented from spreading. This was done at *Cambridge*, and I trust will

be continued by Generals *Schuyler* and *Gates*, who are well apprized of the fatal consequences that may attend its infecting the whole Army. But a small part of the forces here have had it; were it not the case, neither policy nor prudence would allow me to send any more from hence that have seen the least of service. Too many have been already detached; to part with more would be to put all to the hazard.

The retreat of the Army from *Canada*, I doubt not, will occasion a general alarm to the frontier inhabitants, and our enemies, without question, will use every means they have to excite the savages against them; but I would fain hope their incursions will be prevented and repelled without much difficulty. The first opportunity I have, I will transmit a copy of your letter to Congress upon this subject, and request their attention to it.

I am, sir, with sentiments of great esteem, your most obedient humble servant,  
 GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL WARD.

New-York, July 7, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 30th ultimo, and I doubt not but the powder claimed by the Assembly of *New-Hampshire* was lent the Continent. The exposed situation of their frontiers renders every precaution necessary for their defence.

I think it would be proper to send a quantity of it to some safe place on the communication betwixt this and *Boston*, there to be ready in case of accident, or if it should be wanted. I therefore wish you to lodge at *Norwich* (which I suppose will be as secure as any other place) from three to four hundred barrels. In my letter of the 1st, I desired you to send a quantity of the *Highlanders'* muskets that were taken. I pray your attention to my request, and that they may come with all possible expedition; the deficiency here in this essential article is greatly alarming. I am extremely sorry that your indisposition has increased, and I hope in a little time you will be relieved. It is now before Congress to determine whether the Continental Regiments at *Boston* should not be ordered from thence, as there is almost a moral certainty that the enemy mean not to make an attack there, but to bend their whole force against this Province. Four prisoners that fell into our hands last week, on a separate examination, agree, that General *Howe*, being joined by some regiments from the *West-Indies*, and part of the *Scotch Highlanders*, on his passage hither, has now about ten thousand men; that a few days before they left *Halifax*, an express packet arrived, ordering him to come to this place, where he would be joined by Admiral *Howe*, with a fleet of one hundred and fifty sail, with troops on board, which was about to sail when the packet did; that they are daily expected, which has been the reason nothing has been yet attempted. If Congress withdraw the regiments, you will be instantly relieved; and if they do not, I must send a General Officer (inconvenient as it is to spare one at this critical time) to take the command. I expect to know the result of their deliberations in a day or two. It will be right to comply with the order of the Board of War and Ordnance, and a list may be transmitted of the persons you have judged most proper to fill the vacancies.

I am, sir, with my best wishes for your recovery, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Ward*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO WILLIAM WATSON.

New-York, July 7, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 19th ultimo, and directed the papers you wrote for to be transmitted you, but find, upon inquiry, they are not among any in my possession now. Colonel *Moylan*, who used generally to receive and examine the papers appertaining to the prizes, being called upon, says that previous to his departure from *Cambridge*, he made up all the prize papers, and put them in such a channel as he thought most likely to convey them to the different agents. He supposes these were with the rest; he cannot recollect to whom they were delivered. If they cannot be got, you must try the legality of the captures upon such evidence as you can collect from the men who were in the vessels when they were taken, and from other circumstances. If they were

going to *Nova-Scotia* for the purpose mentioned by the claimants, I presume it will not be difficult for them to prove it by witnesses. I am, sir, your humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *William Watson*, Esq., *Plymouth*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL JAMES CLINTON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 7, 1776.

SIR: I received yours by Major *Rensselaer*, and am pleased to find you are making the necessary preparations to repel the enemy in case of an attack. I hope you will be able to get arms sufficient for the men under your command who are destitute; but if not, you are to dismiss all those whom you cannot equip, (I mean to confine myself to the Militia wholly,) as it is equally absurd and unjust to keep men in Continental pay, who will be of no service in time of action for want of arms; it is, in fact, amusing ourselves with the appearance of strength, when at the same time we want the reality. Colonel *Knox* informs me he has no carriages to spare, but you can have the carriage wheels, which, with the iron, will be delivered to the care of Major *Rensselaer*. As to the balls for the small-arms, they should be sent if the sizes could be ascertained, so as to fit the muskets exactly; but as that cannot be done, I shall order a sufficient quantity of lead to be sent up, which you will direct to be cast into balls suitable for your purpose. You must furnish the bullet moulds in the best manner you can, as there are none here. With regard to the appointment of Doctor *Tappan*, I would just mention, that as it is a matter transacted between you and the Provincial Congress, in which I am quite unconnected, I would choose it should continue so; however, by renewing your application to the Congress, you will doubtless receive a satisfactory answer.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *James Clinton*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

New-York, July 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I was yesterday honoured with your favour of the 2d instant, with the proceedings you have adopted in compliance with the requisition of Congress and my application since; for which, and your kind wishes for my success, I beg your acceptance of my most hearty thanks; and am, gentlemen, with sentiments of the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. the General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay*, at *Watertown*.

HOSPITAL REGULATIONS.

Regulations agreed upon betwixt the Director-General of the *American Hospital* and the Regimental Surgeons and Mates at *New-York*, the day of *July*, 1776.

Rule 1. That every full Regiment or Battalion, provided with a Surgeon and Mate, or each Brigade, as the occasion may point out, ought to have some convenient quarters, to be appropriated by the proper Quartermaster, for the reception of such of the sick of that corps, and entitled a Regimental Hospital; which sick are to be attended by their own regimental Surgeons and Mates.

2. That it shall be the business of the Surgeons and Mates in all Regiments, to examine the soldiers in the same who are reported to be unfit for duty, and to separate from the well those who are sick, and to receive them into the Regimental Hospital.

3. That they keep a Register of those who are admitted into the Regimental Hospital, containing the patient's name, the company he belongs to, the days of his admission into and discharge from the Hospital, (agreeable to a form annexed.)

4. That he shall make daily returns of the sick in his Regiment to the commanding officer of the same, that it may be known who are fit for duty and who are not; and that such as are on the doctor's list may not be included in the provision return of the Regiment.

5. That the Surgeon shall every day prescribe the diet of each sick person under his care, according to the diet tables established in the General Hospital, or other suitable tables to be agreed on, under the titles of full diet, half diet, spare diet, dry diet, milk diet, &c.



6. That he make out and sign the provision return every day for the sick, and draw upon the Director-General of the Hospital, agreeable to the tables of diet before mentioned; for the regulation of which, weekly returns of the number sick (in that week) shall be made out on a stated day, so that whatever the price of diet drawn for said sick shall fall short of the rations stopped from the sick during the week, so much may be drawn for their use in other stores, as wine, rum, sugar, coffee, tea, molasses, candles, soap, &c.

[If that surplus of money is not sufficient, there are no other ways to supply than either to do it by stoppages of the soldier's pay, as in the *British Army*, or by its being advanced by himself, or by the Colonel or the Captain of the regiment to which he belongs, and allowed in his abstract; the General Hospital having nothing to do with the expenses of Regimental Hospitals, and no provision for the purpose being yet made by the Congress.]

7. That no Regimental Surgeon shall send any sick from his Regiment or Regimental Hospital to the General Hospital, without a ticket expressing the name of the sick, his Company, and the Regiment to which he belongs, signed by himself or mate, and mentioning likewise the disorder he labours under, and the time he has been ill.

8. That he send none to the General Hospital labouring under infectious, putrid, or malignant diseases; for the introduction of such fevers into a general hospital will only injure the person sent, and may endanger the Surgeons' Mates and other officers, as well as all that are sick of other diseases in the General Hospital, engender the jail or hospital fever, and ruin the Army. Such sick are to be kept separate if possible, and be taken care of by the Regimental Surgeon.

9. That whatever stores or utensils may be wanted for the use of a Regimental Hospital, whether kettles to cook victuals, blankets, &c., they ought to be got from the Quartermaster-General's store, or procured from the same place and in the same manner as the like articles are procured for the well soldiers of the regiment: to be provided by an order from the Colonel, the Surgeon to give his receipt for and take care of the same; for the preservation of which, he may establish such regulations as he sees fit.

10. That as the medicine chest, and a number of articles, as old linen, bandages, &c., have been supplied to regiments at the voluntary motion of the Director-General of the General Hospital, with the approbation of the Commander-in-Chief, whenever the regiments are disbanded, all such particulars are to be returned into the General Hospital; otherwise, when new troops are levied, under the present scarcity and difficulty to procure them, it may not be practicable or easy to supply the Army again with those articles for another year.

11. That for every Regimental Hospital a cook ought to be allowed, to prepare the diet of the sick agreeable to the tables, or nurses who may serve for cooks, one to every ten men: the pay the same as in the General Hospital, viz: half a dollar per week, and rations allowed, (by the regiment.)

12. That each Regimental Hospital ought to have a corporal's guard, or at least three men, one of which to stand sentinel at the Hospital door, to prevent the sick from leaving the Hospital without permission from the Surgeon, and to keep persons from going in, without orders, to disturb the sick, or carry liquor to them. The other persons, whilst relieved from standing sentinel, to serve for the time as waiters, and obey the Surgeon and his Mate, in respect to any assistance which may be reasonably required in behalf of the sick.

Lastly. That in all cases not provided for by the foregoing or any future regulations that may be agreed upon, the Surgeons and Mates shall observe the customs and usages of the *British Army*, and shall at all times obey such orders as they shall (in the way of duty) receive from the Director-General for the treatment of the sick, or for the discharge of the duties of their station.

#### COMMITMENT OF JOHN LEWIS.

New-York, July 7, 1776.

*John Lewis*, a resident in the city of *New-York*, confined in the City-Hall for his drinking healths to King *George* and success to his fleet, and manifesting his intention to join the said fleet or the army of the enemy, against the Continental Army, by

Jos. SPENCER, Brig. General.

#### H. GLEN TO COLONEL FONDA.

Schenectady, July 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: As I am at present not able to complete as many boats as the service requires, I have sent off *Ernst Van Epps* with three, which are all I can as yet complete, having recommended him to you to procure four batteaus for here for two trips to the *Falls*, as he is then to return here, after having done that work, he having tolls complete for seven boats. You will please load him with flour, for which article I am directed by *Walter Livingston*, Esq., to apply to you. I believe twelve barrels will be a good load. Excuse my intruding on you for batteaus, which I should not do could I get them any other way; but the urgency is such that I cannot avoid it. I am yours, &c., H. GLEN.

To Colonel *Fonda*.

#### H. GLEN TO COLONEL DAYTON.

Schenectady, July 7, 1776.

SIR: Since I wrote to you yesterday by Lieutenant *Turnavel*, of the Artillery, I have succeeded in getting some more batteau-men, whom I have ordered to take flour from Colonel *Fonda's*, to bring to the carrying-place; so that I hope to be able, by the time the batteaus that take up the artillery, &c., can return to the *Falls*, to have a load of provisions ready for them there to take to *Fort Stanwix*, to which place Major *Barber* has informed me that, on the arrival of the artillery, you were to go; so that you will please give them directions for that purpose, not to come across the carrying-place till that business is done, but then to come down here to this place. I am, sir, yours, &c., H. GLEN.

To Colonel *Dayton*.

#### H. GLEN TO JOHN PETRIE.

Schenectady, July 7, 1776.

SIR: As a quantity of flour will be brought to the *Falls* for the troops above you, I am to request of you, after the same is brought over the carrying-place, to have the same put in your barn, and that you will be so good and have a lock over it, so that it is not destroyed. The stay will be but short, as the batteaus that go over are to take it away as soon as they can return; the riding and your little trouble shall be paid for by, sir, yours, &c. H. GLEN.

To Mr. *John Petrie*.

#### COLONEL HURD TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Concord, July 7, 1776.

SIR: By several persons I have met with on the road coming from *Coos*, and by the last intelligence I can collect, I find the inhabitants there, especially those on and near *Connecticut River*, from the *Upper* to the *Lower Coos*, are much more alarmed and apprehensive of danger from the enemy than we imagined; several families are already removed and removing from thence; among the rest, I have found Mrs. *Hurd*, with part of my family, here at *Concord*, who was advised by the most discreet of the people to leave the place, unless she could submit to live, as they must do, crowded into a garrison, and which they were all preparing for. The particulars of this, the bearer, Colonel *Bayley*, who goes express on the occasion, can acquaint you of, and of the very critical situation of all that part of the country; that it is of the utmost consequence the first of the reinforcements which can be raised should be sent into that quarter, and that immediately.

It is yet uncertain whether General *Sullivan* has retreated to *Crown-Point*. There is a person in town (one *Kinsman*) who informs that Messrs. *Gyles* and *Betton* (whom he heard of on the road) had altered their course, and were gone for *Albany*, and who were at *Otter Creek* this day week, within twenty miles of *Crown-Point*. He tells us there was then no account of *Sullivan's* having crossed the lake; that he was thought still to be at *Isle-aux-Noix*, or not far distant; and if so, it may be best that great part of the new levies should rendezvous at *Coos*, as at first designed; they might then, by ranging the woods, give some check to the enemy, and draw off part of their forces from pursuing General *Sullivan's* Army, as well as to be a protection to our settlers, who must otherwise desert many of their plantations and lose the benefit of the approaching



harvest, that is now very promising; this may be a double loss to us. I shall proceed on my journey to-morrow for *Haverhill*, leaving my wife here; and if anything important occurs, I will immediately advise you, but must beg leave to repeat my request, that we may have some very speedy assistance. Why may not Captain *Harper's* company, if mustered, or any other first in readiness, march off for this purpose? It can be no detriment, and little out of the way, should they afterwards be ordered to *Crown-Point*. Shall be glad to hear something of this sort by return of Colonel *Bayley*, for the quiet of our people.

In the mean time remain, with great esteem and respect to you and the gentlemen of the Committee of Safety, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. HURD.

To the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq.

MEMORIAL FROM CONWAY, FRYBURGH, AND BROWNFIELD.

To the Honourable General Court of the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:

The memorial of the Committee of *Conway*, in the County of *Grafton*, and *Fryburgh* and *Brownfield*, in the County of *York*, and Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, united, humbly sheweth: That the abovesaid new Plantations, consisting of about thirty families, are situated at a place called *Pig-wacket*, upon *Saco River*, which nearly unites with a branch of the *Androscoggin River*, about thirty miles northerly from other settlements, and lie greatly exposed to incursions from the savages, by the following natural communications, as frequented by the *Indians* that come to those places: one from *Chaudiere River* into *Umbagog Lake*, which empties itself into *Androscoggin River*; another from *St. Francois River*, into a branch of *Connecticut River*, and by that into *Androscoggin River*; another from *Kennebeck River*, by the way of *Muschamcontocock*, into *Androscoggin River*; that these several ways are by water, except a few short carrying places, which bring them within twenty miles of these settlements; that the greatest part of these twenty miles is water carriage; that *Androscoggin River* runs farther to the northward than the head of *Connecticut River*; that a party the last year was sent out from *Coos* to reconnoitre the woods over to *Umbramagog Lake*, which empties into the *St. Francois River*, from thence they set out eastwardly, in order to strike *Connecticut River*, but headed it, and struck *Androscoggin River*, came down that river, and came into these settlements; that last fall three men from Colonel *Arnold's* party came into these settlements by the way of *Androscoggin River*; four or five persons from *Quebeck*, last *May*, came in here the same way. It appears that whenever the frontiers are exposed, these settlements are in danger; that from the alarming accounts we have lately received from *Canada*, we think it necessary to make preparation for defence; and as it is not likely we can provide ourselves with arms and ammunition without the aid of the honourable Court, therefore the memorialists entreat the favour of the honourable Court to the application that may be made for the above purpose and for protection, if the time should come that the frontiers are in danger. And we, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

RICHARD KIMBALL, *Chairman of Committee*.

Dated at *Fryburgh*, this 7th day of *July*, 1776.

N. B. Last night came in here one family from the *Upper Coos*, and all the rest of the inhabitants are removing as fast as possible.

DEPOSITION OF JARRET WILLIAMS.

Fincastle, Virginia, Monday, July 8, 1776.

The Deposition of *Jarret Williams*, taken before me, *Anthony Bledsoe*, a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid, being first sworn on the holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, deposeth and saith: That he left the *Cherokee Nation* on *Monday* night, the 8th instant, (*July*;) that the part of the nation called the *Overhills*, were then preparing to go to war against the frontiers of *Virginia*, having purchased to the amount of one thousand skins, or thereabouts, for mockasins. They were also beating flour for a march, and making other warlike preparations. Their number, from a calculation made by the *Raven* warriors, amounts to about six hundred warriors; and, according to the deponent's ideas, he thinks we may

expect a general attack every hour. They propose to take away negroes, horses, &c., and to kill all kinds of cattle, sheep, &c., for which purpose they are well stocked with bows and arrows, &c.; also to destroy all corn, burn houses, &c. And he also heard, that the valley towns were, a part of them, set off; but that they had sent a runner to stop them, till all were ready to start. He further relates, that *Alexander Cameron* informed them that he had concluded to send Captain *Nathaniel Guest*, *William Farlin*, *Isaac Williams*, and the deponent; with the *Indians*, till they came near to *Nanachukey*; then the *Indians* were to stop, and *Guest* and the other whites abovementioned were to go to see if there were any King's men among the inhabitants; and if they found any, they were to take them off to the *Indians*, or have a white signal in their hands, or otherwise, to distinguish them. When this was done, they were to fall on the inhabitants, and kill and drive all they possibly could. That on *Saturday*, the 6th instant, in the night, he heard two prisoners were brought in about midnight; but the deponent saw only one. That the within *Williams* saw one scalp brought by a party of the *Indians*, with a prisoner; but from accounts, they had five scalps. He also says, that he heard the prisoner examined by *Cameron*, though he gave a very imperfect account, being very much cast down. He further says, that the *Cherokees* had received the war-belt from the *Shawanese*, *Mingo*, *Taawah*, and *Delaware Nations*, to strike the white people; that fifteen of the said nation were lately in the *Cherokee* towns, and that few of the *Cherokees* went in company with the *Shawanese*, &c. That they all intended to strike the settlers on *Kentucky*; and that the *Cherokees* gave the said *Shawanese*, &c., four scalps of white men, which they carried away with them. The said *Shawanese* and *Mingoes* informed the *Cherokees*, that they then were at peace with every other nation; that the *French* were to supply them with ammunition, and that they wanted the *Cherokees* to join them to strike the white people on the frontiers, which the *Cherokees* have agreed to. And the deponent further saith, that before he left the nation a number of the *Cherokees* of the lower towns were gone to fall on the frontiers of *South-Carolina* and *Georgia*; and further saith not.

JARRET WILLIAMS.

Signed before ANTHONY BLEDSOE.

DR. C. WIESENTHALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In all the troops which designed, or are taking the field, there is a necessity for a medical department abstract from that of the battalion, and which is committed to the superintendency of a physician or surgeon-general, or director-in-chief, who has the care of the hospitals, and gives the proper directions thereof, as well as to the troops in general.

This was that station I meant when I accepted the service; very well knowing, as surgeon in common, several might be had to fill that station, because during engagements, they chiefly act in dressing wounds, &c., where very little art is necessary; but after the removal of the wounded to the hospital, the proper applications are made.

The first surgeon of a battalion or regiment is called Surgeon-Major, and his province goes no farther than his battalion, only except he is contiguous to the hospital, and has time, then he assists his men belonging to the battalion.

You were pleased, gentlemen, to give me a commission of first surgeon of Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion only, which I accepted, with the promise of having it laid before the Convention in order to increase the salary adequate to the abovementioned station. I have acted all along in that station according to the extent of the circumstances. I have taken and caused to be taken care of the sick of the ship *Defence* as often as they left the harbour. I have advised and visited them when in harbour. I have even twice furnished them with a surgeon in absence of their own. The Militia when called to town made likewise application during their stay. Several instances more might be mentioned, but the above will be sufficiently convincing, and leave the method to your consideration, being, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most humble and most obedient servant,

C. WIESENTHALL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## COL. HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Elk, 7 o'clock, July 8, at Evening.

SIR: Yours of the 7th per express is now before me. Every requisite necessary shall be provided for expediting the troops with despatch. Could wish something had been said regarding provisions, as I am now at a loss whether to provide or not; and am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

H. HOLLINGSWORTH.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety.

## COLONEL TYLER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You have, enclosed, a list of the arms in my battalion. I am informed by Major *Williams*, who examined the guns, that all those said to be in good order are such as the owners would choose to make use of in case of an emergency. By this return, the guns in the battalion amount to no more than three hundred and fifty-one, which I am sorry to hear are so few; however, the many good ones make amends.

I have further to inform you, that for the sake of satisfying the people, I allowed them to choose a second Major, who is wanting, from the resignation of Colonel *Joshua Beall*, and that Captain *John McGill* had the voice of a very great majority. I therefore recommend him as very worthy your notice, and hope you will appoint him to that command. I beg you will send commissions of Mr. *Williams's*, Mr. *Snowden's*, and my promotions, by Mr. *Millikin*, who has the care of this letter. I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

ROBERT TYLER.

## JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, Sunday afternoon, July 8, 1776.

SIRS: At the request of Mr. *Purviance*, I have sent down three vessels that will carry three companies of the soldiers to *Elk*, or where they may be wanted. I do this at his request, not doubting but it may be right, as he says you desire it. But please when you want anything done by me, write a line, as I could tell better how to proceed, and with greater certainty. I shall finish unloading the brigs to-morrow; but the delay was owing to the owners not beginning at your first request. From your friend and humble servant,

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

P. S. I am to pay for each of these vessels 17s. 6d. per day, and they find them in hands and provisions.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MATTHIAS HAMMOND.

[No. 7.]

Annapolis, July 8, 1776.

SIR: Two companies of Colonel *Hall's* battalion will be immediately ordered to the city of *Annapolis*, for its defence, agreeable to a resolution of Convention. And as it will be proper that you, as Quartermaster, should provide quarters and provision for them, we have thought fit to give you this early information of it, that you may adjust matters accordingly; the service requires expedition, and that not a moment should be lost in taking the necessary measures.

We are, &amp;c.

To *Mat. Hammond*, Quartermaster.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO STEPHEN STEWART.

[No. 8.]

Annapolis, July 8, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety will take Mr. *Sprigg's* vessel if you are of opinion that she will make a fast sailer, draw little water, and suit this Province as an armed vessel, of which please to advise us in writing; and request she may be got ready with the utmost despatch. We hope and expect a fortnight will complete her. When can you set off for the *Eastern-Shore* to examine the vessels which are offered as suitable for the purpose? We want them. You promised to be with us on *Friday*, but we did not understand whether you could immediately go over the bay. This matter requires despatch, and we beg your immediate answer. If you can go, we shall be much pleased; if you cannot go, do you know any one who would be proper to send on that business? We are, &c.

To Mr. *Stephen Stewart*.

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## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL DORSEY.

[No. 9.]

Annapolis, July 8, 1776.

SIR: You will see by the enclosed resolve that the Convention have directed the place of the regulars that are to march from hence to *Philadelphia* should be supplied by three companies of the neighbouring Militia till the Militia for the Flying-Camp can be got ready. The Council of Safety have thought proper to order a company of your battalion to march down here immediately, and we desire you will despatch them with the utmost expedition. We expect a sufficient number of the Militia for the Flying-Camp will be raised in a very short time to supply the place of yours, with the other companies which shall be discharged, as soon as possible. Colonels *Weems* and *Hammond* are now with us, and intend that the company they are respectively to furnish shall be composed out of the whole battalion companies if wholly ordered out, may be much distressed and very indifferently armed. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Thomas Dorsey*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THOMAS SMYTH.

[No. 10.]

Annapolis, July 8, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety request you will agree with *Blake* for the cartridge-boxes, &c. The price of the whole is twelve shillings, but we cannot ascertain individually, not having yet been furnished with the contracts by Mr. *Alexander*, who made them. We are, &c.

To *Thomas Smyth*, Esq.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CHARLES RIDGELY.

[No. 11.]

Annapolis, July 8, 1776.

SIR: We have immediate occasion, on account of the Province, for some swivels and small cannon, from four-pounders downwards, and shall (as we are informed your furnace is in blast) be very glad to know whether you can cast them. If you can, be pleased to let us know the terms, and by what time you can furnish us with them. We are, &c.

To Messrs. *Charles Ridgely* and *John Weston*, respectively.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 12.]

Annapolis, July 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Convention have ordered that the sum of ten thousand pounds be appropriated to fortify the city of *Annapolis*, and to place obstructions in the river *Severn*; but as we have not, nor know of an Engineer properly qualified to carry on the works, and your station may perhaps afford you an opportunity of assisting us with one, we beg you will make inquiry for and recommend to us some person of knowledge and experience in that science. We are anxious to comply with the resolve of Convention, as *Annapolis* is very undefensible; and we presume, from its advantageous situation, will be an object with the enemy. We are so thronged with business that we cannot now write you fully, but will as soon as we have a little leisure. As the conveniences may not be provided for Colonel *Smallwood* and the troops by the time they reach *Philadelphia*, we request you will give him all the assistance you can. We send you, enclosed, a resolve of our Convention, relating to our regular forces, which we desire you will communicate to the Brigadier-General of the Flying-Camp. We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress.

P. S. We take the liberty of recommending Captain *Stricker* to you, as a person for a field officer in the *German* battalion, and think the service will be benefited by his appointment. If he should be commissioned, the sooner it is done the better, as it will probably be a great inducement to his countrymen to enlist.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ROBERT ALEXANDER.

[No. 13.]

Annapolis, July 8, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety are much at a loss in respect to the contracts made by you in *Baltimore*; they have written to you several times to transmit them, but have never had the pleasure to receive them or a line from you on the subject. There is a real necessity for their being lodged here,

as some of the artificers do not comply with their contracts ; and we are subject to two inconveniences—the ignorance of the real contract, and the want of power to enforce it.

We are, &c.

To *Robert Alexander, Esq.*

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, *July 8, 1776:*

Present: *S. Purviance*, Chairman, *William Lux*, Vice Chairman, *J. Calhoun*, *W. Aisquith*, *A. Brittain*, *Andrew Buchanan*, *B. Nicholson*, *Charles Ridgely* of *William*, *Z. McCubbin*, *T. Sollers*, and *J. Griest*.

Messrs. *Selah Barbon* and *James Seddon* applied to this Committee to be released from the fines assessed on them as Non-Enrollers, as they had now enrolled with Captain *Cromwell*; which was granted.

On representation of *Richard Taylor* that he was fined £10, which he is utterly unable to pay, without greatly distressing his family of a wife and seven children, the Committee, taking the same into consideration, agreed to remit £5 of said fine.

An express arrived from the Council of Safety with copies of a Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock, Esq.*, President of the Congress, to the Convention of *Maryland*, dated the 4th *July*, advising of the arrival of General *Howe*, with a considerable Army, at *Staten-Island*, and requesting, in the most earnest manner, the march of the Militia voted by this Colony for the Flying-Camp. Also, several Resolves of the Convention of this Province, dated 6th *July*, among which is a resolve that two Companies of *Germans* be raised in this County, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, and seventy-six Privates, and that the Committee recommend the Officers of said Companies, and certify the same to the Council of Safety.

Resolved, That this Committee will meet on *Thursday*, the 11th instant, and that publick notice be given thereof, in order that all those who are desirous of commissions may apply.

Attested :

*GEORGE LUX, Secretary.*

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 8, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour of enclosing sundry resolves of Congress, to which I beg leave to refer your attention, and which are so explicit that I need not enlarge.

In obedience to the commands of Congress, I have written to Generals *Schuyler* and *Gates*, and have recommended a mutual confidence and harmony in their military operations. Their joint labour and exertions are requisite in that quarter; nor have I the least doubt but they will act on all occasions with the most perfect unanimity.

You will please to appoint suitable places of rendezvous for the battalions raising for *Canada*, and communicate the same to the Assemblies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Connecticut*, and *New-York*, and also to issue orders for supplying the men with rations, tents, month's advance pay, and other necessities.

I am so pressed for time, that I can only add that I am, most truly, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

*JOHN HANCOCK, President.*

To General *Washington*.

P. S. The enclosed please forward to General *Schuyler* and General *Gates*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, July 8, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of your letter to General *Washington*, stating that a difference of opinion had arisen between General *Gates* and yourself with regard to the command of the troops in the Northern Department, I am to inform you that Congress have this day taken the matter into consideration, and directed me to transmit the enclosed resolution.

You will there perceive that it was the intention of Congress to give General *Gates* the command while the troops were in *Canada*, but no longer. As they think it expedient he should still continue to act with you, I am most earnestly

to recommend to you to cultivate a harmony in your military operations. The Congress highly approve of your patriotism and magnanimity in not suffering any difference of opinion to hurt the publick service.

A mutual confidence and good understanding are at this time so essentially necessary, that I am persuaded they will take place on all occasions between yourself and General *Gates*, and that by your joint exertions in the cause of freedom, your country will receive the most essential benefits.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

*JOHN HANCOCK, President.*

To General *Schuyler*, *Albany* or elsewhere.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, July 8, 1776.

SIR: The Congress being informed by letter from General *Schuyler* to General *Washington*, which was laid before them at the request of the former, and by your own consent, that a difference of opinion had arisen between General *Schuyler* and yourself, with regard to the command of the Army in the Northern Department, they immediately took the matter into consideration, and have this day come to the enclosed resolution, which I do myself the honour of transmitting in obedience to their commands.

You will there perceive that Congress are of opinion your command was totally independent of General *Schuyler* while the Army was in *Canada*, but no longer; and, indeed, the terms in which the resolve relative to your appointment is conceived, seem to show that this was their intention. You were expressly, by that resolve, to take the command of the troops in *Canada*; words which strongly imply that they had no design to divest General *Schuyler* of the command while the troops were on this side *Canada*.

I am, however, to inform you that Congress highly approve your resolution and magnanimity that the publick service should receive no detriment from any difference of opinion on the occasion. It is their most earnest desire that you will go on to act in the same manner, and cultivate harmony in all your military operations. A good understanding and mutual confidence are so essentially necessary in order to give success to our measures, that I am convinced they will take place on all occasions between you. He deserves most of his country, and will undoubtedly meet with the greatest applause, in whatever rank or station he may be, who renders her the most useful and signal services.

I have the honour to be, sir, with great respect and esteem, your most obedient and very humble servant,

*JOHN HANCOCK, President.*

To General *Gates*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL ROBERDEAU.

Philadelphia, July 8, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from Congress to direct that you do not order Captain *Peters* out of this city, his service being necessary as Secretary to the War Office.

I am also to inform you that the Postmasters, while in office, are excused, by order of Congress, from all military duty.

I am, sir, with respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

*JOHN HANCOCK, President.*

To Gen. *Roberdeau*, commanding officer in *Philadelphia*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO JAMES MEASE.

Philadelphia, July 8, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from the Congress, to direct that you pay one month's advance to such of the Militia as will engage to serve in the Flying-Camp; which you will please to notice accordingly.

I am, with respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

*JOHN HANCOCK, President.*

To *James Mease, Esq.*, Commissary and Paymaster, *Philadelphia*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO REV. JACOB DUCHE.

Philadelphia, July 8, 1776.

SIR: It is with the greatest pleasure I inform you that the Congress have been induced, from a consideration of your



piety, as well as your uniform and zealous attachment to the rights of *America*, to appoint you their Chaplain.

It is their request, which I am commanded to signify to you, that you will attend on them every morning at nine o'clock.

I have the honour to be, sir, with respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Rev. Mr. *Jacob Duché*.

JOSEPH HEWES TO SAMUEL JOHNSTON.

Philadelphia, July 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have received your favours of the 23d *May*, and 6th and 11th of *June*. The first of these came last to hand. I have not had an opportunity to forward your letter to *Elmsly*. *Tryon* is not to be trusted with it. I send it by some vessel bound to *France* or *Spain*. I cannot find out any other way of conveyance, and that is very precarious.

I shall endeavour to get for you a proper account of the linen manufactory here. I have been several times at it, but have not been hitherto fortunate enough to meet with any of the directors. I expect, in the course of our political convulsions with *Great Britain*, I shall be rendered incapable of holding any share in any publick manufactory for want of stock. I will think of it when I get home, which I hope will be towards the end of *August*.

I received a letter from your Committee of Secrecy, War and Intelligence, respecting the expediency of fortifying the harbour of *Cape-Lookout*. I laid the matter before a committee of Congress appointed to consider what places were proper to be fortified; but before they consider and make report thereon, it is absolutely necessary that they should have a plan or map of the harbour, with proper explanations and descriptions. These should be taken by an engineer on the spot, who should form a plan of the fortifications necessary to be made, and the expense that would attend the erection of them. I have written to Mr. *Harnett* twice on this subject; but as I have reason to believe many letters miscarry, I now mention the matter to you, in hopes you will endeavour to prevail on the Council of Safety to get the matter done as early as possible. I find a disposition in most of the Members of Congress to grant to our Province all that can be reasonably expected. It is not in their power to assist us at present with cannon; but as several forges are beginning to cast twelve and eighteen-pounders, I hope towards winter they will not only have it in their power, but be heartily disposed to assist us with some heavy pieces to put into such places as may be thought most advisable. This is all you can expect—it is all that is done in the like cases. The work must be done at your own expense, or by such Continental troops as may be in the Province for the time being. I give you this as my opinion. Perhaps they may do more for our Province: it stands high in rank and high in estimation. I wish it may be able to support its good character in future.

A hellish plot has been lately discovered at *New-York* to murder General *Washington* and some other officers of the first rank, blow up the magazine, and spike up the cannon. The persons employed had it in charge, and have actually enlisted a number of men for the King's Army. It was to have been put in execution on the first arrival of the Army from *Halifax*. One of General *Washington's* guards has been put to death for being concerned in it. The Mayor of the city, and some others, are confined. I believe many of them are guilty. It is said the matter has been traced up to Governour *Tryon*.

What has become of my friend *Hooper*? I expected to have seen him here ere now; otherwise I should have written to him respecting some of his connexions at *Boston*, who are like to suffer by having property in the hands of Tories who have fled from that country.

My friend *Penn* came time enough to give his vote for Independence. I send you the Declaration of Independence enclosed. All the Colonies voted for it, except *New-York*. That Colony was prevented from joining in it by an old instruction. Their Convention meets this day, and it is expected they will follow the example of the other Colonies.

I had the weight of *North-Carolina* on my shoulders within a day or two of three months. The service was too severe. I have set some days from six in the morning till five and sometimes six in the afternoon, without eating or drinking.

My health was bad; such close attention made it worse. I nevertheless obstinately persisted in doing my duty to the best of my judgment and abilities, and attended Congress the whole time, one day only excepted. This I did contrary to the repeated solicitations of my friends, some of whom I believe thought I should not be able to keep soul and body together to this time. Duty, inclination, and self-preservation call on me now to make a little excursion into the country to see my mother. This is a duty which I have not allowed myself time to perform during almost nine months that I have been here.

General *Howe* and his Army are in the neighbourhood of *New-York*, sometimes on shore on *Staten-Island*, and sometimes on board the fleet. It is thought that he has not more than seven or eight thousand men with him. He is waiting for Lord *Howe's* fleet to arrive, when he expects to be joined by twenty thousand men. All the regiments in Continental pay, that were raised in this Province, are now at *New-York* and on the lakes. Six thousand Militia from this Province, and three thousand four hundred from *Maryland*, will march in a few days towards *New-York*. The *Jersey* Militia are all in motion. I fear these Colonies will suffer greatly for want of labourers to get in the harvest. Some people are of opinion that many fields of wheat will remain unreaped, and be totally lost. Our northern Army has left *Canada* and retreated to *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point*. The small-pox has made great havock among them. Several regiments had not well men enough to row the sick over the lakes. Men were drafted from other regiments to do that service. In short, that army has melted away in as little time as if the destroying angel had been sent on purpose to demolish them, as he did the children of *Israel*.

We are endeavouring to get the lakes fortified in the best manner we can, to prevent *Burgoyne* from passing them and entering the Colonies on that side.

A paper has been privately laid on the Congress table, importing that some dark designs were forming for our destruction, and advising us to take care of ourselves. Some were for examining the cellars under the room where we sit. I was against it, and urged that we ought to treat such information with contempt, and not show any mark of fear or jealousy. I told some of them I had almost as soon be blown up, as to discover to the world that I thought myself in danger. No notice has been taken of this piece of information, which I think is right.

I enclose you a resolve of Congress, which please to forward to your Council of Safety. I also enclose a letter to Mr. *Burke*. If you can do anything for the gentlemen who subscribe it, I hope you will do it. They are my friends, and friends to *America*. I sent you a commission of this kind some time ago; you have not mentioned it in any of your letters.

I will trespass no longer on your patience. Remember me to your family and connexions; and be assured I am, with affection and regard, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH HEWES.

To Samuel Johnston, Esq.

P. S. I copy no letters—take them with all their imperfections.

THOMAS JEFFERSON TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Philadelphia, July 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: For news I refer you to your brother, who writes on that head. I enclose you a copy of the Declaration of Independence, as agreed to by the House, and also as originally framed. You will judge whether it is the better or worse for the critics. I shall return to *Virginia* after the 11th of *August*. I wish my successor may be certain to come before that time; in that case I shall hope to see you, and not *Wythe*, in Convention, that the business of Government, which is of everlasting concern, may receive your aid.

Adieu, and believe me to be your friend and servant,

THOMAS JEFFERSON.

To Richard Henry Lee, Esq.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, July 8, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: Yours of the 24th ultimo I have received. It grieved me that the frigates cannot be got to sea, which I



am sensible they might before this, had proper attention been paid to cannon in season. I have been a long time endeavouring to draw the attention of the Committee to the regulation of the Navy, but hitherto without success. The present establishment certainly needs amendment, but business is so exceedingly pressing that it is impossible to form a judgment when it will be done. In my opinion a purser is a necessary officer; but as no provision is made for a purser, I think it necessary you should appoint a steward. I submit it to you whether it would not be best to appoint a man that would do for a purser, as the wages at present are much higher than will be allowed for stewards if pursers are established.

I must refer you to the papers for news, as time just now is very precious. The Declaration will no doubt give you pleasure. It will be published next *Thursday* at the head of the Army at *New-York*. I am told it is to be published this day in form in this city.

As I am obliged to catch leisure minutes to write, perhaps something may turn up between this and to-morrow morning; if so, shall give it you. Governour *Hopkins*, who has the direction of matters respecting the cannon at *Providence*, promises me that he will order the cannon for the *Raleigh* to be sent from thence immediately, provided the Committee there think that the furnaces will be able to cast more for those ships by the time they will be ready to receive them. So you may expect to hear from thence on this subject.

General *Howe* has landed part of his Army on *Staten-Island*, which you know was not in General *Washington's* power to prevent; however, the *Jersey* and *Pennsylvania* Militia, with three thousand from *Maryland*, are now on their march, and will soon form a very formidable army on this side *Hudson's River*, and General *Washington* has, by this time, got twenty thousand men at *York*, including the Militia of *York* and *Connecticut*. I cannot help flattering myself that all this, with the smiles of *Providence*, will enable us to give a good account of these fellows before the campaign is over. I assure you the people here begin to feel themselves. Governour *Franklin* is sent to *Connecticut* for his good behaviour.

I am, with great truth, sincerely yours,

WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

I hope you will take care that the Declaration is properly treated. Colonel *Bartlett* desires his compliments, and that you will excuse his writing, as he is much engaged.

Philadelphia, July 8, 1776.

This day the Committee of Safety and the Committee of Inspection went in procession to the State-House, where the Declaration of the Independency of the *United States of America* was read to a very large number of the inhabitants of this City and County, which was received with general applause and heartfelt satisfaction; and in the evening our late King's Coat-of-Arms was brought from the Hall, in the State-House, where the said King's Courts were formerly held, and burnt, amidst the acclamations of a crowd of spectators.

Easton, Northampton County, July 8, 1776.

This day, the Declaration of Independency was received here, and proclaimed in the following order: The Colonel, and all other Field-Officers of the First Battalion, repaired to the Court-House, the Light-Infantry company marching there with drums beating, fifes playing, and the Standard, (the device for which is the Thirteen United Colonies,) which was ordered to be displayed; and after that the Declaration was read aloud to a great number of spectators, who gave their hearty assent with three loud huzzas, and cried out, "May God long preserve and unite the Free and Independent States of *America*."

Trenton, July 8, 1776.

The Declaration of Independence was this day proclaimed here, together with the new Constitution of the Colony, of late established, and the resolve of the Provincial Congress for continuing the administration of justice during the interim. The members of the Provincial Congress, the gentlemen of the Committee, the officers and privates of the Militia,

under arms, and a large concourse of the inhabitants attended on this great and solemn occasion. The Declaration and other proceedings were received with loud acclamations.

The people are now convinced, of what we ought long since to have known, that our enemies have left us no middle way between perfect freedom and abject slavery. In the field, we trust, as well as in council, the inhabitants of *New-Jersey* will be found ever ready to support the freedom and independence of *America*.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabethtown, July 8, 1776.

SIR: On examining *Bergen-Neck* I found some stock of black cattle and horses still remained there; and that some families on the point held an intercourse with the enemy. Colonel *Ford* assured me he would have all those removed to-day. His force amounts to no more than three hundred and fifty, and those begin to be dissatisfied at remaining on duty, while the Militia of the neighbourhood are dismissed. After leaving proper guards at the ferries of *Hackensack* and *Passaic*, there is not a number sufficient in this quarter to reinforce the party on *Bergen-Neck* to five hundred. We are informed of a body of Militia being on the march from *Pennsylvania*. On their arrival I shall order part of them to *Bergen-Neck*. I hope for instructions as to the destination of them generally. Colonel *Putnam* has directed some works for the defence of *Elizabethtown-Ferry*, and adjacent approaches to this place. No ground from thence to *Newark-Bay* will serve for erecting a battery. On the *Bergen* shore the land is proper, but the channel is so wide that little advantage will accrue as to guarding that bay.

The boats and canoes along this shore to *Amboy* are removed up the creeks, and secured under guards.

One *William Ash*, with his wife and family, taken last *Tuesday*, on their way from *York* to *Newark*, came in to-day from *Staten-Island*, by a pass from General *Howe*. Their intelligence coincides with what we had formerly, that the number of the enemy amounts to nine or ten thousand; they lie cantoned in the farmers' houses along the shores of the Island, slack on their guards and no intrenchments. The frigate that lay some days' ago in *Princess-Bay* was this morning under sail, making towards the town of *Amboy*. I intend for that place to-day.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

EXAMINATION OF WILLIAM ASH, FROM STATEN-ISLAND.

July 8, 1776.

He left *New-York* last *Tuesday* morning, in a boat bound to *Paulus-Hook*, commanded by *Joseph Harcomb*, belonging to *New-York*. Instead of landing him at *Paulus Hook*, he would go over the Bay to the Kills. When examinant saw the tender, he told the boatman it was a tender; the boatman said it was the *Amboy* privateer, and immediately a gun fired, when the boatman dropped sail and came to. Captain *Dickinson*, of the *Greyhound*, came aboard, and told them that all the passengers should go ashore, but the boatman was to stay.

They went on shore next morning, where they were kindly treated. General *Howe* lives in Mr. *Bancker's* house, but Mr. *Bancker* is sent on board a man-of-war. Their numbers were reported to be between eight and nine thousand men. The men appeared to be hearty. They could get no provision but a little pickled pork, which cost them seven pence per pound. That the *Jersey* people had taken off all the cattle; and there was nothing to be had. He thinks if they cannot get provisions from somewhere else they must starve. No vegetables to be had; even the General could get none. He saw Doctor *Mallet*, *Oliver De Lancey*, *Stephen De Lancey*, one *Prior*, a carpenter, *Barrow*, *Cortlandt Skinner*, Major *Bayard*, one *Perry*, (*Yates's* clerk,) and one *Troup*; with red hair; and others whom he knew. *George Barnes* and *Richard Lawrence* appeared violent against him.

Governour *Tryon* was at *Cuckold's Town* on *Saturday* last, inlisting men. He was to enlist thirteen hundred men from *Long-Island* and *Staten-Island*, who were to be joined by thirteen hundred regulars, who were to be left for the

defence of the Island. They looked for the reinforcement every day. Some say they are to land on *Long-Island*, and others that they are to run up by *New-York*. His pass is signed by *C. Cuyler*, aid-de-camp. General *Howe* suffered him, with his wife and children, to come off this morning. They have four field-pieces at *Decker's*, and two more, with two howitzers, opposite *Bergen-Point*.

A boy and a *Nantasket Indian* were killed, and some wounded from *Bergen* shore; but the Captain was not killed, he having seen him since. He heard that both the boy and *Indian* were prisoners. The *Indian* had both his feet shot off. A person told him that a number of them on the Island had got together and burned forty pounds in Continental money, damning the Congress, and saying that they had nothing more to do with the Congress.

A man told him he was present when Governour *Tryon* offered one hundred dollars for Justice *Mercereau*, dead or alive. *Richard Lawrence* is made a collector, as he was told. The Governour told them, at a meeting in *Cuckold's Town*, that if they could not subdue *New-York* they would burn it, and never give them the liberty of building there again, but would build a city on *Staten-Island*; that he had liberty to go where he pleased, and found the men very thick along shore in every house, but no lines or breast-works anywhere, not even round the General's quarters.

COLONEL GALBRAITH TO LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

Elizabethtown, July 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In pursuance of your resolve of the 5th instant, we do certify that *William Hay* was unanimously chosen (by the volunteers) Captain; *Robert Clerk*, First Lieutenant; *Patrick Hays*, Second Lieutenant; *William Patterson*, Third Lieutenant;—officers for the company draughted from our battalion to form, in part, the six thousand Militia Flying-Camp, whom we do recommend to you for their further appointment; and are, gentlemen, your humble servants,

BARTREM GALBRAITH, Colonel.

ALEXANDER LOWREY, Lieutenant-Colonel.

JAMES CUNNINGHAM, Major.

To the Standing Committee of Observation and Inspection,  
*Lancaster*.

LEWIS OGDEN TO JOHN JAY.

Newark, July 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have just now received the order from our Congress, of which the enclosed is a copy; and inform you thereof, that we may correspond and cooperate, as the execution of the trust reposed in us may require.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

LEWIS OGDEN.

To *John Jay* and *Gouverneur Morris*, Esquires, at *New-York*.

GENERAL HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

Staten-Island, July 8, 1776.

MY LORD: Having yesterday submitted to the Admiral's consideration the propriety of sending a naval force up the *North River*, above the town of *New-York*, with a view to distress the Rebels on that Island, by obstructing supplies coming down the river, and other good consequences dependent upon that measure, which meeting with his approbation, orders are given for two ships, (one of forty, and another of twenty guns,) to proceed upon that service the first favourable opportunity; and I flatter myself that these ships, more than which cannot be spared at present from the protection of the transports, will prove of sufficient force to support themselves against all attempts of the enemy from the upper river, and to answer the purposes for which they are intended.

Several men have come over to this Island, and to the ships, since my letter of yesterday; and, by a newspaper of the 6th, I learn that the Continental Congress, on the *Tuesday* preceding, had declared the United Colonies free and independent States. The same paper mentions, that thirty sail of transports, a fifty-gun ship, and several small ships-of-war, had got over *Charleston Bar*, in *South-Carolina*, without specifying the time, or any circumstance in conse-

quence, besides a summons for the town to surrender, which was rejected. Having no better authority for this intelligence than the newspaper, I decline making any observations upon it; and have the honour to be, &c.,

W. HOWE.

Admiralty-Office, August 10, 1776.

By a letter received this day from Vice-Admiral Lord *Shulldham*, dated *Staten-Island*, near *New-York*, the 8th of *July* last, it appears that his Lordship arrived there on the 3d of that month, with his Majesty's ships under his command, and the whole fleet of transports, victuallers, and store-ships, under his convoy, without any loss or separation; that his Majesty's troops, under the command of General *Howe*, were landed, on that day and the next, upon *Staten-Island*, without any opposition or interruption, the inhabitants having, immediately on the troops landing, surrendered, and put themselves under the protection of his Majesty's arms; that two hundred of the inhabitants were imbodied; that the whole Island had taken the oath of allegiance and fidelity to the King; and that a party of sixty men, with their arms, had made their escape from the Province of *New-Jersey*, and joined the King's troops.

The arrival of Lord *Howe*, and the reinforcement under Commodore *Hotham*, were daily expected at *Staten-Island*, Lord *Shulldham* having stationed his cruisers in the most proper manner to fall in with and direct them thither.

GOVERNOUR TRYON TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

Dutchess of Gordon, off *Staten-Island*, July 8, 1776.

MY LORD: I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Lordship of the arrival of the fleet under the command of Admiral *Shulldham* in this port, on the 29th ultimo, and that General *Howe* disembarked the troops under his command on *Staten-Island*, the 2d instant, without opposition, on which occasion the inhabitants of the Island came down to welcome the arrival of their deliverers, and have since afforded the Army every supply and accommodation in their power.

On *Saturday* last I received the Militia of the Island at *Richmond* town, where near four hundred appeared, who cheerfully, on my recommendation, took the oath of allegiance and fidelity to his Majesty. To-morrow, I am to have another muster, for the enlistment of volunteers to form a Provincial Corps for the defence of the Island, as the General finds it an important quarter to hold against the Rebels. This testimony, given by the inhabitants of the Island, of loyalty to his Majesty, and attachment to his Government, I flatter myself will be general through the Province, as soon as the King's Army gets the main body of the Rebels between them and the sea, which will leave all the back country open to the command of the King's friends, and yield a plentiful resource of provisions for the Army, and place them in a better situation to cut off the Rebels' retreat, when forced from their stronghold.

In the promotion of general officers in *America*, I do not find it has been his Majesty's pleasure to employ me in this country in my military character. I shall, however, do everything in my power, in my civil capacity, to promote his Majesty's service.

The fortifications in and about *New-York* have, I am told, undergone little change since the enclosed observations were delivered. Every matter of further information I have laid before General *Howe* since his arrival, as they came to my knowledge.

I am, with great respect, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient servant,

WILLIAM TRYON.

To Lord *George Germaine*.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GOVERNOUR TRYON.

Whitehall, May 17, 1776.

SIR: Since my letter to you of the 28th *March*, I have not received any of your despatches, nor have I any commands of his Majesty to signify to you; but I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that the embarkation of the troops destined for the reinforcement of General *Howe's* Army have succeeded so happily, that the corps of Highlanders sailed from the *Clyde* the 29th of last month, and the first division of the *Hessians* were clear of the Channel on the 10th instant, and we are in hourly expectation of the arrival at

*Spithead* of the remainder of that body, which has been some time on board the transports in the *Wesel*. So large a reinforcement will, I trust, enable General *Howe* to open the campaign with advantage, and to strike some blow which will give spirit and vigour to the friends of Government, and incite them to take an active and resolute part in freeing themselves from that cruel oppression under which they have so long groaned.

The Province of *New-York* will certainly be a main object of the General's attention; and as I am not without hopes that before this letter comes to your hands you will have the satisfaction of seeing him, it is unnecessary for me to acquaint you further with the operations which are intended to be carried on in that Province. I shall therefore only add my most hearty wishes for their success, and that they may, in their issue, restore the blessings of peace and legal Government to his Majesty's faithful subjects.

I am, &c.,

GEORGE GERMAINE.

To Governour Tryon.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GOVERNOUR TRYON.

Whitehall, June 11, 1776.

SIR: Your several despatches by the *Swallow* packet, numbered from one to nine inclusive, and two private letters dated the 17th *April*, were received at my office the 3d instant, and I immediately laid them before the King.

The intelligence contained in the papers you transmit with these despatches is of the greatest importance; and although you do not say what degree of credit ought to be given to it, yet, as the accounts stated to have been received at *New-York* of the Rebels' having met with a second repulse at *Quebeck* are corroborated by many circumstances, and particularly by the measures they have taken for strengthening their posts on the frontiers, we flatter ourselves that the first vessel which arrives from *Quebeck* will bring a confirmation of this good news. I will not, however, anticipate the consequences of an event which is not yet confirmed; but if it proves to be only in part as favourable as your intelligence represents, I shall have little doubt that our operations on that side will have all the success we could wish, and that *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga* will be restored to his Majesty's possession before the campaign is ended.

It was to have been expected that the departure of the troops from *Boston* would turn the attention of the Rebels to *New-York*; but I trust General *Howe* has ere this fixed his Head-Quarters in that city, and that he will soon find himself in sufficient force to drive the Rebels out of the Province, and give effectual protection to his Majesty's loyal subjects; and I will hope that not only those who have adhered to their duty, but even many who have been misled into a concurrence with the Rebels in some of their measures, will be induced to take up arms and join the King's standard, from a just sense of the dreadful consequences which they have experienced, and which must ever follow a departure from the mode of government established by the Constitution, and an opposition to lawful authority.

Your influence and advice at such a time must be attended with the happiest effects, and I am commanded by the King to repeat to you his Majesty's great satisfaction in your continuance in your Government; and that the firm and prudent conduct you have persevered in, notwithstanding all the difficulties you have encountered and the hazards to which you have been exposed, is very much approved by the King.

The facility with which Lieutenants *Campbell* and *Grant* have enlisted men at *New-York* is a very pleasing proof of the good disposition of the people to return to their duty, if they were assured they might do it with safety; and I doubt not General *Howe* will reward the diligence of those officers, by continuing them in the command of the companies they have raised. But I must acquaint you, that in this instance, as well as in all others which may occur, the officers who are appointed to command corps raised in *America*, are to be on the same footing in respect to rank as the Provincial troops employed in the last war; and that they are neither to expect rank in the army after their reduction, in consequence of such commissions, or to be entitled to half-pay. I should be very glad to show every attention to your recommendation, but, from what I have told you in respect to the

Lieutenants *Campbell* and *Grant*, you will readily perceive the difficulties which oppose themselves in the way of Captain *Stevenson's* request.

Two hundred copies of the pamphlet you mentioned in your letter of the 6th *April*, will be sent to you with this despatch by the packet; and I shall order five thousand more to be put on board the first ships that sail from hence for *New-York*. I am, &c.,

GEO. GERMAINE.

To Governour Tryon.

P. S. When I was closing my letter Major *Caldwell* arrived express from *Quebeck*, with the account of the raising the siege, which you will see in the enclosed Gazette Extraordinary; and although it shows our former intelligence to have had no foundation, it happily agrees with it in the event, on which I most heartily congratulate you.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, July 8, 1776.

SIR: Congress having resolved to raise a regiment of *Germans*, to counteract the designs of our enemies, I must beg leave to recommend to their notice *John David Wilpert*, now a First Lieutenant in Colonel *Shea's* battalion, to the office of Captain in said regiment. I am personally acquainted with him, and know that he joined the *Virginia* forces under my command, in the year 1754, and continued in service the whole war, during which he conducted himself as an active, vigilant, and brave officer. He is a *German*, and his merit as a soldier entitles him much to the office he wishes for.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, July 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: At the request of an old officer of mine, and who at present is a First Lieutenant in Colonel *Shea's* battalion, I am induced to recommend him to your honourable Committee as a fit person to command a company in the *German* battalion directed by a resolution of Congress to be raised in your Province. *John David Wilpert*, late of your city, is the person I mean. He is a *German* by birth; was a soldier in his own country; served many years as an officer in the regiment I had the honour to command in the *Virginia* service; always supported the character of a diligent and brave officer; and, as far as I know and believe, is a man of good character. If, therefore, he could be appointed to the command of a company in the above regiment, I would, from my knowledge of the man, pledge myself for his good behaviour and meriting of it.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Committee of Safety for the City of *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL SEYMOUR.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 8, 1776.

SIR: By a letter from his Honour Governour *Trumbull*, received on the 5th instant, I was informed he had ordered three regiments of Horse on to this place, (under your command,) with all possible despatch, and was desired, in case they were not wanted, to inform Colonel *Silliman* thereof. Accordingly, I wrote Colonel *Silliman*, acquainting him it was my desire the men might come on, provided they could leave or send back their horses, which letter did not go forward as soon as I intended. Major *Starr* this morning waited on me, informing of his arrival with fifty of the troop, and that the rest were on their march. I have ordered him to find some pasture for his horses this day, and immediately ride forward and acquaint you that there is not more forage on hand, or to be had, than is absolutely necessary for the use of our working and artillery horses; and that it is my desire your men may be halted some way in the rear of this place, and their horses sent back: otherwise the men can only be a moth and a check to the service, as they cannot act as horsemen in case of action, or if they could, forage could not be found to support them. I think it absolutely necessary the

men should be here till the new levies all arrive; but for the above reasons shall be necessitated to order their return, unless they can be persuaded to come on without their horses. I would not be supposed, by this, to discourage the troops of horse from being in constant readiness in the different States, as I am fully persuaded they will be much more useful than the militia to throw in succours to a place in an emergency. I am pleased to see with what cheerfulness and alacrity the troops from your Province step forward to the assistance of their countrymen, whenever called, and doubt not it will continue.

Major *Starr* will be able to inform you fully, from what I have mentioned to him, the absolute necessity for the men, and the utter impossibility of keeping the horses. Baggage-wagons may be hired to bring on baggage for your men, from any place they leave their horses.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Seymour*.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF A CONFERENCE OF GENERAL OFFICERS.

At a conference of General Officers and others, at Headquarters, *July 8th, 1776*:

Present, His Excellency General *Washington*; Major-General *Putnam*; Brigadiers-General *Heath*, *Spencer*, *Greene*, *Scott*, and *Wadsworth*; Colonel *McDougall*; and Messrs. *Randolph*, *Green*, *Dennis*, and *Duer*.

A proposition having been to the General to sink hulks in the *North River*, at *Tappan Bay*, in order to stop the enemy's progress, it was fully discussed, and agreed that the same be carried into execution: Captain *Grenell* to sound the channel, and fix the buoys; Captain *Dennis* to take up the vessels; Captains *Lawrence* and *Tudor* to have them sunk in a proper manner; Captain *Grenell* to take notice of the commanding ground, so that, if works should be hereafter erected, they may be made in the most proper manner.

The General proposed to the General Officers, what should be done with the troop of Horse from *Connecticut*?

Agreed, That the men be detained until the new levies arrive, but the horses be sent home as soon as possible.

The Congress having referred to the General's determination the propriety of marching three Regiments of the Continental troops from *Boston* to the Northern Army, and, in case of need, substituting the Militia in their place,

Unanimously agreed, That the said three Regiments be immediately despatched to join the Northern Army.

#### GENERAL GREENE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Camp on Long-Island, July 8, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Doctor *Sentor*, by whom this will be handed you, is a gentleman from *Quebeck*. He was surgeon of Colonel *Church's* regiment last year, and went from *Boston* to *Canada* in General *Arnold's* detachment. His merit and services render him worthy your notice; as such, I beg leave to recommend him to your acquaintance.

Believe me to be, with the greatest respect, your most obedient humble servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

#### ULSTER COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Committee Chamber, Kingston, July 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We beg leave once more to trouble you with a complaint which has now become general, which is, that notwithstanding our frequent applications, we are yet left destitute of powder. And, gentlemen, we have reason to believe that this is not owing to a scarcity of that necessary article, neither do we believe it to be a neglect of your honourable Board, as we have been informed that an order has been issued from thence for that purpose. But, gentlemen, whatever may be the reason, it is unknown to us. It is, however, a matter of fact, that we have received none as yet. It is also well known that our town has, for a long time, been crowded, and is yet, with a set of ministerial cut-throats, regular officers and soldiers, sent here as prisoners. A detachment of our Militia has been lately sent down to *New-York*; and although strictly charged to come with arms and ammunition, they were obliged to go without

powder, for we had none. The southern and northern Ministerial armies are drawing near. Above all, the savages threaten slavery, death, and destruction, for us; and for aught we can see, it is likely that the whole Militia will be called upon to defend the dearest rights and liberties of our country. Considering these circumstances, how unaccountable is it that we, who stand foremost in defence of our invaded liberties, should be left destitute of the only means by which we can defend ourselves. This being the case, we most earnestly beg the favour of you to take this matter into your most serious consideration, and grant us such timely relief as you, in your wisdom, may think proper.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

JOHANNES SLEIGHT, *Chairman*.

To the President of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

P. S. We just now received a letter from a member of the Committee of *Rochester*, an extract whereof is in the words following:

"I yesterday spoke with *Silas Bowker*, from *Papaconk*. He informs me that an old savage (a friend of his) has advised him to abandon the place, without delay, with his family, to prevent their destruction. Alas! if they attempt, we are undone. We must fall piecemeal, without revenge, as the tenth man among us cannot produce a charge of powder. If the Congress can pass this unnoticed, then adieu *America*!"

#### JOHANNES HARDENBURGH TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Rosendall, Ulster County, July 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I think it my duty to lay the following before your honourable Board, by way of complaint against the proceedings of the County Committee, held at the house of Mrs. *Ann Dubois*, on or about the 13th day of *June* last, when there was laid before the Committee the order from your honourable Board for me to give my reasons why I had signed and delivered two credentials to our Delegates, dated on one and the same day: I happening to be there that day, to deliver some papers to that Committee, which were in my hands as chairman of the former County Committee, which I conceived necessary to be delivered to them—when I was there, in the latter part of the day, I was informed by the chairman of said Committee that there was an order from your honourable Board for me to give my reason why I had signed two credentials, on one and the same day; on which notice to me, I desired of the said Committee some days' time, to draw up and give in my reasons at their next meeting, which I was denied; but ordered to give my reasons on the next day, at eleven or twelve o'clock; which I thought impossible for me to do, being then twelve miles from home; and having none of my papers with me, was obliged to ride home that night, where I came at one o'clock in the morning, when I examined the proceedings of the County Committee of the 16th and 25th of *April*, as also of the 13th of *May*, and then drew my reasons, which I conceived would be satisfactory to your honourable Board, in the best manner the time I was allowed would admit of.

What follows the extraordinary proceeding of that admirable County Committee? On the 29th of *June*, I received a letter from the chairman, dated the 28th of *June*, to attend the said Committee on the 4th of *July* next, to account for the money in my hands, which I had received by an order of the former County Committee from your Treasurer, Mr. *Van B. Livingston*, in the presence of two of your members, (whereof, I think, Mr. *Van Zandt* was one,) and then to deliver the remainder to such a person as they appointed to receive it; on which notice I attended on the Committee, and accounted for the money then in my hands. The balance then in my hands was two hundred and sixty-seven pounds, which balance I conceived I could not give out of my hands, as I stand accountable for the said sum of three hundred and sixty pounds at any time to the honourable Congress, when they, or any of them, shall be pleased to call me to account, or to answer such contingencies of the County as they shall think a proper County charge, or such allowances as have been made a contingent County charge.

Gentlemen, whereas I was, on the 13th day of *May* last, empowered by the then County Committee to receive the before-mentioned sum of money, to pay the contingencies



of the County to such persons as had a just right thereto; and on the 28th of *June*, by a new County Committee, ordered to deliver the sum then in my hands, on the 4th of *July*, to such person as they directed me,—I conceive those proceedings to be such a reflection on my character, that I must either be guilty of some malpractice, or of not performing my duty in the payment of the money intrusted to my hands: with neither of which I can charge myself, and defy any person to charge me with any misconduct in the payment of that money. I therefore thought it my duty to lay the same before your honourable Board, and shall be ready, at any time, to obey your orders in the payment thereof, or such others as have a right to dispose thereof, pursuant to the directions of your honourable Board.

Gentlemen, as I have had the trouble to get the money brought from *New-York* here, I expect to have the paying thereof to such persons as have a just right to the same; but in case your honourable Board should be of opinion to order me to pay it to any one person, I shall think myself entitled to the same fees as if I had paid it to many.

Gentlemen, the confidence I put in the Provincial Congress, from which I expect the clearest streams of justice will flow to every person that may come before your honourable Board, has induced me to lay this before the honourable Congress; and remain, gentlemen, with esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHANNES HARDENBURGH.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York*.

ADDRESS TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

To the Hon. JOHN SULLIVAN, Esquire, Brigadier-General, lately commanding the Army of the United Colonies in CANADA:

The humble Address of the Field-Officers, lately under his command:

We, the Field-Officers of the several Regiments now composing the Army of the United Colonies, in the Northern Department, having been informed of your Honour's intended departure from hence, esteem it would be unpardonable in us, should we forego this opportunity of tendering the homage due to him who, upon the late most trying occasion, has comforted, supported, and protected the shattered remains of a debilitated army, and, with unwearied care, watchfulness, and attention, has landed the publick stores, of every kind, without almost the least diminution, safe at this place. It is to you, sir, the publick are indebted for the preservation of their property in *Canada*. It is to you we owe our safety thus far. Your humanity will call forth the silent tear and grateful ejaculation of the sick; your universal impartiality will force the applause of the wearied soldier. Permit us, then, worthy sir, to take our leave, wishing you every happiness and success your most sanguine inclinations can suggest, or our most fervent prayers procure.

John Moore,	Matthew Ogden,	William De Haas,
Moses Hazen,	Seth Reed,	John Greateon,
Edward Antil,	Joseph Vose,	Israel Shreve,
Joseph Cely,	Nathan Fuller,	William Maxwell,
John McDuffee,	John Stark,	David Rhea,
Thomas Poor,	John Patterson,	Jotham Loring,
Enoch Poor,	William Bond,	Elisha Porter,
J. Alden,	James Read,	Abner Morgan,
Charles Burrel,	Ar. St. Clair,	Anthony Wayne.

Crown-Point, 8th July, 1776.

To the Field-Officers of the several Regiments composing the Northern Army.

GENTLEMEN: Your polite and friendly Address, presented at this hour of my departure from the Army, demands my most cordial thanks. The favourable opinion you are pleased to entertain of my exertions, in protecting and supporting our distressed Army in *Canada*, gives me the highest satisfaction.

If the publick are in any measure indebted to me for the preservation of their property in *Canada*, or the Army for its safety thus far, your generosity in voluntarily giving your testimony thereto, at this time, evinces that generous spirit which I have ever found you to possess. The debilitated state of our Army rendered the task of saving it extremely arduous; and had not your zeal and activity so strongly

seconded my endeavours, it must have been impossible. Duty to my country demanded that humanity to the sick, and impartiality to the soldiers, which you are pleased so politely to mention; it gives me the most sensible pleasure to find my conduct in this respect meets with the approbation of officers so truly deserving.

Gentlemen, I deeply deplore the necessity I am under of quitting this department; and most sincerely wish that I could, with honour, have remained to share with you the fortune of the campaign; yet, give me leave to assure you, that wherever fortune may place me in future—whether the alarm of war may summon me again to the field, or domestick affairs call me to private life—your safety and success I shall deem inseparable from my own. That an indulgent Heaven may grant you success equal to your merits, reward your toil with the conquest of your unnatural enemies, and in due time return you, crowned with laurels, to your respective families, shall be my most earnest prayer.

JOHN SULLIVAN.

Crown-Point, 8th July, 1776.

COMMITTEE OF OBSERVATION, SKENESBOROUGH, CHARLOTTE COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

The Committee for this town having had due process against Lieutenant *Daniel Brundage* of this town, according to the Association of the Continental Congress, and finding him obstinately unfriendly, in full opposition to the spirit of said Association, hereby give notice to the publick, that he may be treated with all that neglect and contempt which is so justly his due, for his incorrigible enmity to the rights of *American Liberty*.

By order of the Committee:

Attest,  
July 8, 1776.

GARRET KEATING, *Chairman*.  
JAMES BURROUGHS, *Clerk*.

CHARLES CUSHING TO HIS BROTHER.

Camp at Crown-Point, July 8, 1776.

DEAR FRIEND AND BROTHER: After my love to you and my sister, I will endeavour to relate to you a true state of facts with regard to the Army in *Canada*, (as well as my own private concerns,) which I believe you have never yet had, being very much imposed upon by publick prints and letters from some gentlemen in high office, inserted in the papers. After our arrival at *Albany*, our regiment was the first that marched for *Canada*. Three regiments more of the same brigade followed as fast as they could, one after another. We were forced on in the greatest hurry, passing through great difficulty and fatigue, being told by all who came from that country that there was no doubt but *Quebeck* would be surrendered by the time we could get there, or soon after, as there were several batteries opened and playing upon the city. And we went on with good spirits and in good health till we came to the mouth of the river *Sorel*, where, to our great surprise, we heard of the retreat of the army from *Quebeck*. Here we first made a stand, and being soon joined by something of an army, erected considerable fortifications. We had here a considerable number of cannon and several row galleys; but we were in a most pitiful situation. We had never drawn any provision from the time we left *Albany* but pork and flour, and the inhabitants would not take paper money, and we had no other. We were now at a great distance from our own country, and the pork and flour came in so slowly that the store was almost exhausted, especially the flour. In some days we could get none, or not more than half the allowance. Although there was flour in the country, yet, such was the disposition of the people, that we were obliged to take it with fixed bayonets; and the most of the flour expended in *Canada* since our arrival was taken in that manner. The inhabitants about *Sorel* seemed more friendly, but they had no provisions to spare. The retreating army from *Quebeck* began to scatter into *Sorel* soon after our arrival, having the small-pox among them, and boat loads sick with it were landed among us, so that there seemed no possibility of escaping it, and it was contrary to general orders to inoculate. Although our situation was unhappy, that of the army at *Quebeck* was much more so. They had but three pieces of small cannon mounted, and no shot suitable for them. They had one small

mortar, which they kept in play to no purpose. The enemy kept up a heavy cannonade from the city, and once in a while would throw out a shell filled with molasses, or open a port and fire a pistol, by way of contempt.

Our army had no breastwork or fortification but what was built with snow. Their lines extended near thirty miles distant, and a great part of them sick with the small-pox, having lost a great number. As I was credibly informed, no less than thirty captains died with it, and not more than one in three lived through it that took it the natural way. They had gone through every hardship and fatigue that men could possibly live through, the winter past. The weather was most inclement, and the men almost starved, for sometimes they had no bread, and sometimes no meat.

On the arrival of General *Thomas*, he found the army in such a situation that a speedy retreat was necessary, which, by a council of war, was agreed to. Their lines being so extensive and their army so scattered, it could not suddenly be effected; and the enemy getting intelligence of it from an officer who deserted, immediately pursued them. In that situation, one may easily imagine the confusion they were in, every one making his escape as well as he could, leaving the sick to the mercy of the enemy. Yet many of them who had the small-pox out thick on them came off, and went through the greatest fatigue, and were exposed to wet and cold, without blankets or anything to cover them, and I afterwards saw them at *Sorel*. What ordnance stores they had were taken, and much of their baggage. The first stop they made was at *Point de Chambly*, forty-five miles from *Quebeck*. The General then sent an express to *Sorel* for provisions, boats, and assistance, to bring off what sick they had there, for they were continually taken down with the small-pox. Captain *Bent* and my first lieutenant, with two hundred and fifty men, were sent off with boats to their assistance. They then retreated to the *Three Rivers*, forty-five miles from that place, and from thence to *Sorel*.

The *New-England* forces now began to be very uneasy about the small-pox spreading among them, as but few of them had had it. It was death for any doctor who attempted inoculation. However, it was practised secretly, as they were willing to run any hazard rather than take it the natural way. Some inoculated themselves, and several officers and myself began it in our regiment at *Sorel*. We had been at *Sorel* but ten days, when our regiment was ordered up to *Montreal*, forty-five miles above, on the river *St. Lawrence*. Colonel *Paterson's* regiment, which arrived at *St. John's* in two days after ours, was directly ordered from thence to *Montreal*, by land, about twenty-seven miles across; and soon after Major *Sherburne*, with one hundred and twenty men, was detached to *The Cedars*, to the assistance of Colonel *Bedel's* party, and another party was left as a guard to *La Prairie*. Colonel *Paterson's* regiment was now so reduced by detachments, that it was expected the inhabitants of *Montreal* would rise, as it was easily perceived they were making preparations. Our regiment was now under the necessity of getting there as fast as possible. We rowed till after dark, when, it coming on to rain very hard, we went on shore. Some pitched their tents, and some got into a small house and barn where we landed. I got into the barn, which was shattered almost to pieces, and being much fatigued, I slept very well. I was now under a mercurial preparation for the small-pox. In the morning we set off for *Montreal*, the current running very strong. We were not like to get there that day, and about four o'clock P. M., we landed on the south side of the Island. At five P. M., the regiment marched for the city, leaving myself and a sufficient number of men to carry up the boats and baggage. About eleven at night they arrived there, having marched fifteen miles. During this fatigue we had nothing to eat but flour and water, and lake water to drink, as we had no other since we came into *Canada*. As soon as they came into the city they were so fatigued as to lie immediately down under the walls to sleep, and some lay there until morning, it being impossible to move them. But happily they arrived as they did, for that night was appointed for the Tories to take possession of the place. Here we tarried about ten days, and soon after our arrival the regiment in general were inoculated for the small-pox. General *Sullivan's* brigade beginning to come in, and a detachment sent up from *Sorel*, our regiment was ordered over to *St. John's*, to have the small-pox. Accordingly, we set off for *La Prairie* about four P. M., May

31, the current very strong, and in some places the falls being so great that we were obliged to unload the batteaus and haul them over by land. About dark we got up to *Nun's Island*, where we tarried all night. The next morning went over to *La Prairie*, the weather being very rainy all day, the men much exposed to it, most of them beginning to feel the effects of the disorder. The next day we marched to *St. John's*, eighteen miles. The small-pox was then turning on those who were first inoculated. When we came to *St. John's*, the most of us went into tents, except some of the worst, who went into a large house and a barn. Here we could get nothing to nourish us without hard money, except the allowance of flour and pork and a little molasses, which we drew for the use of the sick. The inhabitants would exchange milk for pork, but at the rate of two or three pounds for one quart.

I must now return to the Army below. General *Thomas* took the small-pox the natural way, came up to *Chambly*, and there died on *Sunday*, the 2d of *June*. His death was much lamented by the *New-England* troops. General *Sullivan*, with his brigade, is now at *Sorel*, and he takes command at that place. Immediately after his arrival there, he sent General *Thompson*, with two thousand men, towards the *Three-Rivers*; but before they got there, they were attacked by a large body of the enemy, who defeated them, and took the General, Colonel *Irvine*, and a large number of officers and men, prisoners; and it is supposed that two hundred more perished in the woods, as they retreated in the greatest confusion, the officers without men, and the men without officers. But it gives me pleasure to acquaint you, that none of the "damn'd Yankees" were there, as the southern troops are pleased to term us. We had been at *St. John's* but ten days, when we had orders for as many of the regiment as were able to go to *Sorel*. Accordingly, there was a petty surgeon's mate sent to examine the men, (not trusting to our own doctor, who was a good physician,) who reported two hundred, who had been off duty but ten days for the small-pox, fit for the service. Although they had the disorder light, no one could think them fit to go through so much fatigue. We were reduced very low by dieting, and had nothing to recruit with afterwards.

*June 13.* We set off for *Sorel* with heavy hearts, none of us expecting to come back again, for General *Burgoyne* and all his troops were come in, our Army but small in comparison to his, and if we were defeated, there would be no retreat. We got to *Chambly* the first day, and the next morning set off for *Sorel*, and before night met Colonel *Greaton* about twenty-three miles from the mouth of the river, who came directly from there. He informed us the Army were retreating as fast as possible, that the enemy's fleet was just below them, and he ordered us to go on shore and cook some victuals, and then return back to *Chambly* as fast as possible. After refreshing ourselves a little, we set off about dark, and rowed all night very hard, the current running rapidly. In the morning, about seven o'clock, we got up to *Chambly*, when, after refreshing ourselves with a little breakfast, we were obliged to assist in getting the batteaus, cannon, and other stores, above the lower Rapids; and then it is as much as twenty men can do to tow a loaded batteau up the river in many places. After our party had drawn over two batteaus, two pieces of cannon, and all their tents and baggage, and put them on board, we set off with three or four boats up the river. In some places, the men were obliged to wade up to their middle. At dark, having got about half-way up to *St. John's*, we pitched our tents, and lay down to rest. In the morning, we proceeded to *St. John's*. During this fatigue, the men had but little to eat but pork and flour, and lake water to drink. The Army at *Sorel* brought off all their artillery and other stores, and arrived safe at *Chambly*; and in eight hours after their departure, the enemy had come up with their fleet, and taken possession of *Sorel*. At *Chambly*, General *Sullivan* made all the despatch possible in getting over the artillery, stores, and boats, there being a large quantity of them, and not less than a hundred batteaus. We lost one or two pieces of cannon by staving the boats, and one or two more were left. The row galleys were burnt, and I think we left but little else, except four schooners that we burnt in the river.

Our Army, consisting of about six thousand men, were

now all retreated safely to *St. John's*, and the enemy at *Montreal* and *Chambly*. We then sent the sick and some of the stores to the *Isle-aux-Noix*, the *Isle-au-Motte*, and *Point-au-Fer*, not having boats to carry the whole Army and stores at once; and as soon as the boats came back, the whole Army embarked and went to the *Isle-aux-Noix*. Here, what boats could be spared were sent to *Crown-Point* with sick and stores, as a great part of the Army were sick, many with the small-pox, and many of those who had had it were sick with the flux. Here we were obliged to wait for boats eight days, where we could get nothing but pork and flour. The island being small, not more than one mile in length, and a quarter of a mile in width, the land low, the days hot, and at night great dews, and such a number of men on so small a spot, and many of them sick—the place stunk enough to breed an infection.

At length the boats returned from *Crown-Point*. We were ordered to strike our tents, and put all our baggage on board, and the invalids who were not able to march by land. Those of our regiment who were well, and about a thousand more, were set over to the west side, to go by land to *Point-au-Fer*, about twenty-six miles. During our stay at the *Isle-aux-Noix*, there went a number of officers about a mile below to a house to drink spruce beer; but unfortunately were beset by a party of *Indians*, who killed and scalped one ensign, one captain, and two privates, and took several prisoners. We heard the guns, and saw the fire. A party was immediately sent to their assistance; but the enemy were gone, and had left the dead stripped all to their shirts. They were brought to the *Isle-aux-Noix*, and decently buried. They all belonged to the rifle regiment. The *Indians* attacked several boats on the lake, that went above after some flour, killed two or three men, and wounded six more; the others escaped. About noon, we marched for *Point-au-Fer*, and soon came where there was only an *Indian* path, and a wet swamp, which was for a great distance almost up to our knees in mud and water. Besides this, it rained very hard all the afternoon. At dark, we came out against a bay in the lake, within about six miles of *Point-au-Fer*. We had now nothing but the ground to lie on, and the heavens to cover us; and what with the rain, sweat, and mud, we had but little about us that was dry. We soon built fires, and dried ourselves as well as we could, and then lay down to rest with our feet to the fire. I slept very well, and got up in the morning refreshed. The weather cleared off pleasant; we got some breakfast; and about nine o'clock, there came boats enough to take us all off. The remainder of the Army came in batteaus from the *Isle-aux-Noix*, and all arrived at the *Isle-au-Motte* that night. We soon had boats enough to carry the whole Army to *Crown-Point*, and, I think, nothing remarkable happened till we arrived there.

I am afraid that the retreat from *Canada* will make a great noise in the country, and many reflections be thrown out by inconsiderate and ill-minded persons; but I am sure that any person of sense, when he comes to know the truth, must be satisfied. Some scandalous reflections have been thrown out upon General *Thomas* for his proceedings; but I am sorry the character of so worthy a gentleman as he was should suffer by men who are striving for places they are not worthy of. There is one thing I have omitted, which is this: that a great part of the Army at *Quebeck* inlisted for no longer than the 1st of *April*, and, as soon as their time was out, would stay no longer. I am very sure that the state of the Army in *Canada* has never been rightly represented. They have been shamefully neglected and imposed upon through the means of some persons who were appointed to provide for them. You will find, in the *New-England Chronicle* of the 27th of *June*, a passage in a letter from General *S——r*, where he says that the Army in *Canada* has been well provided for, that the inhabitants were very kind to them, and supplied them with everything necessary, &c.; the whole of which is false; for we had never yet drawn any allowance but pork and flour or bread, except once a few peas at *Sorel*, and what I have before mentioned; and had we the money for what the vegetables and other things allowed us by the resolve of Congress have fallen short, it would now amount to more than two thousand dollars in our regiment. It is not the money I mind, but it is what we have suffered for want of those necessities.

I will now endeavour to give you some description of the

country. It is full of navigable rivers. The land is very good on them, but the buildings are but mean. The land a little back of the rivers is unsettled, and appears to be very poor. The river *St. Lawrence* is sufficient for a large fleet of ships to come up to *Montreal*, one hundred and eighty miles from *Quebeck*. The river *Sorel* is navigable up to *Chambly*; besides many others which empty into the *St. Lawrence*. Till we have a fleet sufficient to come into the mouth of the river, it will be impossible for us to do anything in *Canada*. Had we taken *Quebeck*, we could not have kept it, as the enemy could come in with their fleet, and cut off all communication; and nothing has hurt our cause so much as coming to *Canada*, where, in my opinion, we had nothing to promise ourselves. Our Army have very much imposed upon the inhabitants, and promised them what they could never perform, which will set them against us; whereas, if we had never concerned ourselves with them, they would at least have remained neuter; and if, instead of spending our time, lives, and health, in *Canada*, we had been fortifying our own frontiers, we should now have been able to repel any force they could send.

We have lost a vast number of men with the small-pox, it being very mortal to those who took it the natural way; but our regiment has been remarkably preserved, and my company in particular. We have lost ten or eleven in the regiment, and those took the disease in the natural way. I led a company of seventy-six men into *Canada*, and brought them all out, seventy-four of whom had the small-pox while we remained there. One lad, belonging to the *Cape*, who thought he had had it before, took it the natural way, and died here at *Crown-Point*.

*July 10.* We have now been at *Crown-Point* eight days, and the sick considerably longer; and since their arrival, we have buried great numbers—some days not less than fifteen or twenty; but few have died, except with the small-pox. Some regiments which did not inoculate have lost many; and Colonel *Read*, in particular, says that, by the time it has gone through his regiment, he shall lose one-third of them. When we first came to this place, our men were very feeble. Besides all their fatigue, they were followed with severe fluxes. But they recruit very fast, having good ground to encamp upon, and good water to drink, and some fresh provisions; but have not yet had any vegetables of any kind. Here are likewise sutlers who have spirits of all kinds—wines, sugar, chocolate, &c., to sell, though at a very dear rate—sugar three shillings, lawful money, per pound, &c.

These are only the outlines; to relate every particular, would fill a volume; but I fear I have tired your patience already.

Your sincere friend and brother,

CHAS. CUSHING.

P. S. Please to give my regards to Colonel *Lincoln*, Mr. *Andrews*, Mr. *Norton*, and all friends, and let as many of them see this letter as have a mind to; for I have nothing against any one seeing it but the irregularity with which it is put together.

Hartford, July 8, 1776.

Last *Wednesday* passed through this place Governour *Franklin*, of *New-Jersey*, on his way to Governour *Trumbull*, at *Lebanon*; and last *Saturday* he returned from *Lebanon* to *Wallingford*, where he is stationed.

*Friday* last, a pack of Tory prisoners, forty-nine in number, taken some time since at *Johnstown*, were brought to this town, under a guard, from *Albany*, and delivered to the Committee for the disposition of prisoners in this Colony. We hear a number more of the same clan are on their way to this place.

Several regiments of Foot, ordered to be raised in this Colony, together with three regiments of the troop of Light-horse, have marched for *New-York*, to assist in the defence of the capital of that invaded Province.

Last week, twenty-two prisoners, taken from on board a barge belonging to the *British* fleet, as they were sounding the channel below *New-York*, arrived safe at *Farmington*.

ELISHA CORNISH TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Synsbury, July 8, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: The Committee of Inspection of this town, in conjunction with sundry of the



members of the Committees of the towns of *Farmington* and *New-Hartford*, convened at said *Symsbury*, to consult upon matters of importance, that fall under their cognizance, taking into consideration the present situation of *Newgate* prison, beg leave to represent to your Honour, that, since sundry persons have been sentenced by the Superior Court of this Colony to said prison, as enemies to their country, who, it is generally apprehended, are not in safe custody; and since said present keeper has repeatedly manifested to said Committee and to others an uneasiness under the burden of his office, which uneasiness is not peculiar to him, but pervades the body of the people in these towns; in our opinion, some effectual measures should be taken to prevent the consequences which we apprehend may soon take place, to the detriment of the cause we are endeavouring to defend. Permit us to suggest to your Honour, whether it is not necessary, under the present situation, to secure said prison with a sufficient guard, under the conduct of such person or persons as your Honour shall think fit to appoint. Further, we entertain the most sanguine hopes, that in some future time, as speedily as may be, your Honour, in conjunction with the General Assembly, will cause an addition to be made to said prison-house, wherein a prison-keeper, to be appointed, may dwell. Such a step, we imagine, will be a mean of retrenching much unnecessary expense. The apprehensions of imminent danger have compelled us to take this measure. Any impropriety in it, your Honour will benevolently impute not to our arrogance, but to the love we hear our country.

We have the honour to be, your Honour's most obedient and most humble servants.

Per order of the Committee:

ELISHA CORNISH, *Chairman*.

BENJAMIN PAYNE TO JAMES WARREN.

Hartford, July 8, 1776.

By direction of the Committee for superintending prisoners of war in this Colony, I have to inform you that a certain *John Graves*, of *Pittsfield*, in your Province, was sent here by order of the Committee of said *Pittsfield*, some time in *May* last, he being accused of aiding and assisting Captain *McKay*, a prisoner stationed here, in making his escape, in direct violation of his parole. And said *Graves* being examined touching the matter, it evidently appeared, by his confession and other evidence, that he had made two journeys to *Hartford* in the course of the last Spring, the last of which was about the 17th of *May*, the time when said *McKay* escaped; that he (said *Graves*) was not only concerned in concerting measures for effecting said *McKay's* escape, but actually undertook and acted as his pilot, and when they had got as far as *Pittsfield*, furnished him (this man) with fresh horses. On which he was committed to the jail in this town, where he hath remained ever since in close confinement. He appears to be a low-spirited, insidious fellow, and to have entertained strong prejudices against the liberties of *America*, and no doubt ought to be brought to trial for his aforesaid offence; but as he is a subject of your Government, it is doubtless most proper that he should be brought to trial there, notwithstanding he so far perpetrated his crime here as to bring him within the jurisdiction of our Court; yet his estate, if he hath any, lieth in your Province, and the evidence (in case he should not on trial confess the matter) would most likely be more full and clear against him, not only to this particular crime, but with respect to his general character. Besides, to take up the subjects of one Government and carry them into another for trial, which might, with as great propriety, be had in the Colony where such offender belonged, may prove, on occasion of a misunderstanding between Colonies, of dangerous consequence at all times, but more especially at the present day; which on all occasions ought to be carefully avoided. It is therefore expected that your Assembly will take the affair into consideration, and give orders for his removal from hence to such place as they shall think proper, in your Province, in order to take his trial for his aforementioned offence.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant,

BENJAMIN PAYNE.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq.

COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO JERATHMEEL BOWERS.

Watertown, July 8, 1776.

SIR: As it is of importance that the Colony vessels should be immediately equipped and fixed for sea, the Board have ordered me to desire you to use your utmost endeavours to have the two vessels (built under your directions for the use of the Colony) completely equipped and fixed as soon as may be. I am, sir, your humble servant,

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

To *Jerathmeel Bowers*, Esq.

SAMUEL ELLIOT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Boston, July 8, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Some days past I did myself the honour of informing you (very briefly) of Captain *Harding's* engagement. I purpose forwarding the particulars as they appear upon trial, which is appointed to be on the 23d of this month. I am now just setting out for *Reading*, to obtain Colonel *Campbell's* deposition, which, with the other evidences, shall be duly handed you. I shall esteem it a favour in your Honour to inform Captain *Harding* (who will doubtless be with you by the time this reaches you) the trial is to be on the 23d, not 26th, as he was informed; as it is absolutely necessary that two intelligent persons who were on board the brig should attend the trial. Three days will make an amazing difference. There are many claimants; but my counsel affirms that half the ship *George* and brig *Annabella* will be adjudged to the Colony brigantine. Captain *Harding* will assign the particular reasons for leaving this port. It was the opinion of all his friends that he could not justify himself in staying while the small-pox was so prevalent in this place, and so many on board the brig liable to take the infection. We parted with regret. His polite and genteel carriage and easy deportment has gained the esteem of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

I must request the favour of particular directions respecting those who had the misfortune to be wounded in the engagement. They have had the best attendance. I have discharged their bills, with the Captain's consent. If any allowance is made to them, it ought (I think) to be deducted. Captain *Harding* mentioned that an allowance of about thirty or forty pounds was to be made for the loss of a limb, but could not tell with respect to the others. I should be glad for it to be ascertained, as it should be taken out before there is any division.

I must beg your Honour's pardon for thus troubling you; but I thought it my duty to mention every (although some may be trivial) circumstance that I am in doubt of. With pleasure I would acquaint your Honour the prize brig *Annabella* is brought up, and laid along side *Hancock's* wharf. She is damaged, but not so much as I expected. There may be some directions necessary for regulating my conduct: your Honour may depend upon my strict observance and punctual fulfilment of any you shall at any time think necessary to favour me with.

I remain your Honour's most obedient and dutiful servant,

SAMUEL ELLIOT, Jun.,

Agent to Captain *Harding*.

P. S. Yesterday Captain *Johnson*, in a sloop of ten carriage guns, carried into *Cape-Ann* a large three-deck *Jamaican*, with near six hundred hogsheads best sugar, some rum, &c.; also, a brig loaded with rum from *Antigua*, both bound for *London*. She had been cruising about six weeks.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AMSTERDAM TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED JULY 9, 1776.

There is not a maritime nation in *Europe* but which privately carries on a trade with the *British Colonies of North America: France and Spain* in particular, who have the best opportunity for it. Witness, that commerce never flourished so much throughout all *Europe* as it has actually done since the beginning of the present *American* war. Thus *Great Britain*, formerly the provider of the whole globe, now suffers foreign nations to enrich themselves by trafficking with her own Colonies, while she is contending with them for power and vain superiority. The armament of *France and Spain*, which of late has so much taken up the notice of *Europe*, we now find to be for the following



purpose: It is far from the intention of either of those two Powers to interrupt *Great Britain* whilst she is engaged in the present contest; but their views merely are, to carry on an open trade (warlike stores excepted) with the Colonies of *North America*. They argue thus: As the Colonies were kept in subjection by the mother country, the latter prevented other nations from dealing with them, and the former, through filial affection and mutual interest, submitted their trade to be monopolized by the mother country; but now, the ties being dissolved, the Colonies being declared as enemies, the monopoly ceases from itself, and every nation may go to market according to their interest. It was in the power of *Great Britain* to prohibit her Colonies to trade with foreigners, but it is not in her power to prescribe laws to other nations prohibiting them from trading with *America*; nor does it consist with the laws of nations; just as if *Russia*, as long as she was at war with the *Ottoman Porte*, would have prohibited all *Europe* from trading to *Turkey*. But if *Great Britain* should insist upon it that she has a right to prevent other nations from trafficking with *North America*, both *France* and *Spain* are determined to oppose her by force of arms; to which purpose a strong, united force of these two nations is cruising in the sea, merely to act in their own defence; and as it is impossible for *Great Britain* to submit to this, nothing is more sure than open hostilities, to be soon commenced at sea, which cannot fail of involving all *Europe* in a most horrid war.

THOMAS OLIVER TO DAVID PHIPS.

London, July 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: This day I received your kind letter of the 9th of June. It gives me great pleasure, as it seems to carry with it a degree of satisfaction and contentment with your present situation. Happy I am that you did not leave *Halifax*, to encounter the expenses of this extravagant place. Every article of expense is increased fourfold since you knew it. What the many poor people will do who have steered their course this way, I cannot tell. Government, however disposed to relieve their necessities, will not be able to answer their numerous claims. Every Province of *America* affords its petitioners, and I apprehend the number of them will prevent the gratification of any.

I think it my duty, in point of friendship, to give you this hint; but keep it to yourself, lest it may be construed to a kind of reflection which I do not mean. Upon the score of secrecy, let me hint to you, that your friend General *Gage* is entirely in the private walk of life; he could not serve you; therefore, my good friend, you must be content to wait with patience the event of things. If any opening occurs, I will not fail to advise you of it.

I found Mrs. *Oliver* well, and settled in a little snug house at *Bromton*, in the neighbourhood of *London*. But I shall continue here no longer than I am able to find an economical retreat. I have not had time to look about me yet; some cheaper part of *England* must be the object of my inquiry. Colonel *Vassall* is at present in our neighbourhood, but he means to take a house in *London*, at the court end of the town, and enjoy the comforts of a plentiful fortune, at least for one winter.

We received the account of our successes in *Canada* about ten days before the arrival of your letters. It would have given me great pleasure to have received first from you. You know it would have given me an opportunity to have shown them to your advantage—"a word to the wise." If anything occurs which you think important, let me have it by the first opportunity. Direct to Lieutenant-Governor *Oliver, London*; it will be sufficient.

I hope this will find you, Mrs. P., and family, well, and as happy as your circumstances will admit; in which I shall ever take the part of a sincere friend and well-wisher.

THO. OLIVER.

To David Phips, Esq., Halifax.

COLONEL DORSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Elk-Ridge, July 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received yours of yesterday, in consequence of which, have ordered the *Elk-Ridge* battalion to meet immediately, and will send the number of men required to *Annapolis*. Colonel *John Dorsey* tells me that you desire

a company of the *Flying-Camp* might be sent, if they were made up. On inquiry, I find that there is no company near full, though perhaps on the day the battalion meets they may make up their number; if so, they will immediately march down; otherwise will find a company of Militia, which I imagine will be with you on *Saturday*. By a letter I have just received from Mr. *Paca*, I find the Congress have passed a resolve that the Militia of *Maryland* march to *Philadelphia*. I shall be glad to hear from your Honours on that head as soon as possible.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,  
THOMAS DORSEY.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

STEPHEN STEWART TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have yours of yesterday, with a list of vessels. There are many people that have vessels who would be glad to get your money for them, whether they were suitable for your use or not. Will have as fine a vessel of our own as almost any in this bay, and goes pretty fast; I want to sell her very much, but am afraid she would not answer the end you want her for. Mr. *Sprigg's* snow goes fast, and is well calculated to be lengthened, by putting ten feet in her. She will draw but little water, and I think will go very fast; but I may be mistaken in her sailing, though she certainly sails fast now. I will be off on *Friday*, and go to *Baltimore* for you, or the *Eastern-Shore*; though your business requires my being in the yard, I will do what you think most advantageous for the Province. I think to get Captain *Kilty* to go to the *Eastern-Shore*, and will get him to come up with me for that purpose. I think the most of those vessels you send a list of, must be in *Nanticoke* and *Wicomico*. As these two rivers are blocked up, how are you to get them out, if they should suit your purpose? *John Ball* has applied to me to get the building of one of the row-galleys; which I have no objection to, if you think well of it. The more of them that are building in our yard, the more hands will be employed; therefore we shall be better able to protect them from the enemy; though I should be glad Mr. *Ball* and every honest man should have part of the Province business.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
STEPHEN STEWART.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

Philadelphia, July 9, 1776.

SIR: I am so engaged in the execution of the resolves of Congress, that I have only time to transmit you the enclosed resolutions respecting your department; and, indeed, they are so explicit as not to require any addition.

I wish you happy, and am, with sentiments of esteem, sir, your very humble servant,  
JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To Joseph Trumbull, Esq., Commissary-General.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO MESHECH WEARE.

Philadelphia, July 9, 1776.

SIR: Your highly esteemed favour of the 18th ultimo, enclosing the instructions to join with the other Colonies in declaring these United Colonies free and independent States, came very seasonably to hand. As we were so happy as to agree in sentiment with our constituents, it gave us the greater pleasure to concur with the Delegates of the other Colonies in the enclosed Declaration, which was yesterday published in form in this city, and is to be published at the head of the Army at *New-York* next *Thursday*. A plan of Confederation is now forming, which, when finished, will be transmitted to each Colony for their approbation.

Major *Rogers* (whose conduct, it seems, was suspicious) was taken up some time since by order of General *Washington*, and sent under guard to this city. He requested leave to go to *England*, by way of the *West-Indies*; but Congress, not thinking it proper, have directed him to be sent to *New-Hampshire*, to be disposed of as the authority there shall think best.

We have the honour to be, with great respect, your most obedient servants,  
JOSIAH BARTLETT,  
WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

To Colonel *Weare*.

## LEWIS GORDON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Committee, Easton, July 9, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: This Committee acknowledges the receipt of your letter of the 3d instant, by express; and being truly sensible of the critical and alarming state of our publick affairs, will most cordially comply with every resolve of the Continental Congress to sustain and promote the cause of liberty in *America*. This Committee, however, are entirely at a loss how to send any troops immediately out of this country, as no measures have hitherto been taken to raise men for forming a Flying-Camp; neither had we had the least intimation of such a requisition before we received your letter.

To remedy this defect as well as possible, we propose instantly to take out of our four battalions a proportional number, so as in the whole to compose a body of three hundred and forty-six men, which appears by General *Roberdeau's* letter of the 6th instant to be our quota of Associators allotted by the late conference of Committees for this County; but we are at the same time utterly unprovided with money, nor have we so much gunpowder nor lead as to carry the men to *New-Brunswick*. As to the article of tin for kettles, we are told there is none in the country; and we pray that some proper steps may be taken to furnish us immediately with those articles, to avoid delay as much as possible.

By order of the Committee:

LEWIS GORDON, *Chairman*.To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. We could not avoid detaining the express till this moment, being eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

## COMMODORE HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN HACKER.

Philadelphia, July 9, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 5th instant, and think you are pretty well hemmed in. I think it best you should keep your vessel in the best posture of defence you can, and assist the common cause all in your power with your sloop; but should it so happen that you can't help falling into the enemy's hands, you are to destroy the sloop, rather than let them get her. You will continue thereabouts, and do what service you can until further orders. You may draw for any supplies you may want.

I am, sir, your friend, &amp;c.,

E. HOPKINS.

To *Hoysted Hacker*, Esq., Commander of the *Fly*, at *Brunswick* or *Amboy*.

## ADVICES FROM THE INDIANS BY GEORGE MORGAN.

Philadelphia, August 15, 1776.

*George Morgan*, Esq., arrived in *Philadelphia* from the westward on *Saturday*, the 10th of *August*. On the 9th of *July*, whilst at one of the *Shawanese* towns on the *Scioto*, he received intelligence of three *Six-Nation* warriors having passed by there with two prisoners they had taken, sixteen days before, from *Virginia*. Mr. *Morgan* followed, and got to their own town before them, prevented the usual punishment of the prisoners on their entry, and insisted on their being immediately delivered up to them, unless they intended this breach of the peace as an open declaration of war. All the headmen of the *Six-Nations*, *Shawanese*, and *Delawares*, who were called together on this occasion, behaved in a very friendly manner, and joined with Mr. *Morgan* in his demand made to the warriors, who soon complied therewith, and were promised forgiveness, on condition of future good behaviour. These warriors told Mr. *Morgan* they had done no other damage, except they killed a young man they shot at when they took these prisoners; but he made his escape, though they believed the ball entered his breast. The prisoners are twin sons of *Andrew McConnell*, late of *Pennsylvania*, who removed last winter to *Leestown*, on *Kentucky River*, and were taken within a few hundred yards of the town. Mr. *Morgan* brought them to *Pittsburgh*, and delivered them to their uncle in *Westmoreland County*, in this Province.

Since then, a small party of *Shawanese*, in returning from the *Cherokee* country, killed and scalped two persons near the *Big Bone Lick*. They were pursued by a few of the neighbours, who killed and scalped two of the

*Indians*; the others escaped. This breach is also likely to be settled to the satisfaction of all parties, as the headmen had expressed great concern at the conduct of their foolish young people, and promise to do all in their power to preserve our friendship. A treaty is to be held at *Pittsburgh* with the western *Indians* the beginning of *October*, when it is hoped they will listen to and follow their true interest, as they have promised to do.

The chiefs of the *Six-Nations* met in council at *Onondaga*, on the 18th, 19th, and 20th days of last *June*, promised Mr. *Morgan* to call all their warriors from *Canada*, and to listen to the *Thirteen United States of America*, being convinced that their advice was for their true interest, as they have no business to join either side in the present war between *Great Britain* and *America*. They accordingly sent off a party for the above purpose the 22d of *June*, and another party to *Niagara*, to insist on Colonel *Butler's* bringing all their people safe back immediately. They likewise sent off two large belts to the *Lake* and other western *Indians*, to inform them of their determination, and to desire they will also sit still.

## CAPTAIN CRAWFORD (PRISONER) TO JASPER YEATES.

Reading, July 9, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Nesbitt*, of *Philadelphia*, was so kind as to give me the enclosed letter, which, if I could have got a passport from the Congress, should have delivered myself when I had the pleasure of seeing you at *Lancaster*. You will see by the contents it is to assist me in procuring money for the soldiers of the *Twenty-Sixth Regiment* who are prisoners at your town. I beg, therefore, if Captain *Strong*, of said regiment, should be in want some time hence, on account of my not being able to get over, that you will be so obliging as to assist him, whose orders on me shall be punctually repaid at Messrs. *Conynham & Nesbitt's*, as I shall advise them. Being unknown to you, sir, I must beg your pardon most particularly for this intrusion; and remain, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN CRAWFORD,

*Captain and Paymaster to Twenty-Sixth Regiment.*To *Jasper Yeates*, Esq., *Lancaster*.

## SAMUEL TUCKER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 11, 1776.]

In Provincial Congress, Trenton, July 9, 1776.

SIR: By a letter this day received from General *Livingston*, enclosing a copy of one from General *Washington*, we seem to be called upon to make provision for the entire defence of our own shores against the *British* forces at *Staten-Island*.

As our funds are very inadequate to this purpose, it becomes absolutely necessary that we know immediately what we are to depend upon in this very important article, that we may set about providing money, provisions, and ammunition.

We had thought that Congress would provide for the defence of every part of the continent; that for this end our brigade was to be formed for the defence of *New-York* in part; that the Flying-Camp was to protect such parts of the Middle Department as was on this side of the *North River*. And when we heard that General *Mercer* was appointed to the command in *New-Jersey*, we hoped provision would be made by the Continental Congress for the necessary supplies of the Army in this Colony, as well as for their pay.

Our Militia from the eastern Counties have turned out in great numbers, but they are very destitute, General *Livingston* informs us, of everything except provisions. When their place shall be filled, as we hope it will be, by the Militia of *Pennsylvania* and the Flying-Camp, and our people discharged to attend their business at home, which is very pressing at this season, they will expect pay. Must we pay them ourselves? Must we supply them with ammunition, &c.? We have no other resources but an application to the Continental Congress for the latter and as to money. They are in the place of the Flying-Camp—we contribute to the general defence of the continent, to the defence of *New-York*, of *Boston*, of *Virginia*, of the *Carolinas*. When we are pressed by the stroke of war in our turn, are we alone

to sustain the burden? The continent we apprehend should defend the continent. We are loath to strike more money. Taxes to any very great amount would be highly imprudent at this time.

What are we to do?—what to expect? You will forgive us if we beg you to be explicit and speedy in your answer, as the exigency admits of no delay.

Colonel *Broadhead*, by our advice, has marched forward to *Amboy*, the Tories in *Monmouth* having been already crushed by our Militia. His presence at *Amboy* will not be unreasonable. We are, sir, your most humble servants.

By order of Congress:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. We omitted to mention that General *Washington* has dismissed a great part of our Militia from *New-York*, with orders to put themselves under General *Livingston's* direction in *New-Jersey*.

JOSEPH BARTON TO HENRY WISNER.

Newton, Sussex County, Jersey, July 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received your favour of the 5th instant, relating to flint-stones. I have sent a sample of the flint our country abounds in. If there can be any way of manufacturing that sort of flint to any advantage, there is enough of it; besides, there are two other sorts—a red flint (which is found about *Menesint*, which far exceeds any flint imported from *Europe*) and a green. The green flint which I have sent you is better than the common sort of flint used. It is harder, and will fire oftener without sharpening. Besides these mentioned, there is a black flint, commonly found incorporated with limestone. Our country abounds in great plenty of this sort. I have often made use of it for gun-flints, but don't think they are equal to the other sorts. Another sort we sometimes use, which we call the crystal flint, resembling the diamond amongst us. They are commonly small, but at *Membacas*, near *Esopus*, they are very large. Could they be manufactured, would far exceed any imported. But, sir, we want none of the flint here: you may have them all, for we have no powder, which gives great uneasiness to the people in general, as we expect an *Indian* war, should our forces fail to the northward. For my own part, could I procure powder at forty shillings, should embrace the opportunity. As to lead, there is a good lead-mine at *Nepenoh*. I have used the lead oftentimes: we could help ourselves to that article.

I pray, if in your power, you would order powder, if it were but a quarter of a pound, each man. I should rest much easier for my part, and think we could defend ourselves, if attacked by our enemies, in some measure; but now we have nothing but our axes or sticks to fight with, should we be attacked. As to the lead mine, I could wish it might be worked in; I should be glad to undertake that matter, and would give considerable towards it myself. I have sent three different sorts of flint stone—the black is the limestone flint.

Sir, it gives a great turn to the minds of our people declaring our independence. Now we know what to depend on. For my part, I have been at a great stand: I could hardly own the King, and fight against him at the same time; but now these matters are cleared up. Heart and hand shall move together. I don't think there will be five Tories in our part of the country in ten days after matters are well known. We have had great numbers who would do nothing until we were declared a free State, who now are ready to spend their lives and fortunes in defence of our country.

I must, my dear friend, bid you farewell. May the Supreme Judge of all things sit at the head of our affairs, and give that great and august body, the Congress, wisdom to govern us, and by their wisdom make this continent a great and happy empire. I expect a great turn one way or the other before I see you again.

I am, sir, your loving and affectionate cousin,

JOSEPH BARTON.

To *Henry Wisner*, Esq.

N. B. I believe, sir, could the gentlemen see one Island in the drowned land near *Jacobus Ducker's*, called *Flint-Island*, they would think we could supply all *Europe* with gun-flints, besides our own country.

J. B.

IBBETSON HAMER (PRISONER OF WAR) TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Kingsberry, near Trenton, July 9, 1776.

SIR: I have some reason to believe that you have done me the favour to answer a former letter written you, which I have not been so fortunate as to receive. The reason of this my second application, is on account of a late order of the Continental Congress for removing the officers to the interior part of *Pennsylvania*; and as I suppose the order supersedes the leave you was so kind as to give me to reside near *Princeton*, I now take the liberty to acquaint you, that on my application to Mr. *Tucker*, he recommended it to me to make this application to you for leave to remain in the same quarter for some time longer, with permission to come as far as *Trenton*.

I should not have made this application, but for some circumstances which have happened, and which make it of the utmost consequence to my future happiness. Doctor *Bryant*, with whom I am now, is the bearer of this, and returns in a day or two, by whom I hope to be favoured with your answer.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

IBBETSON HAMER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., at *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Amboy, July 9, 1776.

SIR: Nothing extraordinary has happened here. The frigate that appeared yesterday under sail, standing towards the town, is now out of view—supposed to be in *Prince's Bay*. At this post and the *Blazing-Star*, are posted about one thousand of the *New-Jersey* Militia. They begin to be so anxious to return to their harvest, under the apprehension of their families' being without support, if they continue longer, that I have permitted a draught from each company to be discharged—about two hundred in all, and have assured the others they shall be relieved when the *Pennsylvania* Militia arrive.

Ten or twelve days hence the harvest, I am told, will be secured; when it is so, the Militia will return on duty with pleasure, and in the mean time will assemble at the first summons. Some troops from *Pennsylvania* are now at *Brunswick*; but whether they are composed of the Militia, or those intended to form the Flying-Camp, I have not yet been informed.

The enemy on the point, in view of town, appear to be but few—works of defence thrown up—two pieces of field artillery only.

We have found a convenient and strong situation for fixing an encampment within a mile of *Amboy*; but if the body of men intended to encamp here are to cover not only this Province, but *Philadelphia*, or occasionally march to *New-York*, I should think *Brunswick*, as being most central to all those, would be the most proper place to rendezvous. It seems to me most eligible to relieve the *Jersey* Militia with whatever troops come immediately from *Pennsylvania*; and about twelve days after, when their harvest is secured, to call them in to guard their own coast, or go upon any other necessary service. This, I am persuaded, they will do with the utmost celerity.

The present situation of the enemy discovers no intention of their attacking us; it rather points out an attempt on their quarters, which being made at once at different places, would probably succeed.

The contractors for the Army here (Colonels *Denham* and *Lowrey*) tell me they have a good stock of pickled pork—upwards of eighty thousand pounds. Any quantity of live-stock and flour necessary for our supplies, may be at once procured. Colonel *Putnam* will give his sentiments as to the practicability of defending this town. I fear it will require more cannon and ammunition than can be spared at present. As soon as I can procure returns of the ammunition and artillery in this Province, I shall communicate them.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

H. MERCER.

To General *Washington*.



## CAPTAIN CREGIER TO THOMAS RANDALL.

Shrewsburytown, July 9, 1776.

WORTHY SIR: After my due respects to you and your honourable House, I am to inform you what has brought me to this place. You must, in the first place, know my business here is to draw on you for some cash, which Mr. *John Murray* has supplied me with—sixteen pounds sixteen shillings—on account of your schooner *General Putnam*, for which I have given a bill payable at three days' sight, which I hope will meet with honour. I should not have come this far, but I understood at *Squam Inlet*, where I left my vessel this morning, that there was a letter here for me; but it has been intercepted. Sir, on the 5th of this instant, being about nine miles distant to the southeast of *Egg-Harbour*, I saw two sail standing to the northward; I then gave them chase, the wind being light; I got out my oars, and rowed until three o'clock in the afternoon, when the wind came to the southwest. After eleven hours' chase, I drew near them. I then shortened sail, and got all clear for action. At four in the afternoon, I got within one hundred and seventy yards of the sternmost ship, in order to board her; but she, putting her helm hard a starboard, hauled up her ports, and gave me her whole broadside of ten guns. She proved to be a Ministerial pirate of twenty guns. I hauled my wind in for the shore; she did the same, and continued firing without intermission. When I was within four hundred yards of the shore, I made a small tack, but being very near her, I received her whole broadside, at which I hove about, and ran ashore about forty yards from *Squam Inlet*. I then got all my arms and ammunition on the beach, and the ship came to anchor about a quarter of a mile from us, and began a heavy firing upon us, and continued their fire for near half an hour, when at last she hoisted out two barges and manned them with about fifty men; but as they approached the shore, we handled them so roughly that they were obliged to make a scandalous retreat. She continued her fire until dark, when she weighed, expending upward of four hundred pounds of powder. I had seventeen large holes in my mainsail, and some shot in my hull. When the tide made, I got my vessel into this inlet, where I will repair as soon as possible, and hope to pay the pirates for this usage.

I am, sir, your humble servant, THOMAS CREGIER.

To *Thomas Randall*, Esquire, Member of the Provincial Congress, or in his absence, *Jacobus Van Zandt*, Esquire, Member as aforesaid.

P. S. They were both ships. The money I have taken up of Mr. *Murray* is to defray some expenses I am at for the vessel, and to purchase a little spirits for my people, who (some of them) are sick drinking the bad water that is on this coast. If you have any further orders for me, direct for me at *James Randall's*, at *Cranberry*. There has not been any vessel arrived in any of the inlets these six weeks past, which much surprises me. Please to deliver the enclosed letter.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 9, 1776.

SIR: By a letter received by Congress from Mr. *Thomas Green*, copy of which they did me the honour to enclose, I have the pleasure to hear of the arrival of Captain *Chase*, with a valuable cargo, at *Providence*. And as that honourable body have been pleased to order the flints at *Rhode-Island* belonging to the Continent, to be sent to me here, (as per their resolution enclosed,) I would therefore request you would cause it to be done without the smallest delay, together with the small-arms which came in the vessel. As to the duck, if it is of the kind suitable for tents, either the whole or part, I should be greatly obliged to you if you would order them made up as fast as possible, and forwarded to *Norwich*; but if it is coarse and stubborn, and of a quality unfit for the above purpose, it will be unnecessary to give yourself any trouble about the matter.

I am very sorry I cannot spare you a General-Officer, agreeable to your desire, to take command of the forces belonging to *Rhode-Island*, but in the present critical juncture it is utterly out of my power to comply with your request. General *Mercer* is the only officer who has no brigade assigned him; and at a time when we are in constant expectation of some important movement of the enemy, his presence is so necessary here that it cannot possibly be

dispensed with. The best expedient that can be fallen upon, I presume, would be to give the command to the senior officer of the troops till a Brigadier is appointed.

I have only to add, that I am, with much respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *Nicholas Cooke*, Esq.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 9, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the — instant is safely come to hand. Colonel *Seymour* arrived yesterday with a few of his men, when I sent for and acquainted him it would be impossible for me to have his horses remain here. Forage is not to be procured; and if it could, it would only be a great expense, without a single advantage arising from it.

The men are absolutely necessary, till the arrival of the new levies. Colonel *Seymour* is to propose the matter to them this morning, and return me an answer. We have intelligence that may be relied on, of Lord *Howe* being on his passage for this place, with a large fleet and about fifteen thousand men, and is hourly expected. By several deserters from *Staten-Island* and the ships of war, whose accounts all agree, we learn that General *Howe* proposes no attempt on us till the arrival of this reinforcement, when, it is said, with a part of his army he will make a descent on the *Jersey* side, while the fleet and the other part of the army in conjunction, attack this city. To oppose this force, in which the Ministry put so much confidence, I think it necessary to exert our every nerve, and, by defeating their views this campaign, be enabled to meet them with double advantage the next. Should they think proper to pursue their unwarrantable measures, I hope the good people of your Colony or State will be ready on all occasions to fly to our assistance, if needed; I have a confidence in them, and doubt not they will be ready and willing.

To prevent the enemy from obtaining fresh provisions, is a matter highly necessary to be attended to. I am informed that there are great quantities on the Islands in the neighbourhood of *New-London*, viz: *Fisher's*, *Block*, *Plumb*, and *Elizabeth Islands*, and *Martha's Vineyard*; these are accessible to ships of force, and no doubt they will soon be on a plundering voyage. I could wish your attention to this matter, that the stock might all be removed quite out of reach of the enemy. The east end of *Long-Island*, I am told, is not less exposed than the others. I think effectual steps will be taken in regard to that, as I have had a conference with the Convention of this Province, and an order has gone out for driving all the stock from the sea-coasts.

In the conference of a full board of General Officers yesterday, it was recommended that I should apply to your Honour for the three row-galleys, being now at *New-London*, or in the river, together with as many heavy cannon as you can possibly spare; they are what will be much wanted here; and if you find it consistent, would beg you to forward them on as soon as possible.

I would not have it understood, from what I have said above in regard to the Horse, that I think their coming forward a wrong step. I think it a step which was highly advisable, and am much pleased to see with what cheerfulness and despatch your orders were executed. This body of Horse, provided they are well armed with good muskets, must always be of greater service, on sudden emergencies to throw in succours when called for, than the Militia.

I have the honour to be, with esteem, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, of the State of *Connecticut*.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL WARD.

New-York, July 9, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed Declaration will show you that Congress, at length impelled by necessity, have dissolved the connexion between the *American Colonies* and *Great Britain*, and declared them free and independent States; and in compliance with their order, I am to request you will cause this Declaration to be immediately proclaimed at the head of the Continental Regiments in the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

It being evident from a variety of concurring circumstances, that the *British* armies mean to direct their most vigorous operations this campaign against the State of *New-York*, to



penetrate into it by way of the Lakes and the *North River*, and to unite their attacks, the importance of it has induced Congress to take further measures for baffling their designs and rendering it more secure. You will see by the resolves now transmitted, that the Northern Army is to be augmented by part of the troops under your command; and I do desire that you will immediately detach for that purpose three of the fullest regiments forthwith to march to *Ticonderoga*, or such other place as the said Army may be at, and put themselves under the order and directions of the General Officer commanding the same.

You will also perceive that Congress have resolved that the arms taken in the *Scotch* transports should be sent here. The President informs me that he has written to the agents respecting them; but as I presume they are in your possession, or in some of the stores by your order, you will have the whole of them forwarded with all possible despatch, in the usual route, and with necessary directions.

Congress have made some alteration in the establishment of Chaplains, and advanced their pay, as they have that of the Regimental Surgeons, as you will see by their proceedings, copies of which in these instances are also transmitted.

You will be particularly attentive to hastening the march of the three regiments, and give proper orders for their route, and to the Commissary and Quartermaster, that everything necessary for the same may be immediately provided. Their aid is much wanted, and may be of the utmost importance. When they have marched, you will be pleased to put the remaining regiments under the command of the oldest Colonel, with such instructions as you may judge necessary, and then retire, if it shall be agreeable to you, for the recovery of your health, as I cannot possibly request you longer to continue; and wishing you a speedy restoration of it, I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General Ward.

P. S. I would have you consult with proper persons, and some of the members of the General Court, respecting the route of the three regiments to be detached to the Northern Army. And if they shall be of opinion, that they may probably arrive there as soon if they come to *Norwich* and embark from thence for *Albany*, I should think that would be most preferable, for two reasons: First, it will ease the troops of much fatigue; and, secondly, they might, if there was a necessity for it, afford succour here as they passed. I do not mean to give any direction in the matter; nor do I wish this mode to be adopted, unless there appears to be a probability of their arriving where they are intended to be sent by Congress, as early as if they pursued their march by land and across the country.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

New-York, July 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You will perceive by the enclosed Declaration, which I have the honour to transmit to you, that Congress of late have been employed in deliberating on matters of the utmost importance. Impelled by necessity and a repetition of injuries insufferable, without the most distant prospect of relief, they have asserted the claims of the *American* Colonies to the rights of humanity, and declared them free and independent States.

Judging, from a variety of circumstances, that the *British* arms are meant to be directed this campaign against the State of *New-York* to effect its reduction, Congress have empowered me to order the three fullest regiments of their troops in the *Massachusetts-Bay* to reinforce our Northern Army, as you will see by a copy of their resolve, which I have enclosed. I have accordingly, by the advice of my General Officers, requested General Ward to detach them with all possible expedition to join that Army, and prevent the fatal and alarming consequences that would result from the enemy's passing the Lakes and making an impression on our frontiers. I am almost morally certain that no attempts will be made on the *Massachusetts-Bay*; and if there should, they must prove abortive and ineffectual—the Militia, independent of other troops, being more than competent to all the purposes of defensive war. However, should it be deemed expedient by your honourable body, Congress have autho-

rized you to embody and take into pay a number of Militia equal to the regiments to be detached.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Resolve for sending three Regiments from MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, to reinforce the Northern Army.

In Congress, July 4, 1776.

Resolved, That General Washington be empowered, if he shall judge it advisable, to order three of the fullest Regiments stationed in *Massachusetts-Bay* to be immediately marched to *Ticonderoga*, and that an equal number of the Militia of that State be taken into pay, and embodied for its defence, if the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay* judge it necessary.

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

New-York, July 11, 1776.

The fourth instant was rendered remarkable by the most important event that ever happened to the *American* Colonies; an event which will doubtless be celebrated through a long succession of future ages, by anniversary commemorations, and be considered as a grand era in the history of the *American* States. On this auspicious day, the Representatives of the Thirteen United Colonies, by the providence of God, unanimously agreed to, and voted a Proclamation, declaring the said Colonies free and independent States, which was proclaimed at the State-House, in *Philadelphia*, on Monday last, and received with joyful acclamations. Copies were also distributed to all the United Colonies. On Tuesday last, it was read at the head of each Brigade of the Continental Army posted at and near *New-York*, and everywhere received with loud huzzas, and the utmost demonstrations of joy.

The same evening, the equestrian statue of *George III.*, which Tory pride and folly raised in the year 1770, was, by the sons of freedom, laid prostrate in the dirt, the just desert of an ungrateful tyrant! The lead wherewith this monument was made is to be run into bullets, to assimilate with the brain of our infatuated adversaries, who, to gain a peppercorn, have lost an empire.\*

DUTCHESS COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

In General Committee,  
Dutchess County, July 9, 1776. }

This is to certify, that *John R. Livingston* proved to the satisfaction of this Committee, by his own affidavit and the affidavits of the principal millwright and principal manufacturer, that his Powder-Mill in this County was completed before the 20th day of May last, and that the quantity of one thousand pounds of good merchantable gunpowder was manufactured at the said mill in one week, or seven days successively. By order of the Committee:

EGBERT BENSON, Chairman.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO CAPTAIN SHAW.

Lebanon, July 9, 1776.

SIR: On receipt of this, you are desired to prepare and forthwith transmit to me a particular account of the cannon left at *New-London* by Commodore Hopkins, their number, size, bore, and weight, how they are disposed of, and where to be found at this time; also, an account of the other cannon at *New-London* belonging to the Colony, their number, size, bore, and weight; particularly distinguished from those brought in by Commodore Hopkins. There is high probability that the fortifications building at the harbour of *New-London* will be at Continental expense. I thank you for yours of yesterday. The law has made provision for the supply of Captain Richard Deshon. The arms you imported may be purchased by the Selectmen, and paid by order to the Pay-Table for that end.

From your humble servant, JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To Captain Nathaniel Shaw, Jun., *New-London*.

P. S. Please send me also, by itself, an account of the stores left by the Commodore, and how we are provided for necessities for the cannon, shot, &c.

\* Lord Clare, in the House of Commons, declared that a peppercorn, in acknowledgment of Britain's right to tax America, was of more importance than millions without it.

## WILLIAM HILLHOUSE TO NATHANIEL SHAW.

Lebanon, July 9, 1776.

SIR: The Colony arms to be divided among the towns that I spoke to you about. *New-London's* share is seventeen, which may be had at Captain *Brainard's*, at *Hadam*. Mr. *Hosmer*, I suppose, has given orders accordingly.

I am, sir, your humble servant, Wm. HILLHOUSE.  
To Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*.

## GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, July 9, 1776.

SIR: The small-pox in our northern Army carries with it a much greater dread than our enemies. Our men dare to face them, but are not willing to go into a Hospital. I wish to have every precaution taken to prevent the spread of that infection. Surely, by care and good discipline, the infected may be cleansed, and a stop put to its progress. To promote this design, and afford every assistance in my power, I have sent up Major *John Ely*, a gentleman skilled in that distemper, whose fidelity may be relied on, to consult and assist in the matter. I shall coöperate in every measure tending to the security of the rights of the Colonies. The two battalions from this Colony will come on soon; beg they may be preserved from the infection. The two companies of ship carpenters will begin their march the beginning of this week. One meets at *Middletown* this day. I have written you by Captain *Winslow*. Captain *Lester* will follow soon. Do not doubt you will find both, with their companies, skilful workmen, and answerable to your expectations. They bring their tools. Neither of the head workmen, and but few of the others, have had the small-pox.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your obedient humble servant,  
JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

## MOSES MORSE TO COMMANDING OFFICER AT CROWN-POINT.

Worthington, July 9, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay* forthwith to send an express to Head-Quarters at *Crown-Point*, requesting the true state of the Army in that department, and the danger that the country is in at present from that quarter. Would inform that three thousand men are preparing with all expedition to come to the relief of that part of the country. Also, fifteen hundred more are ordered by the Continental Congress to be raised for that department. *Boston* is become a hospital with the small-pox. Also, have enclosed a copy of a resolve for a post-rider. Have appointed *Joshua Morse*, of *Worthington*, for the present.

Am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

MOSES MORSE.

To the chief Commanding Officer at *Crown-Point*.

"In the House of Representatives, July 6, 1776.

"Resolved, That *Jonathan Brown*, Esq., Doctor *Moses Morse*, Mr. *Benjamin Guild*, *Oliver Wendell*, Esq., and Major *Jacob Davis*, be a Committee to agree with two suitable persons to ride post to *Crown-Point* once a week until the last day of *November* next; and that the said Post take such route as the Committee aforesaid shall think best—the said Post to start from and return to *Watertown* until the further orders of this Court.

"And it is further Resolved, That some person be appointed at *Watertown* by the Committee aforesaid to receive and deliver such Letters as shall not be delivered before said Post's arrival at *Watertown*; and that all Letters to or from any persons in the Army be carried free of charge.

"Sent up for concurrence.

"WILLIAM COOPER, *Speaker pro tem*.

"IN COUNCIL, July 6, 1776: Read and concurred.

"JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

"Consented to by the major part of the Council.

"A true copy: Attest: JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Sec*.

"N. B. Letters to be received and delivered at Mr. *Stephen Harris's*, near *Watertown Bridge*, and at Captain *Nathaniel Daniels's*, in *Worthington*."

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

## PETITION OF THE INHABITANTS OF TRURO, MASSACHUSETTS.

To the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives of the Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY in General Court assembled at WATERTOWN, July 9, 1776, the Petition and Memorial of the subscribers humbly show:

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the town of *Truro*, legally warned, and held on the 9th of *July*, 1776, moved and voted, that *Israel Gross*, *Reuben Higgins*, and *Sylvanus Snow*, be a Committee to draft a petition to the honourable Council and House of Representatives for an easement of our Colony taxes; which is as followeth:

We, your petitioners, do humbly address your Honours to take into your wise consideration the many difficulties your petitioners at this time feel and labour under.

Firstly. The sandy and lightness of our soil, which is much blown over to sand, does not afford more than half a sufficient supply to support our inhabitants; and as *Cape-Cod* harbour is open to the enemy, and no convenient harbour in this town, we are at a great expense in transporting the most of our necessities from other places.

Secondly. The enormous loss we sustain by being restrained from our whale and cod fishery, which was our greatest support, besides a dormant and wasting substance of our vessels.

Thirdly. The exposed situation we are in to our unnatural enemies; as this town is a narrow neck of land, not short of twelve miles in length, and from a mile and a half to a half mile in breadth, and makes one side of *Cape-Cod* harbour, where the enemy may anchor in safety, and land and rob us of our stock, burn our buildings, and retreat off, before we can be reinforced from our neighbouring towns.

Fourthly. And that by reason of our distressed situation, from four years taxes our constables cannot gather enough to support our reverend pastor; as we were ever willing to pay the first money collected into the Province treasury, and left the town treasury empty; for which reason our schools, for six months past, have entirely ceased, and many of our necessary town charges remain unpaid; besides a great number of poor families, widows, and fatherless children, depend on the charity of the town; and although the greatest part of our men have gone into the war, yet we expect they will bring but little to support their families, by reason of extraordinary expenses. All of which your petitioners think it our indispensable duty not to conceal, but humbly to present it to this honourable Court, praying that your Honours, by taking our hard lot into your most serious consideration, would be pleased, so far to consider us as to cause an easement in our Colony taxes; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

By order of the Committee:

ISRAEL GROSS, *Chairman*.

## COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO GENERAL WARD.

Watertown, July 9, 1776.

SIR: The Board was this day informed that you had given liberty to a number of Continental troops now stationed at *Winter-Hill*, to receive the small-pox by inoculation. The Board are unwilling to credit such a report, as there is an act of this Colony prohibiting inoculation except in the town of *Boston*. They therefore request, if you have given out any such orders, that you would immediately recall them, that the good people of *Medford*, &c., may be relieved of their apprehensions; and desire your Honour would not permit any of the troops under your command to receive the small-pox by inoculation, in any other town except the town of *Boston*.

To the Honourable *Artemas Ward*, Esq.

## GENERAL WARD TO COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Boston, July 9, 1776.

SIR: I am now to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of this day; and in answer thereto, say, there is no Continental troops at or near *Winter-Hill*, except a guard at the powder magazine, and they have all had the small-pox.

Yesterday the Selectmen of *Medford* applied to me for leave to make use of one of the barracks at or near *Winter-Hill* for a small-pox hospital, the small-pox having broken out in said town. I gave them leave to take some of them.

for that purpose. I thought then, and I think now, I had a right so to do.

I am, sirs, yours, and the honourable Board's most obedient and very humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable *John Avery*.

BARNSTABLE (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

MESSIEURS PRINTERS: Please to give the following a place in your next, and you will oblige a friend, and help to vindicate the injured:

In the *Watertown* paper of last *Monday*, I then being in *Boston*, had the mortification to see a piece most artfully dressed up in the form of a Protest,\* against the proceedings of the town of *Barnstable*, in a late meeting of theirs, which was held to choose a Representative in the room of that truly honourable gentleman, lately admitted to the Board.

These respectable gentlemen (as the protestors are pleased to call themselves) have endeavoured to make it appear, by their representation of the matter, that the town of *Barnstable*, in voting not to instruct their Representative, did positively give their sentiments as a town against the measure of Independency, even if the Congress should see fit to adopt it; and that they did thereby absolutely refuse to support such a determination, however necessary it may appear to the wisdom of the Continent. The subscriber to this, being an inhabitant of the town of *Barnstable*, and present at the said meeting, humbly requests the candid publick that they would for the present suspend their judgment of this matter (which, as it has been represented, must appear in the most unfavourable light) until such time as an attested copy of the above mentioned proceedings can be procured and made publick, when he hopes it will appear, not that the late Protest was designed as a malevolent aspersion of the town, but that the representation therein exhibited has not the truth for its foundation; in the mean time, I am the respectable protestors' humble servant,

STURGIS GORHAM.

Boston, July 9, 1776.

JOSEPH OTIS ON THE PROCEEDINGS AT BARNSTABLE.

Barnstable, July 18, 1776.

Mr. EDES: By *Powers & Willis's* paper of the 11th *July* I find an inhabitant of the town of *Barnstable* greatly mortified at a piece in your paper, dressed up in form of a Protest, and with a sneer at the persons whose names were annexed to the account, "begging the candid publick to suspend their judgment." Who dressed up the piece that gave him so much mortification I pretend not to say. But surely he showed but little address in taxing the protestors against

\* We, the subscribers, inhabitants of the town of *Barnstable*, protest against the proceedings of said town, at their meeting held on *Tuesday*, 25th of *June* instant, respecting their giving the Representatives instructions with regard to the independency of the Colonies, as it was recommended to the several towns in this Colony, by way of resolve from the honourable House of Representatives: and as a vote was put in said meeting, to know whether the town would proceed to give any instructions to their Representatives agreeable to the aforesaid recommendation, which was carried in the negative. And judging it to be our duty to protest against said vote, we do it for the following reason: we think such a measure as proposed in said resolve to be the most salutary that can be gone into for the safety and well-being of the Colonies under our present oppressed situation. And as it is the duty of every individual to give his voice in favour of the aforesaid recommendation, in case the honourable Continental Congress see cause to declare these Colonies entirely independent, we are ready and willing to stand by such a declaration (if it should take place) to the uttermost of our power, with our lives and estates. And being very unwilling that the aforesaid vote should be passed over in silence, for fear of offending our own consciences in being thought to acquiesce in so strange a vote of the town, and of offending our countrymen and brethren in other towns who may go into contrary measures, entirely abhorring any principles but what are for the good of the United Colonies of *America*, and detesting those arguments brought by some men in said meeting to dissuade the people from complying with said recommendation, we take this method of letting the publick know our dissent from the aforesaid proceedings of the town, having no other way to make our sentiments known.

We request that this Protest may be entered in the Town-book, to let posterity know that there were a few in this town who dared to stand forth in favour of an injured and oppressed country, treated with every species of wickedness used by tyranny to enslave mankind; and it is a matter of great grief to us that the cause of liberty is treated with such indignity by some of the inhabitants of the town of *Barnstable*.

Joseph Otis,	Nathan Bassett,	Cornelius Lovell,
Thomas Annable,	David Smith,	Seth Lathrop,
Benjamin Smith,	Job Howland,	Benoni Crocker,
Zaccheus Howland,	James Davis,	John Bliss,
Joseph Jenkins,	Nathaniel Howland,	Edmund Hawes,
Benjamin Smith,	Ebenezer Lathrop,	John Russel,
Freeman Parker,	Binney Baker,	Charles Conant.
John Crocker, Jun.,	Jonathan Hallet,	

BARNSTABLE, June 26, 1776.

a proceeding of a town meeting with "artfully misrepresenting" in an article of intelligence, and which he insinuates was a "malevolent aspersion of their town," when the protestors were to a man unacquainted with the piece until it appeared in your paper. Nor has he the truth for his foundation when he says the "protestors call themselves respectable gentlemen," for, in truth, the protestors have hitherto been silent, and the paragraph in your paper only styles them "respectable inhabitants." An unfortunate advocate for truth and candour this, to appear in the first part of his performance destitute of both. I pronounce the account of our town meeting neither true nor false, nor do I determine whether, all circumstances considered, a negative upon the question of instructing relative to Independence was a negative upon the question of Independence; though if the inference was natural, it was unavoidable. The account of our town meeting in your paper "had the truth for its foundation;" but if the question was mistaken, or even "artfully" stated, I see not how the protestors are responsible. As a protestor, an inhabitant of *Barnstable*, and one at the meeting, I join issue with this "mortified" young man, state facts, and leave the publick to draw their inferences.

After it was debated largely whether the town would give any instructions to their Representatives, the question was put by yeas and nays. Thirty appeared for instructing, thirty-five against it. There was a long debate about declaring independency. One said "it was downright rebellion;" another, a staunch friend of Governour *Hutchinson*, said "our trade was as free as if we were independent;" and these were violently against the motion. And such-like weighty arguments, I suppose, obtained a majority against instructing, of which number our quondam Captain under Governour *Hutchinson* was one. The protestors, I am sure, for one, were far from rejoicing that the vote was carried as it was, and am as certain they have no desire of aspersing the town; though if exculpating themselves and stating facts "mortifies a part of the town, and our candid sneerer at the protestors amongst the rest, I am little solicitous about that consequence. I have no wish to set the town in a less reputable light. It is my opinion, if a certain party had not, by their boisterous, illiberal behaviour, intimidated the major part not to act, (for of one hundred and forty voters at the meeting sixty-five only voted upon the question,) the question would have been carried in favour of instructing, and the town would have saved its credit, at least in this affair.

The unprovoked attack upon me and the protestors has drawn me into the view of the publick upon this occasion, supposing my silence would be deemed a tacit acknowledgment of wrong, which is all my inducement to answer; for the sneers of a little emissary of a desperate cabal are as contemptible as their unremitting malice and abuse; happy in conscious integrity, though the love of my country and my efforts in her service have opened upon me the throats of deep-mouthed mastiffs, as well as occasioned the barking of lesser curs. This unprovoked attack will, I hope, apologize for publishing the Protest as it was hastily drawn up; and submitting to the judgment of an impartial publick, I am their humble servant,

JOSEPH OTIS.

Salem, July 9, 1776.

On *Wednesday* last, was taken and sent into *Cape Ann*, by the *Yankey* privateer sloop, in the Continental service, (lately fitted out at *Boston*, to cruise against the unnatural enemies of *America*), commanded by Captain *Henry Johnson*, the ship *Creighton*, — *Ross*, master, about three hundred and fifty tons burden. She was bound from *Antigua* to *Boston*, and has on board a cargo of four hundred puncheons of rum.

Same day, was also sent in by Captain *Johnson*, the ship *Zechariah Bailly*, — — — master, four hundred and fifty tons burden, with a cargo of rum, sugar, spices, pepper, cotton, &c. She was taken about a fortnight ago, on her passage from *Jamaica* to *London*. This ship was a letter-of-marque of twenty-four guns last war.

When the above ships parted with the *Yankey*, she was in chase of several other vessels.

COMMITTEE OF MACHIAS TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Machias, July 9, 1776.

We, the Committee of Safety for *Machias*, beg leave to acquaint your Honours, that on *Saturday* last came into

our harbour the *Viper* sloop-of-war, and she has taken five fishing vessels, two of which had about one hundred quintals of fish each; all of which vessels were taken as they were passing by our harbour, bound home; and said man-of-war, after tarrying here two days, sailed for *Annapolis Royal*, with her prizes, where the ship *Merlin*, of eighteen guns, lies, there to fix out one or two of the schooners for tenders, to cruise upon this shore for three months, to pick up every vessel that passes. Her station, as we are informed by Mr. *Ralph Hacock*, is from *Mount Desert* to *Granmenan*. Mr. *Hacock* was master of one of the vessels taken, owned in this place, and the Captain of the *Viper* gave him leave to come on shore, by his pleading the great necessity of his family; and Mr. *Hacock* gives further information that the *Viper* mounts ten guns, six-pounders, and twenty swivels, and has one hundred and thirty men; but have been on two-thirds allowance all their cruise. We would inform your Honours, that had the *Machias* privateers been here, we should have tried to have taken the *Viper*; but being destitute of any such assistance, we lie almost at the mercy of our enemies. If we cannot pass with our vessels, we can maintain our families but a short time in this place. Therefore, we beg that your Honours would take our difficult circumstances into your consideration, and grant us such relief as you in your wisdom shall think proper; and we, the Committee, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

By order of the Committee:

BENJAMIN FOSTER, *Chairman*.

To the Hon. Council and the Hon. House of Representatives for the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

THOMAS OLIVER TO EDWARD WINSLOW.

London, July 10, 1776.

DEAR NED: I received your very obliging letter of the 23d of May, by Mr. *Simpson*, with a number of other letters returned, which went out from *England*, directed to me at *Halifax*, or *Boston*; and I am much obliged, not only for your kind attention to my concerns, but for your early correspondence, containing a fund of intelligence and entertainment.

I wish it were in my power to make you a suitable return, by giving you such information as would be new and entertaining; but long, I hope, before this reaches your hands, you will have known the great preparations which are already made for prosecuting with vigour the *American* war. We hope that these appearances of determination may have great effect upon the southern Governments, in bringing them to a proper temper of mind for a speedy reconciliation; but have not the least expectation of the *New-England* people giving up without real correction.

At this season of the year, *London* is more barren of interesting events, or any great movements, than *Nova-Scotia*.

I am glad you did not come over, as I am confident you would have been disappointed, *entre nous*. The application from the sufferers in *America* are like to be so very numerous, that I apprehend it will prevent the gratification of any. There is scarcely a Province in *America* which does not afford shoals of petitioners hanging about the Treasury; and Administration, however well inclined, are unable to answer all the numerous demands. Therefore, my friend, I advise you to trust your fortune in the channel you are in. If times alter in *America*, it may alter appearances here. I am still in the neighbourhood of *London*, but mean to get into some cheaper part of the country. Colonel *Vassal* and family are well; they will continue in *London*. I am not able to form any conjecture whether I shall succeed in my *West-India* plan, for reasons before mentioned.

I remain, your affectionate friend,  
T. OLIVER.  
To *Edward Winslow*, Esq., *Halifax*.

LETTER FROM THE CAMP BEFORE GWIN'S ISLAND, DATED JULY 10, 1776.

Yesterday morning Brigadier-General *Lewis*, accompanied by the Colonels *Stephens*, *Woodford*, *Weedon*, and *Bucknor*, arrived here; when a vigorous attack was made on the fleet and camp of the enemy. The ships were so roughly handled that the *Dunmore* and several others were

in a short time towed off, and the enemy abandoned their works, after carrying away all their cannon except a six-pounder. We have taken the *Lady Charlotte* tender, with three guns, a very fine schooner, and a pilot-boat, which they made use of as tenders. The want of boats prevented our seizing many Tories, all their cannon, the greatest part of their baggage, and the negroes; the enemy have burnt several of their vessels, among them a very fine ship, supposed to be the *Dunmore*, which was rendered unfit for sea. His Lordship lost his china, by a double-headed shot, and it is said he himself was wounded in the leg by a splinter. The fleet is driven off without water; and although they have plenty of prize flour, there is not a biscuit on board. The houses, ovens, and fortifications, which they have begun on the Island, plainly prove that they had no intention to leave it in so precipitate a manner. All the loss that we sustained was in poor Captain *Arundel*, of the Artillery, who was killed by the bursting of a mortar. The officers and soldiers of Colonel *Dangerfield's* regiment behaved with great bravery.

PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF THE ATTACK AND ROUT OF LORD DUNMORE, WITH HIS PIRATICAL CREW, FROM GWIN'S ISLAND.

We got to the Island on *Monday*, the 8th of *July*, and next morning, at eight o'clock, began a furious attack upon the enemy's shipping, camp, and fortifications, from two batteries—one of five six and nine-pounders, the other mounting two 18-pounders. What forces the enemy had were encamped on a point of the Island, nearly opposite to our five-gun battery, covered by a battery of four embrasures, and a breastwork of considerable extent. Besides this, they had two other batteries, and a stockade fort higher up the haven, where troops were stationed to prevent our landing. In the haven, were three tenders—one a sloop, (the *Lady Charlotte*), mounting six carriage-guns, a schooner of two carriage-guns, six swivels, and a cohorn, and a pilot-boat, badly armed—who had orders from Captain *Hammond*, of the *Roebuck*, to prevent our boats passing over to the Island, and to annoy the Rebels by every means in their power.

General *Lewis* announced his orders for attacking the enemy, by putting a match to the first gun, an 18-pounder, himself; and the *Dunmore*, being the nearest to us, at the distance of only four or five hundred yards, the shot passed through her hull, and did considerable damage. Our five-gun battery likewise began playing on the fleet, the enemy's camp, and works; and the fire soon became so hot, that the *Dunmore* was obliged to cut her cables and haul off, after receiving ten shot, some of which raked her fore and aft. The *Otter* lay next to her, and it was expected would have taken her birth; but the first shot we gave her took effect, supposed between wind and water, as she immediately slipped her cable likewise, and hauled out on a cable, without firing a gun. By this time, all the fleet any way near shore began to slip their cables, in the utmost confusion; and had the wind set in with a flood-tide, we must have taken great numbers of them. Our 18-pounders did great execution from the upper battery, which raked the whole fleet; and Captain *Denny*, who commanded the other battery, soon silenced the enemy at the point, knocking down several tents, which put their camp into great confusion. At half after nine, the firing ceased, which was renewed again at twelve, with double vigour, from both batteries; and nothing prevented our pushing to the Island, during the cannonade, but the want of vessels.

The General being determined to cross next day, gave orders for all the small craft to be collected together from the neighbouring creek that night, and two brass field-pieces, six-pounders, to be carried to a place called *Lower Windmill Point*, to attack the tender that lay there, and facilitate our crossing. Accordingly, in the morning Captain *Harrison*, who had the direction of those field-pieces, began playing upon the tenders, which he galled so much that the schooner ran up a small creek which made into the Island, where the crew abandoned her, and the sloop got aground in reach of our cannon; upon which, the General ordered Captain *Smith*, of the Seventh Regiment, with his company, to man the canoes and board her, which was done with alacrity. However, before our men came up with her, the crew got into.



their boats, and pushed for the Island; but Captain *Smith*, very prudently passing the tender, pursued them so close, that before they could reach the shore, he exchanged a few shot with them, and took part of them prisoners. The enemy's lookouts, perceiving our men close upon the lower part of the Island, cried out, "The Shirtmen are coming," and scampered off. The pilot-boat made no resistance.

General *Lewis* then ordered two hundred men, under Colonel *McClanahan*, to land in the Island; which was performed as expeditiously as our small vessels would admit of. On our arrival, we found the enemy had evacuated the place with the greatest precipitation, and were struck with horror at the number of dead bodies, in a state of putrefaction, strewed all the way from their battery to *Cherry-Point*, about two miles in length, without a shovelful of earth upon them; others gasping for life; and some had crawled to the water's edge, who could only make known their distress by beckoning to us. By the small-pox, and other malignant disorders which have raged on board the fleet for many months past, it is clear they have lost, since their arrival at *Gwin's Island*, near five hundred souls. I myself counted one hundred and thirty graves, or rather holes, loosely covered over with earth, close together, many of them large enough to hold a corporal's guard. One, in the middle, was neatly done up with turf, and is supposed to contain the remains of the late Lord of *Gosport*. Many were burnt alive in brush huts, which, in their confusion, had got on fire. In short, such a scene of misery, distress, and cruelty, my eyes never beheld; for which the authors, one may reasonably conclude, never can make atonement in this world.

The enemy left behind them, in their battery, a double fortified nine-pounder, a great part of their baggage, with several tents and marquees, besides the three tenders, with their cannon, small arms, &c.; also, the anchors and cables of the *Dunmore*, *Otter*, and many others, to the amount, it is supposed, of twelve or fifteen hundred pounds. On their leaving the Island, they burnt some valuable vessels which had got aground. Mr. *John Grymes's* effects on the Island have fallen into our hands, consisting of thirty-five negroes, horses, cattle, and furniture. Major *Byrd*, on the approach of our canoes to the Island, was huddled into a cart, in a very sick and low condition, it is said, and carried down to *Cherry-Point*, where he embarked. The second shot the *Dunmore* received cut her boatswain in two, and wounded two or three others; and she had scarcely recovered from the shock, when a nine-pounder from the lower battery entered her quarter, and beat in a large timber, from the splinters of which Lord *Dunmore* got wounded in the legs, and had all his valuable china smashed about his ears. It is said his Lordship was exceedingly alarmed, and roared out, "Good God, that ever I should come to this!" We had our information from one of his people that came ashore after the engagement, who was taken by our scouts; he likewise said that many were killed in the fleet, which had sustained some thousand pounds worth of damage. The *Fowey* and *Roebuck* were the lowermost ships; besides which, there were one hundred and large odd sail of vessels, which took their departure on *Thursday* afternoon, and are supposed to have gone into *Potomack*. In this affair we lost not a man but poor Captain *Arundel*, who was killed by the bursting of a mortar of his own invention, although the General and all the officers were against his firing it. His zeal for the service lost him his life.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED WILLIAMSBURGH, VIRGINIA,  
JULY 13, 1776.

A battery of two eighteen-pounders was opened on the enemy's fleet on *Tuesday* morning, whilst another of four nine-pounders played on their works and camp on *Gwin's Island*. In a short time, the whole fleet was forced to tow out of reach of the battery; their fire ceased after a few rounds; their camp was thrown into confusion; and in the night, before we could procure boats to carry over our men, they removed all their tents except one, their cannon except one, and all their stores, &c. There were three tenders in the haven, which attempted to prevent our passage. Their works were still manned, as if they meant to dispute their ground; but as soon as our soldiers put off in a few canoes, they retreated precipitately to their ships. The tenders fell into our hands; one they set on fire, but our people boarded

it and extinguished the flames. The enemy burnt two small vessels, and the night following, a very large ship, supposed to be the *Dunmore*, for she was very much damaged, having received four eighteen-pound shot through her sides, and a double-headed one through her stern, which raked her. Her mate was killed, a sailor had his arm taken off, and Lord *Dunmore* had his leg wounded by this shot. The fleet has sailed from the Island, which we are in quiet possession of. From their works, and preparations for others, and stock of cattle left on the Island, it is evident they left it much against their inclination, and long before they expected it. We found one hundred and fifty graves and twelve dead negroes lying in the open air. They have had a dreadful fever amongst them, and the small-pox. I wish our Army may not catch the infection. The *Roebuck* was at the mouth of *Rappahannock*. The *Fowey* and *Otter* did not choose to come to the assistance of the *Dunmore*, which, unfortunately for her, had changed stations with the *Otter*, and by this means came into the jaws of our battery, which was concealed. We did not lose a man.

LIST OF SHIPS IN LORD DUNMORE'S FLEET, JULY 10, 1776.

- Roebuck*, a forty-four-gun ship, Commodore *Hammond* commander.
- Fowey*, a twenty-gun ship, Captain *Montagu* commander.
- Otter*, a ten-gun sloop of war, Captain *Squires* commander.
- Dunmore*, a frigate-built ship, mounting four six-pounders on one side.
- William*, a ship with two four-pounders of a side, a part of the 14th Regiment on board.
- Anna*, a ship, barricadoed, with a part of the 14th Regiment on board.
- Dun Luce*, a ship, occupied by the Queen's Loyals, a regiment of ditto raising.
- Grace*, a ship belonging to and occupied by Mr. *Fleming* and family.
- Levant*, a store-ship, in which Governour *Eden* has taken a passage.
- Brigantine *Fincastle*, belonging to and occupied by *Niel Jamieson*.
- Brigantine *Dolphin*, belonging to and occupied by *Hector McAlister*.
- Brigantine *Maria*, occupied by *John Allason* and family.
- Brigantine *Fanny*, occupied by Dr. *McCaa* and family.
- Brigantine *Betsey*, occupied by Captain *Boynoe* and family.
- Ditto, occupied by Doctor *Coakley* and family, sometimes with negroes.
- Ditto, occupied by Mr. *Feener* and family.
- A Spanish snow, prizemaster, supercargo, captain, and crew, on board.
- Brigantine *Helena*, belonging to *Roger Steuart*, occupied as a prison for prisoners.
- Brigantine *William and Charles*, from *Barbadoes*, on board three hundred hogsheads rum and one hundred hogsheads sugar, sent in by the Governour of *Barbadoes* to Sir *Peter Parker*.
- Snow *Unicorn*, on board of which is blacksmith's shop.
- Brigantine *Hammond*, occupied by Mr. *John Hunter* and Mr. *Sprowles's* family.
- Schooner *Thomas*, occupied by *William Calderhead* and family.
- Schooner *Charlotte*, occupied by *William Hargisdes* and family.
- Sloop *Campbell*, occupied by Mr. *Farmer* and family.
- Sloop *Peace and Plenty*, belonging to and occupied by Mr. *Eilbeck*.
- Sloop *Lady Augusta*, belonging to and occupied by Captain *Lowes*.
- Sloop *Lady Gower*, a tender, *John Wilkie* commander.
- Sloop *Lady Stanly*, a tender, *William Younghusband* commander.
- Sloop *Lady Susan*, a tender, *Briger Goodrich* commander.
- Schooner *Gage*, a tender, belonging to the *Roebuck*.
- Sloop *Fincastle*, of twelve guns, belonging to the *Otter*.
- Sloop *Lady Gage*, a tender, belonging to the *Fowey*.
- Seven sloops, occupied by Messrs. *Spedden* and *Goodrich's* families.
- Two schooners, occupied by *John Brown* and family.
- Ship *Logan*, belonging to and occupied by Mr. *Logan* and family.

Sloop *John Grimes*, occupied by said *Grimes* and some dragoons.

Most of the other vessels are small craft, and occupied by tradespeople and negroes—vessels that are not fit to go to sea. The *Lively* frigate cruising off the Capes.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

EDWARD TILLARD TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
July 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have nearly raised my thirty men, as directed by my warrant, and I believe the Lieutenants and Ensigns are in a fair way of raising theirs; but they have but few or no firelocks fit for service among them. If you have none ready, I am told Mr. *Stephen West* hath some very good ones, which I do not doubt may be procured for the service. I would willingly have firelocks put into the hands of these men that could be depended on, and if you think proper to give me an order I will go and secure them, and fit out my company as soon as completed. I am told his price is six pounds currency apiece.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

EDWARD TILLARD.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.  
[No. 14.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

SIR: We have four hundred and fifty yards of country linen cloth fit for making tents, and want a man from *Baltimore* immediately to make it up. We shall be much obliged to you if you will send us such a person down without delay, as the service will be greatly forwarded by it. If a person can be got to make it up in *Baltimore* it shall be sent to you on notice immediately. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO SMYTH, HANDS, AND NICHOLSON.  
[No. 15.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Do you know of any one who will engage in the tent-making business for the Province? Pray inform us immediately, and as soon as the wagons arrive from below, advise us of it. We are, &c.

To Messrs. *Smyth, Hands, and Nicholson*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL BUCHANAN.  
[No. 16.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

SIR: There is an indispensable necessity that the Militia for the Flying-Camp should be provided as soon as they are raised with cartouch-boxes; but as this cannot be accomplished in proper time, without a return of those which were delivered the Militia in your district when the *Otter* sloop-of-war was up the bay, there not being a sufficient quantity without them, we desire you will immediately collect and return them to the magazine in this city, or *Baltimore* town. The service requires the utmost expedition in this matter, and will not admit of a moment's delay. We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Buchanan*.

[Copies of the above letter sent to Colonels *A. Hall, Bond, Dorsey, and Rumsey*.]

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO EDWARD PARKER.  
[No. 17.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

SIR: The service requires an immediate supply of linen cloth fit for making tents. The encouragement you have met with, and still may expect to meet, together with the punctuality hitherto shown by you, induces us to think you will exert your utmost endeavours to bring in as great a quantity of that sort, and in as small a space of time, as lies in your power. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Edward Parker*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO AMOS GARRETT.  
[No. 18.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

SIR: We request you will exert yourselves in supplying us with bayonets; they are much wanted for our Militia of the Flying-Camp. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Amos Garrett*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO STEPHEN STEWART.  
[No. 19.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

SIR: We are in great want of tents. Can your sailmaker engage in that business for us? We are, &c.

To Mr. *Stephen Stewart*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN ARCHER AND JAMES HARRIS.  
[No. 20.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You are by obligation bound to pay three hundred pounds borrowed of the Province, in linen; one-third thereof by the 1st of *June*, one-third by the 1st of *September*, and the residue by the 1st of *December*, in such sizes as should be wanted by this Colony. The publick service requires linen of about a six hundred, or coarser, fit for tenting, or tow linen wove thick, as our troops must very shortly take the field.

We have that confidence in your publick spirit, and ardour to serve your country, that you will, as soon as possible, furnish us with what quantity you can, as some of our countrymen may be too fatally exposed to the inclemency of the weather without it. We are, &c.

To Messrs. *John Archer and James Harris*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO RICHARD DALLAM.  
[No. 21.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

SIR: The regular forces were ordered by Convention to march from *Annapolis* and *Baltimore*, and an equal number of the Militia to be raised for the Flying-Camp, were directed, when raised, to supply their places.

You must be sensible that all the arms we can procure in the publick way will be immediately wanted; therefore send what you have already made, and all you can make, down to *Gerrard Hopkins*, the Commissary of Stores at *Baltimore*.

It will be necessary that the barrels should be proved; the common proof is the weight of the ball in powder, and one ball; this may be done before Mr. *John Rumsey* and Doctor *Thomas Andrews*, or either of them, and a certificate taken thereof, as also of their delivery to the Commissary, unless you incline to have them proved before Captain *Smith*, in *Baltimore*. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Richard Dallam*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO WILLIAM WHETCROFT.  
[No. 22.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety have been informed that you have a servant who understands the business of tent-making; if so, and you are desirous of having him employed in that business, we will immediately set him to work, and find employment for him for some time. We are, &c.

To Mr. *William Whetcroft*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL DORSEY.  
[No. 23.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

SIR: The regular forces in the pay of this Province leave this city this evening; the sooner, therefore, the company you are to send get here, the better. It will be proper, under the resolves of the Convention, that three companies of our neighbouring Militia should be stationed in *Annapolis*, until the places of the regular troops ordered from hence can be supplied by the Militia to be raised for the Flying-Camp. When Colonel *John Dorsey* was with us, we conceived that your company of Militia might be discharged when the company of Militia raised on *Elk-Ridge* for the Flying-Camp marched here; but upon further considering the resolve, apprehend there may be three companies of the neighbouring Militia in this city, until the places of the regular troops can be supplied by the Flying-Camp Militia. You may rely on it, however, that the company of your battalion which comes down shall be relieved as soon as possible.

You must be mistaken in what you wrote about the vote of Congress; those only of the Militia that compose the Flying-Camp, are to march to *Philadelphia*, or anywhere out of the Province. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Thomas Dorsey*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COMMITTEE OF HARFORD.  
[No. 24.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The publick service requires that all the arms purchased by you, or manufactured in *Harford* under your direction, be transmitted to *Baltimore* town, to *Gerard Hopkins*, the Commissary, of whom you will be pleased to take a receipt, and transmit to us the number, quality, and value of the same.

We desire you will also furnish us with an account of the disposition of the four hundred pounds we heretofore sent you. We are, &c.

To the Committee of *Harford*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN TILLARD.  
[No. 26.] Annapolis, July 10, 1776.

SIR: We are glad to hear you and your officers are so forward in raising your company, as our forces are at present much wanted. Though it will be difficult to procure firelocks for all the men, yet we cannot agree to give so great a price as six pounds currency apiece. We have got very good at four pounds and a crown, but would on this occasion willingly advance as far as four pounds ten for such as are good and serviceable, fixed with bayonets.

We are, &c.

To Captain *Edward Tillard*.

Annapolis, Maryland, July 11, 1776.

Yesterday evening six companies of the First Battalion of *Maryland* Troops, stationed in this city, and commanded by Colonel *William Smallwood*, embarked for the head of *Elk*, in high spirits, and three companies of the same battalion, stationed in *Baltimore* town, embarked yesterday morning for the same place; from thence they are to proceed to *Philadelphia*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.  
Philadelphia, July 10, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed letter from Mr. *Ephraim Anderson*, I am directed to transmit by order of Congress. As Mr. *Anderson* appears to be an ingenious man, and proposes to destroy the *British* fleet at *New-York*, the Congress are willing to give him an opportunity of trying the experiment, and have therefore thought proper to refer him to you. The event only can show whether his scheme is visionary or practicable.

Should it be attended with success, (and the very chance of it is sufficient to justify the attempt,) the infinite service to the *American* States arising therefrom cannot be described; or should it fail, our situation will be in every respect the same as before.

Many things seem highly probable in speculation which, however, cannot be reduced to practice. And on the other hand, experiment has shown that many things are extremely practicable which our most accurate reasonings had taught us to believe were impossible.

I have the honour to be, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at *New-York*.

GENTLEMEN: Being anxiously desirous of being serviceable to my country (in an eminent degree) at this time of publick calamity, I am ready immediately to undertake the destruction of the *British* fleet now at *New-York*. If I may be honoured with such directions from this Congress, my plan of operation I will communicate to any of the Members of the House for their approbation, convinced of the probability of success, and the infinite service such an enterprise would be to these States, particularly at this time. Shall be glad to execute it at the hazard of my life. An enterprise of the same kind I undertook at *Quebeck*, and should undoubtedly have succeeded, had not the enemy had intelligence, and stretched a cable across the mouth of their harbour, and myself by accident much burnt; but, thank *God*, am recovered perfectly again, and ready to make the like attempt. This, or any other appointment I may be honoured with, shall be thankfully received. As men well

acquainted with military discipline are much wanting in our armies, I would offer myself to the Congress for an appointment in that department. Having served in the *British* Army last war, have had greater opportunities of being acquainted with the military art than most of our officers are. I shall wait the order of the Congress at the *Conestoga Wagon*, in *Market* Street.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servant,

EPHRAIM ANDERSON,  
*Adjutant to 2d Jersey Battalion*.

July 9, 1776.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO WILLIAM PALFREY.

Philadelphia, July 10, 1776.

SIR: I am to inform you that Congress, in consideration of your zeal and attachment to the liberties of *America*, have thought proper to give you the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Continental Army.

You will please to acquaint me whether General *Washington* has delivered a commission to Mr. *Harrison* or to Mr. *Baylor*, in consequence of their appointments. If he has, I will forward one to you; but if they have not received commissions, you will in that case, like them, take your rank without a commission.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To *William Palfrey*, Esq., Paymaster-General, *New-York*.

PETITION OF BENJAMIN FLOWER.

[July 11, 1776, read, and referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

The Petition of BENJAMIN FLOWER, Lieutenant in the First Battalion of the Associators of the City of PHILADELPHIA, sheweth:

That your petitioner, animated with a just sense of the importance of the present contest, was among the first of the Associators in the Province of *Pennsylvania*; that he understands that the office of Conductor or Commissary of Stores for the Flying-Camp, is vacant; he therefore prays your Honours to appoint him to that office, and, as in duty bound, he will ever pray, &c.,

BENJAMIN FLOWER.

Philadelphia, July 10, 1776.

PETITION OF MAJOR MELCHIOR.

[July 11, 1776, referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

The Petition of ISAAC MELCHIOR, late Major of Brigade in CANADA, sheweth:

That your petitioner is desirous of serving his country in the present alarming state of publick affairs, in any station to which your Honours may think fit to appoint him. That he understands that the offices of Paymaster and Adjutant to the Flying-Camp and Militia are both yet vacant; to either of which, if your Honours think proper to appoint him, he hopes to act in such a manner as to give the fullest satisfaction. For his conduct in the campaign in *Canada*, he begs leave to refer to the letters of the late General *Montgomery* and of General *Schuyler*.

And your petitioner will both fight and pray, &c.

ISAAC MELCHIOR.

Philadelphia, July 10, 1776.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN PARKER.

Philadelphia, July 10, 1776.

SIR: The brig *Despatch*, of which you are hereby appointed the commander, in the service of the *United States* of *America*, being now ready for sea, you are to proceed immediately on board said brigantine for the port of *Bordeaux*, in *France*; and, on your arrival there, deliver the despatches given you herewith to Messrs. *Samuel* and *J. H. Delap*, merchants at that place. You are to consider these letters directed to those gentlemen as very important, and must deliver them yourself as soon as possible. You must have them hung at sea with a heavy weight, ready to throw overboard and sink them, in case you should be unfortunately taken by the enemy; but, to avoid that danger, you

must make a standing rule to run from every vessel you see at sea. The *Despatch* is well found with plenty of sails, rigging, stores, and materials. You will therefore make good use of them, and endeavour to make a short passage by a diligent attention to winds and weather, carrying at all times as much sail as is proper.

The goods we have caused to be shipped on board this brig are consigned to Messrs. *Delap*, to whom you are to deliver the same; and when this is done, you must immediately set about arming the brig with eight or ten four-pounder cannon, as many swivels, blunderbusses, cohorns, howitzers, and muskets, as you think proper; but take care that the cannon, &c., are of the best and handsomest fit for ship's use. You may, if you think proper, fit her with close quarters, and mount some guns in the cabin, steerage, and fore-castle, or you may mount the whole on deck; and if she will bear more than ten cannon, you may buy them. You must procure a suitable quantity of powder and ball for the cannon, arms, &c., with cartridges, cartridge-paper, and all necessary apparatus thereto. You will complete this business with expedition, and procure the best advice and assistance in doing it. Messrs. *Delap* will recommend you to proper people for this purpose, and they will supply you with money to pay the cost. You must ship as many seamen as you can possibly get, especially *American* seamen, or those that have been much connected in this country; but you are not to confine yourself to these alone. We are in want of seamen, and you may bring people of all countries or nations that are willing to enter into the *American* service. You must make it known, in the best manner you can, that great wages and encouragement is now given to seamen in every part of *America*, both for the publick and for merchant service. You are therefore to bring over not only sufficient for your own complement, which, as an armed vessel, might be thirty to forty, but as many as you can conveniently give ship-room to, and you may contract with them for such reasonable wages as may be satisfactory to them. If any masters or mates want passages home, you are to accommodate them, free of any charge to them. You must lay in sufficient of provisions, and allow each man plenty, but suffer no waste. You are to receive from Messrs. *Delap* any goods they may desire to ship, or from any other persons goods that Messrs. *Delap* approve of being shipped on board; and when you are ready for departure, you are to wait on those gentlemen for their despatches; and when you receive the same, with their approbation for your departure, you are then to make the best of your way back for this coast. You know how it is lined with *British* men-of-war at present, and it is not possible for us to say what port may be safest by the time you return; but as we expect you will be well armed and manned, you need not fear small vessels; and by keeping constantly a hand at each mast-head to look out, we think you may avoid all large ones, especially as we expect the *Despatch* will be a flyer, and in *France* you may get another complete suit of sails for her; you must therefore put into the first safe port you can, anywhere in the *United States of America*, and by the time you return you may expect to meet with some of our own frigates, galleys, and cruisers. *Little Egg-Harbour* or *Cape May* will probably be as secure as any other places.

We deliver you herewith a commission, a list of agents for prizes, and the resolves of Congress respecting captures, by which you will learn how to conduct yourself in this respect; your business, however, is not to cruise, but to make quick passages; but if you meet any prizes on your return, so much the better, provided you do not lose time in seeking them; and in case of capture, you must send them in to some of the agents, who will do the needful for all concerned. We expect you will be careful of the brig, her stores, and materials, diligent in making despatch, both at sea and in port, faithful in the discharge of your duty, and the moment you reach any port in *America*, come, or send the despatches express to the Committee of Secret Correspondence.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

To Captain *Peter Parker*.

P. S. Should you meet *Silas Deane*, Esq., who lately went from this place for *Bordeaux*, you may consult with and be advised and directed by him in all things relative to your business with the brig *Despatch*.

#### MARINE COMMITTEE TO MESSRS. DELAP.

Philadelphia, July 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You will receive this by the brigantine *Despatch*, Captain *Peter Parker*, and with it some letters for *Silas Deane*, Esq., which, being of considerable consequence, we beg you will cause them to be sent or delivered to him with the utmost expedition; and we make no doubt he has left his address with you, should he have left *Bordeaux*.

You will find herein an invoice and bill of lading for some goods we have shipped on board this brig, consigned to you for sale. These goods you will please to receive, and make the most advantageous sale of them that your market will admit.

Captain *Parker* has orders to arm and fit out the *Despatch* in a warlike manner, and we hope you will advise and assist him in doing it. You will please to procure him the assistance of the most skilful persons, tradesmen, &c., for doing that business, and supply him with money to purchase cannon, swivels, howitzers, muskets, powder, ball, &c. He must fit her in a very complete manner, and must have plenty of those kinds of stores. He is also to procure as many seamen as he possibly can, to come with him in this brigantine, in which we also pray for your assistance, and that you will furnish him with money to pay advance wages for provisions and a new suit of sails; all which we hope he will soon get completed with your assistance. When you have paid all charges and expenses relative to this vessel, whatever balance remains from the sale of her cargo, you will please to invest in the purchase of some brass field-pieces, six and four-pounders, if you can procure them; good soldiers' muskets, gunlocks, powder, or saltpetre; or, if you cannot ship such articles, you may then invest the said balance in blankets, and other woollen goods, suitable for wear in a cold climate; and whatever you buy, ship on board the said brigantine *Despatch*, for address of the Committee of Secret Correspondence, on account and risk of the *United States of America*, and enclose to them an invoice and bill of lading for the same.

It is necessary that Captain *Parker* make despatch in fitting the brigantine and getting her ready for sea, and that you also complete your business for her as soon as you can; but she is not to sail until Mr. *Deane* sends his despatches; for those are the most immediate object of the present voyage. Therefore, if Mr. *Deane* is not at *Bordeaux*, you will please to keep him well informed when the brigantine will be ready to return, and the moment his despatches come to your hands, deliver them to Captain *Parker*, with an injunction to sail immediately for this coast, agreeable to his orders. Should Mr. *Deane* be in *Bordeaux*, Captain *Parker* must be directed by him entirely in all his proceedings; and if Mr. *Deane* desires any goods to be shipped on board the *Despatch*, they must be received on board. In short, the Captain is ordered to receive on board all goods you recommend. Therefore, you will please to ship any you may have, or that Mr. *Deane* may order Mr. *John Daniel Schweighauser*, of *Nantz*, that he may ship any he has for account of this Continent.

We hope you will assist in making it known that great wages and encouragement are given to seamen in *America*, and the seamen of every country will be alike welcome. We shall have frequent opportunities of addressing you; and remain, gentlemen, your obedient servants.

To Messrs. *Samuel* and *J. H. Delap*.

#### CAPITULATION AT THE CEDARS.

In Congress, July 10, 1776.

The Committee to whom the cartel between Brigadier-General *Arnold* and Captain *Forster*, and the several papers thereto relating, were committed, having had the same under their consideration, and made diligent inquiry into the facts, have agreed to the following Report:

They find that a party of three hundred and ninety Continental troops, under the command of Colonel *Bedel*, was posted at the *Cedars*, about forty-three miles above *Montreal*; that they had there formed some works of defence, the greater part of them picketed lines, the rest a breastwork, with two field-pieces mounted.

That on *Wednesday*, the 15th of *May*, Colonel *Bedel* received intelligence that a party of the enemy, consisting



of about six hundred regulars, *Canadians*, and *Indians*, were on the way to attack his post, and were within nine miles of it; that Colonel *Bedel* thereon set out himself for *Montreal*, to procure a reinforcement, whereupon the command at the *Cedars* devolved on Major *Butterfield*.

That on *Thursday*, a reinforcement, under the command of Major *Sherburne*, marched from *Montreal* for the *Cedars*, while a larger detachment should be getting ready to proceed thither with Brigadier-General *Arnold*.

That on *Friday*, the 19th, the enemy, under the command of Captain *Forster*, invested the post at the *Cedars*, and for two days kept up a loose, scattering fire; that Major *Butterfield*, from the very first, proposed to surrender the post, and refused repeated solicitations from his officers and men to permit them to sally out on the enemy.

That on *Sunday* afternoon, a flag being sent in by the enemy, Major *Butterfield* agreed to surrender the fort and garrison to Captain *Forster*, capitulating with him (whether verbally or in writing, does not appear) that the garrison should not be put into the hands of the savages, and that their baggage should not be plundered.

That, at the time of the surrender, the enemy consisted of about forty regulars, one hundred *Canadians*, and five hundred *Indians*, and had no cannon. The garrison had sustained no injury from the fire, but the having one man wounded; they had twenty rounds of cartridges a man, thirty rounds for one field-piece, and five for another, half a barrel of gunpowder, fifteen pounds of musket ball, and provisions sufficient to have lasted them twenty or thirty days.

*Report of the Committee on the Capitulation entered into between General Arnold and Captain Forster.*

[Brought in June 17, 1776. Read, and ordered to lie on the table. Recommended June 24, 1776. Passed July 10.]

The Committee to whom were recommended the cartel between Brigadier-General *Arnold* and Captain *Forster*, for the exchange of prisoners, and the several papers relating thereto, have had the same under their consideration, and agreed to the following Report:

Your Committee having proceeded to make inquiry into the facts relating to the agreement entered into at *St. Ann's*, between Brigadier-General *Arnold* and Captain *Forster*, find a part of them well authenticated and others not; yet being apprehensive that silence on the part of Congress may be construed by some into a ratification of the said agreement, they have thought it best to state the same as they appear at present, with such resolutions as they will justify if found true, reserving final decision till the whole truth shall be accurately inquired into and transmitted to Congress.

Your Committee, on the best information they have been able to obtain, find—

That on the 24th day of *May* last a party of the enemy, consisting, as is said, of about six hundred men, under the command of Captain *Forster*, attacked a post at the *Cedars*, held by a garrison of three hundred and fifty Continental forces, then under the command of Major *Butterfield*.

That the said post was secured by a stockade sufficient to cover the garrison from the enemy's musketry; that there were mounted therein two field-pieces, and that the enemy had no cannon.

That the said garrison had ammunition and provisions sufficient to have lasted them ten days; that they had reason to expect a reinforcement in a few days, which, on a requisition from themselves, was actually on its way from *Montreal*; and, moreover, were so near the main body of the Army, that they could not doubt being joined by detachments from them sufficient to oblige the enemy to retire.

That the enemy, for two days, kept up only a scattering fire, by which not a single man of the garrison was killed or wounded, and that on the third day the garrison surrendered themselves prisoners of war, having capitulated for the preservation of their own baggage from plunder, and that their persons should not be delivered into the hands of the savages.

That the enemy broke the capitulation, utterly and immediately, on their part, plundering the garrison of their baggage, and stripping their clothes from their backs, and delivering the prisoners into the hands of the savages.

That they then proceeded against the reinforcement which was on its way, consisting of about one hundred and fifty men, under the command of Major *Sherburne*; that Major *Sherburne* and his party engaged and fought them with bravery; but being at length surrounded by numbers greatly superior, and informed that the fort and garrison were already in the hands of the enemy, they were obliged to surrender themselves prisoners of war also, but whether on capitulation or not, your Committee are not informed.

That after they had put themselves into the hands of the enemy, the said enemy murdered two of them, butchering the one with tomahawks and drowning the other, and left divers others exposed on an island, naked and perishing with cold and famine.

That by this time Brigadier-General *Arnold*, who had been detached by Major-General *Thomas* to relieve the fort at the *Cedars*, approached, and was making dispositions to attack the enemy.

That Captain *Forster* thereupon notified General *Arnold*, that if he attacked him, the prisoners (then five hundred in number) would, every man of them, be put to death; and proposing, at the same time, an exchange of prisoners.

It appears that General *Arnold* was extremely averse to entering on any agreement of that kind, and was at length induced to do it by no other motive than that of saving the prisoners from cruel and inhuman death, threatened in such terms as left no doubt it was to be perpetrated.

That an agreement was thereupon entered into between Brigadier-General *Arnold* and Captain *Forster*, bearing date at *St. Ann's*, on the 27th day of *May*, whereby the said *Forster* stipulated that he would deliver up all the said prisoners, except such as were *Canadians*, to General *Arnold*, who agreed, on the other part, that so many of equal

Major *Butterfield* knew that a reinforcement was on its way, and, moreover, was so near the main body of the Army that he could not doubt of being supported by that.

That immediately on the surrender, the garrison was put into the custody of the savages, who plundered them of their baggage, and even stripped them of their clothes.

That Major *Sherburne* having landed on *Monday*, the 20th, at *Quinze Chiens*, about nine miles from the *Cedars*, and marched on with his party, consisting then of one hundred men, to within four miles thereof, was there attacked by about five hundred of the enemy; that he maintained his ground about one hour, and then, being constrained to retreat, performed the same in good order, receiving and returning a constant fire for about forty minutes; when the enemy finding means to post advanced parties in such a manner as to intercept their further retreat, they also were made prisoners of war.

That they were immediately put into the custody of the savages, carried to where Major *Butterfield* and his party were, and stripped of their baggage and wearing apparel. That two of them were put to death that evening; four or five others at different times afterwards—one of whom was of those who surrendered on capitulation at the *Cedars*, and was killed on the eighth day after that surrender. That one was first shot, and while retaining life and sensation, was roasted, as was related by one of his companions now in possession of the savages, who himself saw the fact; and that several others, being worn down by famine and cruelty, were exposed in an island, naked and perishing with cold and hunger.

rank and condition should be returned to the enemy of those taken by our arms on former occasions; that the prisoners so stipulated to be given up to the enemy were not in the possession of General *Arnold*, nor under his direction, but were at that time distributed through various parts of the Continent, under the orders of this House.

That Captain *Forster*, in violation of this agreement, also detained a considerable number of the prisoners he had thus stipulated to deliver, and sent them into the *Indian* countries, for purposes unknown.

Whereupon, your Committee have come to the following Resolutions: Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that plundering the baggage of the garrison at the *Cedars*, stripping them of their clothes, and delivering the prisoners into the hands of the savages, was a breach of the capitulation on the part of the enemy, for which satisfaction ought to be demanded.

Resolved, That the murder of two of the prisoners of war was a gross and barbarous violation of the laws of nature and of nations, for which satisfaction should be made by the enemy, by delivering into our hands either Captain *Forster*, or the individuals concerned in committing the murder.

Resolved, That the agreement entered into at *St. Ann's* was a mere sponson on the part of Brigadier-General *Arnold*, he not being invested with powers for the absolute disposal of the Continental prisoners in general, and that therefore it is subject to be ratified or annulled at the discretion of this House, the sole Representative of the *United Colonies*.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that Major *Sherburne* and his party having fought as men should do, so much of the said sponson as relates to their exchange should be ratified and confirmed by this House, and that an equal number of captives from the enemy, of the same rank and condition, should be restored to them, as stipulated by the said sponson.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that so much of the said sponson as relates to Major *Butterfield*, and the garrison surrendering with him, ought not to be ratified, because we should redeem none but those who will fight, and because, too, the said sponson excepted the *Canadian* prisoners, and we will in no case admit a distinction of countries among men fighting in the same cause.

Resolved, therefore, That the said Major *Butterfield* and garrison should still be considered as prisoners of war appertaining to the enemy; but as, by the actual murder of two of the prisoners, and the threats at *St. Ann's* to put the others to death, the enemy are found capable of destroying their captives, the said prisoners ought not to be put into their hands, but should be permitted to remain in their own country; that, in the mean time, they shall not bear arms, nor otherwise act against the enemy; but are bound to demean themselves in all things in the manner of prisoners of war enlarged on their parole, and to hold themselves subject to be recalled by the enemy whenever proper security shall have been given that their lives shall be safe.

Resolved, That previous to the delivery of the prisoners to be returned in lieu of Major *Sherburne* and those captivated with him, satisfaction be required from the enemy for the murder of the two prisoners, by delivering into our hands Captain *Forster*, or the individuals concerned in perpetrating that horrid act; and likewise restitution for the plunder at the *Cedars*, taken contrary to the faith of the capitulation; and that till such satisfaction and restitution be made, the said prisoners be not delivered.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that if the enemy shall put to death, torture, or otherwise ill treat any of the hostages in their hands, or of the *Canadians* or other prisoners captivated by them in the service of the *United Colonies*, recourse must be had to retaliation, as the sole means of stopping the progress of human butchery; and that for that purpose, punishments of the same kind and degree be inflicted on an equal number of their subjects taken by us, till they shall be taught due respect to the violated rights of nations.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that a copy of this report be transmitted to the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Forces in *Canada*, to be by him sent to the *British* Commander there; and that he moreover make further and diligent inquiry into the facts therein stated, and such others as may relate to the same subject, and return the same, duly authenticated, and with all possible despatch, to Congress, for their final decision; and that, in the mean time, the prisoners delivered up by the enemy abstain from bearing arms, or otherwise acting against them.

That while Major *Sherburne* was in custody of the enemy, Captain *Forster* required of him and the other officers to sign a cartel, stipulating the exchange of themselves and their men, for as many of equal condition of the *British* troops in our possession; and further, that, notwithstanding the exchange, neither themselves nor men should ever again bear arms against the *British* Government; and for the performance of this, four hostages were to be delivered: which they, being under the absolute power of the enemy, did sign.

That, on *Sunday*, the 26th, the prisoners were carried to *Quinze Chiens*, when it was discovered that General *Arnold* was approaching, and making dispositions to attack them.

That Captain *Forster*, having desired Major *Sherburne* to attend a flag which he was about to send to General *Arnold* for confirmation of the cartel, carried him into the council of the *Indians*, then sitting, who told him that it was a mercy never before shown in their wars, that they had put to death so few of the prisoners; but that he must expect, and so inform General *Arnold*, that they should certainly kill every man who should thereafter fall into their hands. That Captain *Forster* joined in desiring that this bloody message should be delivered to General *Arnold*, and, moreover, that he should be notified, that if he rejected the cartel and attacked him, every man of the prisoners should be put to instant death.

That General *Arnold* was extremely averse from entering into any agreement, and was at length induced to do it by no other motive than that of saving the prisoners from cruel and inhuman death, threatened in such terms as left no doubt it was to be perpetrated, and that he did in the end conclude it, after several flags received from Captain *Forster*, and a relinquishment by him of the unequal article, restraining our soldiers from again bearing arms.

That the prisoners so stipulated to be given up to the enemy, were not in possession of General *Arnold*, nor under his direction, but were at that time distributed through various parts of the Continent, under the orders of this House.

That four hostages were accordingly delivered to Captain *Forster*, who were immediately plundered and stripped by the savages; and on his part were delivered one Major, four Captains, sixteen subalterns, and three hundred and fifty-five privates, as specified in a certificate of Captain *James Osgood* and others, of whom no specification by their names or numbers has yet been transmitted; that he retained twelve *Canadians*, alleging, in his justification, express orders so to do; and that being in a military Government, they were to be considered even in a worse light than deserters from his Majesty's armies. These he carried away in irons, but afterwards released. That he permitted the *Indians* to carry into their countries several others, natives of the *United States*, for purposes unknown.

That during the time of their captivity, not half food was allowed the prisoners. They were continually insulted, buffeted, and ill-treated by the savages; and when the first parties of them were carried off from the shore, to be delivered to General *Arnold*, balls of mud were fired, and at the last parties, musket-balls.

Whereupon, the Congress came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That all acts contrary to good faith, the laws of nature, or the customs of civilized nations, done by the officers and soldiers of his *Britannick* Majesty, or by foreigners or savages taken into his service, are to be considered as done by his orders, unless indemnification be made in cases which admit of indemnification; and in all other cases, unless immediate and effective measures be taken by him or his officers, for bringing to condign punishment the authors, abettors, and perpetrators of the acts.

*Resolved*, That the plundering the baggage of the garrison at the *Cedars*, stripping them of their clothes, and delivering them into the hands of the savages, was a breach of the capitulation on the part of the enemy, for which indemnification ought to be demanded.

*Resolved*, That the murder of the prisoners of war was a gross and inhuman violation of the laws of nature and nations; that condign punishment should be inflicted on the authors, abettors, and perpetrators of the same; and that, for this purpose, it be required that they be delivered into our hands.

*Resolved*, That the agreement entered into by General *Arnold* was a mere sponson on his part, he not being invested with powers for the disposal of prisoners not in his possession, nor under his direction; and that therefore it is subject to be ratified or annulled, at the direction of this House.

*Resolved*, That the shameful surrender of the post at the *Cedars* is chargeable on the commanding officer; that such other of the prisoners as were taken there showed a willingness and desire to fight the enemy; and that Major *Sherburne*, and the prisoners taken with him, though their disparity of numbers was great, fought the enemy bravely for a considerable time, and surrendered but on absolute necessity. On which considerations, and on which alone, it is

*Resolved*, That the said sponson be ratified, and that an equal number of captives from the enemy, of the same rank and condition, be restored to them, as stipulated by the said sponson.

*Resolved*, That previous to the delivery of the prisoners to be returned on our part, the *British* Commander in *Canada* be required to deliver into our hands the authors, abettors, and perpetrators of the horrid murder committed on the prisoners, to suffer such punishment as their crime deserves; and also to make indemnification for the plunder at the *Cedars*, taken contrary to the faith of the capitulation; and that until such delivery and indemnification be made, the said prisoners be not delivered.

*Resolved*, That if the enemy shall commit any further violences, by putting to death, torturing, or otherwise ill-treating the prisoners retained by them, or any of the hostages put into their hands, recourse be had to retaliation, as the sole means of stopping the progress of human butchery; and that for that purpose, punishments of the same kind and degree be inflicted on an equal number of the captives from them, in our possession, till they shall be taught due respect to the violated rights of nations.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the foregoing Report and Resolutions be transmitted to the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Forces, to be by him sent to Generals *Howe* and *Burgoyne*.

By order of the Congress:

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

#### *Capitulation of Major BUTTERFIELD.*

Camp at the *Cedars*, May 19, 1776.

SIR: From the message I received from your flag of truce, I am glad to find that my motives for sending to you yesterday has had the desired effect.

I have again assembled the many chiefs of my *Indians*, and have been so fortunate as to overcome their resolution of yesterday after your refusal.

The disposition of the savages not being long certain, or governable to any particular will, to be the better able to keep my promises with you, it will be absolutely necessary that the fort be delivered up in half an hour after the receiving this.

Your persons and apparel you have on will be secured, as proposed yesterday, and the garrison will surrender at discretion.

The artillery, ammunition, batteaus, and stores of every kind, to be delivered on good faith to persons appointed for that purpose.

A part of the King's troops to take possession of the fort at the expiration of the appointed time.

The prisoners will be marched some distance from the fort, for their greater security, before the savages will be allowed to enter, exclusive of a few chiefs who may insist on going with the troops.

I am, sir, your most obedient,

GEORGE FORSTER,

*Captain, commanding the King's Troops.*

To Major *Butterfield*.

#### *Articles between Major SHERBURNE and Captain FORSTER.*

After the maturest deliberation on the customs and manners of the savages in war, which I find so opposite and contrary to the humane disposition of the *British* Government, and to all civilized nations, and to avoid the inevitable consequences of the savages' customs in former wars, (which,

by their threats and menaces, I find is not changed,) that of putting their prisoners to death, to disencumber themselves in case of their being attacked by their enemy,—I have, therefore, in compliance with the above disposition in Government, and the dictates of humanity, thought fit to enter into the following Articles of Agreement with Major *Henry Sherburne*, and the under-subscribing officers in the name of the Power they were employed by, and of the officers and soldiers who shall be released by this agreement, whose rank and number shall be endorsed on this cartel:

1st. That there shall be an exchange of prisoners faithfully made, returning an equal number of his Majesty's troops of the same rank with those released by this agreement, as soon as possible, within the space of two months, allowing a moderate time for casualties that may render the performance of this article impracticable.

2d. That those prisoners taken in opposing Government shall not, on any pretext whatsoever, hereafter take up arms against the Government of *Great Britain*.

3d. That the prisoners shall be conducted with safety, and all possible convenience and despatch that circumstances will permit, to the south shore of the river *St. Lawrence*, from which they are to repair to *St. John's*, and return to their own countries immediately, without committing any waste or spoil on their march thither, allowing ten or twelve to go to *Montreal* to transact their private affairs.

4th. That the prisoners so returned shall not, under any pretext whatsoever, either in words, writings, or signs, give the least information to Government's enemies, or their adherents now in arms, in the least prejudicial to his Majesty's service.

5th. That the batteaus or other conveniences made use of to transport the prisoners to the south shore of said river, or the necessary people to conduct them, shall return unmo-  
lest.

6th. That hostages be delivered for the performance of these articles to the full, according to the sense and spirit of agreement, without any equivocation whatsoever.

7th. That the security of the subscribers be given to the inhabitants for all the waste and spoil committed by the detachment under Colonel *Bedel*, on fair accounts, attested and signed, being delivered in, for which the hostages are not to be answerable.

It being our full intention to fulfil the above articles, we mutually sign and interchange them, as assurances of performance.

Signed at *Vaudreuil*, this 26th day of *May*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

By order of Captain *George Forster*, commanding his Majesty's forces at *Vaudreuil*.

ANDREW PARKE,  
*Lieutenant in the King's or 8th Reg. of Foot.*  
HENRY SHERBURNE.  
ISAAC BUTTERFIELD.  
THEODORE BLISS.  
DANIEL WILKINS.  
JOHN STEVENS.  
EBENEZER SULLIVAN.  
CHEO. LORIMIER.  
LESARDE DE MONTIGNY.

#### *Articles between General ARNOLD and Captain FORSTER.*

After the maturest deliberation on the customs and manners of the savages in war, which I find so opposite and contrary to the humane disposition of the *British* Government, and to all civilized nations, and to avoid the inevitable consequences of the savage customs in former wars, (which, by their threats and menaces, I find is not changed,) that of putting their prisoners to death, to disencumber themselves in case of being attacked by their enemy,—I have, therefore, in compliance with the above disposition in Government, and the dictates of humanity, thought fit to enter into the following Articles of Agreement with General *Arnold*, in the name of the Power he is employed by, and of the officers and soldiers who shall be released by this agreement, whose rank and number shall be endorsed on this cartel.\*

1st. That there shall be an exchange of prisoners faithfully made, returning an equal number of his Majesty troops of the same rank with those released by this agreement, as

soon as possible, within the space of two months, allowing a moderate time for casualties that may render the performance of this article impracticable.

2d. That the prisoners shall be conducted in safety, with all possible convenience and despatch which circumstances will admit, to the south shore of the river *St. Lawrence*, from which they are to repair to *St. John's*, and return to their own country immediately, without committing any waste or spoil on their march thither, allowing ten or twelve to go to *Montreal* to transact their private affairs.

3d. That the prisoners so returned shall not, under any pretext whatever, either in words, writing, or signs, give the least information to Government enemies, or their adherents now in arms, in the least prejudicial to his Majesty's service.

4th. That hostages be delivered for the performance of articles to the full, according to the sense and spirit of the agreement, without any equivocation whatever.

6th. That the security of the subscribers be given to the inhabitants for all the waste and spoil committed by the detachment under Colonel *Bedel*, on fair accounts, attested and signed, being delivered, for which the hostages are not to be answerable.

It being our full intention to fulfil the above articles, we mutually sign and interchange them as assurances of performance.

Given under our hands, this 27th day of *May*, 1776, at *Vaudreuil*.

GEORGE FORSTER,  
*Captain, commanding King's Troops.*

*St. Ann's*, 27th *May*.

ART. 2d. The prisoners shall be sent to the south shore of the river *St. Lawrence*, within one league of *Caughnawaga*, and from thence to *St. John's*, and their own country, except twelve, who have liberty to go to *Montreal*, for which purpose six days shall be allowed, and hostilities to cease on both sides.

4th. Four Captains shall be sent to *Quebeck* as hostages, and remain there until prisoners are exchanged.

6th. The Continental troops, from principle, have ever avoided plundering. Upon proof being made of any waste committed by Colonel *Bedel's* detachment, reparation shall be made.

B. ARNOLD.

To *George Forster*, Captain.

*May* 27.

But if the prisoners can be conducted in less time, this truce to cease on the return of the last boats employed on this service, on notice given.

GEORGE FORSTER.

*May* 27.

Answer: If Captain *Forster* will choose to have hostilities commence in less time than six days, it will be perfectly agreeable to me, provided the time is fixed on, and notice given this evening.

B. ARNOLD.

#### *Copy of Proceedings of Council of War held in CHAMBLY, CANADA, May 30, 1776.*

At a Council of War, held at *Chambly*, *May* 30, 1776:

Hon. Brigadier-General *Wooster*, President.

Brigadier-Generals: *Arnold*, *Thompson*, *De Woedtke*; Colonels: *Greaton*, *Maxwell*, *Poor*, *Stark*, *Campbell*, *St. Clair*, *Livingston*, *Porter*, *Brown*, *Hazen*, *Allen*, *McAufie*, *Gilman*.

1st. *Resolved*, That orders be immediately transmitted to the Commanding Officer at *St. Ann's* to attack the enemy at *Quinze Chiens*, as soon as the time fixed for the cessation of hostilities is expired.

2d. *Resolved*, That it is necessary that a General Officer should take the command of the forces sent to *Quinze Chiens*.

3d. *Resolved*, That five hundred men, including those ordered this morning, be immediately sent from *Montreal* to *St. Ann's*, and that their place be supplied by the troops from *St. John's*.

4th. *Resolved*, That, if practicable, it will be for the interest of the Colonies to keep *Canada*.

5th. *Resolved*, That it is not practicable or prudent, under our present circumstances, to keep possession of *Deschambault*.

*Resolved*, That the present post now occupied be kept for the present by the main body of the Army.

\* Endorsement—2 Majors, 9 Captains, 20 Subalterns, 443 Privates.

Montreal, June 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On my return to this place, I received intelligence from Colonel *De Haas* that the enemy had abandoned their post at *Quinze Chiens*, the 30th ultimo, and were seen next morning three miles above the *Cedars*. On their way up they made a precipitate retreat, and left behind them a quantity of flour. I repeated my order to Colonel *De Haas* to burn and destroy the town and inhabitants of *Canassadaga*, and afterwards to destroy the fort at *St. Ann's*, and retire to *La Chine*. Last evening an express arrived from him, who advises that on the 31st they received intelligence by some *Frenchmen* that seven hundred *Indians* were arrived at *Canassadaga* from the upper countries, and were on the point of attacking *St. Ann's*, on which Colonel *De Haas* called a council of war, which concluded it best to retire from the fort. The express came away at three o'clock, P. M., and the troops were to leave it immediately after. The advice Colonel *De Haas* received from the *Frenchmen* appears to me very vague and uncertain, neither do I believe a single *Indian* has arrived from above. The orders I sent Colonel *De Haas* were very positive; and how he should think of calling a council to determine if he should obey them, appears to me very extraordinary. A fatality seems to attend every of our enterprises. Enclosed are sundry depositions respecting the affair at the *Cedars*. Our prisoners are most of them delivered up. I have sent all the sick from this to *Isle-aux-Noix*. Nothing new from below since you left us. Our future conduct must be governed by advice from that quarter. I am making every possible preparation to secure our retreat. I have secured six tons of lead, ball, and shot. Merchandise or the inhabitants I have not as yet taken hold of; I intend it to-morrow. It is impossible to know one hour beforehand the necessary steps to be taken. Everything is in the greatest confusion; not one contractor, Commissary, or Quartermaster: I am obliged to do the duty of all. I wish with all my heart we were out of the country. We had much better begin anew, and set out right and methodically.

Enclosed is the list of the prisoners who came into *Caughnawaga*, attested by Captain *Osgood*, who was appointed on my part to receive them. They were fired at on their leaving *Quinze Chiens*, and narrowly escaped. Major *Sherburne* will deliver you this, to whom I beg leave to refer you for particulars.

I am, with great esteem and affection, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To the Honourable Commissioners of Congress.

*Major BUTTERFIELD's Testimony respecting a breach of the Convention at the CEDARS.*

The savages did plunder the prisoners of almost all their clothes, beginning their pillage and plunder the evening we surrendered, but plundered us chiefly after Major *Sherburne* was taken. Captain *Forster* being acquainted with it, said it was not in his power to prevent it.

I believe Captain *Forster* and the other officers did not induce the savages to take any of the prisoners, but exerted themselves to redeem and rescue the prisoners out of their hands. I did not hear the *Indians* say that Captain *Forster* promised them all the plunder. Some of the prisoners said that they heard some of the *Indians* say that Captain *Forster* promised them all the plunder.

As to what number of prisoners the savages have taken or murdered, I am under a disadvantage of not knowing, by not seeing the last party that came in. They murdered one of my party the eighth day after we were taken. Have taken with them several young lads, and all the blacks, also one young child from one of the women. Of the whole number I cannot assert as yet what are killed and carried away by them.

There were nine *Canadian* soldiers, and one Lieutenant, a *Canadian*. Captain *Forster* did refuse to exchange them with the rest of the prisoners. He said it was not in his power to release them, signifying that they were liable to be treated as deserters from the King's troops by their taking up arms against their own military laws and Government. Did likewise carry the soldiers away in irons, and the Lieutenant with a guard. The number of prisoners taken with me

were, according to my best knowledge, three hundred and ninety.

Test:  
Montreal, June, 1776.

ISAAC BUTTERFIELD.

*Captains EASTABROOK's and WILKINS's Testimony respecting a breach of Convention at the CEDARS.*

Question 1. How long were you apprised of the approach of the enemy before you were attacked?

Answer. Three days.

Q. 2. Did you hear their numbers?

A. We heard that there were fifty regulars, and between three and four hundred savages; but when the fort was given up, we suppose that the enemy consisted of six hundred in all, including one hundred *Canadians*.

Q. 3. Did the Commanding Officer exert himself in getting provisions into the fort?

A. He did in procuring flour, but nothing else.

Q. 4. How much provision had you when attacked?

A. Three barrels of pork, one barrel and a half of beef, twenty bushels of meal, besides five or six horses.

Q. 5. Was any to be got in the neighbourhood?

A. None, unless by force.

Q. 6. How much ammunition had you for small-arms and how much for field-pieces when you capitulated?

A. Twenty rounds per man for small-arms, thirty for the smallest cannon, five cartridges for the largest, half a barrel of powder, and about fifteen pounds of musket-ball.

Q. 7. Did not the private soldiers and many of the officers beg of Major *Butterfield* to let them go out and attack the enemy?

A. They did; which he refused.

Q. 8. How much longer do you think you could have held out against the enemy?

A. We expected the enemy to make a general attack on Sunday night, the same night we gave up; which if they had, it is our opinion that we could have defended the fort from being taken, and even beat them if we had sallied out from the fort upon them.

Q. 9. Did Major *Butterfield* seem terrified or not?

A. He seemed much terrified.

Q. 10. How were you treated by the enemy after capitulation?

A. Cruelly insulted, and repeatedly stripped of almost everything, and several murdered.

Q. 11. How many were murdered, their names and companies, and for what reason?

A. Three or four; of their companies, and for what, we cannot tell.

Q. 12. Were you fired upon or any one killed after the articles were signed for the exchange of prisoners?

A. We were fired at, but none killed.

Q. 13. How were the prisoners sent off, and where delivered?

A. They began to send off the prisoners the 27th of May, and continued till the 31st. Five boat-loads were landed at *Chateauguai*, and the rest at *St. Ann's*.

Q. 14. Did Captain *Forster* promise plunder to the savages?

A. He was told by *Lyanee*, the Interpreter, in Captain *Eastabrook's* presence, that he had promised all the plunder to the savages, and that they should strip the prisoners to the skin, which Captain *Forster* did not deny.

DANIEL WILKINS,  
JOSEPH EASTABROOK.

Personally appeared before me Captain *Joseph Eastabrook* and Captain *Daniel Wilkins*, and made solemn oath that the foregoing answers to the questions proposed to them, are just and true, to the best of their knowledge.

B. ARNOLD, *Brigadier-General*.

Montreal, June 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On the strictest inquiry, I find that Major *Sherburne* has acted with great prudence, spirit, and resolution. I beg leave to recommend him as an officer worthy of your particular notice; and am, with great esteem and respect, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To the Hon. *Samuel Chase* and *Charles Carroll*, Esq., on their way to *Philadelphia*.



*A list of the Prisoners belonging to the Continental Army,  
taken at the CEDARS.*

*Colonel BEDEL's Regiment.*

*Captain Osgood's Company.*

Samuel Fowler,	1st Lieutenant.	Ezekiel Eastman,	Private.
John Webster,	2d Lieutenant.	Wells Burbank,	do.
Charles Hill,	Ensign.	Joseph Fellows,	do.
Stephen Webster,	Sergeant.	Edward Danford,	do.
Hubbard Carter,	do.	William Hopkins,	do.
Benjamin Webster,	Corporal.	Noah Payne,	do.
Joseph Hardaway,	Private.	Barnabas Hagatee,	do.
John Hardaway,	do.	James Murphy,	do.
Nathan Kinsman,	do.	Joseph Basford,	do.
— Robinson,	do.	James Basford,	do.
Christopher Hinkley,	do.	Matthew Peck,	do.
Chandler Abbot,	do.	Jeremiah Smith,	do.
Eliaa Abbott,	do.	Aaron Smith,	do.
Philip Abbot,	do.	William Teahey,	do.
Timothy Foss,	do.	William Simons,	do.
— Vandervort,	do.	Elisha Speed,	do.
John Carney,	do.	Ezra Abbott,	do.
Benjamin Fifield,	do.	William Cutler,	do.
Nathaniel Walker,	do.	William Fahey,	do.
John Brown,	do.	Edward Carleton,	do.
— Scott,	do.	John Beatam,	do.
— Cotton,	do.	Israel Spalding,	do.
Nason Cass,	do.	Richard Pangbourn,	do.
Joseph Cass,	do.	Elisha Spera,	do.
John Smith,	do.	Ezra Abbot,	do.
Daniel Young,	do.	William Cutler,	do.

*Captain CARLISLE's Company.*

Joshua White,	Private.	Isaac Gibbs,	Private.
John Butler,	do.	James Wheelock,	do.
David Gibbs,	do.	Henry Willard,	do.
Thomas Gibbs,	do.	John Willard,	do.
Joshua Gibbs,	do.	Zephaniah Richardson,	do.

*Captain WAITS's Company.*

Aaron Johnson,	Private.	Amos Puffer,	Private.
Oliver Morlock,	do.	Joseph Gray,	do.
Benjamin Hall,	do.	Amos Flood,	do.
Elisha Willis,	Corporal.	Simeon Puffer,	do.

*Captain GREEN's Company.*

Benj. Chamberlin,	Ensign.	John Roe,	Private.
David Chamberlin,	Private.	Pearley Rogers,	do.
Joseph Skinner,	do.	Josiah Hopkins,	do.
Abner Chamberlin,	do.	Daniel Eustis,	do.
Nathaniel Rogers, jr.,	do.	Joseph Dimmer,	do.
John Morris,	do.	Aaron Smith,	do.
John Evans,	do.	John Powell,	do.
Elias Chamberlin,	do.		

*Colonel BURRELL's Regiment.*

*Captain STEPHENS's Company.*

Phineas Stephens,	Private.	Joseph A. Tanner,	Private.
Benjamin Stevens,	do.	Jacob Wheeler,	do.
Samuel Simons,	do.	William Wheeler,	do.
Ephraim Simons,	do.	Walter Whalen,	do.
Jabez Spencer,	do.	John Waterhouse,	do.
Amos Shephard,	do.	Abraham Webster,	do.

*Colonel PATTERSON's Regiment.*

*Captain SULLIVAN's Company.*

Nathan Lord,	2d Lieutenant.	Jonathan Nook,	Private.
Enoch Whitehouse,	Corporal.	Moses Eggleston,	do.
John Jenkins,	Private.	Mark Tuke,	do.
Ephraim Goodwin,	do.	Richard Shean,	do.
Rook Stillians,	do.	Jeremiah Ceathe,	do.
Jonathan Paskey,	do.	Stephen Hardison,	do.

*Captain SAWYER's Company.*

William Joluson,	Private.	Joseph Wilkins,	Private.
Paul Goodwin,	do.	Hezekiah Kember,	do.
Joseph Stewart,	do.		

*Captain SULLIVAN's Company.*

Samuel Spray,	Private.	Nathaniel Tyler,	Private.
James Hambleton,	do.	Josiah Strong,	do.
Samuel Jones,	do.	Thomas Durban,	do.
Samuel Spray,	do.	Joseph Adams,	do.
Samuel Southard,	do.		

*Captain MCKINSTRY's Company.*

— Phelps,	Private.	William Fann,	Private.
— Roberts,	do.	William Bennett,	do.
Joel Phelps,	do.	Geo. Vanvolcamburgh,	do.
Joseph Hallaster,	do.	F. Vanvolcamburgh,	do.
Isaac Welch,	do.	Obed Hatch,	do.
Michael Murray,	do.	John Leming,	do.

*Captain ASHLEY's Company.*

Caleb Walker,	Sergeant.	Isaac Winston,	Private.
Abner Bruce,	Private.	David Read,	do.
Joseph Chaplain,	do.	Timothy Cole,	do.
Jesse Perin,	do.	William Raymont,	do.
Oliver Clary,	do.	Willis Taylor,	do.
Abel Maltoon,	do.	Elisha Whitehead,	do.
William Long,	do.	Nathan Curtis,	do.
Hezekiah Davis,	do.	Joel Curtis,	do.
Sylvanus Maltoon,	do.	Daniel Perin,	do.
John Deverin,	do.	James Taylor,	do.
Jeremiah Miller,	2d Lieutenant.	Benjamin Ingram,	do.
Ezra Read,	Private.	Elisha Norton,	do.

*Captain WYMAN's Company.*

James Wentworth,	Private.	Isaac Fisk,	Private.
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*Captain NOBLE's Company.*

Elice Kinsley,	Private.	Tristram Storey,	Private.
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*Captain ASHLEY's Company.*

Ebenezer Williams,	Private.
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*A list of the Prisoners belonging to the Continental Army  
taken at FORT CEDARS, CANADA.*

*Colonel BEDEL's Regiment.*

*Captain DANIEL WILKINS's Company.*

Daniel Wilkins,	Captain.	Robert Livingston,	Private.
— Roby,	1st Lieutenant.	Roger Dutton,	do.
John Mills,	2d Lieutenant.	James Hartshorn,	do.
William Bradford,	Ensign.	Abbot Roby,	do.
Jabez Holt,	Fifer.	Shirtherick Wesson,	do.
Samuel Wood,	Private.	Thomas Mallady,	do.
George Pearmain,	do.	Sylvester Wilkins,	do.
Alexander Brown,	do.	Robert Coffran,	do.
James Harwood,	do.	Aaron Nichols,	do.
Thomas McLeary,	do.	James Colwell,	Sergeant.
John Robbins,	do.	Robert Campbell,	do.
William Hamlet,	do.	J. Colwell McNeil,	do.
William Alds,	do.	Samuel Boyd,	Private.
Thomas Stevens,	do.	Benjamin McAllister,	do.
Joseph Dickey,	do.	Timothy Martin,	do.
Lareford Gilbert,	do.	Hugh McKeene,	do.
Isaac Curtis,	do.	Jonathan Fifield,	Corporal.
Reuben Camp,	do.	Daniel Wilkins,	Private.
Joseph Farrer,	do.	John Wyley,	do.
John Allen,	do.	Lemuel Curtis,	do.
William Brown,	do.	Stephen Curtis,	do.
Jacob Blodget,	do.	Isaac Stearnes,	do.
John Phelps,	do.	John McClintock,	do.
James Jewell,	do.	Obadiah Holt,	do.
Ephraim Clarke,	do.	Andrew Wilkins,	Corporal.
James Cochran,	do.	Joseph Lovejoy,	Private.
Samuel Sternes,	Corporal.	Jonathan Farnham,	do.
Joshua Abbott,	do.	James Clark,	do.
Henry Glover,	Private.	Jeremiah Lamson,	do.
Josiah Warren,	do.	Amos Boutal,	do.

*Colonel BURRELL's Regiment.*

*Captain DOWNES's Company.*

David Downes,	Captain.	Elijah Jackson,	Private.
Samuel Johnson,	Ensign.	William Williams,	do.
David Ruscoe,	Sergeant.	James Laughlin,	do.
David Strong,	do.	Samuel Gray,	do.
David Randall,	Private.	Elijah Bennett,	do.
David Manning,	do.	Joseph Calkins,	do.
James Clary,	do.	Josiah Hambleton,	do.
Joseph Doty,	do.	Abner Goodrick,	do.
Simon Whitcomb,	do.	Oliver Crocker,	do.
Benjamin McIntire,	do.	Charles Gillett,	do.
Michael McGee,	do.	Amasa Warner,	do.
Rozil Roberts,	do.	Jehiel Smith,	do.
Caleb Jewett,	do.	Isaac Parsons,	do.
W. Guttridge Willar,	do.	John Hall, jr.,	do.
John Wren,	do.	Ephraim Toby,	do.
Jonas Knight,	do.	Simeon Reno,	do.
Redr. Bell,	do.	Stephen Wilcock,	do.
Jacob Marsden,	do.	Jeremiah Ringsbery,	do.
Judah Bills,	do.	Asa Rice,	do.
James Clay,	do.	Benjamin Young,	do.

*Captain JOHN STEVENS's Company.*

Matthew Patterson,	2d Lieutenant.	Obil Fellows,	Private.
David Fellows,	Sergeant.	Samuel Fellows,	do.
Benjamin Hewitt,	do.	Ebenezer A. Foot,	do.
Jedediah Smith,	Corporal.	John Green,	do.
Zebulon Stevens,	do.	Isaiah Gridley,	do.
Samuel Green,	Drummer.	Zadock Hawley,	do.
Zechariah Porter,	Fifer.	Ephraim Hewett,	do.
Edward Bowe,	Private.	Joseph Henderson,	do.
Elisha Bradford,	do.	John Herrington,	do.
Hezekiah Barce,	do.	Daniel Jackways,	do.
David Baldwin,	do.	Eldad Kellogg,	do.
Josiah Cleveland,	do.	Jabez Lears,	do.
Jonas Cleveland,	do.	Aeneas Lyne,	do.
James Clary,	do.	John Ledger,	do.
John Cole,	do.	Paul Moon,	do.
Simeon Dupree,	do.	Titus Merrill,	do.
Reuben Deane,	do.	John Magoon,	do.
John Evans,	do.	David Preston,	do.
Eleazer Fisher,	do.	Amaziah Palmeter,	do.
Samuel Fitch,	do.	Seth Raymond,	do.
Thomas Fleming,	do.		

*Colonel BEDEL's Regiment.*

*Captain EVERETT's Company.*

Edward Everett,	Captain.	William Pitts,	Private.
— Chamberlin,	Lieutenant.	Ephraim Blodget,	do.
John Tyler,	Sergeant.	Ephraim Chamberlin,	do.
Benjamin Mordock,	do.	Daniel Chamberlin,	do.
Benjamin Rawlins,	Corporal.	Lemuel Medes,	do.
Nahum Powers,	Private.	Joseph Wheat,	do.
Michael Clarke,	do.	Ezra Gates,	do.
Joseph Judkins,	do.	Ezra Gates, jr.,	do.
Job Leverett,	do.	Jacob Gates,	do.
John Brown,	do.	Stephen Gates,	do.
Nathaniel Bardean,	do.	John Cooley,	do.
James Barnes,	do.		

*Captain YOUNG's Company.*

Solomon Cleveland,	Private.	Joseph Hadley,	Private.
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*Captain GREEN's Company.*

— Alexander,	Private.
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*Captain CARLISLE's Company.*

Eleazer Jordan,	Private.	Joshua Pierce,	Private.
Luke Aldridge,	do.	Joseph Beaman,	do.
Nathaniel Bacon,	do.	Stephen Chapman,	do.
Thomas Whitcomb,	do.	Nathaniel Colborn,	do.
Thomas Armsdin,	do.		

*Captain Wair's Company.*

Isaac Johnson,	Private.	Aaron Rice,	Private.
Josiah Johnson,	do.		

*Captain EASTABROOKS's Company.*

Jos. Eastabrooks,	Captain.	Martin Montgomery,	Private.
— Sergeants,	1st Lieutenant.	Benjamin Coate,	do.
— Griggs,	2d Lieutenant.	William Hardwich,	do.
— Holbrook,	Ensign.	Elisha Bowes,	do.
— Fuller,	Sergeant.	Joseph Church,	do.
— Skinner,	do.	Moses Wright,	do.
James Miller,	Drummer.	Elphias Hill,	do.
John Udal,	Private.	Asa White,	do.
Andrew Binton,	do.	Cornelius Dunfer,	do.
John Wright,	do.	Robert Little,	do.
Peter Wilson,	do.	Timothy Harvey,	do.
Charles Richards,	do.	Amos Holbrook,	do.
William Murphy,	do.		

*Train of Artillery.*

John McKallough,	Sergeant.	James Edy,	Private.
Abiah Buck,	Private.	Michael Fitzgerald,	do.
Matthew McCluar,	do.		
Isaac Butterfield,	Major.	Thomas Hibbard,	Adjutant.

The first party (five boats) were landed at *Chateauguai*, and the remainder at *Fort Ann*.

The prisoners mentioned in these papers are all I received at *Caughnawaga*.

JAMES OSGOOD, *Captain*.

Montreal, June 2, 1776.

Montreal, June 2, 1776.

The annexed schedule contains a true and just account of the prisoners which were taken at the *Cedars*, and some at *Caughnawaga*, amounting to one Major, four Captains, sixteen Subalterns, and three hundred and fifty-five Privates; most of them were set at liberty at *Quinze Chiens*.

JAMES OSGOOD, *Captain*.

Captain *Osgood*, who was appointed and sent to *Caughnawaga* to receive the prisoners according to articles entered into with Captain *Forster*, personally appeared before me, and made solemn oath to the truth of the above account.

B. ARNOLD, *Brigadier-General*.

CÆSAR RODNEY TO THOMAS RODNEY.

Philadelphia, July 10, 1776.

SIR: You mention in your last that Mr. *Wells* is discharged the service. Colonel *Haslett* has not as yet reported that matter to Congress. When he does, I shall attend to what you have said on that head.

With respect to the other matters you sent me, I am of opinion that any good effect that might flow from them must be local—I mean, that it would be confined principally to the inhabitants of that County; and, on the other hand—at a time of such imminent danger, when powerful armies are actually knocking at our gates, and the serious attention of every friend to *American* liberty is employed in giving that manly opposition to those vile invaders of their just rights, privileges, and property—whether it would be prudent to hold out to the world such numbers of internal enemies, especially as, by the manly and determined spirit prevailing in the Congress, their wings must and will be clipped. The Declaration has laid the foundation, and will be followed by laws fixing the degree of offence and punishment suitable. Some people have done things which, if done in future, nothing less than life will be sufficient to atone for. These enemies to our righteous cause will (I apprehend) be less on their guard, if they are not held up in that publick way, than if they are, and will undoubtedly meet their due reward, provided you pursue steadily your line of patriotism, and at the same time keep a watchful eye toward their conduct in the politicks of your country. These things must and will be inquired into. But, sir, now is the time and season that our open and avowed enemies are pressing hard. They call forth the attention and utmost vigilance of the Congress to that point. They well know they have internal enemies in disguise; and whenever, by the blessing of *God*, their virtuous efforts shall be crowned with success, they will immediately turn their thoughts toward those sappers of the rights of mankind. It is also the business of every Government, so soon as formed, to take in hand that business. *South-Carolina* has already set them a good ex-

ample. I have sent you a pamphlet, called *Observations on the nature of Civil Liberty, &c.*, written by Doctor *Price*, in *England*. It is an excellent piece, and I do not doubt (properly used) will tend to strengthen your patriotick, or, in other words, independent party. I have also directed one to Doctor *McCall* as a present.

The Militia of *Pennsylvania* are beginning their march this day towards *New-York*; and I do suppose that by the last of this week General *Washington* will be thirty thousand strong at least. Colonel *Haslett's* battalion (except one company, which is to stay at *Lewis*) is ordered up to *Wilmingtion*, as a security to *Philadelphia* in the absence of their Militia, as well as to the lower Counties, and hopes, for this reason, the Committee of Safety will permit them to retain (while thus employed) the Militia arms belonging to the publick.

Neither *Betsey's* nor *Sally's* shoes are yet done, though the measures were sent as soon as I got to town. I am glad to find that you are of opinion my harvest will be down by the last of this week. Pray do attend to it. Perhaps wheat will bring something next year.

I am yours, &c.,

CÆSAR RODNEY.

To Captain *Thomas Rodney*, Esq., at *Dover*.

JOHN ADAMS TO MRS. ADAMS.

Philadelphia, July 10, 1776.

You will see by the newspapers which I from time to time enclose, with what rapidity the Colonies proceed in their political manœuvres. How many calamities might have been avoided, if these measures had been taken twelve months ago, or even no longer ago than last *December*.

The Colonies to the South are pursuing the same maxims which have heretofore governed those to the North. In constituting their new Governments, their plans are remarkably popular, more so than I could ever have imagined; even more popular than the "Thoughts on Government;" and in the choice of their rulers, capacity, spirit, and zeal in the cause, supply the place of fortune, family, and every other consideration which used to have weight with mankind. My friend *Archibald Bulloch*, Esq., is Governour of *Georgia*; *John Rutledge*, Esq., is Governour of *South-Carolina*; *Patrick Henry*, Esq., is Governour of *Virginia*, &c.; Dr. *Franklin* will be Governour of *Pennsylvania*. The new Members of this city are all in this taste, chosen because of their inflexible zeal for Independence. All the old Members left out because they opposed Independence, or at least were lukewarm about it. *Dickinson*, *Morris*, *Allen*, all fallen, like grass before the scythe, notwithstanding all their vast advantages in point of fortune, family, and abilities. I am inclined to think, however, and to wish that these gentlemen may be restored at a fresh election, because, although mistaken in some points, they are good characters, and their great wealth and numerous connexions will contribute to strengthen *America*, and cement her Union.

I wish I were at perfect liberty to portray before you all these characters in their genuine lights, and to explain to you the course of political changes in this Province. It would give you a great idea of the spirit and resolution of the people, and show you, in a striking point of view, the deep roots of *American* Independence in all the Colonies. But it is not prudent to commit to writing such free speculations in the present state of things. Time, which takes away the veil, may lay open the secret springs of this surprising Revolution. But I find, although the Colonies have differed in religion, laws, customs, and manners, yet in the great essentials of society and government, they are all alike.

ADDRESS TO GENERAL ROBERDEAU.

To the Hon. DANIEL ROBERDEAU, Esq., First Brigadier-General for the Province of PENNSYLVANIA:

SIR: We are desired by the Board of Officers of the Second Battalion to inform you that they are fully sensible of the great attention and zeal with which you have conducted yourself while in the station of their Colonel, not only for the general and important interest of our bleeding country, but for those of the battalion in particular. Nothing but the consideration of your being advanced to a situation

in which you can be more extensively useful, could alleviate the regret they feel on the removal of their Colonel.

We are instructed unfeignedly to congratulate you on your election to the distinguished department you now fill, which we have no doubt you will conduct with honour to yourself and advantage to the cause in which our lives and fortunes are so deeply engaged; and permit us to assure you that the officers and privates of the Second Battalion will always esteem it a peculiar privilege to be under your command, and you may depend upon their zeal and readiness on all occasions to support your authority and execute your orders.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Battalion :

JOHN BAYARD, *Colonel*.

JONATHAN SMITH, *Captain*.

SAMUEL MASSEY, *Lieutenant*.

Philadelphia, July 10, 1776.

#### GENERAL ROBERDEAU'S REPLY.

GENTLEMEN: The sense which the Officers of the Second Battalion express, in this obliging Address, of my attention to, and zeal in, the service of my bleeding country, in that particular line of duty marked out by their free unanimous voice, is not only very honourable, but also highly pleasing, as it is a fresh proof of the regard of a corps with whom I have had uninterrupted happiness ever since our first connection, and whose esteem I would ever studiously cultivate. At the same time that I accept with thanks, as a further mark of regard, your congratulations on my late honourable appointment at *Lancaster*, permit me to say that neither that appointment nor your congratulations can prevent the pain of an ingenuous mind under the conscious sense of a want of talents for so important a station. However, the cause in which we are engaged is the cause of *God*, who loveth justice and hateth oppression. He can give efficacy to the feeblest efforts. The concurrence of officers and privates, in a general assurance of their zeal and readiness in the service of their country under my command, presages a happy, and, I trust, a successful campaign, for which they have my hearty thanks. I expect no less from every friend to *America*, engaged in the service, as I can have no private or sinister view, and it is evident union alone can serve our suffering country, whereas divisions would destroy it.

DANIEL ROBERDEAU.

Philadelphia, July 10, 1776.

#### LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Lancaster, July 10, 1776.

The necessity for Arms at present is such, that it is recommended to *Thomas McClenaghan*, a journeyman of *Michael Rhinehart*, (gun-barrel maker,) to go to work with the said *Michael Rhinehart*, as it is the opinion of the Committee that gun-barrel makers, and persons of such trades as are immediately necessary for the publick service, ought to continue at their particular employments.

#### BUCKS COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE

In Committee, Bucks County, July 10, 1776.

*Resolved*, That this Committee will use their utmost endeavours that the Resolve of the late Provincial Conference for imbodying four hundred of the Associators of this County, be immediately put into execution; and that the following gentlemen be appointed Officers, being the proportion allotted to this County, viz: Colonel, *Joseph Hart*; Captains: *John Followell*, *William Roberts*, *William Hart*, *Valentine Up*, *John Jamison*; First Lieutenants: *John Kræsen*, *Henry Durooch*, *Hugh Long*, *Philip Trumbower*, *Dennis Middle-swart*; Second Lieutenants: *Abraham Dubois*, *James Shaw*, *Jacob Drake*, *Samuel Deane*, *John Irvine*; Ensigns: — *McKissack*, *William Hines*, *Joseph Hart*, *Stoffel Keller*, *John McCammon*; Adjutant: *John Johnson*; Surgeon: *Joseph Fenton*, Jun.; Quartermaster: *Alexander Benstead*.

*Resolved*, That where any person or persons within any Township of this County, shall refuse to deliver his or their Firearms to the Collectors of Arms, either chosen or appointed, agreeable to a late resolve of the Assembly of this Province, the said Collectors, or any one of them, shall apply to the Colonel, or, in his absence, the next in command of the Battalion to which the Associators of that Township belong, who shall thereupon give orders to such officer and

such number of men as he shall apprehend proper and sufficient to enforce the said resolve of Assembly.

*Resolved*, That where it shall appear to the Collector of Arms, that any person or persons have been possessed of good Firearms, and do not deliver them, or satisfy the Collectors where they are, the said Collectors, or any of them, cite such person or persons to appear before this Committee at their next meeting, and satisfy this Board how the said Arms have been disposed of.

Agreeable to two Resolves of the Committee of Safety of this Province, this Committee have appointed *Gerret Dungan* to cause the Firearms collected from Non-Associators in this County, to be immediately rendered fit for use.

*Matthew Bennet* is appointed for the First Battalion, and *Jared Irvine* for the Second, Third, and Fourth Battalions of Associators in this County, to seize the guns and mark the size on the breechpin, or lower end of the barrel.

By order of the Committee :

JOSEPH HART, *Chairman*.

#### SAMUEL TUCKER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 12, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

In Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, }  
Trenton, July 10, 1776. }

SIR: By order of the Provincial Congress, I am to inform you that, on the sudden call of the Commander-in-Chief at *New-York*, the Militia of several of the eastern Counties have marched to the General's assistance; and also a number from the western part of the Colony there, together with the new levies for the requested brigade, have greatly drained us of men, at a time when the grain (the support of the Colony) is in imminent danger of being neglected and lost. The condition of this Colony, from the present situation of the enemy, has been such that the Militia have been necessarily detained hitherto. In such circumstances, we have with pleasure received information that the Militia of *Pennsylvania* is about to march to our assistance. While we thus enjoy the pleasing prospect of more effectually opposing our common enemy, we hope the Congress will give such directions as may afford an opportunity for immediately dismissing our Militia for the present, in order that they may save and secure their grain, already suffering.

At *Trenton*, where we understand the camp is to be formed, the *Pennsylvania* Militia cannot effect the purpose, which we have greatly at heart, of relieving our people from their attendance, that their harvests may not perish. We submit to Congress, therefore, the propriety of sending forward our friends from *Pennsylvania* to the eastern part of this Colony; if not all, at least such part of them as may be thought more immediately necessary.

Besides the danger of our harvest suffering, a more pressing one, if possible, urges us to this application, which is that of our people from the interior Counties deserting the service in order to preserve their crops; the rather as some of our Counties have in a great measure withheld their force, whilst others have turned out almost to a man.

We are, sir, your most humble servants.

By order of Congress :

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

#### DR. WITHERSPOON TO COLONEL HARRISON.

Dr. WITHERSPOON's compliments to Colonel *Harrison*. The bearer of this is Mr. *Rowland Chambers*, recommended by the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey* as Paymaster to the three thousand three hundred men raised in *Jersey* for the Army at *New-York*. He will be obliged to Colonel *Harrison*, if he is appointed, to let him know as soon as possible the condition of the bond to be taken of him, and the nature of the security, that no time may be lost in providing it.

Philadelphia, Friday, July 12, 1776.

In Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, }  
Burlington, June 27, 1776. }

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Rowland Chambers* be recommended by this Congress to the honourable Continental Congress as a proper person to be Paymaster of the new levies raising in this Colony to reinforce the Army at *New-York*.

Extract from the Minutes :

WILLIAM PATERSON, *Secretary*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED PRINCETON, NEW-JERSEY,  
JULY 10, 1776.

Last night *Nassau-Hall* was grandly illuminated, and Independency proclaimed under a triple volley of musketry, and universal acclamation for the prosperity of the *United States*. The ceremony was conducted with the greatest decorum.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.  
[Read July 11, 1776.]

New-York, July 10, 1776.

SIR: I am now to acknowledge the receipt of your two favours of the 4th and 6th instant, which came duly to hand, with their important enclosures.

I perceive that Congress have been employed in deliberating on measures of the most interesting nature. It is certain it is not with us to determine, in many instances, what consequences will flow from our counsels; but yet it behooves us to adopt such as, under the smiles of a gracious and all-kind Providence, will be most likely to promote our happiness. I trust the late decisive part they have taken is calculated for that end, and will secure us that freedom and those privileges which have been and are refused us, contrary to the views of nature and the *British Constitution*. Agreeable to the request of Congress, I caused the Declaration to be proclaimed before all the Army under my command, and have the pleasure to inform them that the measure seemed to have their most hearty assent—the expressions and behaviour, both of officers and men, testifying their warmest approbation of it. I have transmitted a copy to General *Ward*, at *Boston*, requesting him to have it proclaimed to the Continental troops in that department.

It is with great pleasure that I hear the Militia from *Maryland*, the *Delaware* Government, and *Pennsylvania*, will be in motion every day to form the Flying-Camp. It is of great importance, and should be accomplished with all possible despatch. The readiness and alacrity with which the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* and the other conferees have acted, in order to forward the associated Militia of that State to the *Jerseys* for service, till the men to compose the Flying-Camp arrive, strongly evidence their regard to the common cause, and that nothing on their part will be wanting to support it. I hope, and I doubt not, that the associated Militia, impressed with the expediency of the measure, will immediately carry it into execution, and furnish in this instance a proof of the continuance of that zeal which has so eminently marked their conduct. I have directed the Commissary to make necessary provision for their reception, who will also supply the Army for the Flying-Camp with rations. A proper officer will be appointed to command it.

In pursuance of the power given me by Congress, and the advice of my General Officers, I have written to General *Ward*, and desired him forthwith to detach three of the fullest regiments from the *Massachusetts-Bay* to join the northern Army, esteeming it a matter of the greatest importance to have a sufficient force there to prevent the enemy's passing the lake, and making an impression in that quarter. The gondolas and galleys will be of great service, and I am hopeful the carpenters you have sent from *Philadelphia*, and that will go from the eastward on your application, will be able to build a sufficient number in time to answer every exigency.

I have requested Governour *Cooke*, if the duck mentioned in Mr. *Greene's* letter is proper for tents, to have it made up as early as possible, and forwarded here. I have also desired him to send the flints and small-arms; as I leave General *Ward* those of the latter that were taken out of the *Scotch* transports, our deficiency in those necessary articles being still greater.

Observing that Congress have particularly mentioned a bounty of ten dollars to be paid to men of some corps directed to be raised in two or three instances, since their resolve of the 26th of *June* allows such bounty, I have been led to doubt how that resolve is to be construed; whether it is a general regulation, and extends to all men that will engage for three years: for instance, the soldiers of the present Army, if they will enlist for that time. If it is, and extends to them, it will be necessary to forward a large sum of money; many, perhaps, would engage. I also observe, by the resolve of the 25th *June*, for raising four regiments of

Militia in the eastern Governments, to augment the troops in the Northern Department, that the Assemblies of those Governments are empowered to appoint Paymasters to the said regiments. This appears to me a regulation of great use, and I could wish that it was made general, and one allowed to every regiment in the service: many advantages would result from it.

The *Connecticut* Militia begin to come in; but from every account, the battalions will be very incomplete, owing, they say, to the busy season of the year. That Government, lest any inconveniences might result from their Militia not being here in time, ordered three regiments of their Light-horse to my assistance, part of which have arrived; but not having the means to support them, (and if it could be done, the expense would be enormous,) I have thanked the gentlemen for their zeal and the attachment they have manifested upon this occasion, and informed them that I cannot consent to their keeping their horses, at the same time wishing them to stay themselves. I am told that they, or part of them, mean to do so.

General *Mercer* is now in the *Jerseys*, for the purpose of receiving and ordering the Militia coming from the Flying-Camp, and have sent over our Chief Engineer to view the grounds within the neighbourhood of *Amboy*, and to lay out some necessary works for the encampment, and such as may be proper at the different passes in *Bergen-Neck* and other places on the *Jersey* shore, opposite *Staten-Island*, to prevent the enemy making impressions and committing depredations on the property of the inhabitants.

The intelligence we have from a few deserters that have come over to us, and from others, is, that General *Howe* has between nine and ten thousand men, who are chiefly landed on the Island, posted in different parts, and securing the several communications from the *Jerseys* with small works and intrenchments, to prevent our people from paying them a visit; that the Islanders have all joined them, seem well disposed to favour their cause, and have agreed to take up arms in their behalf. They look for Admiral *Howe's* arrival every day, with his fleet and a large reinforcement, and are in high spirits, and talk confidently of success and carrying all before them when he comes. I trust, through divine favour and our own exertions, they will be disappointed in their views; and, at all events, any advantages they may gain will cost them very dear. If our troops will behave well, which I hope will be the case, leaving everything to contend for that freedom they hold dear, they will have to wade through much blood and slaughter before they can carry any part of our works, if they carry them at all; and at best be in possession of a melancholy and mournful victory. May the sacredness of our cause inspire our soldiery with sentiments of heroism, and lead them to the performance of the noblest exploits. With this wish, I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

New-York, July 10, 1776.

In pursuance of the Declaration for Independency, a general jail delivery, with respect to Debtors, took place here this day.

On *Monday* last, a small party of our men were sent to drive off cattle from *Bergen* woods; their curiosity led them to march along *Bergen* shore, to view the regulars on *Staten-Island*. On seeing two of their officers riding along the road towards *Elizabethtown-Point*, some of our men thought to scare them, and fired their pieces at them, over the river, nearly opposite *Decker's Ferry*. About two minutes after, they thundered away incessantly for some time at our people with their cannon, but did them no hurt, as they betook themselves to the woods; however, they continued their fire with great fury for a considerable time, thinking, no doubt, that we had been intrenching there with a great force. It was no small diversion to our men to see them throwing away their powder and shot among the trees. They picked up some of the balls and brought them away with them.

During the past week several of the newly raised regiments of *Connecticut* troops have arrived in town, and appear to be as fine a body of men as any engaged in the present grand struggle for liberty and independence. Among them, the Light-Dragoons, between five and six hundred, who came to town yesterday, and paraded on horseback through



the city, made a noble and martial appearance; and as this corps is composed of the substantial yeomanry of a virtuous sister State, nothing could be more agreeable or animating to all true friends of their country. Some of these worthy soldiers assisted, in their present uniforms, at the reduction of *Louisburgh*, and their "lank, lean cheeks, and war-worn coats," are viewed with more veneration by their honest countrymen than if they were glittering nabobs from *India*, or bashaws with nine tails.

PETITION OF JOSEPH BLANCHARD AND OTHERS.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the Province of  
NEW-YORK:

The Petition of the subscribers, inhabitants upon LONG-ISLAND, in said Province, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners were taken prisoners by a military power, and confined in jail in the City of *New-York*, which confinement your petitioners apprehend to be occasioned by some mistaken opinion of their political principles. They hereby beg leave to assure the honourable Congress that they nor either of them have, by any ways or means whatsoever, directly or indirectly given or offered any aid, assistance, or information, to the Army or Navy of the King of *Great Britain*, relative to the dispute now subsisting between *Great Britain* and these Colonies. That your petitioners are all tradesmen and farmers, and at this season of the year in particular their business must greatly suffer by reason of their absence. Therefore your petitioners most humbly pray that, in tender compassion to their health, their families, and circumstances, your Honours will take their case under consideration, and cause them to be discharged, or otherwise suffer them to be brought before your Honours, that they may know of what they are accused, and what is expected of them to do. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

Joseph Blanchard, residing in the City of New-York.		
Townsend Weeks,	Henry Dorland,	William McCoun,
John Hutcheons,	Andrew Allen,	John Fleet,
Daniel Smith,	Ezekiel Rayner,	Elijah Rainer,
John Carman,	Jacob Lamberson,	Benjamin Pettit,
Samuel Townsend,	Richard Smith,	Joseph Dorlon,
Peter Wheeler,	Thomas Fleet,	Nathaniel Smith.
Joseph Bedell,		

NEW-YORK, July 10, 1776.

H. GLEN TO WALTER LIVINGSTON.

Schenectady, July 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 2d instant, accompanied with a deputation as an Assistant Deputy Commissary, is duly come to hand, and am much obliged to you for appointing me to that post. I would have written you sooner, but have been so busy in getting forward a party of men with some cannon, artillery, &c. They are now on their way to the *German-Flats*, to Colonel *Dayton*. I had no batteau-men to spare but what were wanted to take up the artillery stores and engineers' ditto, which I had orders to send first, but at the same time sent off fifteen wagons, loaded with sixty barrels of pork, to the *German-Flats*, directed to the Deputy-Commissary, which I find is as cheap as in boats, as the water in this river is very low. I have some reason to believe that Colonel *Dayton*, with his regiment (when the officer of the Train with the artillery comes to the *German-Flats*) will proceed to *Fort Stanwix*; and as the two companies of batteau-men, with twenty boats, are entirely loaded with artillery and engineers' stores, I have ordered the captains, whenever they have delivered their loading to Colonel *Dayton*, wherever he will please to order them; which will be at *Fort Stanwix*. The batteau-men, with three batteaus, are to proceed to the *Little-Falls*. Since the batteau-men went from here with the artillery, &c., came down one Captain *Van Epps*, who had undertaken to raise a company of batteau-men to take in flour at Major *Fonda's*, or wherever the Major may have it ready. I have ordered *Van Epps* with his men to make two trips, with flour, from Major *Fonda's* to the *Little-Falls*, which they are to carry up to *Fort Stanwix* before they come back. I shall by that time know if these companies of batteau-men are to remain in this river; if so, shall fix one of the companies between the *Little-Falls* and *Fort Stanwix*, before they come down, and the other company between this and the said falls; so there will be no occasion for transporting any of the batteaus

across the *Little-Falls'* carrying-place. Your instructions I shall follow, you may depend on. The copies Mr. *Beecher* sent for entries I have received. The returns will be sent you at the day required. I can get no scales and weights, but I have taken my storehouse to store the pork and beef, and as I have scales, weights, &c., of my own, shall make use of them for the present.

I am informed that the Commissioners of *Indian Affairs* are going up to have a treaty with the *Indians*. I would be glad to know whether they are to have pork, and from where. The pork I sent to the *Flats* is intended for Colonel *Dayton's* regiment, and is to make up the loading I am to send to *Fort Stanwix* with flour from Major *Fonda's*.

I am, dear sir, your humble servant,  
H. GLEN.  
To Walter Livingston, Esq., Deputy Commissary-General,  
at Albany.

H. GLEN TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Schenectady, July 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 30th ultimo I received, and immediately, in conformity to your order to me of the 26th, began to put them in execution. I can now inform you that I have sent off all the artillery and engineers' stores to the *German-Flats*, to Colonel *Dayton*, with the Captains *Lansing* and *Wolcott*, loaded in nineteen batteaus, together with sixty barrels of pork in wagons, as the boats could not load anything more than the artillery, &c., and the river very low withal. I was considerably put to it in getting the cannon loaded, for want of proper implements, as the officer of the artillery had neglected to bring a gin with him. I have likewise been under the necessity to purchase three oilcloths for the preservation of the ammunition. I have also got them a gin made here, and procured a tackle, as I found it impossible for them to load the cannon on carriages and the like, so that I got them fixed after a good deal of trouble. The batteaus were but indifferent in general; neither was the complement here fit for service, as was expected. Since the first batteaus, under *Lansing* and *Wolcott*, went off, came down *Ernst Van Epps*, with twenty men. I did immediately on his arrival despatch him to *Fonda's* for flour, with seven boats to carry the same to the *Falls*, and ordered him to make two trips and then return here. The flour *Van Epps* will bring to the *Falls*, and the pork sent in wagons will, by computation, make a loading for *Lansing* and *Wolcott* when they return, after delivering the artillery anywhere Colonel *Dayton* will have it brought. So that there will be no occasion of having the boats carried over the carrying-place until they may have gone a trip more with provisions, which, by computation, will make out thirty-five days' provisions for seven hundred men, if they are supplied with a little fresh with the pork. By the time the batteaus may have done this work, I expect to be honoured with your further commands (as I have ordered them down here) what they are next to do. And should then anything be ordered to Colonel *Dayton*, at *Fort Stanwix*, where I have reason to expect he will be, I then intend to station one company above the *Falls*, to prevent the carrying of the batteaus over so often. You may rely on my exerting everything in my power to promote the service you have been pleased to honor me with.

I have the honour to be, dear sir, your very humble servant,  
H. GLEN.

To the Hon. Major-General Schuyler.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 10, 1776.

HONoured SIR: I yesterday evening returned from a command which I hope I have executed to the satisfaction of your Honour and the other Generals. This absence has deprived me of the pleasure of seeing you here; but, as a matter of the last consequence to the Army is likely soon to be determined, I hope you will excuse my freedom. I have understood that the regiments are to be brigaded. If so, I should apprehend that it will tend to the furtherance of the service much, that the *Pennsylvanians* should be brigaded together. If there is no General proper to be appointed over them, Colonel *St. Clair*, an old and experienced officer, would be exceedingly acceptable, and every one would act with confidence under him.

I have a great regard for the eastern troops; but I am confident they will act much better alone than joined with us. Our policy and manners are so exceedingly different, that it would require a much greater time than can now be spent to blend them properly together. Much business is to be done this campaign; and I am certain, from what I have observed, that we shall be happier, and act better, if the eastern and southern troops are in distant brigades.

We shall preserve a polite and friendly intercourse, and will endeavour to wipe off all Colonial distinctions and prejudices; but it will, in my weak opinion, tend to increase them, if brigaded together at present. I write this with a real intention of advancing the service; and am, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

To General Gates.

IRA ALLEN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Union River, July 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I learn you are alarmed at the retreat of our Army out of *Canada*. Can assure you the savages have killed and scalped a number of men by the river *La Cole*, on the west side of *Lake Champlain*. When they will visit us or you, is uncertain. Advise you to look sharp, and keep scouts out, but not to move, except some families much remote from the main inhabitants. Last *Saturday*, was at *Crown-Point* with General *Sullivan*. He assured me he would do all in his power to protect the frontier settlements.

I proposed a line of forts by this river to *Cohos*. He said he believed that to be the best place, and made no doubt but it would be done. He immediately ordered Colonel *Waite* and two hundred men to this place, here to remain, and grant all protection in his power to the inhabitants. Before I left there, Generals *Schuyler*, *Gates*, and *Arnold*, arrived. I conclude there is a determination before this time in regard to all the frontiers. I make no doubt but a line of block forts is agreed on by all, from this river to yours, and so round your frontiers. Had intelligence from *St. John's* about twelve days ago. Our enemy had but one hundred tents, which, at most, could not be for more than six hundred men. They did not appear to be in much preparation for war. At *Chambly*, there were but few men. It is thought by some that the enemy are busy in sending provisions and clothing to all the garrisons near the head of the river *St. Laurence*, and in supplying the *Indians* with all necessaries. The small-pox has almost gone through our Army; they are in much better health than they were. Gondolas are building; the vessels are preparing for war. I hope, in a short time, they will be able to beat all the powers of *Britain* on this Lake. *Crown-Point* is proposed for headquarters. In haste,

IRA ALLEN.

NATHAN MILLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Camp at Newport, July 10, 1776.

SIR: When I take pen in hand to address a gentleman with whom I have not the pleasure of an acquaintance, I feel myself abashed; but when I call to mind the injury received from your son, I feel myself bold.

I am Commissary to the troops in the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, appointed by the General Assembly of the said Colony; and when I heard the troops were like to be put under the Continental establishment, I wrote a letter to your son, of 30th *May*. A copy of the answer I herewith enclose you, dated the 9th *June*, to which requisition I complied, as you may see by a copy of another letter, of the 28th *June*, received by *Peter Phillips*, Esq., by which you will see the ungentle treatment of which I have abundant reason to complain. He, in his first letter, tells me how to proceed to make matters to his satisfaction, and, in his next, acknowledges them to be so; but informs me that *Peter Phillips* has a Colony appointment antecedent to mine. I acknowledge it; but it was to General *Greene's* brigade, which went immediately out of the Colony when raised, and Mr. *Phillips* with them, who might have remained, and no one have superseded him to this day. I am sure I should never have harboured such a thought, although I have the vanity to think I have been as good a friend to my country on every occasion as any one in it, according to my capacity;

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and from the distraction of the empire, am now deprived of the profits of a very good branch of business, viz: ship-building, in which I have hitherto maintained a reputable character, till those distractions came on, which changed the face of matters in such a way, that business of that kind was at an end; and it pleased the Colony to appoint me to the place of Commissary to the *Rhode-Island* troops, where I was in a way still to support my character; and after the greatest encouragement, even to a promise, without a fault, and without any previous notice, gave *Peter Phillips* a commission to take my place; the justice of which I submit to your abundant goodness; while I subscribe myself, your Honour's most obedient, &c.

NATHAN MILLER.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

WILLIAM PITKIN TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, July 10, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I have, since the first of this month, kept a guard at my powder-mill, at the expense of seven shillings per night. I was urged into the measure by a great number of gentlemen that live forty or fifty miles distant. Threats have leaked out from *Skene*, and other inimical monsters, that it should be destroyed, if art or money could effect it. I intended to procure, in writing, the opinion of all the principal gentlemen in this town, that it is absolutely necessary some effectual measures should be taken at the expense of Government, to prevent the intended destruction, which they were fond of signifying to your Honour and Committee, but have not time. Mr. *Bennet* is now with me, pleading for powder. I have repeated applications from people at the northward in great distress, some of whom I have supplied, upon advice of gentlemen in authority in this town; but shall supply no further without your Honour's direction. Only add that I am, with the highest esteem, your Honour's obedient humble servant,

WM. PITKIN.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

P. S. Mr. *Bennet*, of *Hartford*, went from *Ashford*; has the character of an honest, good man, on whom your Honour may rely for intelligence, &c.

COLONEL HERRICK TO COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: A few days since, I received the within resignation from Captain *Flint* and his subalterns. They were commissioned by your Honours to command the second company in my regiment; so that said company is now destitute of officers; and I submit it to your Honours to judge what is proper to be done, and wait your orders.

I am, your most obedient humble servant,

HENRY HERRICK,

Colonel of 8th Regiment, in the County of *Essex*.

To the Honourable Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Danvers, July 8, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: We, the subscribers, with profound respect to you, take leave to send you a few lines, to inform you that we have a real zeal for the good of our country, and nothing can be more agreeable to us than to see universal harmony and benevolence prevail in every regiment and company of Militia upon the Continent, being sensible that the exigency of the times requires it more immediately now than ever; but, sir, as we cannot think our accepting the commissions offered to us by the honourable Council of this Colony will be attended with peace in this company, and for some other reasons which one of us has heretofore given you, we take leave, in this manner, to acquaint you, that we utterly refuse to accept the commissions. Hoping that you will be directed to some better method of setting the company in peace, we are, sir, your humble servants,

SAMUEL FLINT,

DANIEL PUTNAM,

JOSEPH PUTNAM, JR.

WORCESTER COUNTY (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

The good people of this County are hereby informed, that there are a considerable number of Prisoners in this

town, who are willing to go out to service, if proper persons should appear to hire them. The method of obtaining them is as follows:

The persons applying must have a certificate from the Committee of Safety, &c., of the town where each applicant belongs, recommending them to be friendly to the *American* cause, and must have a receipt from said Committee to be given to the Sheriff, and give a receipt to them, at the same time engaging to return the Prisoners whenever thereto required.

Worcester, July 10, 1776.

NORTHBOROUGH, (WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.)  
COMMITTEE.

Northborough, July 10, 1776.

At a meeting of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, it was voted unanimously, that *Thomas Billings*, and his son *Sylvanus Billings*, *John Taylor*, and *James* and *John Eager*, be all confined to the limits of their respective farms in said town; and that they should not pass said bounds on any occasion whatever, without leave it writing from the major part of said Committee, unless it be to attend publick worship or funerals in their own town.

As we consider these persons unfriendly to the cause for which the United Independent States of *North America* are contending, and as there have lately been many private meetings of them with others in other towns, (with ill design, as we have too much reason to think,) they are now held up to publick view; and all persons in town and out, who are friends to their country, are desired to concur with this Committee in their endeavours to prevent all such meetings for the future; and if the above-named persons are found beyond the limits aforesaid without a pass, to apprehend and return them to the Committee, or detain them in custody until they inform said Committee thereof. And all persons are warned not to have any commercial intercourse with them, agreeable to the Association of the Congress, as they would avoid being treated in the same manner.

By order of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, of *Northborough*:

JOHN BALL, *Chairman*.  
JETHRO PETERS, *Clerk*.

Attest:

SUBSCRIPTION TO ENCOURAGE INLISTMENTS.

Kittery, Maine, July 10, 1776.

Whereas some difficulty attends the raising the proportion of men assigned this town by the General Assembly, for the purpose of opposing our cruel and most implacable enemies, we, the subscribers, being duly affected with a sense of the justice of our present contest, and also of the absolute necessity that the said men be forthwith inlisted and sent to the place of destination, for encouragement and in order to expedite this measure, do severally promise to pay unto *Charles Chauncey*, Esquire, the sums respectively set against our names.

<i>Charles Chauncey</i> ,	- -	ten dollars.
<i>Edward Cutts</i> ,	- -	seven dollars.
<i>N. Sparhawk</i> ,	two joes,	or sixteen dollars.
<i>William Moore</i> ,	- -	one dollar.
<i>Roger Dearing</i> ,	- -	one dollar.
<i>James Hearswell</i> ,	- -	one dollar.
<i>William Dearing</i> ,	- -	one dollar.
<i>Thomas Harnat</i> ,	- -	half-dollar.
<i>Joseph Gerrish</i> ,	- -	two dollars.
<i>Richard Cutts</i> ,	- -	seven dollars.
<i>Samuel Mitchell</i> ,	- -	four shillings.
<i>Jeremiah Mitchell</i> ,	- -	three shillings.
<i>William Mitchell</i> ,	- -	four shillings.
<i>Joseph Bitmer</i> ,	- -	one dollar.
<i>Benjamin Mogdridge</i> ,	- -	one dollar.

London, July 11, 1776.

The following letter was received yesterday from Mr. *Charles Burns*, commander of the snow *Blake*, in the service of Government, dated *Cadiz Bay*, June 20:

"Yesterday morning I chased an *American* ship of about two hundred and fifty tons into this bay, but cannot take her, it being a foreign port. I never was more surprised in my life when I found there were three *American* privateers riding here at single anchor, and a number of their merchant

vessels loading and unloading at the quays. A large *Spanish* fleet of men-of-war have sailed from this place, but to what part I cannot learn, all manner of business being conducted here with the greatest mystery."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ST. EUSTATIA TO A GENTLEMAN  
IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED JULY 11, 1776.

You have herewith a few *West-India* papers, and an extract of a letter received from *Dominica*, dated July 8.

We have a vessel here from *Dublin*, that sailed May 28. The captain brings accounts of *A. Thompson*, *Newry*, *A. Bryan*, and *James Lecky*, *Dublin*, being all taken up by order of the Privy Council of *Ireland*, for carrying on correspondence with the people of *America*. Mr. *Bryan* was discharged, but Mr. *Thompson* and Mr. *Lecky* were held to great bail; and when the Captain sailed, an officer was kept on Mr. *Lecky's* house, and his papers sealed up. It was the affair of the gunpowder he purchased last year for Mr. *B. McClenachan*, to be shipped by the *Hancock* and *Adams*, that Mr. *Lecky* was taken up for; and the appearance of Captain *Forrest* in *Dublin* from *Nantz* revived the story, and caused these disagreeable things to happen. Large subscriptions were made or offered for Mr. *Lecky*, to support him against this attack of the Council.

About ten days ago the *Pomona* frigate, Captain *Eastwood*, came down from *Antigua*, and came to in this road, where she stayed for several days, with intention, as we since find, to wait the sailing of a brig, Captain *Booker*, (owned formerly by Mr. *Goodrich*, of *Virginia*, but at present *Dutch* property,) bound to *Amsterdam*. As soon as the brig got under way, the *Pomona* followed and took her. She was sent into *St. Kitts*, and an express sent up to the Admiral at *Antigua* to know what to do with her. It appears that information was lodged against said vessel that she was bound to *America* with warlike stores, &c., and it is expected as soon as she is examined will be discharged.

While Captain *Eastwood* lay in this road, he sent a letter to our Governour, requesting leave to take possession of several *American* vessels then in the road, two or three of which were loaded with powder, dry goods, &c., and ready to sail. The Governour informed him he could grant him no such permission, and desired he might not attempt to commit any hostilities by offering a thing of this nature. The Governour and Council met on this occasion, and determined that, in future, if any *English* frigates or cruisers came within reach of the guns of any fort of this Island, with intention to obstruct the trade, the commanders of the different forts have orders to fire on them. The *Pomona* has kept within sight of this Island ever since, but has not attempted to come within reach of the forts.

Mr. *De Graff* (our late Secretary) is appointed Governour of this Island. His commission is expected out by the first vessel from *Holland*, and it is thought he will do everything in his power for the protection of trade.

P. S. Two of the passengers that came in the before-mentioned vessel from *Dublin* are just arrived here. They say that Captain *Forrest* arrived in *Ireland* from *Nantz* in a vessel under *French* colours, and on his appearance in *Dublin* was immediately suspected of coming for the powder he was disappointed in taking away before; on which his vessel was searched, and several letters and papers found on board, two of which letters were for Mr. *Lecky* and Mr. *Thompson*, in consequence of which they were taken up. Mr. *Lecky* is held to twenty thousand pounds bail, and Mr. *Thompson* to thirty thousand pounds, but Captain *Forrest* would not be admitted to bail, and was committed to prison in irons, where he lay when those gentlemen came away. It was the general opinion in *Dublin* that they would all three be removed to *England* for trial, and the consequence very uncertain.

CAPTAIN WICKES TO SECRET COMMITTEE IN CONGRESS.

On board the Ship *Reprisal*, July 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This will inform you of my proceedings since I left *Cape-May*, the 3d instant. We left that place in company with thirteen merchantmen, who I think all got safe off, as we did not lose sight of them till they got a good distance from the land. We saw no ships-of-war at all on the coast.

We this day fell in with Captain *Mackay*, in the ship *Friendship*, from *Granada*, bound to *London*, loaded with rum, sugar, cocoa, and coffee, which ship I have taken, and sent *John Parks* in her prize-master, and have given him orders to get into *Philadelphia*, if possible; and if this should not be practicable, he is to run her into the first port in his power, and send an express to inform you immediately. Mr. *Bingham* is well, and desires his compliments to you. From, gentlemen, your most obliged, humble servant,

LAMBERT WICKES.

To the Committee of Secret Correspondence, *Philadelphia*.

P. S. Our people are all well to three or four. We are in longitude 57° west, and latitude 31°.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN PHILADELPHIA FROM SAVANNAH, GEORGIA, DATED JULY 11, 1776.

We have received, by several expresses, very alarming news from the *Indians*. Colonel writes that the savages have murdered four families on our frontiers; that two women were taken prisoners, one of whom afterwards made her escape, and the other had her hands tied behind her, and was naked, all her clothes being taken from her. Some men have likewise been taken, and since found means to get away, who say there is a report that these *Indians* are to be joined by six hundred *Creeks*, and a number of the King's men, who are to march down and cut the settlements all off. We are also informed that a great number of people are fled from the ceded lands, and that the *Cherokees* and *Creeks* were to join and come down on the frontiers of *South-Carolina* and *Georgia*. These things confirm the truth of the Ministerial plan, discovered by the intercepted letters of *Stuart* and others. I am in hopes the action on *Sullivan's Island* will defeat the prosecution of their horrid projects, and give a different aspect to our affairs.

ASSOCIATORS OF THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS.

At a meeting of the Associators of the City of *Annapolis*, on *Thursday*, the 11th of *July*, 1776, *William Roberts*, Esq., Chairman, *John Duckett*, Clerk:

1st. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of every inhabitant of the City of *Annapolis*, and of all persons having property therein, to contribute every assistance in their power for the protection and defence of the City and the inhabitants thereof, and that Mr. *James Brice*, Mr. *John Bullen*, Mr. *Charles Wallace*, Mr. *William Wilkins*, Mr. *Beriah Maybury*, Mr. *John Brice*, and Mr. *John Campbell*, or a majority of them, or any three or more of them, be a Committee to act on behalf of the inhabitants of this City; and that they wait on the Council of Safety, and inform them that the inhabitants will afford every assistance in their power for the putting the City into the best posture of defence; and that the inhabitants will, in person, or by others employed at their expense, labour on any intrenchments or works which the Council shall think necessary.

2d. *Resolved*, That the said Committee be empowered to call on every inhabitant of the City, and every person having property therein, to labour in person, or to furnish some person to labour in his stead, at such time and place as the Committee shall think proper, on the works that may be ordered by the Council of Safety to be erected for the defence of the City.

3d. *Resolved*, That the said Committee be authorized to execute all matters which may be recommended by the Council of Safety for the defence of the City, or for the keeping peace and good order therein.

4th. *Resolved*, That no member of this meeting will, and that it is the opinion of the meeting that no inhabitant of the City of *Annapolis* ought, to buy from, or employ, any merchant, tradesman, or any other person, who has not subscribed the Association.

5th. *Resolved*, That application be made by the Committee to the Council of Safety not to employ in the publick service any Non-Associator, and that they be requested to give a preference to such tradesmen and others as have manifested their attachment and zeal to the liberties of *America*.

*Ordered*, That copies of the above Resolutions be transmitted by the Chairman to the Associators of *Baltimore* town, for their opinion and concurrence.

*Ordered*, That the names of the Non-Associators in this City be published, and distributed among the inhabitants.

*Resolved*, That this meeting be adjourned to the 10th day of *August* next, and that the Committee have power to call a meeting at any time before, if they shall think proper.

True copy of the proceedings.

Test: JOHN DUCKETT, Clerk.

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 11, 1776.

SIRS: The brigs are both discharged. On hoisting out the lower tier of the flour on board Mr. *Lux* and Mr. *Bowly's* brig, I find it is damaged. I have had two gentlemen to view the flour. The report they make, I send you. The flour appears to have been wet some time ago, as it is rotten all round the outsides and head of the barrel, and has since dried, so that it is hard and black, which answers with what Captain *Sands* reports concerning it, as he says that it has not been wet this some time, but was under water more than two months ago, and not since. His report I have taken down in writing, as I think there has been a fault. I would be glad that the blame should be fixed right. Mr. *Spear* has all the damaged flour in his custody, and says that he will bake all that can be baked, and the remainder must be returned. I suppose Mr. *Lux* ought to take it. If so, Mr. *Spear* says he will assist Mr. *Lux* in dividing it, and such as can be baked, he will bake. The bake-houses are going on; and I suppose there might be a parcel of bread, and part of Captain *Woolsey's* flour, sent to the brig that lately arrived with your powder. If it is practicable, and must be done, the sooner the better. I received yours this day, and shall speak to Mr. *Jacobs* this evening, about making the tents. I think the linen must come here, as the sailmakers would choose to work at home with their hands.

From yours,

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the Honourable Council of Safety, at *Annapolis*.

Baltimore, July 12, 1776.

We, the subscribers, being requested by Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth* to inspect some flour, (suppose near one hundred barrels,) said to be landed from the brig *Fortune*, belonging to Messrs *Lux* and *Bowly*, and which flour was purchased by them for the honourable the Council of Safety for this Province, do, to the best of our knowledge, believe that such of the aforesaid flour as we have examined has been damaged by bilge water, admitted into the hold of the said vessel, through insufficiency of said vessel, or neglect of the hands then on board, in not pumping her as often as necessary, and the said flour is now hard, rotten, and musty, and unfit for baking, or any other merchantable use.

MARK ALEXANDER,  
BENJAMIN GRIFFITH.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, *July 11, 1776*:

Present: *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., Chairman, *W. Lux*, Vice Chairman, *W. Buchanan*, *W. Aisquith*, *J. Calhoun*, *B. Griffith*, *J. Sterrett*, and *J. Griest*.

The following appointment of Officers for the two *German* Companies to be raised in this County was agreed upon, and a copy thereof transmitted by letter to the Council of Safety:

*Philip Greybill*, Captain; *John Shora*, First Lieutenant; *Christian Myers*, Second Lieutenant; and *Martin Shugart*, Ensign.

*George Peter Keyports*, Captain; *Samuel Garroch*, First Lieutenant; *William Ritter*, Second Lieutenant; and *John Lindenberger*, Ensign.

*Ordered*, That the Chairman grant Dr. *James Houston* a permission to depart with his vessel, and that he advise the Committee of *Somerset* of our having taken security of the said *James Houston* in the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds sterling for his good behaviour, and that the same was done from several suspicious circumstances which gave reason to believe him inimical to the interest of *America*, and requesting that they will give directions whether the said security shall be delivered up; which, it is presumed,



they ought to do, provided the Committee of *Somerset* either choose to take security of the said *Houston* themselves, or have sufficient reason to believe him a friend to the country.

Whereas *Abraham Evening*, a person suspected of being inimical to the interest of *America*, was adjudged by this Committee to give security in the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds sterling for his good behaviour, and hath neglected to do so, the Committee agreed to issue a warrant for the apprehending and commitment to prison of the said *Abraham Evening*, which was done, as follows:

Whereas a certain *Abraham Evening* was brought before this Committee on the 9th instant as a Non-Associator, and a person suspected of being unfriendly to the rights and liberties of *America*, and the Committee adjudged him, the said *Abraham Evening*, to find security in the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds sterling, agreeable to a resolve of the honourable Convention of this Province in that case made and provided, which security he, the said *Abraham Evening*, hath neglected:

These are therefore to require you to arrest the body of him, the said *Abraham Evening*, and deliver him, with this commitment, to the Sheriff of *Baltimore* County, who is commanded to receive into his custody the said *Abraham Evening*, and him in his Jail safely keep, until he finds the above mentioned security, or be delivered therefrom by the honourable the Convention of this Province, the honourable the Council of Safety, or this Committee; and for your so doing, this shall be your sufficient authority.

Given under our hands and seals this 11th July, 1776.

Signed by all present.

Attested:

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

#### BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, Baltimore, July 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your instructions we have nominated the gentlemen, whose names are undermentioned, as officers for the two companies of *Germans* to be raised in this County.

We advertised a meeting of the Committee to be held this day for the very purpose, and have taken care to be as well informed as possible of the characters and qualifications of the persons who applied to us; and we have the satisfaction to assure you they are all persons whose merits and reputations appear to us in the most favourable light.

We are, with much respect, gentlemen, your most humble servants.

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, Jun., *Ch'n*.

WILLIAM BUCHANAN,

WILLIAM AISQUITH,

BENJAMIN GRIFFITH,

J. GRIEST,

JAMES CALHOUN,

JOHN STERRETT.

To the Honourable Council of Safety, at *Annapolis*.

Officers recommended for the two Companies of *Germans* to be raised in *Baltimore* County:

*Philip Greybill*, Captain; *John Shora*, First Lieutenant; *Christian Myers*, Second Lieutenant; and *Martin Shugart*, Ensign.

*George Peter Keyports*, Captain; *Samuel Garroch*, First Lieutenant; *William Ritter*, Second Lieutenant; and *John Lindenberger*, Ensign.

#### HARFORD COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to a resolve of the late Convention, empowering the Committee of this County to appoint the officers of a Rifle Company to be raised within this County, we have chosen and do recommend the following gentlemen as worthy of commissions, to wit: *Alexander Lawson Smith*, Captain; *James White Hall*, First Lieutenant; *William Bradford*, Second Lieutenant; and *Josias Hall*, Third Lieutenant; whose conduct, we flatter ourselves, will do honour to them and justice to the choice of this Committee.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants.

Signed per order of Committee of *Harford* County:

AMOS GARRETT, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL HALL.

[No. 25.]

Annapolis, July 11, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety think it proper that you and the battalion under your command should be stationed at this city and at *Baltimore* town, to supply the place of the regular troops that have marched from this Province to *Pennsylvania*. As we desire to see you as soon as possible, to concert the proper measures for the defence of this place, we request you will come to *Annapolis* as soon as you can. We send you enclosed your commission. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Josias Carvil Hall*.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 27.]

Annapolis, July 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Council of Safety think it expedient to have a Magazine built at some place in your County, between five and ten miles back from *Baltimore* town. They would have it large enough to contain about four hundred barrels of powder, and a proportionable quantity of lead, arched and substantially built; and will be obliged if you will fix on any place you may judge safe and convenient, and contract for materials and attend to the construction of the same. They will supply the cash necessary to defray the expense whenever you will be pleased to call for it.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of *Baltimore* County.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COL. HOLLINGSWORTH.

[No. 28.]

Annapolis, July 11, 1776.

SIR: We are in immediate want of about four hundred bayonets, of different sized sockets, for the arms of the *Eastern-Shore* Militia, who are to compose part of the Flying-Camp, and have sent an order on you to Mr. *Winters* for them; and we request you will supply him with that number as soon as possible. The greatest exertions are necessary upon this occasion, and we doubt not your warmest efforts to enable us to carry into execution the resolves of our Convention with that despatch the exigency of the times require. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*.

#### JOHN ADAMS TO MRS. ADAMS.

Philadelphia, July 11, 1776.

You seem to be situated in the place of greatest tranquillity and security of any upon the Continent. I may be mistaken in this particular, and an armament may have invaded your neighbourhood before now. But we have no intelligence of any such design; and all that we now know of the motions, plans, operations, and designs of the enemy, indicate the contrary. It is but just that you should have a little rest, and take a little breath.

I wish I knew whether your brother and mine have enlisted in the Army, and what spirit is manifested by our Militia for marching to *New-York* and *Crown-Point*. The Militia of *Maryland*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, and the lower Counties, are marching with much alacrity, and a laudable zeal, to take care of *Howe* and his Army at *Staten-Island*. The Army in *New-York* is in high spirits, and seems determined to give the enemy a serious reception. The unprincipled and unfeeling and unnatural inhabitants of *Staten-Island* are cordially receiving the enemy, and, deserters say, have engaged to take arms. They are an ignorant, cowardly pack of scoundrels. Their numbers are small, and their spirit less.

It is some time since I received any letter from you. The *Plymouth* one was the last. You must write me every week, by the post, if it is but a few lines. It gives me many spirits. I design to write to the General Court, requesting a dismissal, or at least a furlough. I think to propose that they choose four more members, or at least three more, that so we may attend here in rotation. Two or three or four may be at home at a time, and the Colony properly represented notwithstanding. Indeed, while the Congress were employed in political regulations, forming the sentiments of the people of the Colonies into some consistent system, extinguishing the remainders of authority under the

Crown, and gradually erecting and strengthening Governments under the authority of the people, turning their thoughts upon the principles of polity and the forms of Government, framing Constitutions for the Colonies separately, and a limited and a defined Confederacy for the United Colonies, and in some other measures, which I do not choose to mention particularly, but which are now determined, or near the point of determination, I flattered myself that I might have been of some little use here. But now, these matters will be soon completed, and very little business will be to be done here, but what will be either military or commercial—branches of knowledge and business for which hundreds of others in our Province are much better qualified than I am. I shall therefore request my masters to relieve me.

I am not a little concerned about my health, which seems to have been providentially preserved to me much beyond my expectations; but I begin to feel the disagreeable effects of unremitting attention to business for so long a time, and a want of exercise, and the bracing quality of my native air; so that I have the utmost reason to fear an irreparable injury to my constitution, if I do not obtain a little relaxation. The fatigues of war are much less destructive to health than the painful, laborious, attention to debates, and to writing, which drinks up the spirits and consumes the strength. I am, &c.

RICHARD ELLIS TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[July 17, 1776, referred to the Board of War.]

Bohemia, Md., July 11, 1776.

HONOURED GENTLEMEN: The present critical and alarming season, the vengeful hand of tyranny, now ready to snatch from the subjects of our free and independent States all that is dear and sacred to them, to wit: their lives and liberties, make it necessary that each subject on the Continent should now, with a manly fortitude, assert their rights to the free donations of God and Nature. I presume that prudence will dictate to every American the necessity they are under of defending those inalienable rights, at the expense of their blood and treasure. It cannot be bought or purchased too dear, since life, liberty, and happiness, are thereby secured to the combatants and their posterity, on a happy conquest.

All that I can say for myself, as an individual, is, that a sense of the insult offered to my threatened, bleeding country, has begat in me an ardent desire to risk my life in its defence, and afford every aid in my power to its service and interest.

I hereby beg leave to inform the honourable Congress, that there are a number of likely men enlisted under my command already. They are to serve during the war between the American States and their enemies, or to the dismission of Congress. To this number of men already engaged, can be added as many more as will make it a full company in three days. My officers are, *Hezekiah Foard, Nicholas Vanhorn, and Thomas Bouldoin*. If your Honours should think it meet and necessary to grant us commissions, we shall be ready to march in a few days from the date of our commissions, with a full company of healthy, stout, brave men, whose affection for each other are so interwoven, that it would be cruel to part them, as they are nearly all from our neighbourhood. Being fully assured your Honours will do every matter that may be productive of good to the States, with humble submission I wait the event of your answer.

In the interim, I am, gentlemen, with much respect, your Honours' obedient and very humble servant,

RICHARD ELLIS.

To the Honourable Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 11, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour to inform you that your several letters to this time have been duly received, in the order of their dates.

I now enclose sundry resolves, to which I must beg leave to request your attention.

Agreeable to the resolve herewith transmitted, I have enclosed Mr. Anderson's letter to you, and wrote you on the subject. He will present you with the letter himself.

The Postmaster having established a double post, in obedience to the resolve of Congress, a post will, after *Monday* next, leave *New-York* every morning, subject, however, to be detained or hastened whenever you think the publick service requires it.

It is with the greatest pleasure I inform you that the Militia of this Colony are in motion from one end to the other. Several companies marched yesterday, and a much greater number, I expect, will now march every day, until the whole are gone. A most laudable spirit seems to have taken place, and I am persuaded our exertions will exceed what I originally apprehended.

To that great and good Being who "poureth contempt on princes, and weakeneth the strength of the mighty," I beg leave most ardently to recommend you, and the cause you are intrusted to defend.

I have the honour to be, with much esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 11, 1776.

SIR: Your Excellency's letter of the 8th instant is received, but the Committee, having previously determined on the appointment of the four Captains of the *German* battalion, think themselves very unfortunate in not having it in their power to show the proper respect to the recommendation of Lieutenant *Wilpert*; the letter is, however, sent forward to the Convention of *Maryland*, who probably have not yet filled up the appointments committed to them by Congress.

The Committee, understanding that fire-vessels and rafts are preparing at *New-York*, and being told that the combustibles are managed there in a method different from ours, they are induced to send Captain *Hazelwood* to your Excellency, to offer his services in this business. They have the highest confidence in his skill and abilities, having given him the command of all their vessels and rafts. He has sent forward a quantity of useful materials, which he is told do not make any part of the composition at *New-York*.

The Committee do not mean he shall obtrude his opinion or advice upon those to whom your Excellency may have committed the direction of this species of defence; but they thought, on the comparison of different modes, some real improvements might be struck out. He takes with him Mr. *Bedford*, who has assisted in the construction of some of our fire-rafts.

I have the honour to be your most obedient, humble servant.

By order of the Board:

GEORGE CLYMER, *Chairman*.

To His Excellency General *Washington, New-York*.

PETITION OF FRANCIS MENTGES TO BE APPOINTED MAJOR OF THE GERMAN BATTALION.

[Read July 12. Ordered to lie. Referred to the Delegates of Pennsylvania and Maryland.]

To the Honourable the Delegates of the Thirteen UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in Congress met:

The Petition of FRANCIS MENTGES, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner was lately appointed by the honourable Assembly of the Province of *Pennsylvania* to the post of Adjutant of the battalion of Musketeers lately raised for the defence of said Province, and has continued since his said appointment in the faithful discharge of the duty of said office. That being a native of *Germany*, and hearing your Honours were about to raise a battalion composed of *German* only, in the Continental service, and humbly apprehending that he hath knowledge, ability, and experience equal to the duties of the post of Major, he humbly solicits from your Honours the appointment of your petitioner to the post of Major in the said battalion.

And, as in duty bound, &c.

FRANCIS MENTGES,

Adjutant in *Pennsylvania* Battalion of Musketeers.

July 11, 1776.

I do hereby certify, that the above gentleman, Mr. *Francis Mentges*, has acted as Adjutant in the battalion of Musketeers in the pay and service of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, under my command, with reputation. I therefore recommend him to the particular notice of the honourable the Continental Congress in the appointment of the officers for the *German* battalion to be raised for the service of the United Colonies.

SAMUEL T. ATLEE,

*Colonel of Pennsylvania Musketeers.*

July 11, 1776.

I approve of the above recommendation.

CALEB PARRY, *Lieut. Col.*

The petitioner is very capable of performing the duty of Major.

SAMUEL MILES,

*Colonel of Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment.*

WILLIAM WILL,

*Captain First Battalion.*

FRANCIS C. HASENLIUS,

*Captain First Battalion.*

FREDERICK KUHLE,

ISAAC MELCHIOR,

JACOB BARGE,

CHRISTOFFAL LUDWICK,

JOHN KEPPELE.

The Committee to whom it was referred to consider of proper Field-Officers for the *German* battalion to be raised in *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland*, beg leave to recommend *Nicholas Hauseigger* for Colonel, *George Stricker* for Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Lodowick Welper* for Major, of the said battalion.

The bearer, Captain *George Stricker*, of the Light-Infantry, in the First Battalion of *Maryland* Regulars, under my command, has served some time in the said corps, during which his conduct as a vigilant, good officer has gained my good opinion, and merited my approbation, which induces me to recommend him as a person qualified and disposed to form a good officer.

Given under my hand, this 9th day of July, 1776.

W. SMALLWOOD.

Annapolis, July 8, 1776.

SIR: If it should be the pleasure of Congress to appoint a Lieutenant-Colonel and Major of the *German* battalion from this Colony, I would beg leave to recommend to their notice Captain *George Stricker* and Mr. *Lodowick Welper*. Both these gentlemen are *Germans*, have been in actual service, and are much esteemed by all who know them. They have a considerable influence with their countrymen, speaking good *English*, and would greatly facilitate the raising of the men.

Captain *Stricker* commands a company of our regulars, and is capable of discharging the duty of Lieutenant-Colonel. Mr. *Welper* will make an active and intelligent Major.

I remain, sir, with every sentiment of regard and respect to yourself and the Congress, your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL CHASE.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

ACQUITTAL OF CAPTAINS SALTONSTALL AND WHIPPLE.

In Congress, July 11, 1776.

The Marine Committee, in pursuance of the order of Congress, reported that they have called before them divers of the inferior officers belonging to the ships *Alfred* and *Columbus*; and having heard their complaints against the Captains *Saltonstall* and *Whipple*, in their presence, are of opinion that the charges against Captain *Saltonstall* do not appear to be well founded, and that the charges against Captain *Whipple* amount to nothing more than a rough, indelicate mode of behaviour to his marine officers. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be directed to order the Captains *Saltonstall* and *Whipple* to repair to their respective commands, and that it be recommended to Captain *Whipple* to cultivate harmony with the officers.

By order of Congress:

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Inspection, Observation, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, July 11, 1776:

Present: *George Ross*, *Matthias Slough*, *William Ailee*, *Lodwick Lowman*, *Christopher Crawford*, *Jacob Krug*, *William Bowsman*, *George Moore*, *Andrew Graff*.

GEORGE ROSS, Esq., in the Chair.

*Resolved*, That one hundred and fifty men of the Associators be left as a guard in the Borough of *Lancaster*.

*Resolved*, That the said one hundred and fifty men be taken from among the Associators in the Borough of *Lancaster*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That *Christopher Heyne*, *John Feltman*, *Michael Diffenderfer*, and *Nicholas Job*, be requested to collect and purchase from the inhabitants of this town all the tin Camp-kettles they can procure, and for such prices as they think reasonable, for the use of the Militia now preparing to march by order of Congress.

Colonel *Bartram Galbraith*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Alexander Lowrey*, and Major *James Cunningham*, of the Sixth Battalion of Associators in *Lancaster* County, do certify, that the company of volunteers from their battalion to form a part of the six thousand Militia for the Flying-Camp, have chosen *William Hay* for their Captain, *Robert Clark* their First Lieutenant, *Patrick Hays* their Second Lieutenant, and *William Patterson* their Third Lieutenant; and the said Field-Officers recommending the said persons to the Committee for their appointment, the said certificate and recommendation is approved of, and the said *William Hay*, *Robert Clark*, *Patrick Hays*, and *William Patterson*, are, agreeable to the resolves of the conference of Committees of *Pennsylvania*, appointed the Captain and First, Second, and Third Lieutenants, of the said company, according to the choice and recommendation aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the members of the County Committee in the different Townships be requested to give every assistance in their power to Commanding Officers of the Battalions and Corps in their District in procuring wagons and other necessary conveyances for their march to join the Militia of the Province in the *Jerseys*, agreeable to the resolve of Committees and recommendations of Congress.

GEORGE ROSS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Committee, Lancaster, July 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee, to enable the Militia to march immediately, have been under the necessity of drawing moneys for the several Captains of the troops to march from this town; and have prevailed on Messrs. *Lowman & Hubley*, of this place, to advance to Captain *John Henry* the sum of one hundred pounds; to advance to Captain *George Musser* the sum of one hundred pounds; and to Captain *Paul Zantzinger* the like sum of one hundred pounds; amounting to three hundred pounds. And have prevailed on Mr. *Christian Wirtz* to advance to Captain *Samuel Boyd* the sum of one hundred pounds, and to Captain *Peter Hoofnagle* the sum of one hundred and twenty pounds; amounting to two hundred and twenty pounds. The whole sum advanced by these gentlemen being five hundred and twenty pounds. For which sums the receipts will be sent down to the honourable the Continental Congress.

These Captains and the troops commanded by them are of the First Battalion of Associators, in *Lancaster* County, commanded by Colonel *George Ross*.

The Committee hope their conduct will meet the approbation of the honourable the Congress, and that those gentlemen who have advanced these moneys will have it replaced on application.

We are, gentlemen, with much respect, your most obedient humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

GEORGE ROSS, *Chairman.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 14, 1776.]

New-York, July 11, 1776.

SIR: I was honoured with your favour of the 8th instant by yesterday morning's post, with the several resolves to

which you referred my attention. I shall duly regard them, and attempt their execution as far as I am able.

By virtue of the discretionary power that Congress were pleased to invest me with, and by advice of such of my General Officers as I have had an opportunity of consulting, I have ordered the two remaining regiments in the *Massachusetts-Bay* to march immediately for the defence of this place, in full confidence that nothing hostile will be attempted against that State in the present campaign. I have written to the General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and transmitted a copy of the resolve for employing the *Eastern Indians*; entreating their good offices in this instance, and their exertions to have them forthwith engaged and marched to join this Army. I have desired five or six hundred of them to be inlisted for two or three years, if they will consent to it; subject to an earlier discharge, if it shall be thought necessary, and upon the same terms of the Continental troops, if better cannot be had, though I am hopeful they may.

In my letter of yesterday, I mentioned the arrival of part of the *Connecticut* Lighthorse, to assist in the defence of this place, and my objection to their horses being kept. Four or five hundred of them are now come in; and, in justice to their zeal and laudable attachment to the cause of their country, I am to inform you they have consented to stay as long as occasion may require; though they should be at the expense of maintaining their horses themselves. They have pastured them out about the neighbourhood of *King's Bridge*, (being unwilling to send them away,) at the rate of half a dollar per week each, meaning to leave it entirely with Congress either to allow or refuse it, as they shall judge proper. I promised to make this representation, and thought it my duty; and will only observe, the motives which induced them at first to set out were good and praiseworthy, and were to afford the most speedy and early succour, which they apprehended would be wanted before the Militia arrived; their services may be extremely important, being most of them, if not all, men of reputation and property.

The subject of the enclosed copy of a letter from Governor *Trumbull*, I beg leave to submit to the consideration of Congress; they will perceive from his representations, the disquieting apprehensions that have seized on the minds of the people since the retreat of the northern Army, and how exposed the northern frontiers of *New-York* and *New-Hampshire* are to the ravages and incursions of the *Indians*. How far it may be expedient to raise the battalion he conceives necessary to prevent the calamities and distresses he points out, they will determine upon what he has said, and the necessity that may appear to them for the measure; what I have done being only meant to lay the matter before them, in compliance with his wishes. I have also enclosed a memorial from the Surgeon's Mates, setting forth the inadequacy of their pay to their services and maintenance, and praying that it may be increased. I shall observe that they have a long time complained in this instance, and that some additional allowance may not be unnecessary.

As I am truly sensible the time of Congress is much taken up with a variety of important matters, it is with unwillingness and pain I ever repeat a request after having once made it, or take the liberty of enforcing any opinion of mine after it is once given; but as the establishing of some office for auditing accounts is a matter of exceeding importance to the publick interest, I would beg leave once more to call the attention of Congress to an appointment competent to the purpose. Two motives induce me to urge the matter: first, a conviction of the utility of the measure; secondly, that I may stand exculpated if hereafter it should appear that money has been improperly expended, and necessaries for the Army obtained upon unreasonable terms. For me, whose time is employed from the hour of my rising till I retire to bed again, to go into an examination of the accounts of such an Army as this, with any degree of precision and exactness, without neglecting other matters of equal importance, is utterly impracticable. All that I have been able to do—and that, in fact, was doing nothing—was, when the Commissary, and Quartermaster, and Director-General of the Hospital (for it is to these the great advances are made) applied for warrants, to make them at times produce a general account of their expenditures. But this answers no valuable purpose. It is the minutia that must be gone into; the propriety of each charge examined, the vouchers looked into; and with respect to the Commissary-General, his vic-

tualling returns and expenditures of provisions should be compared with his purchases, or otherwise a person in this department, if he was inclined to be knavish, might purchase large quantities with publick money, and sell one-half of it again for private emolument, and yet his accounts on paper will appear fair, and be supported with vouchers for every charge.

I do not urge this matter from a suspicion of any unfair practices in either of the departments before mentioned; and sorry should I be if this construction was put upon it, having a high opinion of the honour and integrity of these gentlemen. But there should nevertheless be some control, as well upon their discretion as honesty; to which may be added, that accounts become perplexed and confused by long standing, and the errors therein not so discoverable as if they underwent an early revision and examination. I am well apprized that a Treasury Office of Accounts has been resolved upon, and an Auditor-General for settling all publick accounts; but, with all deference and submission to the opinion of Congress, these institutions are not calculated to prevent the inconveniences I have mentioned, nor can they be competent to the purposes, circumstanced as they are.

We have intelligence from a deserter that came to us, that on *Wednesday* morning the *Asia*, *Chatham*, and *Greyhound*, men-of-war, weighed anchor, and, it was said, intended to pass up the *North River* above the city, to prevent the communication with the *Jerseys*. They did not attempt it, nor does he know what prevented them. A prisoner belonging to the Tenth Regiment, taken yesterday, informed that they hourly expected Admiral *Howe* and his fleet. He adds that a vessel has arrived from them, and the prevailing opinion is, that an attack will be made immediately on their arrival.

By a letter from General *Ward*, I am informed that the small-pox has broken out at *Boston*, and infected some of the troops. I have written him to place the invalids under an officer, to remain till they are well, and to use every possible precaution to prevent the troops coming from thence bringing the infection. The distresses and calamities we have already suffered by this disorder in one part of our Army, I hope will excite the utmost care that they may not be increased.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the greatest esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

Lebanon, July 4, 1776.

SIR: The retreat of the northern Army, and its present situation, have spread a general alarm. By intelligence from Major General *Schuyler*, received last evening, I have reason to conclude that they are now at *Crown-Point* and *Ticonderoga*, in a weak state, and under the necessity of an immediate reinforcement to enable them to make a stand, and preventing the enemy from passing the lake and penetrating into the country. The prevalence of the small-pox among them is every way unhappy; our people in general have not had that distemper. Fear of the infection operates strongly to prevent soldiers from engaging in the service; and the battalions ordered to be raised in this Colony fill up slowly. Are there no measures may be taken to remove the impediment? May not the Army soon be freed from that infection? Can the reinforcements be kept separate from the infected? Or may not a detachment be made from the troops under your command, and the Militia raising in the several Colonies and ordered to *New-York* of such men as have had the small-pox, to be replaced by the troops raising for the Northern Department? Could any expedient be fallen upon that would afford probable hopes that this infection may be avoided, I believe our battalions would soon join the northern Army. I shall omit nothing in my power to expedite them.

The retreat of the Army from *Canada* exposes the northern frontiers of *New-York* and *New-Hampshire* to the ravages of the *Indians*, who will doubtless be spirited up to fall upon them. Some of the settlements on *Onion River*, I am informed, are breaking up and removing, and the whole filled with the most disquieting apprehensions. Some powder and lead, upon application, has been supplied them from this Colony; but the settlers there, from their infant state,



and consequent poverty, are unable to devote themselves to the defence of their frontiers, unless they should be enabled to hire labourers to carry on the business of their farms in their absence. I could therefore wish that your Excellency might think proper to recommend it to the Continental Congress to order a battalion to be raised and stationed there for the defence of those settlements. It would, I trust, be immediately filled up with a hardy race of men in that quarter, to repel the attacks of the savages, and be ready to join and support the northern Army upon occasion, and who at all times may scour the woods, and furnish intelligence of the enemy's motions.

If these settlers are driven back, besides the loss of their property, a much heavier expense will fall upon some of the Colonies for the support of their families than the charge arising from the raising and maintaining a battalion of Continental troops, and we shall still have a frontier to defend. The anxiety of the friends and relations of many, if not most of those settlers who emigrated from this Colony, and the importance of the matter, will, I trust, be my sufficient apology for wishing to engage your influence with Congress to support the motion I judge advisable, and shall make, to have a battalion raised out of and stationed on these frontiers.

By a letter from General *Schuyler* of the 1st instant, received last evening, I am advised that Generals *Schuyler*, *Gates*, and *Arnold*, were to set out on *Tuesday* morning. I trust they are by this time at the end of their journey, and hope their presence may have a happy effect towards affairs in that quarter.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

*To the Honourable Brigadier-General Lord STIRLING:*  
*The Memorial of the Surgeons' Mates of the several Regiments under your Honour's command, humbly sheweth:*

That your Memorialists meant to be included in a late Petition presented to your Honour by the gentlemen Surgeons of the several regiments in the brigade under your Honour's command, for an augmentation of their wages, but through mistake of the Mates' signature, or by some other means, no notice has been taken of said Petition in their behalf; and your Memorialists find that, whilst employed in the common service of their country—which service they have and ever want to discharge with the greatest care and fidelity—their present pay will not support them in the character of gentlemen, even if used with the utmost frugality and economy. Your Memorialists, therefore, most earnestly request your Honour to represent their aggrieved state to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and pray him, in their behalf, to lay the same before the honourable Continental Congress, or take such other measures as in your Honour's wisdom shall be found most expedient. And your Memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

DANIEL MENEMA,  
ISAAC LEDYARD,  
ASA KINGSBURY,  
PRESERVE WARD.

*To the Honourable Brigadier-General SPENCER:*  
*The Memorial of the Surgeons' Mates of the several Regiments under your Honour's command, humbly sheweth:*

That your Memorialists meant to be included in a late Petition, presented to your Honour by the gentlemen Surgeons in the brigade under your Honour's command, for an augmentation of their wages; but, through mistake of the Mates' signature, or by some other means, no notice has been taken of the said Petition in their behalf. And your Memorialists find that, whilst they are employed in the common service of their country—which service they have and always mean to discharge with the greatest care and fidelity—their present pay will not support them in the character of gentlemen, even if used with the utmost frugality and economy. Your Memorialists, therefore, earnestly request your Honour to represent their aggrieved state to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and pray him, in their behalf, to lay the same before the honourable the Continental Congress, or take such other measures as shall, in your Honour's

wisdom, seem most expedient. And your Memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Dated at *New-York*, June 26, 1776.

GERSHOM BEARDSLEY,  
SILAS HOLMES,  
JOHN R. WARTROUS,  
ZECHARIAH KEYS,  
WILLIAM PRENTICE.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

*New-York*, July 11, 1776.

SIR: I duly received your favour of the 6th instant, and return you my best thanks for the attention you have shown at this crisis, in preparing the several regiments of Militia which are nearest this place to be ready for marching when ordered. Some of the troops have arrived, and I hope the rest will follow without loss of time.

In my letter of the 9th instant I wrote you fully relative to the Lighthorse, which have arrived to the number of between four and five hundred; and have the happiness to acquaint you the officers and men of that corps have manifested so firm an attachment to the cause we are engaged in, that they have consented to remain here till such a body of troops are marched from your Colony as will be a sufficient reinforcement, so as to admit of their leaving this city with safety. I mention this matter with greater pleasure, as they have the additional merit of determining to stay, even if they are obliged to maintain their horses at their own expense. I have also written you with regard to sending any troops from hence to the northward, to be replaced by the Militia from your Province, and have stated the injudiciousness of adopting such a measure. It is indeed a great misfortune that the small-pox is so prevalent in our northern Army; but I conceive it would be highly impolitick, at this important period, to send away troops who have been a considerable time in the service, and to have their places supplied by men of much less experience, who belong to the Militia.

I have only to add, that I am, with much esteem, sir, your very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*.

P. S. I must refer you to my letter above mentioned for my sentiments with respect to removing the cattle from the different places specified. As to the cattle on *Montauk-Point*, I can only say, some method must be devised to answer the purpose of preventing the inhabitants of *East-hampton* from suffering on the one hand, and the supply of the enemy with any stock on the other.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

*New-York*, July 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: At a crisis like the present, when our enemies are prosecuting a war with unexampled severity, when they have called upon foreign mercenaries, and have excited slaves and savages to arms against us, a regard to our own security and happiness calls upon us to adopt every possible expedient to avert the blow, and prevent the meditated ruin. Impressed with this sentiment, and impelled by necessity, the Congress have been pleased to empower me, as you will perceive by the enclosed copy of their resolve, which I have the honour of transmitting you, to call to our aid so many of the *St. John's*, *Nova Scotia*, and *Penobscot Indians*, as I might judge necessary. At the same time they have desired that I should request the assistance of your honourable body in carrying their views into execution, and to assure you, that whatever expenses you may necessarily incur in doing it, and as incident to it, they will reimburse. Esteeming their service of much importance, particularly if the enemy should attempt an impression into the interior parts of the country, I must entreat your kind offices upon this occasion, and your friendly exertions immediately to engage, on the best terms you can, five or six hundred men of these tribes, and have them accoutred with all possible expedition, to join the Army here. Having professed a strong inclination to take part with us in the present contest, it is probable they may be engaged for less pay and on better terms than the Continental troops; but if they cannot, they must be allowed it. The term of their enlistment

should be for two or three years, unless sooner discharged, (the right of which should be reserved to us,) if they will engage for so long a time; if not, for such time as they will agree to, provided it is not too short. And it must be part of the treaty, and enjoined upon them, to bring, every man, his firelock, if it can be possibly effected. As the services they may render will probably depend on their early and timely arrival, it is unnecessary to suggest to you the necessity of the utmost despatch in the matter.

I well know the execution of the work will be attended with some trouble and inconvenience; but a consideration of the benefits that may arise from employing them, and your zeal for the common cause, I am persuaded will surmount every obstacle and apologize for my requisition; especially as it comes recommended and supported by authority of Congress.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the General Court, (or Committee of Safety in their recess,) *Massachusetts-Bay*.

P. S. Since I had the honour of addressing you on the 9th instant, I have received a resolve from Congress for calling the other two Continental regiments from the *Massachusetts-Bay* to join the Army here, (a copy of which I have enclosed;) and by the advice of my General Officers have written General *Ward* to detach them immediately—the accounts we have all agreeing that Lord *Howe* is every day expected with one hundred and fifty transports, with at least fifteen thousand troops, in addition to those already here.

— In Congress, July 8, 1776.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* have permission to call forth and engage in the service of the *United States* so many *Indians* of the *St. John's*, *Nova Scotia*, and *Penobscot* tribes, as he shall judge necessary, and that he be advised to write to the General Court of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, requesting their aid in this business, and informing them that Congress will reimburse such expenses as may be necessarily incurred in consequence of the foregoing resolutions.

Per ROBERT H. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

— In Congress, July 8, 1776.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be vested with discretionary power to call to his assistance at *New-York* such of the Continental Regiments in the *Massachusetts-Bay* as have not already received orders to march to *Ticonderoga*, and that the General Court of that Province be requested to supply their places with Militia, if they think it expedient.

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, July 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received your favours of the 1st and 2d instant, and agreeable to your request transmitted Congress a copy of the former and of its several enclosures. The important subject referred to them has met with their attention, and the letter accompanying this will inform you and General *Gates* of the result of their deliberations. I hope that harmony and a good agreement will subsist between you, as the most likely means to advance the interest of the cause you both wish to promote. They have determined the matter between Mr. *Trumbull* and Mr. *Livingston*, and decided the right of supplying the northern Army, and appointing persons for that purpose, to be in the former.

I gave orders immediately on the receipt of your favour, for the several articles you wrote for, to be sent you, if they could be had. Ball and buckshot could not be spared from hence, and I directed a quantity of lead to be sent you, out of which you must attempt to have them made.

I have not heard anything of the money mentioned by Mr. *Duane*. I imagine it has not been sent. If any accident has befallen it, the matter would have been known ere now.

Since my last, General *Howe's* fleet from *Halifax* has arrived, in number about one hundred and thirty sail. His army is between nine and ten thousand, being joined by some of the regiments from the *West-Indies*, and having fallen in with part of the Highland troops in his passage.

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He has landed his men on *Staten-Island*, which they mean to secure, and is in daily expectation of the arrival of Lord *Howe*, with one hundred and fifty ships and a large and powerful reinforcement. This we have from four prisoners who fell into our hands, and some deserters, who state that an advice packet arrived at *Halifax* before they left it, informing that he was ready to sail when they came from *England*, to join General *Howe* here; in consequence of which he came with the present armament. They add that nothing will be attempted till his arrival. Their intelligence, I have no doubt, is well founded. Indeed, the enemy having done nothing yet, affords proof beyond question that they are waiting for more troops. We are strengthening ourselves as much as possible, and deem their staying out so long a fortunate circumstance, as it not only gives us an opportunity of advancing our works, but getting some relief from the neighbouring Provinces. From every appearance, they mean to make a most vigorous push to subdue us this campaign, and, for this purpose, to possess themselves of this Colony, if possible, as a step leading to it. Our utmost exertions must be used, and I trust, through the favour of divine Providence, they will be disappointed in their views. As having a large number of gondolas and galleys on the lakes will be of great importance, Mr. *Hancock* informs me, in his letter of the 6th instant, that fifty carpenters were gone from *Philadelphia*, in order to build them, and that he had written to Governour *Cooke* to engage and forward the same complement. I am advised by Governour *Trumbull*, in a letter just received, that he has procured two companies, of twenty-five men each, who were about to set out. When they arrive they will be able, I am in hopes, to turn several off the stocks in a little time.

It being evident that an attempt will be made by General *Burgoyne* to penetrate and make an impression into the Colonies by way of the lakes, unless there is a sufficient force to oppose him, I have exercised a discretionary power, with which I was honoured by Congress, and ordered three of the fullest Continental regiments that were stationed in the *Massachusetts* Government, to march immediately on receiving my orders to join the northern Army. I have directed them to come to *Norwich*, and there embark for *Albany*, hoping they will arrive as expeditiously this way, and with much less fatigue, than if they had pursued their route by land altogether, at this hot uncomfortable season. These, with such Militia as may be furnished from the several Colonies required to provide them, and the troops that were under General *Sullivan* in *Canada*, I flatter myself will be able and more than equal to repel any invasion that may be attempted from that quarter. It will be some time before their aid can be had, having never had the authority of Congress to order them till within this week.

You will perceive by the enclosed Declaration, that Congress of late have been deliberating on matters of the utmost importance. Impelled by necessity, and a repetition of injuries no longer sufferable, without the most distant prospect of relief, they have asserted the claims of the Colonies to the rights of humanity, absolved them from all allegiance to the *British* Crown, and declared them free and independent States. In obedience to their order, the same must be proclaimed throughout the northern Army.

A prisoner taken yesterday, belonging to the Tenth Regiment, informs that Admiral *Howe* is hourly expected. He adds that a vessel is arrived from his fleet.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL WARD.

New-York, July 11, 1776.

SIR: Since writing to you on the 9th instant, I have been honoured with a letter from Congress, enclosing a resolve, a copy of which you have transmitted herewith, empowering me to call to the assistance of the Army here the other two regiments of Continental troops, now in the *Massachusetts* Government, and not ordered in my last to be detached to join the northern Army.

I am now to request, by advice of my General Officers, that you will give immediate orders, not only to them, but to the three destined for the northward, to repair, with all possible despatch, to *Norwich*, where they will embark; it

being the opinion of all the officers, that it will be better for the whole, as well the three intended for the northward as those to reinforce the troops here, to take this route in preference to any other. It may turn out the most expeditious, and it is certain the men will be eased from the fatigues of a long and disagreeable march at this hot and uncomfortable season. It will be necessary that you should write Mr. *Huntington*, at *Norwich*, to prepare as many vessels as will bring the whole of them. To the Quartermaster and Commissary you will give proper orders, that they may provide, in each of their departments, such supplies of necessaries for the route as may be wanted.

I have just now received your favour of the 4th instant, with its several enclosures. It is extremely unlucky that the small-pox should prevail in the Army at this time; but such is the necessity that every possible succour should be given to the troops here, and to those at the northward, at this critical period, that it is the sentiment of myself and other General Officers, that the whole of the regiments that are not infected with the disorder, should be instantly forwarded. The calamities that would flow from its being communicated to the whole Army are too obvious to need mention. You will therefore direct the utmost care and attention to be used to prevent those that are well from taking the infection, and for this end, that they may be kept separate and apart from those that have the disorder. Every precaution will not be more than necessary to prevent the fatal consequences that will attend their bringing and spreading it at this time. And I trust that nothing in your power to prevent it will be wanting. Such of the men who are down with it, and those you may suspect have received the infection, you will put under a proper officer or officers, to whom you will give orders to proceed with them to this place, as early as possible after they are well and clean of the infection. The company, or such part of the train of Artillery as are there, must remain, in case they should be wanted.

I request that you will have an accurate and exact return made of all the military and other stores belonging to the Continent, that I may be enabled to transmit it to the Board of War and Ordnance, agreeable to their order. You will charge the Commissary or Conductor with the care of them, and that he will remain and guard them in a safe and secure manner. He must be active and vigilant in his duty, that nothing may be lost or injured.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Ward*, *Boston*.

REV. JOHN RODGERS TO GENERAL GATES.

New-York, July 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Give me leave to introduce to your acquaintance the bearer, Mr. *Tennent*, who is my son-in law. He is one of the Chaplains appointed by the Colony of *Connecticut* for General *Waterbury's* brigade. I doubt not he will do his duty with fidelity and diligence, and your politeness and benevolence supersede the necessity of my asking your countenance and friendship to him, while he supports the dignity of his character.

For news, I must refer to our good friend Mr. *Hazard* and the bearer; for I take it for granted Mr. *Hazard* writes to you by this conveyance.

With every tender wish for your prosperity in your present important department, I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN RODGERS.

To General *Gates*.

EBENEZER HAZARD TO GENERAL GATES.

New-York, July 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I intend writing to you the news by the post who sets out for *Albany* to-morrow, and will very probably reach you sooner than this. My only design at present is, to introduce to you my very particular friend, the Reverend Mr. *William Tennent*, of *Greenfield*, in *Connecticut*. He was solicited by General *Waterbury* to accept the Chaplaincy of a regiment, and is now on his way to *Crown-Point* for that purpose. Since the commencement of the present dispute, he has uniformly supported the *American* side of it, and his zeal has been commendable. For further particulars, I must refer you to a future acquaintance with him, which will give

you a more just idea of him than anything dictated by the partiality of friendship.

I am, dear sir, yours affectionately,

EBENEZER HAZARD.

#### MEMORANDUM.

As much depends upon the expedition with which the expresses travel, that matter ought to be particularly attended to; more especially as the expresses in general have not outtrode the stated posts.

Private letters (*i. e.* not on publick business) ought not to be sent by express, as it will lessen the revenue of the Continental Post Office, unless they are delivered to the Postmaster, that postage may be charged on them. As letters from the commanding officer in *Canada* are carried by the stated posts, free of postage, General *Gates* will be pleased either to enclose his for his friends in *Virginia*, &c., to Mr. *Hazard*, or write his own name at the bottom of the direction, that Mr. *Hazard* may be able to distinguish them.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: A report was sent in last evening from the outguards at the *Narrows*, that there were two ships, one brigantine, and one schooner, standing in for the *Hook* last night.

I was mentioning, some few days past, that a putrid fever prevailed in my brigade, and that I thought it partly owing to their feeding too freely on animal food. Vegetables would be much more wholesome; and by your Excellency's permission, they may be provided for the troops without any additional expense to the Continent, if the Colonels of the Regiments were allowed to retrench in the article of meat, and that they should draw its value in money, to be applied by the Quartermaster of the regiment to the procuring necessary sauce, the Quartermaster to draw the money weekly and account to the commanding officer of the regiment how it is expended, and for what. This method may be a little more troublesome to the Commissary-General and the Quartermasters of the regiment; but if it will remedy so great an evil as now prevails, I think it worthy your Excellency's attention. The troops cannot complain that they are scant in their allowance: leaving them at liberty to draw either meat or money, as the inclination of the troops or commanding officer may lead them, puts it out of their power to complain. People often would adopt measures when left to their choice, that they would think a hardship to have imposed upon them.

Cleanliness contributes much to the health of the troops. They now do, and have done, so much fatigue, that the allowance of soap will not keep them clean. Their clothing gets exceedingly dirty, and they wear out twice as many clothes on fatigue as doing other duty. I should think it a piece of justice due to the troops for the extraordinary fatigue, to be allowed a double quantity of soap when they are employed so much on fatigue. This is a grievance I have often heard the officers complain of, that the fatigue wore out the troops' clothing faster than they could get them, and that they made themselves so dirty at work, that the allowance of soap would not clean them.

I have never mentioned anything of a further allowance of soap to any person except the other evening at Head-Quarters. I only beg leave to propose it to your Excellency's consideration, and leave it for your better judgment to determine the propriety and utility of such an establishment.

Believe me to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

#### EXAMINATION OF DESERTERS.

*The Examination of seven Deserters from on board the Enemy's Fleet, JULY 7, 1776.*

*John Hogan, James Jarras, John Joseph, William Downing, John Bragg, Robert Caswell*, deserters from a victualing ship of the enemy's fleet, all taken in different vessels and put on board the fleet, except *John Hogan*, who was impressed at *Halifax*, say: That the ship they deserted from

is called the *Killingworth*, *Thomas Poundage* master; that they took her boat about twelve o'clock last night, and came to *Long-Island*, and went up to General *Greene's* encampment; that the fleet consists of one hundred and fifty or one hundred and sixty sail of all kinds—it contains one sixty-four, two fifty, one forty, one thirty-six, the rest sloops of war (about four) and some tenders—no bombships, but two expected from *England* with the fleet; the fleet expected every day with about fifteen thousand troops; all the troops now here between eight and nine thousand—healthy; no Horse. They intend no attempt till Lord *Howe* arrives. Sixty-six men from *New-Jersey* and *Staten-Island* joined them. The troops and inhabitants appear friendly. One boy killed and six men wounded in the tender the other day. The *Chatham*, Admiral *Shulldham's* ship, well manned, but very sickly on board; several died since they left *Halifax*. The rest of the ships of war not so well manned; the transports badly manned; no troops but the *Lighthouse* left at *Halifax*; Artillery ashore, and encamped; the troops quartered. Lord *Piercy* commands ashore; General *Howe* on shipboard. About five hundred Highlanders and four companies from *Antigua*.

*Matthew Kelly*, who deserted from on board the transport brig the *Admiral Gayton*, which took him on the Banks, outward bound, from *Newbury* to *Surinam*, agrees in general with the foregoing. Three riflemen went on board the *Greyhound* last night was a week, and a brother-in-law of Captain *James Ayscough*. One Highlander, and another person, came on board the same night. Only three ships of war left at *Halifax*—the largest a frigate, the others sloops; one of them to convey some victualling ships to *Quebeck*.

Taken ten o'clock, *July 7, 1776*.

JNO. MORIN SCOTT, *Brigadier-General*.

*Examination of EBENEZER COLEFOX, Sailor, deserter from the Enemy's Fleet.*

On *Monday* evening, *July 8th, 1776*, deserted from on board the *Amity's Admonition*, commanded by Captain *John Noles*, (it being one of the fleet now lying in our harbour,) a certain *Ebenezer Colefox*, who says: That on the 22d of *May* last he was taken a prisoner in the sloop *Macaroni*, commanded by Captain *John Arthur*, belonging to Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*, of *New-London*, of which sloop he was mate. That he was carried into *Halifax* by the vessel that took him. That the vessel in which he was a prisoner arrived in *Halifax* on or about the 10th of *June* last. That the number of the enemy is about eight thousand, who are all landed and billeted out in different parts of the Island, but that he knows not with certainty whether any of the General Officers are landed or not, but is certain that General *Howe* is yet on shipboard. That it is currently reported among the enemy that a reinforcement of twenty thousand men is daily expected; that they have landed their heavy artillery, though not their field-pieces, and that they have not yet erected any fortifications. That it is also currently reported on board the fleet that no descent would be made by the enemy until the arrival of the reinforcement, and that then an attack would be made on this city. That two sailors, who arrived at *Halifax* in a transport-ship from *England*, had got on board the vessel to which the examinant belonged, and declared that Lord *Howe's* fleet had actually embarked and sailed from *England* before their departure therefrom. That four hundred of the Fifth Regiment came from *Halifax* in the ship to which he belonged; that they were in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*; that most of them were very averse to the service, and wished to come to a field action, for that they did not care whether they died or lived. No bombships with this fleet, but some expected with Lord *Howe*. The Army healthy. Never was ashore himself on *Staten-Island*. No troops left at *Halifax* but the sick. Does not know that any ship of war was left at *Halifax*, except the frigate which took him, called the *Cerberus*. In the fleet in our harbour now are the *Asia*; two ships of fifty and one of forty guns; the *Greyhound* frigate; two sloops, commanded by *Wallace* and *Ayscough*; one small sloop cruising on the back of *Long-Island*, and a few small armed vessels. The tender on which we fired some days ago much damaged, and had one man killed and eight or nine wounded. The Army not suffered to take anything from the inhabitants of the Island without pay. The inhabitants sell them fresh provisions. There are to be two

market-days in a week. He got ashore by swimming on a piece of plank to *Long-Island*; when near the shore he called out, and the guards came down and received him, almost spent with being in the water two hours.

Taken this 9th *July, 1776*.

JNO. MORIN SCOTT, *Brigadier-General*.

*Examination of EMANUEL JOSEPHSON, of New-York, who made his escape from the Enemy, JULY 10, 1776.*

*Emanuel Josephson*, of the City of *New-York*, was taken in a boat belonging to *Newark*, on *Tuesday*, the 2d of *July* instant. He was well treated, and all his baggage returned. General *Howe* lives at *Banker's*. He heard a sergeant say that the *British* forces were seven thousand only, consisting of the troops that left *Boston*, except three regiments that are left at *Halifax*, and four companies of Highlanders that have joined them since. No intrenchments, nor cannon, except two twelve-pounders, near *Decker's*. The men look very hearty, and have plenty of salt provisions and flour. He understood from them that they intended to remain on *Staten-Island* till the arrival of the fleet. They appeared rather afraid. Some of the subalterns and soldiers told him there was something preparing that the *New-Yorkers* little thought of. They were much afraid that our people would set the town on fire; that in general they thought they would go up the *North River*, and land there, and another party would land on *Long-Island*, and so take the city. It was reported in the camp that we treated our prisoners very ill; and especially, that some of the Highland officers were drummed through the town with the rogue's march. That a great number of different people from the Continent had joined them lately. He saw Messrs. *Apthorp*, *De Lancey*, *Bayard*, *Barbarie*, and *Lawrence*. He heard that *Paxton*, the barber, was there. Was treated with great politeness by Captain *Williams*, of the tender, and Captain *Dickson*, of the *Greyhound*. *Richard Lawrence* is building flat-bottomed boats on the Island. The people are afraid, if a reinforcement comes, they will be starved for want of provisions on the Island. Yesterday two men came from *Bergen-Point*, with all their baggage.

*Examination of WILLIAM GARDENER, a Prisoner, July 11, 1776.*

*William Gardener*, of the Tenth Regiment, commanded by Major *Vattes*, was going to get some milk, and being in liquor, lost his way and was taken by our men. Men in good spirits. Plenty of salt provisions, and an order issued for fresh provisions twice a week, but he had not seen any yet. No works yet thrown up. They are only waiting for the fleet. After they left *Halifax* they were joined by the fleet from *Glasgow*, said to contain three thousand men when sailed. They have an account that General *Burgoyne* is at *Fort Edward*. There are on the Island General *Howe*, General *Grant*, Lord *Piercy*, Brigadiers *Jones* and *Smith*. There is a brigade opposite to the Point, consisting of three regiments, commanded by Brigadier-General *Jones*. They have two field-pieces with each regiment. Each regiment consists of ten companies, and forty men to a company. He was told by a person who wrote for some of the officers, that the reason of leaving *Boston* was the want of provisions, but he thought it was time, as it was becoming very hot about their ears. He heard the Adjutant tell the Major that they had received intelligence from General *Burgoyne*, by land, that he had an army of thirty-five thousand men, regulars and *Canadians*. They expect the fleet in every hour. A vessel has arrived from them. The general idea among the men is, that they are to attack *New-York*, and can easily pass up the river. A Sergeant *Deane*, of the Fifty-Second Regiment, taken at *Bunker's Hill* or *Lexington*, came over to the Island within a few days, and was with General *Howe*, and supposes gave a particular account of what was doing.

*Examination of ELIJAH STEPHENS and CHAUNCEY SMITH, deserters from the Enemy's Fleet; NEW-YORK, July 11, 1776.*

On *Wednesday* night deserted from on board the *Generous Friend*, a transport, one of the fleet now lying in our harbour, *Elijah Stephens* and *Chauncey Smith*, who say: That on the 17th day of *May* they were taken prisoners in the schoo-



ner called the *Leviathan*, belonging to *New-Haven*, by the *Cerberus* man-of-war, and carried into *Halifax*, where they arrived on or about the 3d of *June*, and were turned over to the aforesaid transport. That they left *Halifax* on or about the 10th of *June*, where they left no troops but invalids. They say that the number of the enemy arrived in the fleet is (as nearly as they have been able to inform themselves) about seven thousand. That the troops were all landed on *Staten-Island*, and that they were on different parts of the Island. That there were a few tents, but that the troops were chiefly billeted out in houses. That besides those who have the small-pox, (of which there are fifty or sixty,) there are many sick among them. That many of the soldiers seem much averse to the service, and curse their fate for being engaged therein. They further say, that yesterday morning the *Asia*, *Chatham*, and the *Greyhound*, weighed anchor, and, as the examinants were informed, intended to sail past the city, up *Hudson's River*, and lie at some convenient distance above it, to prevent communication between it and the country. They also say that it was reported among them that the inhabitants of the Island were about forming themselves into companies, who, together with such of the enemy as were unfit for actual service, were to remain upon the Island, to defend it when an attack should be made by the troops; but that no attack was to be made until the arrival of the reinforcement from *Europe*, which reinforcement, they were informed, would consist of about fifteen or sixteen thousand men.

JNO. MORIN SCOTT, *Brigadier-General*.

*Examination of JAMES McFARLAN, a soldier belonging to the Fifty-Fifth Regiment, (Colonel MEDIC,) deserted from STATEN-ISLAND on the 4th or 5th JULY, 1776.*

The Colonel absent. The regiment now commanded by the Major, who is General *Howe's* Aid-de-Camp. He left *Staten-Island* about one or two o'clock yesterday afternoon. He came away in a skiff opposite the *Blazing-Star Ferry*. He left *Halifax* (where they went from *Boston*) about four weeks ago. Some of the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry landed on the Island on *Tuesday* night, and the battalions on *Wednesday*. They consist of nine thousand—about one thousand sick and lame. General *Grant*, of the brigade to which the examinant belongs, is about one mile and a half from *Blazing-Star*, inland, with three battalions (of eight companies each) of Foot. No breastworks or other remarkable works raised since *Grant* came on the Island; the men so weak and feeble, and the weather so hot, that they cannot work, and therefore don't intend raising any yet awhile. About four hundred of the inhabitants to be sworn yesterday to be true to carry arms, but not to go out of the country. He has not tasted a bit of fresh provision since he has been on the Island, but yesterday they began to buy. Their sentries are all along the shore—two together in the night-time. The report in the Army is, that they are waiting for the fleet from *England*. He thinks one-half of the Army are very easy about the dispute, and had rather let it alone; these are chiefly *Scotch* and *Irish*; but the *English* are very violent. They expect a reinforcement of ten or twelve thousand men. He thinks Admiral *Shuldham* commands the fleet. If they are to be attacked, now is the time. The Captain of the tender was killed on *Thursday* morning, as reported through the Army. A schooner was taken the other night loaded with flour, about two miles from *Blazing-Star*, supposed to be from *Amboy*. A great many flat-bottomed boats, with sixteen oars, will carry two companies; but are all yet with the fleet. In general, about thirty-six in a company, and many not that. There was a talk at *Halifax* about a regiment of *Indians*, but it all went over, and none came. The inhabitants of *Staten-Island* are well used; no soldier dare do anything against them. The other night the soldiers broke into a cellar belonging to a man who had deserted to *Jersey*, (supposed to be Mr. *Mesereaux*,) and knocked in the heads of some wine-casks and drank it, for which they were tried next day by a general court-martial. A large man, a ship-carpenter, (*Richard Lawrence*,) came aboard them with a likely young man the first night after they came from *Sandy-Hook*, and told them there was nobody on the other side of the Island but a parcel of jawing rascals, and five hundred of such as he would drive them all. The Army have the bloody-flux and scurvy. There

are no Lighthouse among the Regulars; these were left at *Halifax* till they see whether they can make their landing good; but have riding and draught-horses. The Grenadiers and Light-Infantry are in a brigade by themselves, in the middle of the Island. The reinforcement is expected every day. The men are so weak that they cannot march twelve miles a day to save their lives. A great many (nearly twenty) boats from *Long-Island* came on board and helped them to land their men on *Staten-Island*; the boats are used to carry grass; they had been at the light-house a fortnight.

*Examination of ABRAM VAN DUZAR, of NEW-YORK, from STATEN-ISLAND, July 9, 1776.*

The examination of *Abram Van Duzar*, of *New-York*, who saith: That on *Tuesday*, the 2d day of *July*, he went over to *Staten-Island*, to bring over a horse he had some time before purchased; that he could not get a passage back again that night; and that the next morning he was forbid returning, guards having been set all round the Island. The examinant further saith, that he attempted to come away three times, and was hindered the two first times, but that the last (being this morning) he effected his escape in a skiff from *Decker's Ferry*; that guards are set all over the Island, but that no fortifications are made or intrenchments flung up anywhere. That on *Saturday* last, Governour *Tryon* called all the Militia of the Island together, and agreed with them that, on their taking the oath of allegiance to the King, he would give to them new commissions, and that then they were to be inlisted to serve during the war, and not to go off the Island; that they were to receive the same pay as the King's troops; and that he heard one *Decker* (an inhabitant of the Island) say the number of men belonging to the Island, and fit to bear arms, consisted of between four and five hundred. That they had raised a company of Horse, whose pay is one dollar per day when called to duty. That he saw *Cortlandt Skinner* on the Island, in high spirits, save that he laments a little the loss of his son. That he had heard it talked among both officers and soldiers, that when the fleet and army (expected to arrive every hour under Lord *Howe*) should arrive to their assistance, they were to land at *Amboy* and on *Long-Island*, and so force their way to *New-York*; and that *Carleton* was to come from *Canada*; and by their talk one among another, were of opinion that *Carleton* must needs be now in *Albany*; and that they seemed well assured of success; nor could they think their attempt could possibly fail. That the troops are very healthy, and look exceedingly well, and are impatient to attack us. That with the present fleet came only six men-of-war, sloops, tenders, and several bomb-ships. That he thinks, from the best judgment he can form, that the number of troops, exclusive of the marines, consists of twelve thousand; but that they, among themselves, give such different accounts of their number, that there is no kind of dependance on the accounts they give about it. That the troops are chiefly landed and scattered over the Island; that he thinks they are likely to want fresh provisions pretty soon. That he had been well informed that forty-eight men came and joined them from *Amboy*; that on *Sunday* evening last three Riflemen came over to them from *Long-Island*, and brought with them five rifles, and told the General that twenty-five more wanted to come over, but had no craft to bring them; that those three Riflemen joined the Army, and drew provisions and pay immediately. That when the fleet came in through the *Narrows*, our guns from the battery killed four men and a boy. That they had asked him how many in number our troops consisted of in *New-York*; that he had told them not less than fifty thousand, and more likely one hundred thousand. That they had talks of attempting the little privateer in the bay; and that he heard it talked among the officers, yesterday, that five men-of-war were to be sent up to town to-day, but that no general attack is to be made until they are reinforced by the fleet from *England*, with whom, they say, fifteen or twenty thousand troops will come. That they were going through with the people on the Island yesterday, tendering them the oath of allegiance; and that people in general took it cheerfully, without hesitation, as he was informed.

ABRAM VAN DUZAR.

Taken on this 9th of *July*, 1776, at *Bergen town*, by me,  
JACOB FORD, Jun., *Colonel*.

## NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

White-Plains, Westchester County, }  
 July 11, 1776. }

SIR: In pursuance of the resolution of your honourable House of the 17th of *June* last, we have passed a resolve to authorize the Commander-in-Chief to call out all or any part of our Militia whenever he might think it necessary, of which we now enclose you a copy, marked No. 1.

We have also taken into consideration the recommendation of the Congress relative to the providing of clothing for the troops, and passed the resolution of which we enclose you a copy, marked No. 2.

As soon as we had received the resolution of Congress for raising a regiment in the Colony, in order to provide for those officers who had served in *Canada*, we referred it to a Committee, expecting from them an arrangement which would preserve the rank of those officers, and thereby prevent all disgusts and just grounds of resignation, it being our opinion that inferior officers should not be raised over their superiors, unless in cases of extraordinary and distinguished merit. And although we could not forbear observing that the recommendation of Mr. *Dubois* tended in some measure to impair that liberty of nomination, without which the privilege would be ineffectual, yet, as we conceived that such instances were not frequent, we had determined to comply with the request.

But, sir, we were much surprised and most deeply affected by the resolution of Congress of the 26th of *June*, by which it appears that your honourable House had taken from us the right of nominating, not only the Field-Officers, but also the Captains and Lieutenants of that regiment, a measure so contrary to the common usage hitherto observed and practised upon in all similar cases, as to raise a discrimination highly invidious to this State; and it is our great misfortune not to perceive the force of those three reasons which your honourable House have thought fit to assign to us.

The first, sir, is, that the Congress were furnished with a list of the officers who had served in *Canada*, and were therefore enabled to appoint without our interposition.

We shall readily admit that the Congress may in this and in other cases have sufficient information to enable them to make such appointments; yet we submit it to their superior wisdom, whether the ability they may thence derive to perform an act can constitute a right of doing it; and if, as we suppose, those appointments did (by the common usage) appertain to us, then how far the mere capacity of making them could vest the right in any other body whatsoever.

The second reason, sir, is, "that the Congress have appointed only such officers as were originally appointed and recommended by us; and that we should probably have fixed our choice on the same persons."

We shall acknowledge it to be merely possible, that in the course of human affairs we might, by some chance, have fixed upon those persons which are most agreeable to your honourable House. And it is strictly true, that the greatest part of the officers were appointed and recommended by us the last year, although not to the same rank and commissions which your honourable body have thought fit to confer upon them; but it is equally true, that several of them have never been recommended or appointed by us, and one of them, if not more, has never been in the service at all; and we are really at a loss to conceive that our nomination of officers in a regiment disbanded after the term of enlistment was expired, can, upon the raising of a new regiment, deprive us of that right of nomination, and vest it in the Congress. Nor can we be of opinion that another body ought to claim the right of choosing for us, from the mere conjecture that their choice would be similar to ours, even if that conjecture should be well founded; but we are sorry to observe, sir, that the arrangement made by your honourable House is materially different from that which we had prepared.

The third reason for depriving us, in this instance, of the right of nomination, is, "the good of the service, and the danger of delay."

We are deeply impressed with the idea that your respectable body are actuated by the purest intentions of serving this country; and we entertain so well founded an opinion of their wisdom and integrity, that we shall not presume to apologize for that plainness of speech which distinguishes freemen, and which can never give offence to those who, from the dignity of their private characters, impart lustre to

the offices they hold. We shall observe, therefore, that although the necessity of the case has, in all ages and nations, been the fruitful source of extraordinary power, yet it has but too frequently sown with tares the fertile fields of liberty, and blasted the fairest fruits of patriotism and publick spirit. The whole history of mankind bears testimony against the propriety of considering the principle as the parent of civil rights, and therefore a people jealous of their liberties must forever reprobate it. At the same time, we take leave to assure you, sir, that however we may be calumniated by individuals whose censure we consider as praise, we shall ever continue ready and willing, with our lives and fortunes, to support the cause and rights of *America*.

We are extremely sorry to inform the Congress that the good of the service will not be promoted, nor the dangers of delay prevented, by the measures which they have taken, as many spirited and good officers have been so disgusted that some have resigned, and we have but too much reason to apprehend that others will refuse to accept of their commissions. We beg, therefore, that your honourable House will excuse us from interfering in the further arrangement of this regiment, and make out the few appointments which remain.

We have received from *William Goforth*, a brave and good officer, who served the last campaign in *Canada*, a letter containing his reasons for quitting the service, of which we enclose you a copy, marked No. 3, and also the copy of a letter from Colonel *Fleming*, on the same subject, marked No. 4.

We daily expect other resignations, and pray leave to observe, that we think the case of Lieutenant-Colonel *Cortlandt* is attended with singular hardship. He is a young gentleman of affluent circumstances, good family, and extensive connexions. He entered the service last year as a Lieutenant-Colonel, and served with spirit and fidelity, and has done the like this year. He is now inferior in rank to Mr. *Dubois*, who entered the service last year as a Captain. If by such neglect many respectable inhabitants among us, with their numerous and extensive connexions, be disgusted and remain inactive, we flatter ourselves that this Colony will not be censured for the ill consequences which may result from it.

The day before yesterday we took into consideration the Declaration of your honourable House, proclaiming the United Colonies free and independent States, and thereupon came to a resolution, of which we enclose you a copy, marked No. 5.

Governour *Tryon* has enlisted into the service of the King of *Great Britain* certain disaffected persons belonging to this Colony, *New-Jersey*, &c., some of whom are now in custody. We are really at a loss what to do with them, there being no laws according to which they can be tried and punished, and *ex post facto* laws are liable to many objections. We unanimously join in requesting the favour of your honourable House to advise us what would be proper to do in this case.

We take the liberty of suggesting to your consideration also, the propriety of taking some measures for expunging from the Book of Common Prayer such parts, and discontinuing in the congregations of all the denominations all such prayers as interfere with the interest of the *American* cause. It is a subject we are afraid to meddle with, the enemies of *America* having taken great pains to insinuate into the minds of the Episcopalians that the Church was in danger. We could wish the Congress would pass some resolve to quiet their fears, and we are confident it would do essential service in the cause of *America*, at least in this State.

We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servants.

By order: NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *President*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

[No. 1.] In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 21, 1776.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United Colonies be, and he hereby is, authorized and empowered to impress Carriages and Water Craft within this Colony, when necessary for the publick service; and also to remove Ships and other Vessels in *Hudson's* and the *East Rivers*, for the purpose of securing them from the enemy.

JUNE 30.—*Resolved*, That the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental forces be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered, whenever he shall judge it necessary for the defence of this Colony, to apply to the Brigadier-Generals thereof, and in case of their or either of their absence, to the next Commanding-Officer, for any proportion of the Militia under their respective commands; and that on receipt of such application, they be, and hereby are, directed to call out such part of their Militia, and march to any place or places within this Colony, as the said Commander-in-Chief shall order for its defence; and that this order shall continue until revoked by this or some future Congress or Legislature of this Colony.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

[No. 1.] In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 15, 1776. }

*Resolved, unanimously*, That if his Excellency General Washington should think it expedient, for the preservation of this State, and the general interest of *America*, to abandon the City of *New-York*, and withdraw the troops to the north side of *King's Bridge*, that this Convention will cheerfully coöperate with him in every measure that may be necessary for that purpose.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

[No. 2.] In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 24, 1776.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* be requested to procure, without delay, on account of this Congress, and on the most reasonable terms, all the coarse woollen Cloth that is for sale in and about this city, for the purpose of making Coats for the Troops raised and to be raised in the Colony for the present campaign; and if a sufficient quantity for that purpose cannot be procured in this city, that he send to the city of *Albany*, and the town of *Schenectady*, and elsewhere, and cause to be purchased as much more, in addition to the quantity purchased in this city, as will be sufficient to make one Coat for each soldier so raised and to be raised, as aforesaid.

That Colonel *Curtenius* procure, without delay, at the place aforesaid, and elsewhere, brain dressed Deer's Leather, sufficient to make each soldier as aforesaid one Waistcoat and one pair of Breeches, and that he employ a sufficient number of hands to make the said Coats, Waistcoats, and Breeches, with all expedition.

That Colonel *Curtenius* procure one Blanket, one felt Hat, two Shirts, two pair of woollen Hose, and two pair of Shoes, for each soldier raised and to be raised as aforesaid; and that he cause all the articles hereby ordered to be procured, to be baled, invoiced; and stored in proper places, there to remain subject to the order of the Continental Congress, or Commander-in-Chief of the *American Army*.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

[No. 3.] New-York, July 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having, in the course of the last year, been called by you from private life, without any solicitation, to the most honourable of all services, that of my country, I obeyed the call, and have, to the utmost of my poor abilities, exerted myself for the general good; and having, on my return home, found my toils amply rewarded, inasmuch as I had so far fallen under your notice as to be appointed to a Majority, which promotion I view as great as I could reasonably expect, or even have desired—nevertheless, when I look over the arrangement which you were pleased to make the last year, and call to mind that you then determined that the First Regiment should take rank of the Second, and find that I had the rank of fourth Captain in the First, and that *Lewis Dubois*, Esquire, had the rank of fourth Captain, and *Jacobus Bruyn*, Esquire, that of seventh in the Third Regiment, I view my appointment as speaking two things: first, that you have found men of greater merit than myself, and men who are better qualified for the public service, of which I am extremely glad; and, secondly, that your now appointing me to serve under two junior officers, is no more than taking the most genteel way of discharging me from the public service as an officer. Perhaps it may be said that this is no time to dispute about rank;

if so, I would just beg leave to inform you, that when in *Canada* last winter I viewed this argument to be of great force; but at present conceive myself to be in the state in which I was when I left home, and beg leave to decline the service; and with the utmost deference to subscribe myself; as in reality I am, a true friend to the free and rising States of *America*, and at the same time, your most obedient and most humble servant,

WILLIAM GOFORTH.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*.

True copy, examined by

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

[No. 4.]

New-York, June 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I take occasion to express the high sense I entertain of that honourable testimony of your approbation which you were pleased to give by unanimously appointing me Deputy Adjutant-General in the Continental Army, and extremely regret the necessity I am now laid under of making a resignation of the trust committed to me. I flatter myself that, considering my uniform conduct, and my circumstances in life, you will do me the justice to believe, that in accepting the office I was influenced by my zeal for and attachment to the cause of *America*; not by any avidity for the emoluments which might thence arise. It is unnecessary to say I left ease and competency, my wife, my children, and every thing dear to me, to encounter, at the expense of my health, as well as at the risk of my life, all the rigours, difficulties, and dangers of a long campaign in *Canada*. Neither is it my part to determine whether my behaviour in the station I filled has been reprehensible or meritorious; but this much I will venture to assert, that however moderate my abilities, my assiduity and attention to the discharge of my duty were unremitted. What share of zeal and perseverance I may pretend to can easily be ascertained by the term of my continuance in *Canada*, under all the discouragement of an excruciating disorder. At any rate, I am not conscious of any such neglect or desertion of my duty as may justly expose me to a manifest indignity; and when it is offered me I cannot forbear feeling it with the sensibility of a man.

As first Deputy I naturally expected to succeed to the Adjutant Generalship when it became vacant; but, to my great surprise, I find the Continental Congress have thought proper to give the preference to another. True it is, the Congress have adopted a resolution to reserve to themselves a right of dispensing preferments according to the merit of officers, and not the seniority of commissions; but even on that ground the preference they have given to another contains an implied censure on my conduct. It is a tacit declaration that I am not competent to the place of Adjutant-General, and of course that I have not acted with propriety in my former character; for no man capable of acquitting himself well in the post of Deputy Adjutant-General can be unqualified for that of Adjutant-General. I am, therefore, compelled to suppose the Continental Congress disapprove of my past conduct, and think me unfit for the place to which I was appointed; otherwise it cannot be imagined they would step aside from the plain path of succession by seniority, and take the pains to place a gentleman not at all within the line of the department over my head. This would be charging them with a degree of partiality of which I hope they are incapable.

I am now reduced to this dilemma, either to suppose that I have been much injured, and my honour as a soldier wounded in the tenderest part, by being excluded from a station without sufficient cause, to which I had a good right to aspire; or to close with the opinion of the Continental Congress, and consider myself as inadequate to the office you were pleased to honour me with. In either case it is evidently my duty to resign. In the first, justice to myself requires it; in the last, justice to my country.

On whatever ground I act, be assured, gentlemen, my affections to this country and my zeal for the preservation of its rights, will always remain unimpaired. As a private citizen, my property, my life, shall be cheerfully hazarded in defence of *America*.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,

EDWARD FLEMING.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress.

A true copy, examined by

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

[No. 5.] In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 9, 1776. }

*Resolved unanimously*, That the reasons assigned by the Continental Congress for declaring the United Colonies free and independent States, are cogent and conclusive; and that while we lament the cruel necessity which has rendered that measure unavoidable, we approve the same, and will, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, join with the other Colonies in supporting it.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the said Declaration, and the foregoing Resolution, be sent to the Chairman of the Committee of the County of *Westchester*, with orders to publish the same with beat of drum at this place on *Thursday* next, and to give directions that it be published with all convenient speed in the several Districts within the said County, and that copies thereof be forthwith transmitted to the other County Committees within the State of *New-York*, with orders to cause the same to be published in the several Districts of their respective Counties.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the Delegates of this State in the Continental Congress be, and they hereby are, authorized to concert and adopt all such measures as they may deem conducive to the happiness and welfare of the *United States of America*.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

#### NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 11, 1776. }

SIR: Your letter of the 6th instant, enclosing a copy of the Declaration of Congress proclaiming the United Colonies free and independent States, and requesting us to proclaim and publish the same in this Colony, has been received.

It gives us pleasure to inform you, that having been informed of that Declaration by our Delegates, we have anticipated the request of the Congress by our resolutions of the 9th day of *July* instant, a copy of which was enclosed in a letter we did ourselves the honour of writing to you this morning.

We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servants.

By order: NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *President*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

#### COLONEL SEYMOUR TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, July 11, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Notwithstanding the singular circumstances of my family, I could not possibly avoid coming with the Lighthouse to this place, in the cause of our country. We got in on *Monday*, and make a body of about five hundred as fine men, and as well spirited, as any on the ground. The General was much rejoiced at the measure, and appears disposed to show us every mark of respect. He is something perplexed about the expense of foraging the horses. He fears he cannot be justified in it without the consent of Congress. He will write Congress upon the subject, and use his endeavour (he assured me) to have their approbation; if not, the men must rely upon the Colony for it. How long we shall stay, is uncertain—this depends much upon the arrival of our new levies; and as the men are principally farmers, have left their grass, their grain, and other affairs much unprovided for, they hope every method will be taken for their speedy relief; and in this respect they rely much upon your Honour's influence. The enemy are constantly in view, upon and at *Staten-Island*. Some measures, it is thought, are in contemplation to dislodge them, before they are reinforced. Tories grow scarce in the city, and I wish it may fall to the Lighthouse to purge the Colony of such vermin. I cannot omit mentioning to your Honour that the Captain of the troop at *Norwalk* (*Belding* by name) designedly neglected his duty, and so we have none of his men.

I am, with every sentiment of esteem, your Honour's most humble servant,

T. SEYMOUR.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

P. S. Independency is highly approved by the Army.

#### COMMISSARY TRUMBULL TO JEREMIAH POWELL.

New-York, July 11, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 1st instant, notifying me of the route of the troops from the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay* to *Ticonderoga*. I find it coincides fully with my wishes. Captain *Farnsworth* will be at *Np. 4*, and every precaution is and will be taken to render the march of the troops as easy to them as possible, and the mileage paid them. As to the troops coming to this place, I will also take care to meet them with proper supplies at *New-Haven*.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

To *Jeremiah Powell*, Esq.

#### GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort George, July 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Captain *Varick*, my Secretary, in a letter of the 8th instant, from *Albany*, advises me that the enemy had landed on *Staten-Island*, and that their fleet anchored about three miles above the watering-place on *Wednesday* last.

Immediately on my arrival here, I caused inquiry to be made for axes and intrenching tools: none of either to be had, except a few pickaxes, which I have ordered to be sent to you to-day. I will hasten up all I can procure at *Albany*.

Captain *Veeder's* company of Militia I have sent to *Skenesborough* to assist the carpenters there. Permit me to remind you of employing some of the Militia in bringing boards from the mill at *Cheshire's*.

The sick will be very comfortably accommodated at this place, and I hope so disposed of when they recover, as soon to join the Army without the danger of communicating any infection to it. Enclose you Colonel *Alden's* complaint against Colonel *Wayne*, which I forgot to leave you.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To General *Gates*.

#### GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, July 11, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: This morning I received your favour of yesterday, and have this moment sent General *Schuyler* a copy of Colonel *Hartley's* Journal, as you desired. The distribution of the smiths, armourers, ship and house carpenters, is made according to your recommendation.

You give no opinion in regard to the *Indians* taken by Colonel *Hartley*. The neutrality of the *Indians* at this critical juncture is much to be wished, for many reasons, and especially for the sake of the poor frontier inhabitants; it therefore requires that we should be circumspect in our conduct, on the one hand neither rashly entering into hostility, nor on the other suffer ourselves to be the dupes of our credulity. Does it appear that the *Indians* taken were in arms and intending to take part against the United Colonies? If that is confirmed, they must be kept in confinement; if, on the contrary, they were inoffensive and peaceable, I think they ought to be released. After weighing this matter well in your mind, you will decide upon it. I suppose you will send the rest of the *Pennsylvania* troops here as soon as it is proper and convenient. One of the Captains of Artillery should come with the next cargo of ordnance stores; and if you have two ordnance guns at the Point, one should be sent here as soon as possible. General *Sullivan* and the gentlemen here are captivated with the ground intended for our new post, where the water is excellent. We have begun to clear the ground and make roads. No news yet from *New-York*. You may be assured of my sending you an express when any arrives.

I am, dear General, &c.

#### GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, July 11, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley's* report of the proceedings of the detachment under his command. How far he was right or wrong in taking the *Indians* prisoners, I cannot pretend to determine, until I see Colonel *Hartley*. The neutrality of these people is to be wished



for; and if the inhabitants are not apprehensive of their enmity, I think it would, upon many accounts, be best to let them alone. General *Arnold* will, I suppose, resolve what measure to take with them; if not, I shall. By the information respecting the enemy contained in this Journal, you see how necessary it is, by every means, to expedite our naval armament. To that end, I have made the distribution of the carpenters and smiths between this and *Skenesborough* that you directed. You will not fail to send your orders to the commanding officer there to employ them to the best purpose. Musket-ball, of all sorts, buckshot, lead, and cartridge paper, are much wanted in this department, as are carpenters', smiths', and armourers' tools. The rest of our wants your own observation will inform you, and your zeal for the service will, I am confident, supply. No news yet from *New-York*. My compliments to Mrs. *Schuyler* and the young ladies.

I am, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,  
HORATIO GATES.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

P. S. Axes and intrenching tools, I have great hopes you will speedily supply.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Colonel *Hartley* arrived from a tour down the lake last night. Enclosed is a copy of his Journal. I make no doubt the enemy have a number of vessels in forwardness, and will exert themselves in building, to command the lake.

I have made a draught of the artificers, and have sent you a number of each, as per the enclosed memorandum. I have ordered the oar-makers to go between this and *Skenesborough*. If timber cannot be procured there, they must return here, where it is plenty. I believe the armourers will be wanted at *Ticonderoga*, and some few of the blacksmiths. The others will have employ at *Skenesborough*. All the house-carpenters you will doubtless want. The ship-carpenters are divided into gangs of fifteen each, and will most or all of them be wanted at *Skenesborough*. I have employed officers to command the artificers, which I believe will expedite the works. I have ordered to *Ticonderoga* some boards, plank, &c. All that can be procured will be forwarded to you immediately.

I am anxious to hear from *New-York*. You will be kind enough to transmit to General *Schuyler* a copy of Colonel *Hartley's* Journal.

I am, with esteem and affection, dear General, yours,  
&c., &c.,

B. ARNOLD.

N. B. I sent you about four tons lead yesterday, in sheets and ball. I have three tons remaining on hand. None can be found in the fort.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Crown-Point, July 10, 1776.

In pursuance of General *Sullivan's* orders, I set off from hence on the 5th instant, in the afternoon. We had a very great storm that evening, which had near destroyed several of our boats, and much injured our arms and ammunition. Against a very strong north wind, we arrived the second evening at *Cumberland Head*. Proper dispositions were made to provide against a surprise, or oppose an enemy, if any should appear.

We, on the 7th, found a small quantity of ship-timber there, which we destroyed. I ordered out several parties, who scoured the woods for many miles around *Cumberland-Head*. I sent also a boat down the lake as far as the *Isle Motte*, early in the morning; but neither of the parties nor boat discovered an enemy.

My whole detachment, consisting of about two hundred and fifty men, came to one *William Hays's*, in *Cumberland-Bay*, on the 7th, in the evening. *Hays* had, within a few days, sent a child to *St. John's*; and one *Cross*, his neighbour, had sent his wife there, as a place of security. Neither *Hays* nor *Cross* did incline to remove themselves or their cattle to *Crown-Point*. They alleged they were in no danger of the enemy, and that they were sure the *Indians* would not hurt them. They objected much against my

removing their cattle. I gave positive orders. They complied; but seemed very uneasy. Though General *Sullivan* had recommended that *Hays* should be removed, yet, as his wife was very ill with the small-pox, I did not inform *Hays* that I had any order relating to his person, but proposed that he should remain with his wife, and retain a milch cow and calf, and all his household goods. He chose to come up himself to advocate his cause, and has left two men to take care of his wife. I have brought him and *Cross* along with me. They are here, and are very pressing to return.

I found several saws, intrenching tools, &c., very necessary for the publick service, at *Hays's*. I caused an inventory of them to be taken, and brought them here.

I brought away the chief of *Hays's* and *Cross's* cattle. They are now here. There is an inventory of them.

I found a quantity of good plank and crooked timber for ship-building at *Hays's*, which is the property of Mr. *Udney Hay*. I ordered the same to be brought here in several batteaus, which are now at the landing.

There was about one thousand feet of plank some miles from the shore, which, at this time of year, could not be conveyed to the boats on account of some large swamps. As it could not fall into the hands of the enemy till winter, (when, perhaps, we might procure it ourselves, if wanted,) I thought it improper to burn it.

At *Hays's*, we found *Hays*, *Cross*, and two other men, and by some address we collected the following intelligence: That *Cross's* father-in-law had been there within a few days; that he had informed that Generals *Carleton* and *Frazier* were at *St. John's* with a considerable body of *Hanoverian* and other troops; that they were repairing the works at *St. John's*, and that one hundred men were daily employed in cutting wood between that place and the *Isle-aux-Noix*; that they were building three sloops and two schooners at *St. John's*, which they expected would be soon finished, and that they intended immediately to proceed to *Crown-Point*; and that the enemy did not mean to injure any of the common people in their settlements. We also understood that there were several *Indians* at the *Isle-aux-Noix*.

Before we came to *Hays's*, we were informed that he kept an *Indian* about his house, and was determined to do it during the summer. At *Hays's*, by gathering something from each of the four, (though they seemed all averse to communicate anything to us,) we learnt that this *Indian* had some time before gone to hunt about twelve miles distant, and that two *Indians* had come up the lake within a few days, and he had gone to join them; since which, nothing of them had been seen.

From the conduct of *Hays* and *Cross*, as well as of the *Indians* in general on these waters lately, I considered these *Indians* unfriendly, and was persuaded they would act against us if an opportunity should offer. We fixed a plan against these savages with the greatest secrecy. We were very lucky in having one (Sergeant *Cross*) who was acquainted with the country. I detached Lieutenant *Grier*, Ensign *Haffner*, Sergeant *Cross*, and twenty-three riflemen. They left *Hays's* about one o'clock in the morning of the 8th, in a boat to the mouth of the river *Sable*. The party divided. Lieutenant *Grier* (an excellent woodsman) with his division some miles up the river took the *Indian* tracks which had been made the day before. The enemy had ten dogs with them; but the division managed with such secrecy and judgment, that Lieutenant *Grier* surprised three *Indian* men and seven women and children, in a wigwam, just at daylight; they seemed much agitated and hallooed out; the party seized four guns and other arms. The officer prevented any of them from being put to death, though the late cruel murder and scalping of several worthy men of the Sixth Battalion might have justified it. These *Indians* had a watch-house on the lake at the mouth of the river *Sable*, to watch what passed on the lake—they were not employed by us; the house or wigwam had been very lately made use of. They had their females in such a remote place that they thought no white people could discover them, and the men might act occasionally.

However these *Indians* may have conducted themselves in former times, they now appear as unfriendly persons. Two of them, as has been observed, came up the lake within these ten days, and since the murders committed below.

The detachment who took them, ought to be rewarded for their good behaviour; they have had assurances of this sort from the late General. Should these *Indians* be discharged, it will damp the ardour of our troops and injure the service. Be pleased to take some steps that their persons may be properly secured; and should you consider the property of the prisoners to belong to the captors, I would be exceedingly glad you would order the same to be delivered to Lieutenant *Grier*, and disposed of for the use of his detachment.

Be pleased to direct what is to be done with the plank, timber, cattle, &c.

We also brought some cattle belonging to one *Gay*, which are now at the Point.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

THOMAS HARTLEY,

Lieutenant-Colonel 6th Battalion of Pennsylvanians.

To the Honourable Brigadier-General *Arnold*, Commander at *Crown-Point*.

List of Artificers sent from *Crown-Point* to *Ticonderoga* and *Skenesborough*, July 10, 1776.

Captain *Edward Williams*, Lieutenant *Solomon Bowman*, with sixty-five blacksmiths and armourers. The former, with Captain *Williams*, to go to *Skenesborough*, the latter, with Lieutenant *Bowman*, to remain at *Ticonderoga*.

Lieutenant *Benjamin Beal* with thirty-four house carpenters, Lieutenant *Thayer* with thirty-four house carpenters, Mr. *Noah Nichols* with eight wheelwrights and gun-carriage makers.

*Richard Fittock* with thirteen ship carpenters, to *Skenesborough*. Lieutenant *William Curtis* with thirteen ship carpenters, to *Ticonderoga*, if wanted, otherwise to *Skenesborough*.

B. ARNOLD, Brigadier-General.

#### GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, July 11, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed are the Invoices\* of the cargoes taken on board the *Scotch* transports, which I received from the Agents.

I am your Excellency's obedient humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. I have just received an account from *Cape Ann*, that two ships were, on the 6th instant, sent into that harbour by a privateer lately fitted out from this town. The prizes were from the *West-Indies*—one had four hundred hogsheads of rum for General *Howe*, the other was bound for *England*, with four hundred hogsheads of sugar, two hundred hogsheads of rum, cotton wool, &c., &c.

#### \* Inventory of Sundries taken in the Ship *LORD HOWE*.

95 small-arms, 88 bayonets, 80 cartouch-boxes, 65 bags bread, 9 bags bread, 2 hogsheads and 1 barrel bread,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  barrels powder, 12 barrels pease, part of a barrel currants, 1 tierce and an ullage vinegar, 2 hogsheads rum, 1 ullage rum, 6 barrels pork, 25 barrels beef, 13 barrels oatmeal, 1 barrel barley, 1 keg barley, 5 barrels flour, 1 barrel herrings, 1 cask canteens and kettles, 54 soldiers' blankets, 1 barrel meal, 1 box candles, 4 bundles iron hoops, 1 cask tent pins and mallets, 10 remnants of cordage, 6 hammocks, 6 iron spades, 3 boxes and 1 ullage bullets, 3 pair hand-screws, 2 remnants of duffels, 93 cutlasses, 110 canvass knapsacks, 1 markee, 36 hatchets, 8 bags horsebeans and oats, 1 keg butter, 1 halbert, 1 tent spear, 2 drums.

Errors excepted.

J. BRADFORD, Agent.

Boston, July 11, 1776.

#### Inventory of Sundries taken in the Brig *ANNABELLA*.

61 small-arms, 10 loaves sugar, 240 pair shoes, 23 soldiers' tents, 8 barrels and 3 ullages oatmeal (damaged), 3 casks pease, 7 casks pork, 23 casks beef, 1 ullage vinegar, 4 hogsheads and 1 tierce rum, 6 iron spades, 2 shod shovels, 1 piece sheet lead, 1 firkin butter, 40 tent poles, 5 pack-saddles, 3 barrels flour, 90 cartouch-boxes, 17 leather bullet-pouches, 42 leather bullet-pouches, 16 leather shoulder-straps, 25 gun-straps, 30 cutlasses, 1 drum, 1 halbert, 1 bag oatmeal, 1 keg musket bullets, 3 pack-saddles, 18 pieces checked and striped linen, 5 pieces white linen, 57 bayonets, 16 belts.

Errors excepted.

J. BRADFORD.

Boston, July 11, 1776.

#### Inventory of sundry Materials received out of the prize-ship *GEORGE*, Boston, June 22, 1776.

20 fuses, 35 small-arms, 6 kegs bullets and shot, 6 bundles cartridge paper, part of a keg flints, 2 kegs part filled with cartridges, a cask containing a few books, 1 bundle bedding, 2 trunks and 2 portmanteaus, 1 black trunk, 1 bundle containing a tent, 1 black canteen, 1 bed bundle, 1 chest, 1 portmanteau, 3 casks bottled porter, 3 casks bottled wine, 1

#### GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, July 11, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to your directions, I have forwarded all the arms and accoutrements fit for use that were in the hands of the Agents, lately taken from the *Scotch* prisoners. The Agents, without my knowledge, parted with part of the arms; part of them were taken by the commander of a *Connecticut* privateer, who assisted in taking the transports; and some, I am told, were thrown overboard by the prisoners, and others were broken; but I have not been able to obtain an exact return of the arms taken.

I am, your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

Boston, July 11, 1776.

Sent to *Norwich*, to the care of *Joshua Huntington*, Esq.: 73 arms, 60 bayonets, 73 bayonet belts, 73 slings, 73 shot-pouches, 50 cartridge-boxes, 73 knapsacks.

NATHANIEL BARBER, Jun.,  
Deputy Commissary of Artillery.

#### TO THE JUSTICES IN MASSACHUSETTS EMPOWERED BY THE COURT TO DEAL WITH THE TORIES.

GENTLEMEN: Lenity is a most excellent virtue; but there are certain seasons when it may betray us into a fatal neglect, by encouraging the determined enemies of the country to cabal and prosecute the basest measures for the destruction of our liberties. We may say of Toryism as of Popery, that it is always the same. There are worthy individuals among the professors of both; and a few rare instances of real converts from each, through an increase of knowledge; but the prevailing spirit of the parties is uniform and abiding. I do not mean that either of them should therefore be knocked on the head for their noxious sentiments, or be deprived of any privileges which can be enjoyed by them without hazard to ourselves, unless by their behaviour they have made or do make a forfeiture thereof. However, we are led by the first law of nature, the innate principle of self-preservation, to prevent their having it in their power to do us a mischief, when we know how ready they are to give in to the basest methods, that they may carry their point, and to think that the end will sanctify the means. Are any so weak as to imagine that their words are to be taken, and that they will be peaceable and inoffensive, and will not intermeddle more in the present dispute, seeing that they have been so tenderly dealt with by the publick in general, and so cordially received again into favour by particular individuals: let them hurry to *New-York*, and view that horrid, infernal plot, that their brethren had laid for the destruction of Generals, Army, and the whole *American* cause, at a single blow. Let them inquire whether—though they may now hang down their heads through chagrin that the plot has not succeeded, not through shame that it was ever laid—they have not lately behaved rudely towards the country; showed all possible publick friendship for the Highland officers, and concern at their captive situation, and allowed our brave countrymen to be styled Rebels at table, without animadverting upon the indecency of it. I am not for censuring a polite treatment to those gentlemen who, by the fortune of war, are thrown into our hands. No; let them see that we are not cowards, by our declining everything that looks like insolence and

cask hams, 7 hogsheads and part of a hogshead rum, 361 black shoulder-belts, 74 bundles gun-straps, 1 field-bed and 2 bundles bedding, 4 markees, Colonel *Campbell's* camp equipage, the Quartermaster's camp equipage, 1 bundle, a bundle not directed, 3 field tents and materials, 6 bundles tent poles for markees, 12 bundles common tent poles, 7 bundles leather bullet pouches, 13 hair pouches, 3 cartouch-boxes, 62 camp tents, a remnant ticklenburg, 1 cask and 2 bundles tent pins, a cask tin canteens and 69 loose canteens, 10 tin pans, 23 camp kettles, 1 package tent stools, 3 bayonets, 4 halberts, 1 riding saddle, 1 travelling pack-saddle, 82 canvass knapsacks, 199 hair knapsacks, a bale containing 80 blankets, a bale containing 50 watch-costs, 1 box black plumes, 4 bundles soldiers' clothing, 1 bundle stockings, 3 pairs shoes, 2 bags with belts and knapsacks, 2 pieces plaid, 7 bonnets, 2 pieces and part of a piece duffels, 144 soldiers' blankets, 33 beds, 85 pillows, a bale brown paper, 44 hatchets, 1 bundle twine, 1 cask sheathing nails, 2 casks fivepenny nails, 1 set small weights, 2 iron spades, part of a cask currants, 13 barrels pease, 6 barrels flour, 2 barrels barley, 9 barrels pork, 27 barrels beef, 19 kegs butter, 15 barrels oatmeal, 2 tierces and part of a tierce vinegar, 2 barrels herring, 1 bag oats, 74 bags bread, 14 casks bread (damaged), 104 water casks, 74 dozen bottles.

Errors excepted.

J. BRADFORD, Agent.

Boston, July 11, 1776.

brutality; that we are brave, by being humane and generous: but it is not for Ministerial Addressers and Associators, and such as have always avowed an enmity to the cause in which we are engaged, to push themselves forward and caress them. 'Tis an insult to the publick, that can be surpassed only by their repairing to and visiting them, when they will have the opportunity of consulting what can be done more effectually to embarrass us and serve the friends of Government—that is, the tools of tyrants.

Gentlemen, it has been wisely resolved by the Continental Congress, "that no man in these Colonies, charged with being a Tory, or unfriendly to the cause of *American* liberty, be injured in his person or property, or in any manner whatever disturbed, unless the proceeding against him be founded on an order of this Congress, or the Assembly, Convention, Council or Committee of Safety of the Colony, or Committee of Inspection of the district wherein he resides." Are you desirous that this wise resolve should be strictly adhered to, step forth with undaunted boldness, and execute the trust reposed in you, without fear, favour, or partiality. Should you sit but seldom, suffering this, that, and the other, to keep you from the Bench; should you do little business, protracting examinations, and declining to give judgment; should you spare this man, because he is a relation to yourself or friends; that, because he is eminent in his profession; and a family doctor; a third, because that, should there be a change in affairs, his influence and connexions may be the means of saving you; should you keep up the appearance of designing to do something effectual, and after all do little or nothing,—the publick may expect that they are amused, cheated, and betrayed; resent it, and determine that they will have justice done them, though they take the execution of it into their own hands.

Gentlemen, would you prevent confusion and disorder, see, then, that you do your duty. The servants of the people are amenable to the people, from the Council to the Justice; and if the people find, upon trial, that no Government sufficient to the exigencies of their affairs has been hitherto established, they have a right to instruct their present or any future Representatives to adopt such a mode of government as they themselves shall be of opinion will best conduce to their own happiness in particular, and of *America* in general. While I intend, gentlemen, in this way, to lay before you the sentiments of numbers, I would treat you with all that respect that can be reasonably desired from

PLAIN TRUTH.

July 11, 1776.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR BENJAMIN GILES.

Colony of New-Hampshire, }  
In Committee of Safety, July 11, 1776. }

To Benjamin Giles, Esquire:

Whereas the General Court of this Colony have been notified that Captain *Farnsworth*, of *Connecticut*, is appointed by the Commissary-General of the Continental forces to provide for the *New-Hampshire* troops at *Connecticut River*, on their route to *Crown-Point*: but as our troops are nearly ready to march, and that they may not be delayed at *No. 4*, if anything should hinder Captain *Farnsworth* from having provision ready, you are desired to proceed with all possible despatch to said *No. 4*, and find whether any provision is there made for the aforesaid men, or likely to be seasonably made; and if not, to purchase and transport to said *No. 4*, with all speed, nine thousand pounds weight of pork, and the like quantity of bread, and deliver the several companies of *New-Hampshire* men, as they arrive there, to each man six days' provisions, allowing a pound of pork and a pound of bread per day. You will, if no further provision is made, provide and have ready to deliver to the first company that arrives, what provisions you can collect in that neighbourhood, while you are in the mean time collecting more. And for what provisions you may buy, you may engage the money to be paid as soon as you can send to *Exeter* therefor, which will be ready there in ten days from this time. Be expeditious, by all means; and when you have performed the said business, make return to this Committee, unless you should have an opportunity to settle the same with said Captain *Farnsworth*.

By order of the Committee.

MATTHEW THORNTON, *Chairman pro tem.*

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COLONEL WYMAN.

In Committee of Safety, July 11, 1776.

SIR: I send you, by the bearer, your commission as Colonel of a regiment of our Militia in the service; also, thirty pounds, as two months' advance wages. As the troops will be along in a few days, it is expected you will go forward with them to *Crown-Point*, and join the Army there. The Captains *Drew*, *Chandler*, *Shepard*, *Dearborn*, *Blanchard*, *Harper*, *Parker*, and *Weatherbee*, with their companies, are to make your regiment. As it is of great consequence that the men are forwarded with speed, therefore expect you will do what is in your power that they make no delay at *No. 4*. You will also receive thirty-two pounds, advance wages, for your Surgeon, Adjutant, and Quartermaster, with this, and blank commissions for those officers to be appointed by you. Imploring the divine assistance on your endeavours to serve your country, and that you may return in safety, with laurels of victory, is the sincere desire of him who, in behalf of the Committee, subscribes himself your very humble servant.

To Colonel *Wyman*.

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN WOODWARD.

In Committee of Safety, July 11, 1776.

To Captain DAVID WOODWARD, of *Hanover*:

You are hereby authorized to enlist thirty men, to serve under you as soldiers for three months, unless sooner discharged, to serve as scouting parties, to explore the woods and watch or oppose the motions of enemies coming against our frontier settlements; taking orders from time to time directing your route, from Colonel *Jacob Bayley*, Colonel *John Hurd*, and Colonel *Charles Johnson*, or any two of them, a Committee appointed for that purpose. You are to take special care to enlist none but good able-bodied, effective men, fit for such service, and they shall be paid the same wages (*viz*: forty shillings per month) as the Provincial troops raised and stationed for the particular defence of this Colony; and you shall be paid four pounds per month for your service, and one subaltern under you three pounds ten shillings per month. You are also to provide provisions for your company, giving them such allowance as is delivered other troops in the Army, for which you shall be paid on exhibiting an account. You are to appoint out of the number of men as above, two Sergeants, whose pay is forty-eight shillings each.

#### Petition of the Selectmen of PORTSMOUTH, Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:

To the Honourable Committee of Safety of said Colony, humbly shows:

That the subscribers, Selectmen for said town of *Portsmouth*, your petitioners, have been requested by a number of the inhabitants of the town forthwith to call a town-meeting, to know whether the said inhabitants will vote to have a Hospital opened for inoculation for the small-pox under necessary regulations. That it is the opinion of your petitioners that there will be a very great majority of the people for having the said Hospital; and we beg leave to give your Honours this early notice thereof by express, and to request that this measure may have your countenance and sanction, as we suppose it will (from the accounts we hear) be utterly impossible to prevent the distemper's spreading in the natural way—a calamity we ought to take every method to guard against. We further humbly entreat that you will be pleased to order such rules and regulations for the good government of said Hospital as in your wisdom you shall think meet; and your petitioners shall ever pray.

JOSEPH SIMES, }  
GEORGE KING, } *Selectmen of*  
GEORGE GAINES, } *Portsmouth.*

Portsmouth, July 11, 1776.

#### PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR BULLOCH.

Georgia, July 12, 1776.

By his Excellency ARCHIBALD BULLOCH, Esq., President and Commander-in-Chief of the said Province:

#### A PROCLAMATION:

Whereas the present struggle for our invaluable rights and liberties in this Province makes it requisite to give every

encouragement to all such persons who are willing to enter into the service of their country; and our Provincial Congress at their last meeting having taken the same under consideration, and being willing and ready to promote the welfare of every friend to the *American* cause, have thought fit to resolve, "That all persons inlisting in the service of this Province, who do faithfully serve in the present contest until a peace shall be concluded with *Great Britain*, or shall serve three years in the present war, shall be entitled to one hundred acres of land in this Province; and should any of the aforesaid men be killed in defence of this Province, his wife or family shall be entitled to the same."

I do therefore issue this my Proclamation, declaring that every man who shall inlist in any of the Troops of Horse, or Companies of Foot, raised for the defence of this Province, and shall serve agreeable to the terms above mentioned, shall be entitled to a grant of one hundred acres of land as aforesaid; and in case of accident, his wife and family shall receive and enjoy the same emolument.

Given under my hand and seal at *Savannah*, the 12th day of *July*, 1776. ARCHIBALD BULLOCH.

By his Excellency's command:

EDWARD LANGWORTHY, *Secretary*.

JOHN PAGE, PRESIDENT OF VIRGINIA COUNCIL, TO GENERAL LEE.

Williamsburgh, July 12, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: Your kind concern for my health made me happy, and the high approbation you express of my publick conduct highly gratified my pride. I had the pleasure of receiving your letter, which did me so much honour, about the 9th of last month. I was then at Mr. *Harrison's*, near *Petersburgh*, where I had gone with Mrs. *Page* for the recovery of her health. Our trip happily has answered our wishes, and we are once more fixed at *Williamsburgh*. It is now four weeks since we have received any certain account of the situation of affairs in either of the *Carolinas*. Even your letter to Brigadier *Lewis*, countermanding the march of the troops, did not arrive here till four weeks after it was written. The regiments had just begun their march; but had they not been scattered abroad on distant stations, and badly provided with necessaries for such an expedition, they would have reached the place of their destination before your express could have stopped them. It will be worth your while to examine into the occasion of this. I thought it a matter of so much importance to have such orders communicated with despatch, that I advised the Brigadier to send an express to you immediately, to inform you of the unaccountable delay that yours had met with, and to recommend it to you to establish a post throughout your district; but he was preparing for an expedition against *Gwin's Island*. The Brigadier set out last *Monday* on his way to our camp, attended by the Colonels *Woodford*, *Stephens*, *Bucknor*, *Weedon*, and some others, intending to examine into the strength of the enemy, and submit the propriety of an attack to a council of war. They reached the camp that night, and the next day, finding that the *Dunmore* had changed stations with the other, and had exposed herself very prettily to the very place where we had been preparing a battery for the *Otter*, they determined not to lose this good opportunity of beginning their cannonade, in which they might severely and principally chastise the noble Earl. At eight o'clock, A. M., Captain *Arundel* and Lieutenant *Denny* saluted the *Dunmore* and *Otter* with two eighteen-pounders; the very first shot at the *Otter*, though a full mile from our battery, struck her, as it is supposed, between wind and water, for she did not return the fire, but was towed off on the career. The *Dunmore* fired a broadside, and then was towed off, having received four shot through her sides. Whilst she was in tow she received a fifth through her stern, which raked her. Scarcely a shot was fired which did not do execution in some part of the fleet. A schooner lost one of her masts. Whilst Lieutenant *Denny* was firing on the fleet, their battery on the Island began to play on him, and a ball passed through the embrasure; on which he immediately turned his cannon on their battery, (for he had taken the precaution to have scope enough to take in the fleet, and that part of their battery,) and fired three times successively into their embrasure, which three rounds completely silenced that part of the battery;

the other part, facing our lines on the haven, was almost as soon silenced by our battery erected against it with four nines and three six-pounders. Part of their camp was a little exposed to both of our batteries, which fired a few rounds into it. This fire was as well directed as that against their ships, for it beat down many of their tents, and threw their camp into the utmost confusion. When this was discovered, the Brigadier ordered canoes to be brought down to enable the men to pass over into the Island; for, unhappily, we had not a boat on the shore: these could not be procured till the next day, when a smart cannonade began between the batteries; but as soon as our men had manned their boats, their fire ceased, and they retired with precipitation to their boats, and escaped safely to their ships, having first broken off the trunnions, &c., of their cannon. There were three tenders up the haven, which could not pass our batteries; these they abandoned; they endeavoured to burn one, but our men boarded it, and extinguished the flames. I understand that all these tenders have their swivels in them; but it is reported that they had thrown the guns overboard. We are now in possession of the Island. The fleet has retired, but is in sight. This might have been a complete affair, if proper measures had been preconcerted, and the whole well conducted. Our men, however, behaved well; our artillery was admirably served, and we have disgraced and mortified our enemies. In this affair we lost not a man; but, most unhappily, poor Captain *Arundel* was killed by the bursting of a wooden mortar, with which he was endeavouring to throw shells into the fleet. His loss is irreparable. He behaved with great spirit and activity, and was so hearty in our cause, that he is universally lamented.

Colonel *Stephens* is just returned from *Gwin's Island*; he says the enemy carried off all their cannon from their batteries, except one six-pounder, which they spiked. They left six carriage guns in one of the tenders; several negroes and a few whites were taken; two negroes and one soldier of the Fourteenth Regiment deserted to us. The prisoners inform that Lord *Dunmore's* mate was cut in two by a double-headed eighteen-pounder, which also took off one man's arm and another's leg, and drove a splinter into his lordship's leg. *Tom Byrd* was ill of a fever, and was carted off to a boat just before our people landed. They were obliged to burn two fine small vessels that day, and at night, in the mouth of the river, they burnt also a large ship, supposed to be the *Dunmore*, as she was not with the fleet next morning. The *Fowey*, it is said, was with the fleet, but did not choose to come within reach of our guns. The *Roe-buck* was at the mouth of the *Rappahannock*. The Colonel says when he came away the whole fleet had sailed, and were out of sight, and it was uncertain where they are gone—supposes to *Maryland*. They went off in a bad plight, without biscuit or water. Their works were found of excellent construction and considerable extent; they were preparing to build houses and a wind-mill; they had made a vast collection of materials for different works; their tents, which they moved off, except one marquee, which was left in their hurry, and through which a cannon-ball had passed, were capable of containing about seven or eight hundred men. From many circumstances it is evident they meant to stay there a considerable time.

I have been interrupted in writing, and before I could return to my scrawl, I had the happiness to receive your letter of the 3d of *July*. I most heartily congratulate you on your success: it was a most glorious affair—a noble defence! The *British Navy* has been happily checked in her proud career, and has received a most just and complete chastisement. What must the King think now? The whole Continent in arms against him, seven hundred and fifty of his favourite Highlanders in our possession, and his fleets repulsed and disgraced along our coasts for two thousand miles! I hope he will repent, and be contented to put up with the loss of *America*, or, if he does not, that he may meet with repeated disappointment.

The *Marylanders* were roused by the resolve of our Convention, and have lectured their Representatives so well, that they have unanimously voted for Independence—they have no occasion for our Riflemen on that account. However, I can assure you, on the Eastern Shore of *Maryland* there has been a considerable insurrection of Tories, inso-much that Colonel *Fleming* has been obliged to march with



a hundred and twenty men to quell them. We have not yet heard the event of that affair.

I have just now received another letter from you, and am delighted with your description of the bravery of Colonel *Moultrie* and the garrison of *Fort Sullivan*. It is not flattery, my dear General, when I tell you that most of us here attribute the glorious display of bravery on that day to the animating presence of a commander, who, independent of his great military abilities and experience, appeared to be the evil genius of *Clinton*, who had followed him, and from whose presence he had seemed to retire and retreat along the coast, from *Boston* to *Charleston*. All that I could do, as there were not gentlemen enough in town to make a Council, was to desire Brigadier *Lewis* to send immediately to *North-Carolina* all the powder that could be spared out of the magazine. About four thousand pounds will be sent.

I am, most sincerely, yours,  
JOHN PAGE.  
To Major-General *Lee*.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Camp near Gwin's Island, July 12, 1776.

General *Lewis* cannot leave camp without expressing his approbation of the conduct of the Officers and Soldiers at this station. The fatigues through which they have gone with cheerfulness, and the great services they have rendered their country, justly entitle them to his hearty thanks, which he would have expressed at the head of each Company by the Captains.

#### MATTHEW TILGHMAN TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Talbot County, Maryland, July 12, 1776.

SIR: The resolution of our Convention to send up our regular troops as part of our quota for the Flying-Camp, has given some uneasiness to our commanding officer, Colonel *Smallwood*, who seems to apprehend that the Brigadier-General, (Mr. *Dent*,) who is to command the Militia sent from hence, may also take the command of his battalion. This, he justly observes, would be an indignity to him to which he could not in honour submit. To prevent any evil from hence, our Militia should be considered as different corps.

And what I have to request of you, sir, is, that you will be pleased to remind Congress of this circumstance. So, unless Colonel *Smallwood* can retain the command of his own battalion, (being under the control of a Continental superior officer only,) he will most certainly resign. He is a worthy man and good officer, a firm *American*, and much devoted to the cause; for which reasons, I cannot but hope that care will be taken to prevent the loss of such an officer, by exempting him from the command of a person under whom he thinks it improper for him to act, because, in his own Province, he takes rank of him.

The service requires that some attention be paid to this matter, and I trust you will readily excuse the trouble I have given you in it.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient and very humble servant,  
MAT. TILGHMAN.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress, *Philadelphia*.

#### N. RUXTON MOORE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Annapolis, July 12, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIRs: As there is a vacancy in Captain *Nathaniel Smith's* company of Artillery for a Second Lieutenant, I should esteem it a very particular favour, if your honourable Board would grant me liberty to fill that place. My reason for being so pressing to leave *Annapolis* is, I have never enjoyed my health since I have been here, and am afraid, should I not be benefited by the *Baltimore* air, I shall be obliged to resign my commission, though very much against my inclination, as I do not imagine I shall have my health while I remain here, and, as you well know, life is of little worth without health. I hope you will consider my case, and indulge me in my above request; and the obligation shall be ever gratefully acknowledged by, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
N. RUXTON MOORE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

#### JOHN WEEMS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 12, (eleven o'clock,) 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed is a letter I just received from Captain *Chew*. If it should prove true, please to let me know in what manner I am to act; and am, your most humble servant,  
JOHN WEEMS.

To the Hon. Council of Safety, in *Annapolis*.

Saturday morning, seven o'clock.

DEAR SIR: I this moment received, by express, a line from Colonel *Somerville*, acquainting me that there are forty sail of square-rigged vessels as far up the bay as *Point-Lookout*. We have ordered the Captains of our battalion to call their companies together immediately, and to have their guns put in the best order they will admit of. Like for them to be ready to march at a moment's warning. Captain *Parran's* company is under arms. Have heard that the whole of the Militia of *St. Mary's* is in arms. If the vessels come up farther, which I make no doubt they will, *Barbara* begs that Mrs. *Chew* will come down here. I am in great haste; then conclude, by subscribing myself your most obedient humble servant,  
JOSEPH WILKINSON.

To Captain *Richard Chew*.

#### THOMAS SMYTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Ship-Yard, July 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This will be handed you by my son *Thomas*, who waits on the Council for his commission, in pursuance of the honourable the Convention's order to him for inlisting a company of Militia. He has inlisted a company of stout, able young fellows, and almost all of them country-born. He informs me that they have very few muskets among them which are fit for service, and I believe it will be very difficult to borrow any from the inhabitants, as they do not know how soon they may be called on to use them. What guns belong to the Militia are generally very indifferent. Permit me, therefore, to solicit your honourable Board, that his company and Captain *Perkins's* may be armed out of the arms that will be made by *Winters*, and those which are sent for to *Chingoteague*. I hope they will be indulged with having their companies well armed, as they have been industrious enough to enrol them so soon at this busy season of the year.

As I apprehended, the Council have not been able to provide tents for the Militia that this Province has resolved to send to the Flying-Camp. I make them a tender of my best endeavours to get as many made as will be sufficient for my son's company, and, perhaps, Captain *Perkins's*, if they will order over one of those made at *Baltimore*, with the poles, the linen, and twine or thread to make them; the cruger would do much better than none; perhaps some of the sail-duck which is ordered up from *Chingoteague* might do better. It will certainly kill all our men, to be exposed to the open air in the months of *August* and *September*, when such heavy dews fall. I have two or three men in my service that have been used to making sails, and a tailor, who, I think, would make, in a few days, as many as will be sufficient for those two companies. If the Council should determine to accept of my offer, the sooner they send everything over the better, and I dare say I can soon get the tents made, especially if they are to be made of cruger, as many women can be employed in sowing such linen. If the Council have not provided baggage-wagons enough, I can furnish them with one very suitable for the purpose that is almost new, and in very good order. I wrote you some time last week, that a *Robert Blake*, a saddler in *Chestertown*, would undertake to furnish the Province with a quantity of cartridge-boxes, gun-slings, and bayonet-belts, at the same price which the saddlers of *Baltimore* had done, and requested an answer; but have not heard from the Council on that subject. *Blake* waits your determination. A report prevails here that some of the companies of Militia which are ordered to be raised for the Flying-Camp are to be stationed in this Province. My son earnestly requests that he may not be one of those companies, and that he may be permitted to march to the camp as first intended, and I hope the Council will indulge him in his request.

You will please to remember that the hire of the wagons sent to *Chingoteague* will amount to a pretty large sum. It will be some time before I can attend the Council, as I am

much engaged in forwarding the building of the row-galley which I have undertaken, and am anxious to have her done very complete. Anything which the Council may have to do in the mean time in this quarter, they will command me. What has been done towards sending for the goods from *Chingoteague*, Mr. *Nicholson* has no doubt informed you.

I am, gentlemen, with much respect, your most obedient humble servant,

THOS. SMYTH.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

PETER CHAILLE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Mr. *Samuel Smyth*, is one of the owners of the schooner I informed you of when at *Annapolis*. She is well fitted as a merchantman, and think she will answer your purpose. What information Mr. *Smyth* gives you of her may be relied on, as he is a gentleman of integrity.

I am your most humble servant, PETER CHAILLE.

DORCHESTER COUNTY COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Observation for Dorchester County, }  
July 12, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: *Basil Clarkson*, of this County, was brought before us a few days ago, being charged with going on board the enemy's tenders, and carrying some men to join Lord *Dunmore's* party. And upon examining into the affair, we thought it our duty to send him over under the care of Captain *Hindman*, to take his trial before your Board. *John Rumley* was the only witness produced to us against him, whose deposition we have taken, and now send you enclosed. It is said *Clarkson* bears a very ill character, as to holding a communication with and carrying men in his boat to the tenders; and we have just now been informed that one *Job Slocum*, Jun., of this County, will prove that he endeavoured to persuade him and some others to go with him on board the tenders and join Lord *Dunmore*; but as the guard was just setting off with the prisoner, we could not delay them until we sent a summons for *Slocum*. There were several other persons apprehended in this County on suspicion of being unfriendly, and having a communication with the enemy; but upon our inquiring into their conduct, we could fix nothing criminal on them, and therefore discharged them, though some of them were under rather suspicious circumstances. And indeed we are sorry to inform you that we have lately discovered such an unfriendly disposition in many of the inhabitants about the islands in this County, that we are convinced that it will be productive of very ill consequences, unless some steps are taken immediately to keep them in proper order; and we beg leave to submit it to your consideration, whether it may not be absolutely necessary for the publick service that part of one of the Independent Companies be immediately stationed in that part of this County. The inhabitants there are so much exposed to the depredations of the enemy that we cannot help thinking many of them have been induced from that circumstance rather than from inclination to appear friendly towards them; and that many may be prevented from attempting to join the enemy could they see any forces stationed among them to afford them proper protection. Our Militia have been so long on duty, guarding our bay and river shores, to prevent the depredations of the enemy and the escape of Tories, that they have many of them lost considerably in their harvests, and suffered much in other parts of their property; and, we fear, if they are not assisted very soon they will be almost in a state of despair. Captain *Woolford's* company, which was originally intended for this County, is now taken from us, and part of it is ordered by Major *Price* to be stationed in *Somerset*, and the other part on the mouth of *Nanticoke*, whereby it is rendered almost useless to this County; and we are left in a manner defenceless, though as much exposed as any County in the Province. This being the situation of our County, we thought it necessary to inform you thereof, and we doubt not but your Honours will pay proper attention thereto.

We are, with great respect, your most humble servants,  
Signed per order: JAMES MURRAY, *Chairman*.

P. S. We are greatly in want of Powder, and should be glad to receive a supply as soon as possible.

DEPOSITION OF JOHN RUMLEY.

*John Rumley* deposeth and saith: That he was taken by a tender's boat on the shore of *Spring's Island*; that while he was on board the tender he saw a boat standing out of *Hooper's Straits*, directly for the tenders in company with that which this deponent was on board of; that the said boat continued her course directly on board one of those tenders; and that it appeared to this deponent to be the voluntary act of those on board said boat to go to the tenders, as there was not a gun fired at them, or any measures taken by the tenders to send a boat, or use any other means to bring said boat to them; that said boat getting alongside one of the tenders, he knew it to be *Basil Clarkson's* boat, and that said *Clarkson* and three others were in her, all of whom got on board the tender; that soon after *Clarkson* and his company boarded the tender, this deponent heard men on board the several tenders hail each other, and say that the *Defence* was lying off *Hooper's Island*, and that *Basil Clarkson* and a certain *John Baptist* told them so; which said *Baptist* and two others went on board the tender when *Clarkson* came off from them in his boat, about one hour and a half after his going on board; and further saith not.

Taken before the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester* County, this 9th day of *July*, anno Domini, 1776.

Signed per order: JOHN C. HARRISON, *Clerk*.

To the Honourable the Convention of MARYLAND:

The Petition of *Basil Clarkson* most humbly sheweth: That your Petitioner now is, and hath been for a considerable time past, confined in the jail of the City of *Annapolis* for a supposed crime of which your Petitioner is in no wise guilty. Your Petitioner also begs leave to represent to your Honours that he is now in almost a starving condition, occasioned by the want of, not only the common necessities of life, with respect to bodily clothing, but also for the further want of bedding. That he is now craving your Honours to release your Petitioner from his confinement; and should your Honours deign to hear your Petitioner at the bar of your honourable House, your Petitioner is satisfied within his own mind that he shall be well acquitted. Should this Petition be adverted, your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will pray, &c.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ELISHA WINTERS.

[No. 29.]

Annapolis, July 12, 1776.

SIR: The Convention having resolved that the firelocks of such of the Militia who are to compose part of the Flying-Camp as are not effective, but might be made so by repairs, should be repaired at the expense of this Province, and that we should cause muskets found by the Militia, borrowed or purchased, for the Flying-Camp, to be fitted with bayonets, iron ramrods, worms, priming-wires, brushes, belts or scabbards; and as we are apprehensive such repairs cannot be made or bayonets fitted on the *Eastern-Shore*, with that despatch and expedition the service may require, but at your shop, we desire you will immediately inform us whether you can engage in that business, and will undertake to repair and fit with bayonets such guns as shall be sent to you from the several Counties over the Bay for that purpose. If they can be done elsewhere, we shall not desire you to do them, as we would wish you should confine yourself as much as possible to the work you have in hand; but if they cannot, as there is an absolute necessity that the Militia should be immediately provided with good and substantial arms, we must request you will engage in that business for us. It cannot be expected that during the time you may be at work on the arms for the Flying-Camp, that you should comply strictly with your contract with the Province; yet it is hoped that you will be able to furnish some guns, as we stand in very great need of them. We have already belts and scabbards sufficient, and have advertised for persons to make priming-wires and brushes, and expect to get the ramrods in *Annapolis*, so that you will not have anything to do but repair the guns and fit the bayonets, unless to make swivels to sling the guns, which must likewise be done.

We enclose you a letter and order to *Henry Hollingsworth* for four hundred bayonets, of different sized sockets, for the Militia arms; if you engage for us in that business, you will send them by express; but if you cannot, you will be pleased to return them. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Elisha Winters*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.  
[No. 30.] Annapolis, July 12, 1776.

SIR: We have received both yours of the 11th and 14th, and have despatched the last vessel you sent down with the flour to *Pocomoke*. We are sorry to hear the flour on board Messrs. *Lux* and *Bowly's* vessel has been so much damaged by their negligence, but no doubt they will think it but reasonable to make us a compensation.

You will receive by Captain *Nicholson*, two hundred and fifty pounds, out of which you will be pleased to pay for the vessels that carried the soldiers from *Baltimore*, as also for those you sent down to *Annapolis* for that purpose. We are pleased with your conduct, and are obliged to you for the assistance you have given us.

We request you will purchase the timber Mr. *Wells* may want for building the two gondolas, and apply the remainder of the money in payment for the same; what more you may have occasion for, shall be sent you as you want it. While you are employed in the publick business, we really think it unreasonable you should be obliged to attend at musters; it is our desire, therefore, that you should be exempt from that attendance, and desire you will signify this to your officers; and we are, &c.

To Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CHARLES RIDGELY, SEN.  
[No. 31.] Annapolis, July 12, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety would be glad to see you immediately, on the subject of your Letter. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Charles Ridgely, Sen.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.  
[No. 32.] Annapolis, July 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Hughes*, the bearer of this, has been under contract with the Convention to supply them with cannon; he has nearly complied with his contract with us, and has run himself and his partners to a pretty considerable expense to get his works into such order as may enable them to cast many more than we shall probably want for the use of this Province. The cannon of his first casting did not stand proof, but he has his furnace now in such order that the cannon they cast are very good. He has been informed that the Congress are in want, and would willingly contract with them, and would yet considerably enlarge his works, provided the Congress would take all the cannon he and his partners should cast before the first day of next *January* twelvemonth. We introduce him to you as a man of credit, and who will, in our opinion, comply with any contract he may enter into with the Congress. We are, &c.

To the Deputies in Congress.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO LANCASTER COMMITTEE.  
Philadelphia, July 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed resolve, which I have it in charge from Congress to transmit, is so extremely explicit, that I have only to request you will have it carried into immediate execution with all the despatch in your power.

I shall write to the Committee of *Reading* to remove the prisoners in that place to your town.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
*JOHN HANCOCK, President.*  
Committee of *Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.*

In Congress, July 10, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of *Lancaster* be empowered and requested to keep a guard over the Prisoners in the Barracks of that Borough, and to surround the said Barracks with a stockade fort.

That the Privates who are prisoners in the Town of *Reading*, be removed to the Borough of *Lancaster*.

By order of Congress: *JOHN HANCOCK, President.*

THOMAS STONE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Philadelphia, July 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours, by Captain *Stricker*, was this morn-  
ing delivered to me, and I shall pay particular attention to

its contents, though I much fear our endeavours to procure an Engineer to suit your purpose will not be successful. Every man who ever fired a cannon, or was present at erecting any kind of fortifications, has been taken up for the Continental service.

There is no provision made here for quartering any troops which may pass through. Upon the first notice of Colonel *Smallwood's* approach I made inquiry of the state of the city barracks, and find that there are some soldiers in them who have the small-pox, of which I shall acquaint Colonel *Smallwood* before he gets into town. Indeed, there is danger in almost every part of the city, and I shall advise him to halt his men in the common for a while, until some safe place can be provided for their reception. They will feel severely the want of tents, of which there are none in the Continental stores. I submit to your consideration if it would not be proper to have tents immediately made, and sent after the troops. They will probably be stationed at a place where no quarters can be had. I expect to see them to-morrow. Captain *Stricker* will, I think, be appointed a field-officer in the *German* battalion, for which I have no doubt but he is well qualified, from what I have heard of him.

The Militia of this Province are daily marching to *Trenton* in the *Jerseys*, from whence they are to proceed to *Amboy*. This will be the route of our troops I presume. If Brigadier *Dent* should join the Regulars with the Militia to be raised in your Province, I don't know how it will be possible to settle the rank of the officers. As to keeping them distinct when they are to compose one army, it seems to me to be impracticable. The rank of each officer in the Army must be settled before service is entered on, or the greatest confusion will probably take place.

I ordered, by Mr. *Stephen Stewart*, a case of instruments, some paper, and a gun-carriage. Be pleased to inform me if you received them. Mr. *Alexander* writes me that Dr. *Weisenthal* wants the instruments very much.

Our affairs on the Lake are far from being so prosperous as I wish them, though we have heard nothing certain from that quarter since our Army retreated to *Crown-Point*. Considerable reinforcements are ordered, and if they arrive in time, I hope our enemies will receive a check.

General *Howe* remains on *Staten-Island*, exercising his men, and viewing the situation of the adjacent grounds. The inhabitants of the Island are generally Tories, who I suppose will assist him all they can without taking up arms, which I think few of them will do.

General *Washington* and the Army under him are in good spirits, and our strength daily increasing. We regret to hear of the arrival of a considerable reinforcement from *Britain*. We are daily in expectation of a more intimate acquaintance between the two adverse armies. May *God* send victory to the arm lifted in support of righteousness, virtue, and freedom, and crush even to destruction the power which wantonly would trample on the rights of mankind. Our Province is now unrepresented, though matters of the last consequence are coming on. I pray one of the Delegates may be desired to attend. Mr. *Paca* is out, which occasions me alone to address you.

I am, gentlemen, with most sincere esteem, your faithful and most humble servant,

T. STONE.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*.

ALEXANDER WILCOCKS TO MARYLAND CONVENTION.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee of Safety take the liberty to enclose a letter from General *Washington*, (of July 8,) recommending Lieutenant *Wilpert* to a company in the *German* Battalion. They would have been happy in an occasion of showing proper respect to such a recommendation, but unfortunately it did not arrive till the appointment had been made. Should there be an opening left in the *Maryland* division of the battalion, they make no doubt but you will be pleased with an opportunity of providing for Mr. *Wilpert*, agreeable to the General's desire.

I am gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant.

By order of the Board:

ALEXANDER WILCOCKS, *Chairman.*

To the Convention of *Maryland*.

## LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, Inspection, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 12th July, 1776 :

Present: *Matthias Slough, William Atlee, William Bowman, Lodwick Lowman, Jacob Klatz, Michael Musser, John Miller.*

WILLIAM ATLEE in the Chair.

Colonel *Ross* laid before the Committee a Letter from Colonel *Porter*, directed to him, complaining of the ill behaviour of some of the Associators in his neighbourhood, who had seized the Arms which had been collected by his directions from Non-Associators and others, together with an answer written by him (Colonel *Ross*) to Colonel *Porter*; which answer, being read, is approved of, and ordered to be forwarded to Colonel *Porter* by his express.

And it is *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Members of Committees in the several Townships from which Colonel *Porter's* Battalion is drawn, to give their best assistance to Colonel *Porter* in procuring Arms and necessaries for the Militia, to enable them to march.

The Committee think it will be best and most for the general good for Colonel *Porter* to march his Militia by Companies, as he can arm them, immediately to *Philadelphia*, or across the country to *Trenton*, where they stand the best chance of being supplied with camp-kettles and other necessaries, which are not to be procured in the country.

It being represented by *Jacob Erb* that the persons who were chosen Collectors of Arms in the Township of *Warwick* have neglected their duty, this Committee do therefore appoint *Christian Hollinger, Matthias Hagey, and John Huber*, Collectors of Arms in the said Township of *Warwick*, who are to do the duty required of Collectors of Arms by the resolves of Assembly.

Captain *Zantzinger's* Account of Rifles purchased from *Jacob Dickert*, for the use of his Company, to enable them to march to the Camp in the *Jerseys*, to the amount of £31 7s. 6d., was produced to the Committee, approved of, and Mr. *Dickert* referred to the Committee of Safety or Congress for payment.

*Peter Bollinger*, the Committee's Messenger, being now about to march with Colonel *Slough's* Battalion, produces his Account for services and expenses to this time, amounting to £8 16s. 4d., which being examined, is approved of and allowed; and it is recommended to the Commissioners of the County to pay the said *Bollinger* moneys of the County, as he may have immediate occasion for it to provide himself with necessaries for his march.

## ASSOCIATION OF INHABITANTS OF DONEGAL, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

We, part of the inhabitants of the Township of *Donegal*, having associated into a Company, and signed an agreement for the regulation of the said Company, as well Officers as Soldiers, understanding that the Committee for this County is to meet in *Lancaster*, in order to adjust and settle grievances, we conceive the greatest grievance is, that numbers of people, of different persuasions, will not join in the said Association; some for scruple of conscience, some for the loss of time and expenses, and others being disaffected at the cause which we associate for. Some of the said people are the wealthiest and best seated in the County. We imagine that there should be none of the inhabitants of this County exempted from joining the said Association, or paying in proportion for the finding of arms and other necessaries to those who are willing to do it, who are not of ability to provide themselves with such. We request of you that it be allowed that all the landholders and farmers in the County of *Lancaster* be obliged to find at least one good gun each, and that every other person, who is judged by the Committee to be of ability, likewise find a good gun, whether they be joined in Association or not. This will put the County in a state of defence. We request of you that such a sum as is thought reasonable by you be laid upon each and every person who will not join the said Association, exclusive of finding the arms aforesaid, in restitution of the time which the people that have joined the said Association have and will expend, learning exercise and other duties necessary; and that such sums of money and arms be paid and

received into the hands of the Committee of the different Townships in the said County, or into the hands of any other persons which you shall appoint, to be laid for the use and support of the Associators of the Townships such sums and arms will be received in. If the said proposals be not put in execution by you, we, for our part, do intend to continue no longer in the said Association, as it will be entirely useless for the greatest number of our Company to continue in the same, who are not of ability to find themselves in arms or other necessaries. But, on the contrary, if no partiality is or will be shown by you, or indulgence to the enemies of the cause, but to have all persons in the said County equally concerned therein, according to their several abilities, we will, as we always have done, defend and protect the cause of our country, to the extremity of our power and ability.

Signed by part, and by order of said Company, by

J. Anderson, Jr., 1st Lt.	Jacob Peseler,	Frederick Gillugh,
Philip Clugh, 2d Lt.	Frederick Huffman,	Abraham Eater,
Joseph Worth, Ens.	Jacob Seller,	David Cook, Jun.
John Bayly,	Christian Pesler,	Thomas Anderson,
Matthew Swan,	David Scot,	Thomas Clingan,
Alexander Mitchel,	Ulery Tannar,	Francis Stewart,
Williams Bauer,	Frederick Sibale,	James Mitchel,
James Scott,	Nath'l Stepheson,	Nicholas Blazzer,
James Thompson,	John Carliel,	Philip Winand,
Cornelius Boyle,	Robert Ponton,	John Winand,
John Crookshanks,	Frederick Yeigh,	Hendry Vinegar,
Walter Bell,	George Bready,	Robert Carns,
James Willson,	Hugh Hagerty,	Duncan Levingston,
William Allison,	John Booth,	James Mitchel, Jun.
John Mays,	Ulery Seller,	John Donily,
Samuel McChin,	Conrode Huffman,	George Crookshanks,
John Tate,	Jacob Vion,	John Emmack,
William Alexander,	Philip Brannar,	Adam Ross,
Robert Borland,	Jacob Huffman,	James Alexander,
David Cook,	Philip Amant,	James Levingston,
James Anderson,	Christian Seller,	John Brown,
James Kerr,	Peter Seller,	James Bayly,
William Wilson,	Matthias Steer,	Jacob Musselman,
Hendrey Tann,	Robert Caven,	Zechel Norres,
Adam Neas,	Christian Vinegar,	Jacob Winan, Jun.
Daniel Deady,	John Nicholas,	Wm. W. Gomery,
Enoch Hastings,	Abram Long,	James Young,
James Cook,	Valentine Shirelen,	Jacob Minnigo,
Lewis Miller,	Samuel Park,	John Hamilton,
Patrick Hackett,	Nicholas Peck,	Peter Dillo,
Conrode Albrite,	Jacob Shireman,	James Carsey,
Michael Clous,	Samuel Cook,	John Barber.
Daniel Killman,		

## YORK COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation }  
for the County of York, July 12, 1776. }

*Resolved*, That in case Mr. *James Rankin* make suitable concessions, (as he proposes,) and give sufficient surety for his good behaviour in future, he shall be restored to his liberty and the confidence of his countrymen.

"As I have, in several instances, injured the Committee of *York* County, by sundry publick misrepresentations, as well as by personal insults, thereby obstructing the publick measures now so necessary for the safety of our country, but being convinced of the bad tendency of my past conduct, and desirous of being restored to a good understanding and friendship with my countrymen, I do thus publickly ask forgiveness of them, and do promise, on the faith and honour of an honest man, that I will in future pay due regard to the rules and regulations of the honourable Continental Congress, and behave, in all respects, as becomes a good citizen of the *United States of America*."

"JAMES RANKIN."

"July 13, 1776."

## BRITISH OFFICERS (PRISONERS) TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Yorktown, Pennsylvania, July 12, 1776.

SIR: We have long suffered, without complaint, a series of ill treatment which our characters as *British* officers, and our conduct since the fate of war threw us in your power, has not merited. Should we continue silent under this usage, we might be esteemed by the world either deserving of it or afraid to complain, in neither of which predicaments would we choose to appear.

When an order of Congress, about four months ago, separated us from our men, we complained of the hardships that would accrue from it in as decent terms as circumstances would admit of, but without redress. We were brought to this town and a parole tendered us to sign, with the alternative of going to jail if we refused. Conscious that a compliance could not in the smallest degree be prejudicial to His



Majesty's service, we acquiesced; for be assured, sir, had we entertained the least doubt of the contrary, we should have blushed to have hesitated a moment in our choice.

To enumerate the particulars of the many gross insults we have endured would far exceed the bounds of this letter. Let it suffice to declare, that outrage hath succeeded insult, and a violation of every law of humanity been dignified by the name of authority. Not content with depriving us of the liberty of leaving our rooms after nightfall, (contrary to the faith of the parole we signed,) they have now, as a further instance of their wishes to distress us and to render our situation as disagreeable as possible, taken from us our servants, which they tell us is by order of Congress.

We have, sir, too much generosity to conceive that that body would purposely issue an order to distress a few already too much injured individuals. Prejudice, wilfully mistaken, ever uses a language opposite to truth; and that the Committee of this place are prejudiced against us must strike the candour of every dispassionate heart; for we dare confidently ask the loudest advocate of their party to say that in any one instance we have infringed the least on the parole we signed, or that our conduct has been in any way reprehensible.

Through you, therefore, sir, as President of the Congress, we apply for redress, and desire that we may be treated as gentlemen and prisoners of war, who yielded only to an honourable capitulation; at the same time beg leave to remark, that if we must continue liable to such treatment, a jail would have a preference over our present situation; and remain, sir, your humble servants,

A. GORDON,  
Captain Twenty-Sixth Regiment.  
DANIEL ROBERTSON,  
JOHN STRONGE,  
JOHN LIVINGSTON,  
EDWARD THOMPSON,  
E. P. WILLINGTON,  
D. McDONELL,  
ROBERT THOMAS,  
JAMES GORDON,  
ROBERT CHASE,  
LAU. DULHUNTY.

To John Hancock, Esq.

EPHRAIM BLAINE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 18, 1776.]

Carlisle, Cumberland County, July 12, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I take the opportunity by Mr. *Boyd* of drawing upon you for two thousand dollars, on account of blankets and hose purchased by order of Congress for our Army at *Virginia*. I sent seven hundred and fifty blankets and eleven hundred pair of hose three weeks ago; the residue shall send in three weeks from this date. Will not be able to procure above fourteen or fifteen hundred blankets: they have risen to a very great price. The people ask for old ones from 15s. to 22s. 6d., and for new from 45s. to 52s. 6d. per pair. You need not expect more than the above number. The Militia and our quota of troops to form the Flying-Camp, I fear, will not be supplied without applying to me, though as yet have refused giving any. As soon as I send off the residue, shall render you my account; and am, honoured sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

EPHRAIM BLAINE.

To the Hon. John Hancock, Esq., President of Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress, Sunday, July 14, 1776.]

New-York, July 12, 1776.

SIR: The design of this is to inform Congress, that at about half after three o'clock this evening, two of the enemy's ships-of-war—one of forty and the other of twenty guns—with their tenders, weighed anchor in the Bay opposite *Staten-Island*, and, availing themselves of a brisk and favourable breeze, with a flowing tide, ran a part of our batteries up the *North River*, without receiving any damage that I could perceive, notwithstanding a heavy and incessant cannonade was kept up from our several batteries here, as well as from that at *Paulus Hook*. They, on their part, returned and continued

the fire as they ran by. I despatched an express to Brigadier-General *Mifflin*, at our encampment towards the upper end of the Island, but have not heard whether they got by or received any damage. The account transmitted by this morning's post, respecting the arrival of one of the fleet, seems to be confirmed. Several ships have come in to-day: among them, one this evening, with a *St. George's* flag at her foretopmast-head, which we conclude to be Admiral *Howe*, from the circumstance of the flag, and the several and general salutes that were paid. It is probable they will all arrive in a day or two, and immediately begin their operations.

As it will be extremely necessary that the Flying-Camp should be well provided with powder and ball, and it may be impracticable to send supplies from hence, on account of our hurry and engagements, besides, the communication may be uncertain, I must beg the attention of Congress to this matter, and request that they will forward, with all possible expedition, such a quantity of musket powder and lead, if balls of different sizes cannot be had, as will be sufficient for the Militia to compose that camp.

By an express this minute arrived (quarter past eight, P. M.) from General *Mifflin*, the ships have passed his works.

I am, in heart, with sentiments of great regard, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Minutes of a Conference of General Officers, JULY 8, 1776.

At a Conference of General Officers and others at Head-Quarters, July 8, 1776:

Present, His Excellency the General; General *Putnam*, General *Heath*, General *Spencer*, General *Greene*, General *Scott*, General *Wadsworth*, Colonel *McDougall*, and Messrs. *Randolph*, *Green*, *Dennis*, and *Duer*.

A proposition having been made to the General to sink Hulks in the *North-River*, at *Tappan-Bay*, in order to stop the enemy's progress, it was fully discussed, and agreed that the same be carried into execution: Captain *Grenell* to sound the Channel, and fix the Buoy; Captain *Dennis* to take up the Vessels and Raft; Captain *Lawrence* and Captain *Tudor* to have them sunk in a proper manner; Captain *Grenell* to take notice of the commanding ground, so that, if works should be hereafter erected, they may be made in the most proper manner.

The General proposed to the General Officers, what should be done with the Troop of Horse from *Connecticut*?

Agreed, That the Men be detained until the new Levies arrive, but the Horses be sent home as soon as possible.

The Congress having referred to the Generals' determination the propriety of marching three Regiments of the Continental Troops from *Boston* to the Northern Army, and, in case of need, substituting the Militia in their place,

Unanimously Agreed, That the said three Regiments be immediately despatched to join the Northern Army.

Proceedings of a Council of General Officers.

At a Council of War, held at Head-Quarters, July 12, 1776:

Present, His Excellency General *Washington*; Major-General *Putnam*; Brig. Generals *Heath*, *Spencer*, *Greene*, Lord *Stirling*, *Scott*, *Wadsworth*, and *Heard*.

The General proposed to the consideration of the Board a plan of a descent upon *Staten-Island* in different places, so as to form a general attack upon the enemy's quarters, and a question was made:

Whether, in our present situation, such a measure was advisable?

Agreed, unanimously, That it was not.

The General then proposed a Partisan Party, with a view to alarm the enemy and encourage our own Troops, who seem generally desirous that something should be done.

Agreed, That Major *Knowlton*, who is stationed at *Bergen*, and has reconnoitred the Island, do confer with General *Mercer* thereon; and if they, upon consideration, shall deem such a surprise practicable, and that the retreat of the men can be secured, the General be advised to prosecute it. That this enterprise be accompanied with a cannonade upon the fleet from *Bergen-Point*, if the distance will admit.

## GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 5, 1776.

(Parole, Cambridge.)

(Countersign, Durham.)

Those Regiments which have not made a Return of their Officers, the ranks, and dates of their commissions, agreeable to a former Order, are now called on to do it without delay, and to mention in such Returns the Colony in which such Regiment was raised, the time when and period in which they enlisted, together with the vacancies in their respective Regiments.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 6, 1776.

(Parole, Essex.)

(Countersign, France.)

The Quartermaster-General to have all the empty casks which have been collected filled with fresh water, to be changed occasionally.

The General hopes the officers and soldiers will improve this opportunity to get their arms in the best order for service, as they cannot tell how soon, or how suddenly, they may be called forth.

Two hundred men, properly officered, (exclusive of the number ordered the 3d instant,) to parade to-morrow morning, five o'clock, at the Laboratory, with four days' provisions. They will receive tools and directions from the Chief Engineer.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 7, 1776.

(Parole, Goshen.)

(Countersign, Hartford.)

A working party of one hundred and fifty men, properly officered, to go to *King's Bridge* to-morrow, to march at six o'clock from the parade; they are to take two days' provisions with them; after which they will draw out of the stores there; to take their arms and tents with them; and when they get there, General *Mifflin* will give them orders.

As the enemy may make an attack early in the morning, when there may not be time for the soldiers to fill their canteens, the General directs that they be filled every evening; the officers to take care that it is not neglected, as it is a matter of much consequence at this season.

*James Johnson*, a soldier in Captain *Hide's* Company, and Colonel *Wyll's* Regiment, tried at a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Reed* is President, for "desertion," is found guilty, and sentenced to be whipped thirty-nine lashes on his naked back. Sergeant *George Douglas*, *John Davis*, *John Cooper*, *Robert Sawyer*, and *George Clarkson*, all of Captain *Van Wyck's* Company, Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, tried at the same court-martial for "mutiny and sedition." Sergeant *George Douglass* is acquitted; the others severally found guilty, and sentenced, *Davis* to be whipped thirty-nine lashes; *Cooper* thirty lashes; *Sawyer* and *Clarkson* to be whipped each twenty lashes, on their bare backs for said offence. The General approves of the foregoing sentences, and orders them put in execution at the usual time and place.

Some persons having barbarously wounded and maimed some cattle belonging to *Leonard Lisenard*, Esq., on *Friday* last, the General hopes no soldier in the Army is concerned in so base and scandalous an action; but if it should appear otherwise, such person may depend on the severest punishment. Any person who can give any information in the matter will be well rewarded.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 8, 1776.

(Parole, Johnston.)

(Countersign, Lebanon.)

The new levies from *Connecticut* and *New-Jersey* daily arriving, a report is to be made every day to the General of the number arriving, by the Commanding Officer of each corps, in order that proper arrangements may be made.

All officers are required to be careful that their men are acquainted with orders, that they may not plead ignorance.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 9, 1776.

(Parole, Manchester.)

(Countersign, Norfolk.)

*John Evans*, of Captain *Ledyard's* Company, Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, *Hopkins Rice*, of Captain *Pierce's* Company, Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment, having been tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Reed* was President, and found guilty of "desertion," were sentenced to receive each thirty-nine lashes. The General approves the sentence, and orders them to be executed at the usual time and place.

Passes to go from the city are hereafter to be granted by *John Berrien*, *Henry Wilmot*, and *John Ray*, Jun., a committee of the city appointed for that purpose. Officers of the guards at the ferries and wharves to be careful in making this regulation known to the sentries, who are to see that the passes are signed by one of the above persons, and to be careful no soldier goes over the ferry without a pass from a General Officer. The *North River* guard to be removed to the market-house, near the ferry stairs, as soon as it is fitted up.

The honourable Continental Congress having been pleased to allow a Chaplain to each Regiment, with the pay of thirty-three dollars and one-third per month, the Colonels or Commanding Officers of each Regiment are directed to procure Chaplains accordingly; persons of good character and exemplary lives; to see that all inferior officers and soldiers pay them a suitable respect, and attend carefully upon religious exercises. The blessing and protection of Heaven are at all times necessary, but especially so in times of publick distress and danger. The General hopes and trusts that every officer and man will endeavour so to live and act as becomes a Christian soldier defending the dearest rights and liberties of his country.

The honourable the Continental Congress, impelled by the dictates of duty, policy, and necessity, having been pleased to dissolve the connexion which subsisted between this country and *Great Britain*, and to declare the United Colonies of *North-America* free and independent States, the several Brigades are to be drawn up this evening on their respective parades, at six o'clock, when the Declaration of Congress, showing the grounds and reasons of this measure, is to be read with an audible voice. The General hopes this important event will serve as a fresh incentive to every officer and soldier to act with fidelity and courage, as knowing that now the peace and safety of his country depends (under *God*) solely on the success of our arms, and that he is now in the service of a State possessed of sufficient power to reward his merit, and advance him to the highest honours of a free country.

The Brigade Majors are to receive, at the Adjutant-General's office, several of the Declarations, to be delivered to the Brigadier-Generals and the Colonels of Regiments.

The Brigade Majors are to be excused from further attendance at Head-Quarters, except to receive the orders of the day, that their time and attention may be withdrawn as little as possible from the duties of their respective Brigades.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 10, 1776.

(Parole, Ogden.)

(Countersign, Philadelphia.)

A working party of one hundred and fifty men, properly officered, to parade to-morrow morning, with their arms, near the Laboratory, at six o'clock. To take three days' provisions. The Commanding Officer to come to Head-Quarters for his orders. The Quartermaster-General to provide tents.

General *Heath's* Brigade, instead of repairing to their alarm posts to-morrow morning, to hold themselves in readiness to march. They will receive their orders from the Brigadier-General on the parade, at four o'clock. The Brigadier will attend at Head-Quarters, this afternoon, for the orders.

*John Butler*, of Captain *Bridgham's* Company, Colonel *Bailey's* Regiment, having been tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Reed* was President, is found guilty of "desertion," and sentenced to receive thirty lashes. The General confirms the sentence, and orders it to be executed at the usual time and place.

Though the General doubts not the persons who pulled down and mutilated the Statue in the Broadway last night, were actuated by zeal in the publick cause, yet it has so much the appearance of riot and want of order in the Army, that he disapproves the manner, and directs that in future these things shall be avoided by the soldiery, and left to be executed by proper authority.

*After orders*.—Colonel *Drake*, who was ordered in the orders of yesterday for picket this day, being unable to mount, Colonel *Bailey* is to mount picket this day in his stead. Likewise, as Lieutenant-Colonel *Stoutenburgh* is sick, Lieutenant-Colonel *Sheppard* is to succeed in his place to-morrow.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 11, 1776.

(Parole, Quebec.)

(Countersign, Roxborough.)

General *Spencer's* Brigade, instead of repairing to their alarm post, to hold themselves in readiness to march to-morrow morning, at four o'clock. The Brigadier-General will attend at Head-Quarters this evening for orders, which he will deliver on the parade to-morrow morning to the Brigade.

As the weather is very warm, there will be the greatest danger of the Troops growing unhealthy, unless both Officers and men are attentive to cleanliness in their persons and quarters. The Officers are required to visit the men frequently in their quarters, to impress on them the necessity of frequently changing their linen, cleaning their persons, and, wherever it can be avoided, not to cook their victuals in the same room where they sleep. If any of the Officers apprehend themselves crowded in their quarters, they are to represent it to the Barrack-Master, who is ordered to accommodate them in such a manner as to be most conducive to health and convenience. The good of the service, the comfort of the men, and the merit of the Officers, will be so much advanced, by keeping the Troops as neat and clean as possible, that the General hopes that there will be an emulation upon this head; and as a scrutiny will soon be made, those who shall be found negligent will be punished, and the deserving rewarded.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 12, 1776.

(Parole, Somerset.)

(Countersign, Tunbridge.)

*Thomas Blunfield*, of Captain *Darrow's* Company, Colonel *Parsons's* Regiment, tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Reed* was President, was found guilty of "desertion," and sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed at the usual time and place.

Lord *Stirling's* Brigade to be on the parade at four o'clock to-morrow morning, with their arms and accoutrements, ready to march. They will receive their orders from their Brigadier at the parade.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 12, 1776.

SIR: Two ships of force, with their tenders, have sailed up *Hudson's River*. I am apprehensive that they design to seize the passes in the Highlands by land, which, I am informed, may be done by a small body of men. I must therefore request you instantly to desire General *Ten Broeck* to march down as great a force as he can collect to secure them, particularly the post where the road runs over *Anthony's Nose*.

Send off an express directly, if you please, to the west parts of *Connecticut*, desiring them to collect all their force at the same point, since I have the highest reason to believe it will be absolutely necessary, if it was only to prevent an insurrection of your own Tories.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *Georgè Clinton*, *New-Windsor*.

P. S. A return must be immediately made to me of the number of men you collect.

#### EBENEZER HAZARD TO GENERAL GATES.

New-York, July 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: In my last I told you of the arrival of the fleet from *Halifax*, under General *Howe*. The troops under his command are about eight thousand in number, and have taken possession of *Staten-Island*, which has been peaceable hitherto, but very probably will not be so long, for I believe it is in contemplation to attack them before an expected reinforcement under Lord *Howe* arrives. No attempt has been made on this city or the adjacent country yet. Imagine General *Howe* will do nothing before he is reinforced. Desertions are frequent among them: almost every night some men make their escape. I do not learn that they bring any material intelligence.

Enclosed is the Congress's Declaration of Independence. It has been proclaimed in the State-House at *Philadelphia*, and in the Army here, and received, as might naturally be

expected, with great joy. The King of *England's* Arms have been burned in *Philadelphia*, and his statue here has been pulled down to make musket ball of, so that his troops will probably have melted Majesty fired at them.

Our Convention now sitting at *White-Plains* have entered fully into the spirit of Independency, and have ordered it to be proclaimed by the Chairman of every Committee in the Colony within their respective districts.

No news from *Boston* lately; only *Gordon* writes that the Assembly are going to make thorough work among the Tories; and that a servant maid of Colonel *Irwin's* has returned from *Halifax* with a number of letters for Tories in and about *Boston*, which, instead of delivering them as directed, she put into the hands of the Committee. The contents of them have not yet transpired, but it is expected they contain useful information. I have not had the pleasure of a letter from you yet. Have only time to add, that I am yours,

EBENEZER HAZARD.

To General *Gates*.

#### NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 18, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 12, 1776. }

SIR: Nothing but regard to their duty could induce the Convention of *New-York* again to call your attention to a subject so disagreeable as complaints against the arrangement of the *Canada* Regiment formed by your honourable House. They this day received certain papers relative to that business from a number of officers, who think themselves deeply affected by it, of which papers the enclosed are copies. From thence it appears that, besides other appointments out of the line of rank, three Sergeants, a Corporal, and a Lieutenant Fireworker have been raised over the heads of commissioned officers.

I have the honour to be, sir, the Congress and your most obedient servant.

By order: NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *President*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

New-York, July 8, 1776.

We, the subscribers, do hereby resign the appointments we held in the regiment lately ordered to be raised and commanded by *Lewis Dubois*, Esq., for the following reasons:

First: We have been ungenerously superseded, which the old arrangement of officers made by the Provincial Congress will fully evince; for we assert that the youngest Lieutenant in the Third Regiment, to which Mr. *Dubois* belonged, is appointed a Captain over the heads of the First Lieutenants of the First and other regiments; likewise that Sergeants and Corporals, who went out in said Third Regiment, have superseded officers who bore commissions in the last campaign.

AARON AERSON, *Lieutenant*.

JONATHAN PEASE, *Lieutenant*.

RICHARD PLATT, *Lieutenant*.

DANIEL GANO, *Lieutenant*.

GARRET H. VAN WAGENER.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress.

White-Plains, July 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Whereas we have had the honour to serve in the Continental Army by your appointment last year, we beg leave to mention to you a state of facts which we esteem as real grievances, and look up to you for direction or redress.

When first the dire alarm of war was sounded in our land, we willingly stepped forth and offered our services to our bleeding country, and were much pleased with the appointments which you honoured us with. Urged on by the same motives which first induced us to engage, we endured all the hardships of a most severe campaign, with a pleasing fortitude, not doubting but whilst we were doing our duty we should meet with the applause of our country; that an equal distribution of honour would have been conferred on those who had not merited the reverse. But this has not been the case; a few have been promoted to high rank, while others, of equal standing and merit, are superseded or entirely neglected. Among the many instances of this procedure

that might be given, the most recent is the late arrangement of the officers of a regiment to be commanded by *Lewis Dubois*, Esquire, the injustice of which we hope will fully appear to your honourable House, if you will please to look over the copy of the arrangement itself, which we take the liberty of enclosing to you.

We humbly desire you, gentlemen, to take this matter into consideration; and are, with due respect, (in behalf of the disbanded officers that served in *Canada*,) gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,

SAMUEL SACKET,  
AARON AERSON,  
RICHARD PLATT.

To the Honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*.

*A list of the Officers who served the late campaign in CANADA, with their proper rank according to the first arrangement.*

*Captains.*

*Marinus Willet*, - - - second, in First Regiment.  
*William Goforth*, - - - fourth, in First Regiment.  
*Lewis Dubois*, - - - fourth, in Third Regiment.  
*Jacobus Bruyn*, - - - seventh, in Third Regiment.  
*David Palmer*, - - - tenth, in Tenth Regiment.

*First Lieutenants.*

*William Gilleylen*, - - - second, in First Regiment.  
*David Dubois*, - - - second, in Third Regiment.  
*Samuel Sacket*, - - - second, in Fourth Regiment.  
*Elias Van Bunschoten*, - fourth, in Third Regiment.  
*Aaron Aerson*, - - - fifth, in First Regiment.  
*Samuel Pell*, - - - fifth, in Fourth Regiment.  
*Thomas De Witt*, - - - seventh, in Third Regiment.  
*Jonathan Pearse*, - - - eighth, in First Regiment.  
*Cornelius T. Jansen*, - - ninth, in Third Regiment.  
*Matthias Clarke*, - - - tenth, in First Regiment.

*Second Lieutenants.*

*Richard Platt*, - - - first, in First Regiment.  
*James Grey*, - - - second, in Third Regiment.  
*John Houston*, - - - fifth, in First Regiment.  
*Isaac Van Wert*, - - - fifth, in Fourth Regiment.  
*Daniel Gano*, - - - sixth, in First Regiment.  
*Albert Paulding*, - - - seventh, in Third Regiment.  
*Garret Van Wagener*, - eighth, in First Regiment.  
*Philip D. Bevier*, - - - tenth, in Third Regiment.  
*William Mathewman*, - - tenth, in Fourth Regiment.  
*James Dow*, appointed at *St. John's*.

*Isaiah Wool*, Lieutenant, fire-worker in Captain *Lamb's* company of Artillery.

*LEWIS DUBOIS, Esquire's, Arrangement.*

*Field-Officers.*

*Lewis Dubois*, - - - - - Colonel.  
*Jacobus Bruyn*, - - - - - Lieutenant-Colonel.  
*William Goforth*, - - - - - Major, (resigned.)

*Captains.*

*David Dubois*, - - - - - First Captain.  
*Elias Van Bunschoten*, - Second Captain.  
*Thomas De Witt*, - - - - - Third Captain.  
*Isaiah Wool*, - - - - - Fourth Captain.  
*Philip D. Bevier*, - - - - - Fifth Captain.  
*Richard Platt*, - - - - - Sixth Captain.  
*Albert Paulding*, - - - - - Seventh Captain.  
*Cornelius T. Jansen*, - - - Eighth Captain.

*First Lieutenants.*

*James Gregg*, - - - - - first.  
*Aaron Aerson*, - - - - - second, resigned.  
*Jonathan Pearse*, - - - - - third, resigned.  
*Evans Wherry*, - - - - - fourth, Sergeant in 3d Regt.  
*Garret Van Wagener*, - - - fifth, resigned.  
*Henry Vandenburg*, - - - sixth, Corporal in 3d Regt.  
*Nathaniel Conklin*, - - - seventh, Sergeant in 3d Regt.  
*Henry Dodge*, - - - - - eighth, Sergeant in 3d Regt.

*Second Lieutenants.*

*Daniel Gano*, - - - - - first, resigned.

*General MONTGOMERY's arrangement.*

*Lewis Dubois*,\* appointed Major, *November 25, 1775.*  
*Jacobus Bruyn*,\* appointed First Captain, *Nov. 25, 1775.*  
*David Dubois*,\* appointed Captain, *November 25, 1775.*  
*Elias Van Bunschoten*,\* appointed Captain, *Nov. 25, 1775.*  
*Thomas De Witt*,\* appointed Captain, *November 25, 1775.*  
*Samuel Sackett*, appointed Captain, *November 25, 1775,*  
Fourth Regiment.  
*Isaiah Wool*, of Captain *Lamb's* Company of Artillery,  
appointed Captain-Lieutenant therein, *Nov. 25, 1775.*

*A list of the Officers of Colonel DUBOIS's Regiment, who served last campaign in CANADA.*

Captain *Elias Van Bunschoten*, Lieut. *Henry Dodge*,  
Captain *Thomas De Witt*, Lieut. *Henry Vandenburg*,  
Captain *Cornelius T. Jansen*, Lieut. *Nathaniel Conklin*,  
Captain *James Gregg*, Lieut. *Evans Wherry*,  
Captain *Albert Paulding*, Ensign *Samuel English*,  
Captain *Charles Graham*, *Henry Dubois*, Adjutant.  
*John Coats*, Surgeon.

*List of Colonel DUBOIS's Officers who did not serve in CANADA, but served in his Regiment during this Campaign.*

Lieutenant *Thomas Brinkley*,  
Lieutenant *John Farman*,  
Lieutenant *John Bennet*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER AT NEW-YORK TO HIS FATHER IN SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS, DATED NEW-YORK, JULY 12, 1776.

The enemy are now in the harbour, although they have not yet ventured themselves within gunshot of the city; but we hourly expect to be called to action. The whole Army is out between two and three every morning at their respective alarm-posts, and remain there until sunrise. This was something irksome to me at first, but is now very familiar and agreeable. I am morally certain that it will not be long before we have an engagement. *God Almighty*, of His grace, grant us courage and wisdom, and smile on our arms, that we may play the men valiantly for our *God* and the cities of our *God*. This campaign, if in our favour, I expect will prove decisive; hope there will be no effort wanting on our side to effect it. May we all be fired with a noble ardour and Godlike resolution, rather to die than submit; take for our motto, Liberty or Death, remembering that it is truly honourable to die for our country, and far better to die freemen than to live slaves. I make no doubt, considering the great, good cause we are fighting for, and the necessary preparations that are made, that, with the smiles of Heaven, we shall behave with becoming fortitude and conduct, and be enabled to vanquish those instruments of *British* tyranny and oppression, the enemies of *God* and mankind.

I most heartily congratulate you on the Declaration of Independence—a Declaration which happily dissolves our connexions with a Kingdom where the name of a King is synonymous to that of tyrant, and the name of subject to that of slavery. Our trade is courted by all nations, who would gladly enter into alliance with us for the sake of it; but in that respect we may do as we please, for our internal resources are great, and will, in a short time, be sufficient to supply our necessity; and what success may we not hope for and expect, under *God*, from the united efforts of this vast extended Continent.

July 14.—Just as I had finished the foregoing, we were alarmed by some of the men-of-war getting under sail and making for the city. We immediately repaired to our alarm-posts, which are at such a distance from the river that we had not a chance to fire a gun, but had a beautiful prospect of the whole engagement. We saw them pass by ten of our batteries. They all kept an incessant fire upon them until out of reach, but had not so much success as I could wish, though they were all hulled several times, and much damaged in their rigging; but wind and tide being in their favour, and a very brisk breeze, they soon got by. They poured their broadsides upon our batteries and the town as fast as possible, but without doing any damage. They kept their way up the river until they came near *King's Bridge*; and not knowing there was any battery there, they dropped anchor near the shore, when our people opened

\* Officers of Third Regiment of *New-Yorkers* that were first promoted.



a battery of four twelve-pounders, six six-pounders, and two three-pounders, which did great execution. They weighed anchor with all possible expedition, and proceeded farther up the river, where they lie peaceably at present. Their rigging and hulls were very much damaged, so that they are obliged to keep continually pumping. One of the tenders was so much damaged, that the people all went on board of the large ships, and took her in tow; and by deserters from the *Phoenix*, of forty-four guns, the largest ship that went by, it appears that they lost, from that ship alone, twenty-four men killed and thirteen wounded, and that she had sprung a leak which they could not discover, that kept them continually pumping. We lost six men killed, and three or four wounded, by not spunging a gun. Mr. Conant, the bearer of this, is one of the wounded, who behaved with courage and activity. I expect we shall, in a few days, prevent those ships from returning, and any more getting to them. Which concludes me, after proper respect to all friends, your dutiful son.

New-York, Monday, July 15, 1776.

Last Friday morning, it was reported in town that Lord Howe was arrived at *Sandy-Hook*, with a large fleet from *England*. Between one and two o'clock, P. M., two ships hove in sight, and joined the fleet at the *Watering-Place*. About an hour after, a ship, supposed to be the *Phoenix*, of forty-four guns, a frigate of twenty-eight, and three tenders, got under way at *Staten-Island*, and stood up for this city. The Army soon took the alarm, and in a few minutes every man was at his station, well provided with all necessaries for a vigorous defence; but as soon as the ships came near *Bedlow's Island*, they inclined towards the *Jersey* shore, to avoid our batteries, that then began to play upon them from every quarter, on both sides of the river; and, notwithstanding they must have received considerable damage, they stood their course up *Hudson's River*, firing several broadsides as they went along, without either killing or wounding any of our people, who, on the occasion, behaved with uncommon bravery. A strong southerly wind, and the tide of flood, facilitated the ships getting above the batteries near the town; but we hear they were roughly handled about twelve miles up the river, from whence they have not yet attempted to return, but we hear laid at *Tarrytown*, about thirty miles up the river, on Saturday evening.

Several shot went through different houses in the town; two into the house of Mr. *Verdice Elsworth*, at *Paulus-Hook*; three into Captain *Clarke's* house, at *Greenwich*—one of them went through the front, and lodged in a brick wall, at the head of Miss *Clarke's* bed, in her chamber; a second went through the house, and the third destroyed several trees before the door, and took its course into the woods. A ball also struck the house of Mr. *Daniel Phoenix*, and from that took its course to the new dwelling of Mr. *Christopher Smith*, in the opposite side of the street. Soon after these ships passed the town, a great number of salutation guns were heard in the fleet below, which, we are since told, was on the arrival of Lord Howe, with a few more ships.

On Sunday afternoon, a barge from the fleet appeared in our bay, with a white flag, which was there met by the General's barge, with several gentlemen of the Army on board. The flag was sent by Lord Howe, with a letter to his Excellency General Washington; but as the letter was improperly directed, it was not received.

Lord Howe came over possessed of unlimited power, and was much concerned he had not arrived a few days sooner, which would have effected a reconciliation, &c. However, it seems his unlimited power did not extend to the necessary preliminaries of a negotiation—an acknowledgment of the right of the persons, to whom he came, to treat with him. Indeed, the idea of coming over to propose a plan of reconciliation is, in every view, absurd and ridiculous. For, as the Colonies never invaded the rights of *Britain*, and only defended their own, there was no occasion at all for negotiation. The moment *Great Britain* receded from her unjust claims, the war was at an end. The very proposition, therefore, of a negotiation was a proof that *Great Britain* persisted in her encroachments on the rights of the Colonies, and was in itself an act of a hostile nature.

On Tuesday, another flag from the fleet appeared, and was met as before, when a letter was again offered, but, for the same reason as the former, rejected.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, July 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am just returned from *Crown-Point*; to which place I accompanied General Gates. On our way to that place we stopped at *Ticonderoga*, and left Colonel *Trumbull* to take a view of the grounds opposite to it, and on the east side of *Lake Champlain*. In the evening of the 5th we arrived at *Crown-Point*, and on the 6th Colonel *Trumbull* arrived, who made so favourable a report of the ground he had been to view, that, in a Council of all the General Officers, held on the 7th, it was unanimously resolved to take post there, as your Excellency will see by the enclosed paper, (No. 1.) On the 8th we returned to *Ticonderoga*, and on the 9th we went over the ground for the intended post on the east side, which we found so remarkably strong as to require little labour to make it tenable against a vast superiority of force, and fully to answer the purpose of preventing the enemy from penetrating into the country to the south of it. On the evening of the same day, I received a remonstrance by the hands of General *Sullivan*, copy whereof, (No. 2,) with copy of my answer, (No. 3,) I also enclose.

The most descriptive pen cannot describe the condition of our Army: sickness, disorder, and discord, reign triumphant—the latter occasioned by an illiberal and destructive jealousy, which unhappily subsists between the troops raised in different Colonies.

General *Sullivan* is on his way down, the occasion of it your Excellency will see in his letter to me, copy of which (No. 4) is enclosed, together with copy of my answer, (No. 5;) the former General *Gates* saw soon after I received it, and the latter (of which he approved) before it was sent.

By the advice of the General Officers, I have ordered all the sick to *Fort George*. Two houses, capable of containing about three hundred and fifty, are ready for their reception, and a sufficient quantity of boards is collected, under which to shelter the remainder comfortably until hospitals can be erected.

The waste that has been made of provision is incredible. Flour we have in plenty; but of pork not more than six hundred barrels, and fresh beef extremely difficult to be procured. I hope the Commissary-General will send up pork.

Intrenching tools of every kind are wanted; no one can tell what is become of them, nor can we find above fifty of the vast number of axes that have been sent up. I expected to find a scarcity of both, and before I left this gave orders for collecting all that could be got. In procuring the former, we have had no success; of the latter, something better than three hundred are to be forwarded to-morrow. Perhaps the scarcity of intrenching tools at *New-York* no longer subsists; if so, be pleased to order all that can be spared. Axes I am in hopes to procure.

Your Excellency will please to press Congress for their pleasure on the resolution (No. 6) for raising six companies to guard the frontiers, which we conceived could be much better done by the inhabitants themselves than by others. None of the Militia from the eastern Colonies are yet arrived; they are extremely apprehensive of being infected with the small-pox, and not without reason, as it proves fatal to many of them.

The excessive high price which the troops are to pay for the clothing bought for them will give great disgust, and be attended with the most disagreeable consequences. I wish Congress could see fit to order an abatement on the first cost so considerable as that the soldiers might see the attention paid them.

I am informed that there is a resolution of Congress that no officer should hold double commissions. There are several such appointed in *Canada* by the Generals that commanded there. I have made one here, by giving my Aid-de-Camp, Captain *Van Rensselaer*, a company in *Van Schaick's*, that became vacant by the death of Captain *Mills*. If such a resolution exists, I wish to know it, with your orders for my conduct in regard to those already appointed.

We have reason to believe that the *Indians* will be very numerous at the ensuing treaty. I set out to-morrow to meet them. We have had no intelligence from *Canada* since that contained in General *Sullivan's* letters, which passed me on my way to *Crown-Point*.

No carpenters are yet arrived from *New-England*. Those from *Connecticut* were to leave *Hartford* some day this week.

Please to order up the sundry articles mentioned in the enclosed list of naval stores, (No. 7.)

Lead is an article we stand in great need of; if any can be spared, your Excellency will be so good as to order it to be sent up.

July 13th. The lead is just arrived, but the anchors and cables I fear are by some mistake landed at *Poughkeepsie*. Be so good as to order Mr. *Hughes* to make inquiry into the matter.

\* \* \* \* \*  
unanimously agreed that I should write to the different Governments from whence troops had been sent, entreating the Governours and Commanders-in-Chief to issue their proclamations promising pardon to all such as should return by a limited time, to be fixed by such Governours, &c.; and to require all officers, civil and military, in their respective Governments, to apprehend all such deserters as should not comply with the terms offered, which I hope will meet with your approbation.

I am, dear sir, with the most unfeigned esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

[No. 1.]

#### MINUTES OF A COUNCIL OF WAR.

At a Council of War held at *Crown-Point*, July 7th, 1776, the Honourable Major-General *Schuyler*, President; Honourable Major-General *Gates*, Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, Brigadier-General *Arnold*, and Brigadier-General *De Woedtke*, Members:

*Resolved*, That under our present circumstances the Post of *Crown-Point* is not tenable; and that, with our present force, or one greatly superior to what we may reasonably expect, it is not capable of being made so this summer.

*Resolved, therefore*, That it is prudent to retire immediately to the strong ground on the east side of the Lake, opposite to *Ticonderoga*, with all the healthy and uninfected troops; and that the sick and infected with the small-pox be removed to *Fort George*; it appearing clearly to the Council that the post opposite to *Ticonderoga* will the most effectually secure the country, and removing the infected with the small-pox obviate every objection that may at present retard the Militia (ordered by Congress) from joining the Army.

*Resolved*, That the most effectual measures be taken to secure our superiority on *Lake Champlain*, by a naval armament of gondolas, row-galleys, armed batteaus, &c.

*Resolved*, That one or more Surveyors be immediately employed to trace out a road between the high ground opposite to *Ticonderoga* and the road leading from *Skenesborough* to the Northern settlements.

PHILIP SCHUYLER, B. ARNOLD,  
HORATIO GATES, B. DE WOEDTKE.  
JOHN SULLIVAN,

[No. 2.]

#### REMONSTRANCE OF COLONEL STARK AND OTHER FIELD OFFICERS TO MAJOR-GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Crown-Point, July 8, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: We, whose names are hereto subscribed, Field-Officers of the several regiments in the Continental service now at this place, beg leave, with the utmost respect, to acquaint your Excellency, that when we have been heretofore called upon in a council of war to give our opinion respecting the propriety of a retreat from *Canada*, we were informed by the then commanding officer in chief, that the positive orders of the Continental Congress were, "to dispute every inch of the ground in *Canada*."

That order we have complied with, so long as we or our General (in council) thought would be most conducive to the publick weal. And at the last council of war to which we were called, it was almost (if not quite) unanimously resolved to retreat to this place, and here make a stand against the Ministerial Army.

Since our arrival at this place we have been informed by your Excellency that the honourable Continental Congress have ordered and directed the superiority of the lakes to be maintained. Also, that the Army are to be removed to *Ticonderoga*.

We would not pretend to dictate to you, sir, or to the other Generals, what orders you should issue; neither will we ever decline obeying them; but at the same time beg leave to remonstrate to your Excellency that the order for our removal to *Ticonderoga* appears to us to militate with both the foregoing orders of Congress, in the spirit (if not in the letter) of them, for the reasons following, viz:

1st. We cannot but judge from our own observation of the ground here, that we can maintain it against any forces our enemy can send against us.

2d. That this post appears to us to be the only one where we can maintain a naval superiority upon the lakes.

3d. That whenever we quit this post, we give our enemy an opportunity of taking possession of it, with all the advantages already made by former works, which it will be impossible for us ever to retake from them without an amazing expense of blood and treasure.

4th. By admitting the enemy to get the possession of this place, it not only entirely destroys the communication with the lower parts of the lakes, but opens a plain and easy passage for them into the heart of the four *New-England* Governments and frontiers of *New-York*.

5th. Our retreat from this place to *Ticonderoga* must occasion the retiring of hundreds of families from their farms, and quitting their crops of grain, which would be much more than sufficient to maintain themselves, and drive them upon other towns, which must occasion a consumption of whatever could be spared for the publick service, if not a famine amongst them.

6th. That this place will afford an asylum for the savages, from which they may much easier make excursions upon the frontier settlements and secure their retreat.

7th. That the place to which we are ordered to remove, has ever proved extremely unhealthy, and will tend to increase the distresses our Army have laboured under by reason of sickness.

These, sir, are some of the many reasons which we beg leave to offer to your Excellency's consideration why we are not entirely easy with the determination of the General Officers respecting our removal, and hope our zeal for the publick good, which induces us to make these observations, will be a sufficient apology for this interruption upon your publick business, and that your Excellency will pay such regard hereto as the importance of the affair demands.

We are, with great esteem, your Excellency's most obedient humble servants,

JOHN STARK, Colonel,  
ENOCH POOR,  
WILLIAM MAXWELL,  
ELISHA PORTER,  
JAMES READ,  
WILLIAM BOND,  
JOSEPH CILLEY,  
JOHN McDUFFEE,  
ISRAEL SHREVE,  
SETH REED,  
JOSEPH VOSE,

JOTHAM LORING,  
THOMAS POOR,  
JOHN MOOR,  
DAVID RHEA,  
NATHAN FULLER,  
ABNER MORGAN,  
CHARLES BURRELL,  
NATHAN HALL,  
ISRAEL GILMAN,  
JOHN GREATON.

To His Excellency General *Schuyler*.

[No. 3.]

*Ticonderoga*, July 9, 1776, nine P. M.

GENTLEMEN: Your remonstrance of yesterday's date was delivered me at eight o'clock this evening by General *Sullivan*. Previous to any observations on it, give me leave to remind you of a mistake you have made in supposing that I informed you that Congress had directed me "that the Army was to be removed to *Ticonderoga*." My expression was exactly in these words: "That it be recommended to General *Schuyler* to form a strong camp in the vicinity of *Ticonderoga* or *Crown-Point*." I observed, that as I quoted from memory, and had not the resolution with me, I could not repeat the very words of it. I rather wish to impute your mistake to misapprehension, than to any intentional false repetition of what I said, which I cannot suppose any gentleman can be guilty of.

The reasons which induced the council of General Officers unanimously to give their opinion to remove the main body of the Army from *Crown-Point*, I cannot conceive myself at liberty to give without their consent. For myself, I declare with that frankness which I wish always to cha-

racterize me, that the measure seemed not only prudent, but indispensably necessary, for a variety of reasons, against which those you have given do not, in my opinion, bear a sufficient weight to alter it—some of which are evidently nugatory, and all of which might be contrasted with much more cogent ones in support of the resolution. I assure you at the same time, that if I were convinced of the impropriety of the measure, I should not be in the least tenacious of supporting my opinion, but immediately give way to conviction, and rescind the resolution so far as it depended on me to do it.

I am happy, gentlemen, that you declare your readiness to obey the resolution of the General Officers, although it does not meet your approbation—a sentiment which every good officer ought not only to entertain, but to inculcate on others, as a principle on which the preservation of every army, in a very great measure, depends. Such a sentiment will always induce me, and, I dare say, every other General Officer, to receive with patience and pleasure the advice of his officers, and act accordingly, where I or they are convinced.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To Colonel Stark and the other gentlemen who signed the remonstrance to General Schuyler, dated the 9th July.

[No. 4.]

Crown-Point, July 6, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The command of the Army in *Canada* having unexpectedly devolved on me, I with reluctance accepted the arduous task; and however unsuccessful I may have been in my attempts, yet I may venture to say that the ill success never happened by my rashness, imprudence, or cowardice. I must beg leave further to add, that I am not conscious, in any one instance since I was honoured with a commission from Congress, that I have neglected or refused to do my duty; for the truth of which I appeal to the candour of those officers with whom I have had the pleasure to serve. I readily confess that I ever was desirous of some officer of superior rank to relieve me from the disagreeable command, and should with pleasure have remained in the Army and served under him; but Congress having thought proper to supersede me by appointing General Gates, (who had not, by the rank they were pleased formerly to confer on us, the same pretensions as myself,) I can construe this in no other light but by supposing Congress was apprehensive that I was not equal to the trust they were pleased to repose in me. If this be the case, I am bound in justice to my country to relinquish a command to which I am not equal. If this was not the foundation, and they had not such an opinion of me, surely my honour calls upon me to leave the service after a person is put over me without any impeachment of my conduct. I should not have the least objection to being commanded by General Gates, as I have no personal objections to him, and would willingly have served under him, had he in the first instance held a commission superior to the one Congress was pleased to honour me with. But this not being the case, and the procedure so strong an implication against my conduct or abilities, I must beg leave to quit this department, with my family and baggage, as I cannot with honour act in future, and shall, as soon as possible, repair to Congress, and petition for leave to resign my commission.

This indulgence, dear General, shall ever be acknowledged by your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

To the Hon. Major-General Schuyler.

[No. 5.]

Crown-Point, July 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of yesterday's date was delivered me this morning.

The merits of the reasons which induce you to ask leave of absence from the Army, I would not by any means wish to enter into. It is, however, a justice I owe you to declare, that your conduct since the command of the Army in *Canada* devolved on you, has been perfectly agreeable to me, and that every manœuvre of yours, as far as they have come to my knowledge, and I am capable of judging, has been con-

ducted with a prudence and discernment that leave your character as an officer unimpeached.

Although I most sincerely wish you to remain with the Army, yet as I wish to evince the utmost tenderness to the feelings of every gentleman who conceives himself injured, I cannot withhold my consent to your waiting on the Commander-in-Chief, with such gentlemen of your suite as you choose should follow you. I am, &c.,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To General Sullivan.

[No. 6.]

*Minutes of a Council of General Officers.*

At a Council of General Officers, held at *Crown-Point*, July 8, 1776:

Present: Major-General Schuyler, Major-General Gates, Brigadier-General Sullivan, Brigadier-General Arnold.

The inhabitants residing on the east side of Lake Champlain having, by Colonel Warner, and several other gentlemen, represented the distressed situation of the inhabitants, and that they will be under the necessity of quitting their habitations, unless a body of men is stationed on the east side of Lake Champlain, and to the northward of the settlements, to prevent the incursions of the savages, and that they were willing to raise a body of men for the purpose on the Continental pay, Major-General Schuyler informed the Court that he was not empowered by Congress to raise any men for that or any other purpose, and therefore requested the opinion of the Court on the following questions:

Whether, the weak state of the Army considered, and the fatal consequences that may result from the inhabitants' above alluded to quitting their habitations, and thereby alarming and creating terror in the more southern inhabitants, it would not be advisable to raise a body of men for the purposes above mentioned from among said inhabitants?

*Resolved*, That it is advisable to raise out of the said inhabitants six Companies, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, three Corporals, and fifty Privates; and that General Schuyler, or officer commanding, issue warrants for the purpose.

*Resolved*, That General Schuyler immediately transmit a copy of this Resolution to Congress, praying to be immediately informed if they should disapprove of this measure.

PHILIP SCHUYLER, HORATIO GATES,  
JOHN SULLIVAN, B. ARNOLD.

[No. 7.]

*List of Articles wanted for Gondolas, armed Vessels, and Batteries, viz:*

- 30 Anchors for Gondolas, 200 lbs. to 250 lbs.
- 40 do. do. 100 lbs. to 150 lbs.
- 30 Hawasers,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, 50 or 60 fathoms.
- 40 do. 4 to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  do. 50 to 100 fathoms.
- 1 coil 6-inch Rope, 60 fathoms.
- 1 do. 5-inch do. 60 do.
- 1 do. 4-inch do. 60 do.
- 2 do.  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch do. 60 do.
- 2 do. 3-inch do. 60 do.
- 3 do.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch do. 120 do.
- 4 do. 2-inch do. 120 do.
- 4 do.  $1\frac{3}{4}$ -inch do. 120 do.
- 4 do.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch do. 120 do.
- 4 do. Ratline stuff. 4 sets Tackle Blocks.
- 200 double Blocks,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  to 8 inches.
- 300 Single Blocks,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to 9 inches.
- 4 coils Spun Yarn, 2 and 3 threads. 10 dozen Hamline to be sent. 10 dozen Marline to be sent. 50 half-hour Glasses. 10 Spy Glasses. 200 Buckets.
- 40 small Colours, (Continental,) some red and blue, for signals.
- 60 iron Pots, 4 to 6 gallons each.  $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen Lead Lines.
- 1 dozen Lines for Pendants and Ensign Halyards.
- 6 dozen deep wooden Bowls.
- Pistols and Cutlasses. Small Tacks and Pump Nails.
- Linseed Oil, Blacking, and White Lead.
- 1 dozen hand Speaking Trumpets.
- 6 dozen Sail Needles.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen Bolt-rope Needles;  $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen Marline Needles.
- 1 side Pump Leather. 6 Fishing Nets with Ropes.
- 60 coils Slow Match for the Artillery.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, July 12, 1776.

SIR: On my way to *Crown-Point*, I was honoured with your letter of the 2d instant, an answer to which I could not conveniently send from thence. This day at two I returned here, and about four received your favour of the 9th, by Mr. *Brown*. I am extremely happy to learn that I may soon expect the carpenters. The allowance your Honour recommends shall be complied with; and if any account of disbursements, paid or ordered by you, be transmitted to the Deputy Paymaster-General here, he will immediately discharge it. On our way to *Crown-Point*, we left your amiable son, Colonel *Trumbull*, to reconnoitre the grounds opposite to *Ticonderoga*. His report was favourable, and accompanied with such judicious remarks that they confirmed me in my opinion that it was the properest place effectually to prevent the enemy from penetrating into the Colonies; and I had the pleasure to find that it was unanimously embraced by the other General Officers. Copy of their resolutions I enclose. On our return from *Crown-Point*, General *Gates*, the Chief Engineer, your son, and several other officers, again minutely surveyed the ground, and found it capable, with little labour, to be made tenable against a vastly superior force. On this spot we propose to encamp, and employ the Militia; and here they will be separated from the others by the lake, which is at this place about half a mile wide. The sick and infected with the small-pox are all ordered to *Fort George*, where hospitals are built and building for their reception. I believe the last of these unhappy people will be there this evening or to-morrow at farthest.

It gave me great pleasure to meet my much esteemed friend General *Waterbury* this morning at *Saratoga*. His vigilance will second my wishes, and I dare say we shall prevent the unhappy malady, which has so greatly distressed us, from reaching the troops now marching up to our support.

The enemy, from the last accounts, were fortifying at *St. John's*. From the number of tents there, they do not exceed one thousand, at *St. Therese* about one hundred and fifty, and as many at *Chamblly*. What further numbers they may have we know not.

We are greatly distressed for felling axes. All I shall be able to procure here will be vastly short of what we shall want. Your Honour's goodness, and the despatch with which everything comes from you, will expose you to much trouble and many applications; but as I know where your consolation lies, I do not hesitate to beg your assistance on this occasion. I flatter myself that a great many axes may be procured from what the inhabitants of your Colony may have for their own use, and wish your Honour to appoint some person to do it, and to deliver them at *Albany*, for which he will be paid whatever consideration you shall be pleased to promise, together with every attendant expense. I do not know how conveniently to transmit the money to pay for the axes; perhaps it may be furnished out of your Treasury, to be replaced immediately by the first safe conveyance. I wish to have as many (under one thousand) as can be procured.

When I was at *Crown-Point*, I proposed to a council of officers an expedient to procure the return of the deserters from the northern Army; and it was unanimously agreed that I should write to the different Governments from whence troops had been sent, entreating the Governours and Commanders-in-Chief to issue their Proclamations, promising pardon to all such as should return by a limited time, to be fixed by such Governours, &c., and to require all officers, civil and military, in their respective Governments to apprehend all such deserters as should not comply with the terms offered. May I be permitted to entreat your Honour to issue such Proclamation in your Colony.

We expect a very numerous meeting of the *Indians* at the *German Flats*. My colleague Commissioners set out with me to-morrow for that place.

I am, with perfect esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *J. Trumbull*, Esq.

GENERAL GATES TO MOSES MORSE.

*Ticonderoga*, July 12, 1776.

SIR: I this moment received your letter of the 9th instant, and entirely approve of the establishment of a post between

*Watertown* and the northern Army. I am sorry for the unhappy account you give of the sickness in *Boston*, and wish the same pestilential disease had not for some months sorely afflicted our troops in this department. Three thousand of the Army are now in hospitals, and others daily falling sick; so that, what with the losses sustained at *Quebeck*, the *Three-Rivers*, and the *Cedars*, and the consequent retreat from *Canada*, together with the death and desertion that has happened since the 1st of *April*, our Army is diminished upwards of five thousand men, exclusive of the sick above mentioned. This miserable situation of our affairs, and other circumstances considered, induced the council of war, which General *Schuyler* held a few days ago, unanimously to resolve, that the Army should immediately retire from *Crown-Point* to *Ticonderoga*, where, upon the strong ground on the eastern side of the lake, directly opposite to the east point of *Ticonderoga*, an encampment is marked out for the Army. The sick and infected are removing to the fort at the south end of *Lake George*, where the general hospital is fixed. Our naval force upon the lake is, in the mean time, refitting with the utmost diligence; but the loss of all the field-cannon in *Canada*, with many carriages and artillery stores, very much retards this business, as carriages are to be made here, where our conveniences for doing it are very scanty. Brigadier-General *Arnold* is at *Crown-Point*, forwarding the troops, artillery, stores, and provisions, to *Ticonderoga*; as fast as these arrive, I shall endeavour to place them in a situation to maintain their post; but should the enemy gain a naval superiority upon the lake before this Army is augmented by at least six thousand men, I think our possession of any ground upon the navigable part of these lakes exceedingly doubtful.

By intelligence received yesterday from *St. John's*, the enemy are very busy constructing three sloops and two schooners. General *Carleton* and General *Frazer* are said to be at that post, with a large body of troops. General *Schuyler* has ordered a number of gondolas to be built at *Skenesborough*; three are already finished, but the providing them with artillery and rigging will be a work I am apprehensive will take more time than we have to spare.

As I would not detain the express, I have only given you a general description of the state of affairs here. General *Schuyler*, who commands in this department, assured me he would write particularly to the Eastern Governments; he left *Ticonderoga* the day before yesterday, to go to an *Indian* treaty that is to be held the 15th instant at the *German-Flats*, upon the *Mohawk River*.

I am exceedingly anxious to know the true state of affairs at *New-York*, from whence I have not heard a syllable that can be depended upon since the 1st instant.

The Almighty may chastise us for a time, but he surely will not suffer our righteous cause to perish. That the peace and freedom of *America* may, in his good time, be established, is the fervent prayer of, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

P. S. I desire the Militia sent to our assistance may come complete in arms and ammunition.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

*Crown-Point*, July 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Enclosed is a list of officers and seamen, which I have sent you under the care of Captain *Mayhew*. I have engaged them the same wages as the seamen now on board the fleet. They will all be wanted to fix the vessels and gondolas; after which, I think it will be best to divide them into gangs of twelve or fifteen men for the gondolas now building. Captain *Mayhew* has in charge thirteen *Indians*, taken by Colonel *Hartley* and Major *De Hart*, who it will, perhaps, be best to send to *Albany*, and retain as hostages for the good conduct of their tribe. Enclosed is a letter I have written General *Schuyler* on the subject, which I beg the favour of you to forward.

All the artillery and stores will go off this day: one company of the Train are ordered to *Ticonderoga*, to receive and take charge of the same, and the others will go off to-morrow. The whole Army may leave this place on *Sunday*, unless you think proper for part of them to remain here until barracks can be built at the new camp, as many of them are destitute of tents. I should be glad of your instructions



by return of the first boats. I have not had the pleasure of hearing from you since you left us. I am very anxious to know how matters go at *New-York*, and surprised we have no intelligence.

I am, with respect and affection, dear sir, your obedient humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. Dear General: Since writing the foregoing, I have received yours of yesterday. The gin I have ordered down. I am greatly at a loss to know what to judge of the *Indians*. It is a matter of so much importance, I would not choose to decide on it myself. They have an interpreter with them. I could wish you would be at the trouble of examining them yourself.

I am, with great respect and esteem, dear General, most sincerely yours,

B. ARNOLD.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 12, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The bearer (Mr. *William Hay*) and *Henry Cross* were taken from their farms at *Salmon River*, about fifty miles down the lake, on the west side; the former has left his wife behind, in the small-pox, and three children; the latter has sent his wife to *St. John's*. Part of the cattle of both are brought up here. They are suspected of being inimical to us; and having it in their power to give intelligence to the enemy, were ordered here by General *Sullivan*. There is a number of families under the same predicament. These people appear inoffensive. It will answer no purpose to remove a part, except the whole are removed; in which case provision must be made for them. I have referred them to you for decision; and am, dear General, your most humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Major General *Gates*.

COLONEL BEDEL TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 12, 1776.

SIR: I am now under confinement these forty days or more, for a crime I am sensible I am innocent of, and which I hope your Honour will find. I am under a court of inquiry—only wait the decision of the affair. Shall be glad your Honour will let me have the liberty to repair to *Ticonderoga*, and have it determined. The President and part of the members are there; shall be glad the rest might be ordered to attend. The present situation of my regiment—I not being in a capacity to look after them—renders it very disagreeable; also my private affairs at home, in regard to my family and interest, which lies upon one of the frontier towns which is most liable to be exposed to the rage of the savages; and the news I might receive from that part, that they are all destroyed, would be no more than might be expected, when their situation is considered, as we may suppose the savages have penetrated that way. Colonel *St. Clair*, who is President of the court of inquiry, will be able to inform your Honour into the affair. I cannot help repeating a desire to have the affair settled as soon as possible, so that I may have a final determination, according to my deserts.

I am your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

TIMOTHY BEDEL.

To Major-General *Gates*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, July 12, 1776.

SIR: The bearer hereof, Captain *Jonathan Lester*, of *Norwich*, in this Colony, an approved builder, has undertaken and raised a company of carpenters, in consequence of your requisitions, and entered into the articles of contract by you proposed, but in haste has inadvertently omitted taking a duplicate of the contract properly executed by his whole company, which may yet be done, as his men will be with him on the spot. From this hint you will perceive what will be needful to be done in that respect. You will find Captain *Lester* to be a gentleman of honour and probity, industrious and skilful in his profession, and one that governs his men with prudence and good example. From the knowledge I have of him, I can heartily recommend him to

be worthy of trust and favourable notice. His men are on their march, and will probably arrive to receive your particular orders as soon as possible.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, at *Hartford*, Friday, July 5th, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyar*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, and *Nathaniel Wales*, Esquires.

Governour *Franklin*, of *New-Jersey*, was brought hither last evening, having been taken up by the Convention of his Province as a virulent enemy to the United Colonies, and to be confined in such place and manner as the Continental Congress shall direct; and they have directed him to be sent to Governour *Trumbull*, with the following Resolve, viz:

"In Congress, June 24, 1776.

"Whereas the Convention of *New-Jersey* has declared *William Franklin*, Esq., to be a virulent enemy to this country, and a person that may prove dangerous, and that the said *William Franklin* be confined in such place and manner as the Continental Congress shall direct:

"Resolved, That *William Franklin*, Esq., be sent under guard to Governour *Trumbull*, who is desired to take his parole; and if Mr. *William Franklin* refuse to give his parole, that Governour *Trumbull* be desired to treat him agreeable to the resolutions of Congress respecting prisoners."

Letter and Resolve brought in last evening by *Thomas Kenny*, Esq., officer of the guard of escort, and this morning he applied for direction; and a parole was prepared; and said *Franklin*, moved by letter, for alteration, and liberty to return on his parole, &c., and answer made, &c., in writing, &c., took up most of the forenoon.

The subject of answering, and manner how, of many Letters from Congress, &c., considered, and good deal discoursed, &c.

Finding he could not be returned to *Jersey*, &c., moved by the officer to have leave to go to *Stratford*, and was told by officer he might go to *Wallingford*.

Message was returned in writing, &c., that Governour *Trumbull* might do as he pleased with him, &c.

Colonels *Dyar* and *Williams* waited on him, by desire, &c., and finally he consented to go there, and signed his parole accordingly.

Mr. *Job Winslow*, builder of the *Galley Crane*, laid in his Bill and Accounts, and the same were examined, adjusted, and allowed, being in the whole £1013 6s. 10d.; he having received, by two drafts, £700, the balance, being £313 6s. 10d., is ordered to be drawn for; and orders given accordingly. (Delivered to said *Winslow*.)

Letters partly prepared for Congress, and many weighty matters, &c.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Saturday, July 6, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Present, as yesterday: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyar*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, and *Nathaniel Wales*, Esqrs.

Congress Letters received, and considerations about an answer, &c.

Colonel *Mott* came in, moving about his affairs, &c.

Captain *Niles* moving for Instructions, &c.; on consideration, voted the following Instructions:

"To Captain *Robert Niles*, of the Colony armed Schooner *Spy*, greeting:

"You are hereby instructed carefully and diligently to attend the duty of your station and department; to keep a careful watch and lookout for any and every hostile ship or vessel which may be hovering about our coasts, take any that you can, give every signal and intelligence of and concerning them in your power; and for the advantage of the trade and friends of the country, you are also to take care

and prevent, as far as lies in your power, any smuggling trade and clandestine management, contrary to the laws and embargo of this Colony, and any prohibitions of the honourable Continental Congress; for which, and every faithful exertion for the good of the Colonies and the support of the laws, this shall be your sufficient warrant.

"Given, &c."

Signed by the Governour, and copy delivered Captain Niles.

Instructions to Doctor *John Ely*, to visit the Army at the Northward, infected with the small-pox, &c., viz:

"By the Governour and Council of Safety for the Colony of CONNECTICUT:

"Whereas two Battalions are raising in this Colony to reinforce the Northern Army, in pursuance of the recommendation of the Continental Congress; and as very few of the people of this Colony have passed through the small-pox, now prevalent in that Army, recruiting for that service is likely to be greatly retarded, as there is a high probability of that infectious distemper spreading among the new troops as fast as they arrive, which more effectually retards entering into the service than any other prospect of danger, or fear of the enemy:

"This Board are of the opinion, therefore, that it is highly proper to remove that impediment as far and as soon as possible, and do, therefore, as an expedient for that purpose, appoint, empower, and direct Major *John Ely*, Physician and Surgeon, and as a gentleman who has had great experience in that disease, to repair forthwith to the Army in the Northern Department, wait on the General and proper officers, and find and learn the true state of said Army with respect to that infectious disease; advise and consult with the General, &c., concerning the most proper methods to cleanse and remove said infection from the Army, and prevent the further spreading thereof, if it should be found practicable and expedient; and afford his best advice and assistance for those purposes, and in general of whatever may contribute to the health of said Army, as far as may be proper and suitable in his character, with the allowance and approbation of the General. And he, the said Doctor *Ely*, is hereby recommended to the said General, in the character and for the purposes aforesaid; and the said Doctor is to transmit an account and report of his proceedings to his Honour the Governour, and of the circumstances of said Army, relating to the premises, as soon as may be, and from time to time, until he shall return."

On application of Colonel *Dyar*, &c.,

*Voted*, That the Selectmen of *Westmoreland* may receive at Messrs. *Elderkin* and *Wales's* Mill not exceeding two hundred pounds of Gunpowder, they to account to the Colony therefor, at the price of 5s. 4d. per pound, or in such manner as shall be ordered by this Board, or the General Assembly, giving their receipt accordingly.

(Copy given, delivered to Colonel *Dyar*.)

About ten o'clock, adjourned to *Tuesday* next.

Tuesday, July 9, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyar*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Richard Law*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Benjamin Huntington*, *William Hillhouse*, and *Nathaniel Wales*, Esquires.

The Governour laid before us many things done since last meeting.

Colonel *Mott*, present, laid in a paper, &c., amounting to a declining or resigning of his Colonelcy of a northern Regiment, in the room of Colonel *Douglass*, &c.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Pay-Table be desired to settle and adjust and pay Captain *Edward Mott's* Account and Pay-Roll of his Company, raised by resolve of this Board, according to the regulations thereof, which may appear by the orders he has for that purpose, and according to any rule of the General Assembly, he having received £250, to be accounted for in said settlement.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table, for *Jesse Brown*, the Governour's Postrider to the Northward, for the sum of £10, towards his expenses for riding, &c., to be accounted for on settlement of his account for said service.

(Order drawn, and delivered to said *Brown*.)

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Committee of Pay-Table, for Major *John Ely*, for the sum of £60, to be improved towards payment of his Company, wages and billeting, and to be accounted for on settlement of his account. (Order drawn, and delivered to said *Ely*.)

On motion of Doctor *Ely*, allowed that he may carry with him to the northern Army, where he is going, &c., by order, &c., to take care about the small-pox, &c. viz: one *Peter Granger*, a *French* neutral, much used with him to nurse the small-pox, &c.; to be improved for such purposes as he shall find necessary and convenient.

Captain *Nathaniel Saltonstall*, of a Company of Matrosses, is here, and much to be done about regulating the Company, &c.; and it is considered and

*Voted*, That said Companies consist of forty Men each, exclusive of Officers; that there be one Captain and three Lieutenants for each; that there be eight Gunners to each Company; that their Pay be £2 4s. per month.

*Voted*, That Captain *Niles* be allowed one-and-a-half per cent. on his purchases and payments of his Crew, &c., on board the Schooner *Spy*.

Colonel *Wolcott* was present this day, and many persons on various applications, which took up a good deal of time. Colonel *Mott* also, and much to do about settling the affair of his going in his command to the northward, he having almost resigned, &c., &c.; but finally accepted.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, July 10, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Present: the same as yesterday, and also *Titus Hosmer*, Esq.

Colonel *Ward* was present; a good deal to say about his affairs, and orders to receive, given, and many to converse about, with him, &c., &c.; stayed till noon.

*Jonathan Chester*, of *Groton*, owner of the land where the Fort is built at *Groton*, is here, pressing about an allowance for land taken up by said Fort, and damages done him, &c., and finally came to the following agreement, viz:

"Whereas Governour *Trumbull* and Committee of Safety, agreeable to directions from the General Assembly, have ordered a Fort to be erected in the Town of *Groton*, on land belonging to Captain *Jonathan Chester*; and said *Chester* having applied to this Board to pay for the land so used, and as the value of said land is not known to this Board, and said *Chester* offering to submit the appraisal of the same to indifferent men, mutually chosen, to say what sum the Colony shall give for what land they have already taken, or shall have occasion to take, for the use of said Fort, with the damages done his lands not so taken:

"It is now agreed between Governour *Trumbull* and the Committee of Safety, on one part, and the said *Jonathan Chester*, of *Groton*, on the other part, that *Luke Perkins*, of *Groton*, *William Witter*, of *Preston*, and *William Manwarring*, of *New-London*, Esquires, shall appraise the land that is already taken up, or shall necessarily be wanted for the use of said Fort, and the said damages; and thereupon said *Chester* doth hereby agree and oblige himself to give a proper deed of conveyance of the land so appraised to the Colony, and a discharge of the damages done; upon which the said *Chester* shall receive an order on the Treasury for his money, according to appraisal; and said *Chester* doth hereby acknowledge the receipt of £10, lawful money, in part payment thereof. Dated this 10th day of July, A. D. 1776.

JONATHAN CHESTER.

"Signed in behalf of said Governour and Committee of Safety: Wm. WILLIAMS, Clerk."

Original delivered to Mr. *Law* and Mr. *Hillhouse*.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table, for said *Chester*, for the sum of £10, to be accounted for on settlement of his account. (Order drawn accordingly.)

This Board do appoint Mr. *Royal Flint*, of *Windham*, to be Paymaster of Colonel *Ward's* Regiment.

*Voted*, That *Richard Law* and *William Hillhouse*, Esquires, either, or both of them, be a Committee to apply to and procure the gentlemen agreed on by the Governour and Committee of Safety, and by Captain *Jonathan Chester*, of *Groton*, to appraise the value of the lands taken up, used,

and wanted for the Forts and works of defence built on his land at said *Groton*, and to move them to proceed to the place, and attend on said business, according to the agreement made this day between said parties, and to lay the matters before said appraisers, and appear in behalf of, and represent the Colony in said appraisal; that they apply to the Colonel of the Regiment at *New-London*, and the Engineers, for their advice and directions as to the quantity of land wanted for the use of said Fort and its necessary accommodations, which is to be the quantity appraised and purchased; and said Committee are to take a good authentick deed, well executed, of the same, to the Governour and Company; giving their receipts therefor, and engaging said *Chester* an order of said Governour and Committee of Safety for the sum of which the same shall be appraised, deducting £10 which he has already received; and make report of their doings to this Board.

Captain *Tinker*, of the Row-Galley *Crane*, present, applies for directions about many things; and thereupon

*Voted and Resolved*, That Captain *Tinker*, of the Galley *Crane*, take two three-pounders at the old Fort at *New-London* for said Galley, to be delivered him by the keeper thereof: that he receive eight Swivel Guns as soon as they can be obtained: that he receive ten Muskets, to be delivered him by Colonel *Williams*, which he procured of *Jonathan Goodwin*: that he receive of Mr. *N. Shaw*, Junior, such Powder, Ball, and Military Stores as he, said *Shaw*, shall judge necessary: that he receive, from time to time, a supply of salted Beef, Pork, Bread, Flour, sufficient for the support of the Officers, Sailors, and Marines, on board said Galley, of Captain *John Deshon*, who is directed to deliver the same; and that the said *Tinker* provide all other necessary provision for them, and take order that the same be dealt out prudently, without spoil or waste, with such fresh Fish as they may take; and that he keep a just and true account of the purchase and expenditure of such Provisions, and the same render to his Honour the Governour, at the end of two months, for his consideration and further orders in the premises; and that the place of his general rendezvous be for the present at *New-London*, and to cruise from *Stonington* to the mouth of *Connecticut River*, and southward as far as *Montauk-Point*, with proper precaution and prudence; that he, his Officers and Men, and all others in the sea service, be under the rules and laws of the Continental Fleet, as far as they are applicable, and until more particular or further rules can be made.

Captain *McCleave*, of the Galley *Whiting*, also applies for directions, &c.; and

*Voted and Resolved*, That Captain *McCleave* may receive of Captain *John Deshon* such supplies of salted Beef, Pork, Bread, and Flour, sufficient for the support of the Officers, Sailors, and Men, on board his Galley, who is directed to deliver the same; and that said *McCleave* provide all other necessary Provisions for them, and take care that the same be dealt out prudently, without spoil or waste, with such fresh Fish as they may take; and that he keep a just and true account of the purchases and expenditures of such Provisions, and the same render to his Honour the Governour, at the end of two months, for his consideration and further orders in the premises: that he receive necessary Powder, Ball, and Military stores, of Mr. *N. Shaw*, Junior, at his (said *Shaw's*) discretion; and that he shall receive eight Swivels, as soon as they can be obtained: that he may receive five Muskets of Captain *Mott*, or the proper officer of his late Company; he having reported that he had a surplus in his hands, having received fifteen before: that he rendezvous for the present at *New-London*; and to cruise from *Stonington* to *New-Haven*, and southward as far as *Montauk-Point*, with proper prudence and caution: that he, his Officers and Men, and all others in the sea service, be under the rules and laws of the Continental Fleet, as far as they are applicable, and until more particular or further rules can be made.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Committee of Pay-Table, in favour of Capt. *Robert Niles*, of the Schooner *Spy*, for the sum of £477 6s. 9d., the balance of said Schooner's accounts to the 8th June, (he having received £400,) and also for £200 more for the use of said Schooner from that time forward; and to render his account.

Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*, Junior, of *New-London*, is ap-

pointed Agent for the Colony, for the purpose of Naval Supplies, and for taking of such sick seamen as may be sent on shore to his care. (Copy given, sent by Captain *Harding*.)

*Voted*, That Letters be sent to the Purchasers of Pork, by order of Assembly, as soon as possible; inform the Governour of what they have obtained, at what price, and where stored; and wrote accordingly.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Jabez Huntington* send what Cannon-Powder he has received, per Colonels *Elderkin* and *Wales*, to Mr. *Shaw*, taking his receipt.

*Voted*, That Orders be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of Captains *McCleave* and *Tinker*, for the sum of £100 each, to be improved to purchase necessities for the use of their Crews, and to render their accounts thereof; and order given on paper, delivered them, present.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Thursday July 11, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyar*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Richard Law*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Benjamin Huntington*, *Nathaniel Wales*, and *William Hillhouse*, Esquires.

*Voted*, That twenty-five Arms, Bayonets, &c.; which had been fixed up by Mr. *David Trumbull*, of *Lebanon*, of barrels brought from *Crown-Point*, &c., now in the hands of *John Leffingwell*, be delivered to Captain *Joshua Huntington*, for the use of his Company, to be returned for the use of the Colony. (Order given, and delivered Colonel *Huntington*.)

On recommendation of the Captains, appointed *William Latham*, Junior, Captain-Lieutenant of Captain *Ledyard's* Company of Artillery or Matrosses; *Jonathan Leeds* to be Lieutenant of ditto; *Archas Sheffield* to be Second Lieutenant of ditto: commissioned. And for Captain *Saltonstall's* Company, *Nathaniel Coit*, Jun., to be Captain-Lieutenant; *Daniel Starr*, Lieutenant; *Samuel Champlain*, Jun., Second Lieutenant: commissions given.

Captain *Coit* came in moving for an appointment.

Congress Declaration of Independency received in a letter from Colonel *Trumbull* to me.

Colonel *Oliver Wolcott* having lately returned home from the Continental Congress, by reason of ill health; and it being the opinion of this Board, that it is of importance that the Colony should have a full representation at Congress, and that it is also the opinion of the Assembly, that their full number of Delegates should be present, &c.; and by a letter from Colonel *Wolcott*, expressing also his desire that another member should attend, &c.; this Board, having at turns discoursed on the subject, at several days and times, do conclude, that *William Williams*, Esq., do, as soon as may be, repair to and attend said Congress, as one of the Delegates appointed by the General Assembly—Mr. *Hosmer* and he having discoursed, and partly agreed, on which should attend, &c.

The matter of appointing Officers for the Colony Ship, building at *Saybrook*, taken up and discoursed of largely, and of persons for the Officers. Question was put, whether we will at this time proceed to appoint a Captain and two Lieutenants for said Ship? And resolved in the affirmative. And on further consideration, and the question being put, *William Coit* is appointed Captain of said Ship, *Timothy Parker* appointed First Lieutenant of ditto, and *David Hawley* appointed Second Lieutenant of ditto.

*Voted*, That the date of the above Officers' Commissions be referred to the further consideration of this Board, and their Pay to commence from the date of the same. That Letters be written, informing said *Hawley* of his appointment; the others being near, &c. Captain *Coit* (in town) was called in, and the Governour gave him orders, instructions, and admonitions as to his conduct, &c.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Friday, July 12, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyar*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Richard Law*, *Titus*

*Hosmer, Jedediah Elderkin, Benjamin Huntington, William Hillhouse, and Nathaniel Wales, Esquires.*

A Letter from Colonel *W. Pitkin*, expressing his great apprehensions of danger of his Powder-Mills being destroyed by enemies, there having been much threatening about them, &c., from Prisoners, &c., which occasioned much consultation about guarding or securing them, and how, &c. After much discourse,

*Voted*, That Guards be allowed at Colonel *Pitkin's* and also at Colonel *Elderkin* and *Wales's* Powder-Mills, and that the respective owners be allowed 4s. per night for each night they shall keep such Guard until this Board shall take other or further order concerning them.

Letters from the Congress of the 6th instant came in, by express, containing information of their late Declaration of Independence, and a copy of it, requesting the same to be duly published, &c.

Two Letters also from General *Washington*, of the 7th and 9th instant, about the situation of affairs, and advice that Lord *Howe* with fifteen thousand men are on their passage, &c., and about our Regiments of Horse, much approving the measure, but expressing the difficulties of keeping horses, &c.

The matter and manner of publishing the Independency as recommended by Congress largely discoursed, and many things given out relative to the matter, &c., and concluded to lay by for the present.

On representation of Dr. *Usher*, of the *New-London* Regiment, and Letter from Colonel *Wolcott* for that purpose:

*Voted*, That he have liberty to purchase and take up Medicines for the use of said Regiment, of Doctor *Lothrop* or Doctor *Dyar*, to the amount of £10, for which the Colony will be accountable, and substance of the vote given said Dr. *Usher*.

Sundry Accounts of *William Williams*, Esq., and *Nathaniel Wales*, Esq., examined and settled, &c., viz: Mr. *Wales's* account for services, *July*, 1775; journey and expenses to *New-Haven*, &c., by order, with *William Williams*, to look out an armed vessel, and journey and expenses to *Philadelphia* in *September*, 1775, after money, &c.; journey and expenses to *New-London* with Colonel *Dyar*, to see about Forts, &c.; journey and expenses to *Cambridge* in *October*, to meet Committee of Congress, &c.; in whole £51 17s. 3d. Allowed, and order to be drawn for.

An Account of *William Williams*, *June*, 1775, for sending Powder, with Grain, Barrels, &c., to the Army near *Boston*; *July*, journey and expenses on the sea-coast about armed vessels, &c., with Esquire *Wales*; cash for many Companies; cash for supporting the *Cognowaga Indians* in *January*, 1776, &c.; total, - - - - - £18 19 3

*September*, 1775. Journey and expenses to *Philadelphia* with Esquire *Wales*, by order of the Governour and Committee of Safety, for money, - - - - - 29 15 9

*May*, 1776. Journey to *New-Haven*, *New-York*, and *Philadelphia*, on various services, with Colonel *Dyar*, brought £50,000, &c., cash paid more than £20, - - - 41 6 5  
£90 1 5

Adjourned to *Monday* next, 15th instant.

#### CONVENTION OF COMMITTEES IN PETERSHAM.

At a Convention of Committees of Safety, &c., of the Towns of *Hutchinson*, *Templeton*, *Athol*, and *Petersham*, at the house of *Kenelm Winslow*, in *Petersham*, on the 12th day of *July*, 1776, the following Votes and Resolves were passed:

The question being put, Whether those persons called Tories, in said *Petersham*, were liberated from the restrictions they were laid under by a former Convention of Committees, and the people assembled at the same place? And it passed in the negative.

The question being put, Whether it is the sense of this body that the House erected in the Town of *Petersham* for Publick Worship, was the place intended and meant in the restrictions the abovesaid persons were laid under by the former Convention? And it passed in the affirmative.

The question being put, Whether the aforesaid persons should be indulged to meet for Publick Worship at any

other place than at the House erected by said Town for Publick Worship? And it passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That if such persons, or any of them, should presume to violate any of such restrictions in future, and more especially at such a critical day as the present, that this body will use their utmost influence that they or any of them so offending, after previous notice being given to them of these Resolves, shall be committed to close confinement, and there be continued until our political troubles are at an end.

And whereas Mr. *Aaron Whitney* hath publicly declared that he will keep open doors for the assembling such persons, in violation of such restrictions, which were read to him; therefore,

*Resolved*, As the opinion of this body, that such declaration and practice is an insult on the Committee, and against the peace, good order, and safety of the United Colonies, and ought not by any means to be suffered or continued, but that he be deemed as inveterate and as incorrigible as any who have been so restricted, and ought to be brought immediately to condign punishment.

The aforesaid restrictions are as follow, viz:

"That they should deliver all their Arms and Implements of war, immediately, into the hands of the Selectmen of *Petersham*, and that they should not go out of the Town of *Petersham* without a pass, signed by the major part of the Committee of Correspondence of said Town.

"That no more than two should assemble together at any place, except publick worship, legal town meetings, or funerals."

The reasons given by the Committees for laying on the restrictions aforesaid are as follow:

"At a meeting of the Committees of Correspondence of the several Towns of *Hardwick*, *Templeton*, *Rutland* District, *Hubbardston*, *Westminster*, *Petersham*, *New-Salem*, *Athol*, *Greenwich*, *Winchendon*, and *Royalston*, at said *Petersham*, *February* 25th, 1775, at the request of the Committee of *Petersham*, on account of the riotous assembling of *Joshua Willard*, *William Barron*, Esqs., *Ebenezer Bragg*, and others, did, on examination, find that the said persons, with their associates, had entered into a covenant or combination utterly subversive of our natural and chartered rights, and tending to strengthen and assist the enemies of our Constitution in their arbitrary attempts to introduce the late unconstitutional acts of the *British* Parliament, and likewise to assist each other, in opposition to all such persons who are friends to our liberties and rights. In consequence of which combination, they did actually assemble at the house of *David Stone*, with firearms, and did actually insult and threaten the lives of several persons who went to inquire into the occasion of their so assembling. By all which, it appears to us, the Committees of the above mentioned Towns, and the people assembled," &c.

The names of the persons thus restricted are as follow: *Joshua Willard*, *William Barron*, *Ebenezer Bragg*, *Thomas Beeman*, *Joseph Stevens*, *Benjamin Furness*, *David Stone*, *Ephraim Whitney*, *James Jackson*, *Luke Lincoln*, *William Martindale*, *Seth Hapgood*, *Benjamin Chandler*, *Joseph Smith*, *Nathaniel Munroe*, *David Allin*, *Samuel Frizzel*, *Isaac Hastings*, *David Stone*, Jun., *Nathaniel Lincoln*, and *Ebenezer Ayres*; with some others, whose names are not here mentioned, as they have made their peace with the Town of *Petersham* and the Committee of Correspondence, and manifested a friendly disposition towards *American* liberty; which persons, the present body are of opinion, ought not to suffer any inconvenience by the effect of the present Resolves.

And further *Voted*, That if any of such persons who have not been restored as aforesaid, should in future, or until our political troubles are ended, be found with Firearms, Ammunition, or other implements of war, that in such case they ought immediately to be taken from them.

Per order:

EPHRAIM DOOLITTLE.

*July* 12, 1776.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety, &c., for the Town of *Petersham*, *July* 16th, 1776:

Whereas the Town of *Petersham*, since the above restrictions were laid on said persons, have, in a full town meeting assembled, voted that *Robert Goddard*, *Ensign Man*, and



*John Chandler, Esq.*, have been so far guilty and inimical with those whose names are inserted above, and accordingly restricted them, the said *Robert, Ensign*, and *John*, in like manner; and whereas some of the above persons, thus restricted, have by some means or other obtained general passes from the Committee of *Petersham* for passing out of said Town, and as they have not manifested such a friendly disposition in the present struggle as to be entitled to confidence: The Committee adjudge that no notice ought to be taken of such passes, but such persons ought to be held to their restrictions.

Per order:

SAMUEL GATES.

BARNARDSTON (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

Barnardston, Massachusetts Bay, July 12, 1776.

Whereas complaint hath this day been made to us, the Committee of Safety, &c., of the abovesaid *Barnardston*, by *Nahum Ward*, of *Leveret*, against *Jacob Orcut*, of this Town, for atrociously paying him a Sixpenny bill or note, *New-Hampshire* money, which had been counterfeited or altered from six Pence to six Pounds, paying of it to him for six Pounds: The matter of the complaint having been sufficiently proved, and he, the said *Orcut*, having confessed his paying the abovesaid counterfeited or altered bill for good money, and also confessed his being privy to and knowing of its being altered, after the most serious deliberation, we determined,

That he, the said *Jacob Orcut*, shall pay *Nahum Ward* all his damages. Which he accordingly did.

That he should be whipped thirty-and-six stripes on the naked body. Which was accordingly executed upon him.

That he shall be confined in the Town of *Barnardston*, with liberty to go north from his house one mile in *Guilford*, and a mile east and a mile west in *Guilford*, from a north line from his house; to be confined in *Barnardston* from this time for the space of one year and a half, except he obtains liberty of the Committee of Safety of this Town, in writing, to go out.

That if he knowingly puts off counterfeit money for the future, or goeth beyond his limits without liberty of the Committee of Safety, he shall be sent to the Court, notwithstanding this punishment, for his trial, for putting off the abovesaid counterfeit money.

That he shall pay the Committee, Constable, and attendants, for their trouble.

That the putting off said counterfeit money, with the doings of the Committee, and the said *Orcut's* punishment, be published in the *Hartford* paper, upon his cost.

Signed per order:

ELISHA BURNHAM,  
Chairman of said Committee.

COMMITTEE OF BOSTON TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS BAY:

To the Honourable the Council of said Colony, met at WATERTOWN, July 12, 1776:

The Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, for the Town of *Boston*, being truly alarmed at the danger this country is exposed to from such information as might be carried to the *British* Fleet and Army, beg leave to represent to your honourable Board, that at a time when a fleet of the enemy's ships appeared for several days on our coast, a complaint was lodged with the Committee that a certain Captain *Holmes*, and a number of persons with him, all of them taken in the actual service of our foes, were about departing for the *British West-Indies*, in a schooner purchased of said *Holmes* for that purpose. In consequence of which, this Committee did order her sails into custody, and have ever since detained them. And although the said fleet hath since disappeared, yet the probability that the foreign troops are now near, and the very evident danger that might arise from the enemy's being acquainted with the present melancholy situation of this town, when so many of its inhabitants, our friends from the country, and of our Army, are under inoculation for the small-pox; knowing that one person in the same predicament with Captain *Holmes*, did depart, and in violation of the fairest professions and most solemn engagements, went directly to our enemy's Head-Quarters, and there delivered them all possible information, and even the private letters that had been intrusted to his honour; and though this Committee is

disposed to entertain the most favourable opinion of Captain *Holmes's* integrity, and do most sincerely compassionate his very unhappy situation, yet as they know of no satisfactory security he can give that he will not go and do likewise, we do earnestly request of your Honours a revocation of your order in Council for his departure, or at least that it may be suspended till a happier situation of this town shall make it less dangerous to the publick safety for him to leave it.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN BROWNE, Chairman.

WILLIAM SEVER TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Kingston, July 12, 1776.

SIR: I have at length obtained cannon for the brigantine at *Plymouth*. I purchased them in *Connecticut*. They are now at *Taunton*, and I expect they will be at *Plymouth* by *Sunday* next—ten four-pounders and four six-pounders, all double fortified. Captain *Samson* has given me a memorandum of sundry articles which are wanting for his complete equipments. As I don't know whether the Commissary-General is authorized to deliver from the Colonial store any articles necessary for the armed Colonial vessels, I take the liberty of addressing your Honour on the subject, desiring that such measures may be taken as may be thought proper for the supply of said stores, or such of them as may be thought necessary, as I suppose the brigantine will be ready to go to sea immediately. I had designed to be at *Watertown*, but am informed that the small-pox has such a spread in *Boston* and the towns around, as to make it very unsafe for a person who has not had the distemper. This consideration has prevented my attendance.

I am, with respect, sir, your very humble servant,

W. SEVER.

To the Hon. *James Bowdoin*, Esq.

Memorandum of sundries wanting for the equipment of the armed Brigantine at PLYMOUTH, SIMEON SAMSON, Captain, viz:

Forty fire-arms; 40 cartouch-boxes; 40 cutlass-belts; half a ton of powder; 6 reams of cartridge paper; 10 reams double-headed cartridge paper; 3 cwt. grapeshot; 350 four-pound shot; 200 six-pound shot; 100 hand grenades; 400 pounds of musket balls, 14, 16, 18, 22 to a pound; 50 pounds of buckshot; 400 flints; 1 cwt. match-rope.

COLONEL GILMAN TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

GENTLEMEN: That part of my regiment at *New-Castle* being reduced to a small number by reason of recruits being taken out for *Canada* and elsewhere, obliged me to order a detachment of one commissioned officer and thirty privates from Captain *Daniel's* company to assist in building a fort at *New-Castle*. The soldiers in a few days mutinied, and refused to obey my orders. After repeated insults of that nature, I ordered a general court-martial, and upon trial they plead they only enlisted to do duty in *Fort Sullivan*. The inlistments being produced, it appeared to be a fact, a copy of which I here enclose. How men came to be so enlisted I cannot tell. You may easily see by their inlistments that they are not subject to inferior or superior officers, neither to the regulations in the Army. You may easily see what may be the cruel consequences of keeping men in pay under such inlistments. But how the matter will be remedied, or what is best to be done, you, gentlemen, are the best judges.

I am, gentlemen, with esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

P. GILMAN.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

P. S. The men have promised to obey orders; but how long before their minds will alter I can't tell, as they are sensible they are under no obligation by their inlistment.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE SELECTMEN OF NEW-MARKET.

In Committee of Safety, July 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee feel the greatest anxiety, and are strongly depressed with the accounts from *New-*

*Market*, that any internal broil should in the least obstruct the forwarding those things so absolutely necessary for the preservation of all that is dear to us. Probably a neglect of speedily reinforcing our northern Army may occasion the slaughter of our bosom friends and innocent offspring, while we are mingled in the common carnage. The truly forward and patriotick disposition often shown by the inhabitants of *New-Market* in the common cause convince the Committee that they will not now attend to any particular difficulty, and neglect the main object, while their neighbours are nobly exerting themselves at this important time. Therefore, they desire you will, with all possible speed, call a meeting of all the inhabitants of your town, and proceed to raise the men proportioned to you, in Colonel *Gilman's* regiment, at which time Colonel *Gilman* will attend, and lend you all the assistance in his power to accomplish so noble and so necessary a purpose.

To the Selectmen of *New-Market*.

COMMITTEE OF KITTERY TO COMMITTEE OF PORTSMOUTH,  
NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Kittery, July 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee of Correspondence for this town have received a letter from the Committee of Correspondence for *Boston* of the following import, viz: that they have information and reason sufficient to induce them to believe that a communication has been kept up between the enemy's ships and some of our small boats, and that they have thought it necessary for the common safety to order that no vessel or boats be suffered in future to leave the town without special permission, and that they have confined the fishing-boats within the limits of one league from the shore. We therefore think it expedient to advise you of this measure recommended to us, as without your coming into a similar one it will be of no effect; wherefore we shall be much obliged to you for your opinion hereupon, and what method you propose to take respecting this matter; and are, with respect, your most humble servants.

In the name and in behalf of the Committee:

JOHN J. P. BARTLETT, *Chairman*.

CAPTAIN WICKES TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS.

On board the *Reprisal*, July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This will inform of a small addition to our good fortune in the prize way. We this day took Captain *Muckelno* in the schooner *Peter*, of *Liverpool*, from *St. Vincent*, bound to *Liverpool*, in *Britain*, loaded with rum, sugar, coffee, cocoa, and cotton. We also took Captain *Mackey*, in the ship *Friendship*, from *Granada*, bound to *London*, which I have written you of before, and send a copy of that letter. This schooner is ordered into one or either of the *Egg Harbours*, if she can get in there; if not, into any other port on the coast. I have given orders to Mr. *Jeremiah Holden* to send this letter and the proper papers and letters to you by express on his arrival in *America*. We had very little wind this two or three days past, and are but little farther on our way than when I wrote you last.

From, gentlemen, your most obliged and humble servant,

LAMBERT WICKES.

To the Committee of Secret Correspondence, *Philadelphia*.

WILLIAM FALCONER TO THE HON. ANTHONY FALCONER.

Camp Long-Island, July 13, 1776.

DEAR BROTHER: With the greatest difficulty I have procured this small piece of paper to inform you of my being very well, notwithstanding the miserable situation we are in. We have been encamped on this Island for this month past, and have lived upon nothing else but salt pork and pease. We sleep upon the sea-shore, nothing to shelter us from the violent rains but our coats and miserable paltry blankets. There is nothing that grows upon this Island, it being a mere sand-bank, and a few bushes which harbour millions of moschitoes—a greater plague than there can be in Hell itself.

By this sloop-of-war you will have an account of an action which happened on the 28th of *June*, between the ships and the fort on *Sullivan's Island*. The cannonade continued for about nine hours, and was perhaps one of the

briskest known in the annals of war. We had two fifty-gun ships and five frigates, from twenty-four to thirty guns, playing on the fort, I may say without success, for they did the battery no manner of damage, and killed fifteen and wounded betwixt forty and fifty. Our ships are in the most mangled situation you can conceive. The *Acteon*, a thirty-gun frigate, run aground during the action, and as it was impossible to get her off, we were obliged to burn and blow her up. Our killed and wounded amounts to betwixt two and three hundred. Numbers die daily of their wounds. The Commodore is wounded in two different places. His Captain lost his left arm and right hand, and was wounded in different parts of his body—he lived but two days after the action. Captain *Scott*, of the *Experiment*, of fifty guns, died of his wounds, and numbers of the other officers.

If the ships could have silenced the battery, the Army was to have made an attack on the back of the Island, where they had about one thousand men intrenched up to their eyes, besides a small battery of four guns, one eighteen-pounder and three four-pounders, all loaded with grape-shot, so that they would have killed half of us before we could have made our landing good.

We are now expecting to embark for *New-York*, to join General *Howe* with the grand Army. My anxiety to inform you of bad news had wellnigh made me forget to mention our passage to *Cape-Fear*, where we arrived safely the first of *May*, after a voyage of three months. Though it was long, yet it was not disagreeable after we got out of the bay of *Biscay*, where we met with the worst weather ever known at sea, and continued in that situation for sixteen days; after that time we had very fine weather all along; sometimes we were becalmed for four or five days together, not going above ten knots a day. Upon our arrival in *Cape-Fear* we disembarked, and were encamped in the woods until the 27th of *May*, when we went on board again, and sailed for this infernal place. The oldest of the officers do not remember of ever undergoing such hardships as we have done since our arrival here.

I hope you will be so good as to watch every opportunity to let me hear from you and Mrs. *Falconer*, and at the same time to inform me how I shall do in case I shall be obliged to purchase my Lieutenantcy. I beg you will make my excuse to my dear sister for not writing to her at this time; it is not owing to want of affection, but to the want of proper materials. I am obliged to write on the ground. You will be so good as to let Captain *Falconer* know the same thing. I shall write again from *New-York*.

I am, dear sir, your most affectionate brother,

WILLIAM FALCONER.

To the Hon. *Anthony Falconer*, at *Montrose, Scotland*.

The foregoing Letter was found on *Long-Island, South-Carolina*, and forwarded to Congress, and is now made publick by order of Congress.

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

August 29, 1776.

JOHN PAGE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Williamsburgh, July 13, 1776.

SIR: As the enemy's fleet has been driven from their station, and their forces obliged to abandon *Gwin's Island*, and we are informed they will endeavour to possess themselves of some place on the Eastern Shore of *Maryland*, we have thought it prudent to give you the earliest intimation thereof. A battery of two eighteen-pounders played on their ships, and a few rounds forced them to retire. Four nine-pounders silenced their batteries, raked their camp, and threw them into the greatest confusion; on which our men, as soon as boats could be procured, passed over to the Island, which the enemy abandoned with precipitation, carrying with them all their cannon, except one; two of their tenders fell into our hands. The ship *Dunmore* was so much damaged, that it is said she was burnt the night after the cannonade. They were obliged to destroy two other vessels. We congratulate you on the success of the *American* arms in *South-Carolina*. By this express you will be fully informed of Sir *Peter Parker's* repulse.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN PAGE, *Pt. Council*.

To the Honourable President of the Council of Safety of *Maryland, Annapolis*.

## CALEB C. GOUGH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to my last, Mr. *Jacobs* waits on you respecting the tents. Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth* received your favour per Captain *Nicholson*, and thanks you for the draft therein enclosed, which he will apply to the purposes you direct, and render you an account of the charges of unloading the brigs and removing the soldiery, as soon as the amount can be ascertained.

He desires me to assure you that he will give all the assistance he can to *George Wells*, in procuring the timber for the gondolas, and will always be glad of such commissions from you as it may be in his power to execute.

I am, gentlemen, for Mr. *J. Hollingsworth*, your obedient servant,

CALEB C. GOUGH.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*.

## JOHN HANSON, JUN., AND OTHERS, TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of a resolve of the Convention, we, the Deputies from the several Committees of the Districts of this County, met and proceeded to the recommending of Officers for the two *German* Companies, and Lieutenants for the Rifle Company, whose names, together with a transcript of our proceedings, we here enclose you. As we have not heard from Captain *Barrett*, and have some reason to believe that he will not accept of his appointment, from the emergency of the occasion, we beg leave, in case of his refusal, to recommend to your notice Mr. *Thomas Beall*, son of Colonel *Samuel Beall*, as a gentleman well qualified to fill that station, and one who, we are informed, would be able, in a very short time, to raise his company.

We are, with respect, gentlemen, your obedient servants,

JOHN HANSON, JUN.,

H. GRIFFITH,

ADAM FISCHER,

MICHAEL FALKNER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

Fredericktown, July 12, 1776.

At a meeting of Deputies from the several Districts of this County, for the purpose of recommending Officers to the Council of Safety, for the command of two *German* Companies, and Lieutenants to one Rifle Company, to be raised in this County:

Were present, Messrs. *John Hanson, Jr.*, *Samuel Beall*, *Michael Falkner*, and *Adam Fischer*.

Resolved, That the following persons be recommended as Officers to the two *German* Companies:

*William Heiser*, Captain; *Jacob Cotz*, First Lieutenant; *Adam Smith*, Second Lieutenant; and *Paul Christian*, Ensign.

*Henry Fisher*, Captain; *Charles Balsall*, First Lieutenant; *Michael Barger*, Second Lieutenant; and *Jacob Crummitt*, Ensign.

Adjourned till six o'clock to-morrow morning.

July 13th, 1776. Same gentlemen present as yesterday.

Resolved, That the Lieutenants to the Rifle Company be recommended as follows:

*Peter Hanson*, First Lieutenant; *James Lingan*, Second Lieutenant; and *Richard Dorsey*, Third Lieutenant.

RICHARD POTTS, Clerk.

## JAMES HINDMAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Oxford, July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When I was in *Somerset* the Committee of Safety delivered me three prisoners to bring up as far as *Talbot*, there to be delivered to the Militia to send over to *Annapolis*. When I came to *Cambridge* I delivered them to a guard of Militia there, who had some men to send over. The Committee there, thinking I had no right to leave them there, have sent them over here to me, with a prisoner they had in custody, in expectation of my calling at *Annapolis* on my way to the head of *Elk*. As it may be a means of

stopping us some time by calling, I have hired the boat to carry the prisoners over, whom you will please to pay, and take charge of the prisoners. I shall set off to-morrow morning early for the head of *Elk*, and shall make the best of my way to *Philadelphia* as fast as possible.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JAMES HINDMAN.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

## COLONEL BARNES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

St. Inigoes, July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received information on *Friday*, the 12th of *July*, that there was a considerable number of ships and small vessels between *Smith's Point* and *Point Lookout*, on which I ordered five companies of Militia to repair there as fast as possible, and immediately set out to the Point myself, in order to get further information. On my arrival there, I found about forty sail of vessels; they were then about twenty-five miles off the Point, in the Bay, where they continued till in the night. In the morning about fifty-eight sail were discovered opposite *Smith's Creek* in *Potomack*, and eight in the Bay, on which I gave orders to call the companies of my battalion immediately to march to *Potomack*, in order to prevent their landing in the district of the Twenty-first Battalion. We have had two small vessels driven on shore from the fleet; on board of one of them were three whites and two negroes, three of whom now have the small-pox on them. One of the white men informed us the fleet was *Dunmore's*, and that Governour *Eden* was on board the *Fowey*, and that he heard it surmised that they intended to take possession of *St. George's Island*; since which the *Fowey* and her tender have come to in *St. Mary's River*; and I don't doubt but the greatest part, if not all of the fleet, will be there in the morning. We have between two and three hundred of our Militia stationed in different places, and I have just sent off an express to Colonel *Jordan* to supply me with one or two hundred men of his battalion, if possible.

From the above affair, I think it would be proper Captain *Beall's* company from *Drum Point* should be ordered here, and their place there supplied with the Militia of the County. I should be glad of your advice and assistance. I should have written you more particularly, but have been marching from place to place, from the morning till now, which is twelve o'clock in the night, and am much tired.

Mr. *Hugh Hopewell* has promised me to hire an express in *Calvert* to carry this to you, should therefore be glad you would pay him.

I remain, gentlemen, your humble servant,

RICHARD BARNES.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## JOHN WESTON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Kingsbury Furnace, July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received your favour 8th current, and sorry it is out of my power to serve the Province with guns, as both our furnaces are out of blast, nor can we blow till late this fall for want of water. Captain *Charles Ridgely's* furnace is in blast, and likely to continue for some time.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant, JNO. WESTON.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COMMITTEES OF THE LOWER COUNTIES.

[No. 33.]

Annapolis, July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer hereof (Colonel *Ewing*) will have occasion to spend some little time in your County, in forwarding the raising the men for the Flying-Camp, purchasing arms and blankets for them, and promoting in other respects the publick service. As he is pretty much a stranger in your part of the Province, he may be at a loss, perhaps, unless he receives some assistance from you; we therefore take the liberty of introducing him to you, and shall be obliged for any assistance you may give him, or any favours you may show him. We are, &c.

To the Committees of the four lower Counties.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 13, 1776.

SIR: I am to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 10th instant, and to acquaint you that it is now under the consideration of Congress.

The enclosed resolves I do myself the honour to transmit, as necessary for your information. I have written to General Schuyler and the Commissioners for Indian Affairs respecting the same.

In obedience to the commands of Congress, I have enclosed you two copies of sundry resolves they have passed relative to the treatment of our prisoners by Captain Forster in Canada. I am to request you will take the proper steps to send one of them to General Howe and the other to General Burgoyne. I transmit, also, a third copy for your own use.

Should the *United States of America* give their sanction to the Jesuitical and villanous distinction which Captain Forster adopts to justify his conduct, there would be no end to butchering our prisoners. They have therefore very properly reprobated it; and, in the genuine spirit of freedom, resolved, that such cruelty as shall be inflicted on prisoners in their possession, by savages or foreigners taken into pay by the King of *Great Britain*, shall be considered as done by his orders, and recourse be immediately had to retaliation. It is to be hoped their determination will have the desired effect, and that for the future such barbarous scenes will never be acted under the eye and approbation of a *British* officer; for there is the greatest reason to believe that Captain Forster engaged the *Indians* to join him, on the express condition of giving up to them all such prisoners as might fall into his hands. His subsequent conduct, indeed, renders this conjecture more than probable.

I have the honour to be, with perfect esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General Washington.

One o'clock, P. M. This moment your favour per post of the 11th instant came to hand. I shall lay it before Congress on Monday morning.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, July 13, 1776.

SIR: I am so extremely hurried at present that I must beg leave to refer your attention to the enclosed resolves; and, indeed, this is all I have time to do.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General Schuyler.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Philadelphia County Committee, July 13, 1776.

*Resolved*, That this Committee, in consequence of a Letter from the honourable Continental Congress, as well as from a recommendation of the Provincial Conference, do proceed to raise our part of the Flying-Camp, and that the following gentlemen be appointed as Officers: Colonel, *Robert Lewis*; Lieutenant-Colonel, *Isaac Hughes*; Major, *John Moore, Esq.*; Surgeon, *Enoch Edwards*; Quartermaster, *Marshall Edwards*; Adjutant, *Solomon Bush*. Captains: *Archibald Thompson, George Smith, Henry Derringer, Jacob Laughlin, Rudolph Neff, Aaron Levering, Christian Shnyder, Henry Pawling, Joseph Jones*. First Lieutenants: *Marshall Edwards, Solomon Bush, Samuel Swift, William Wilson, Casper Doll, Samuel Hains, Graudus Schlatter, Mordecai Morgan, David Schrach, Stephen Porter, Thomas Rossetter*. Second Lieutenants: *William Armstrong, Leonard Dall, James Hazlet, George Bringham, Matthew Holgate, Jesse Roberts, Alexander Hall, Beacock Major*. Ensigns: *Andrew Barge, William North, William Nox, Abraham Duffield, Nathaniel Childs, Alexander Wright, James Potts, Rees Nanna*.

Extract from the minutes: ENOCH EDWARDS.

The Officers appointed by the Committee of this County to compose the Flying-Camp are requested to meet at the *Conestoga Wagon*, in *Philadelphia*, on *Saturday*, the 20th instant, at nine o'clock in the morning.

ROBERT LEWIS.

JOHN COX TO JASPER YEATES.

Philadelphia, July 13, 1776.

MY DEAR FRIEND: The enclosed letter came to hand a day or two after you left *Philadelphia*. My young man, not knowing but that you intended returning home this way, kept it till I came home.

Our Militia are all in motion, except three companies that are ordered to stay to guard the frigates, &c. The last of the Second Battalion will march off this afternoon, and I shall follow them this evening or to-morrow morning as their Lieutenant-Colonel. Where we shall go, or how long we shall continue in the service, *God* only knows. Our first encampment will be at *Trenton*, where I suppose we shall continue a few days, and advance towards the enemy. I am told the Militia of your County turn out with great cheerfulness. I make no doubt of our being able to muster twenty thousand men by the last of next week; if so, I take it there will be two to one in favour of our being ordered to dislodge the enemy, now at *Staten-Island*; if so, I hope and pray we may distinguish ourselves as men fighting for everything that is valuable and dear.

We have got one of the most gentlemanly fighting fellows you ever knew to command our privateer; and hope it will not be long before we shall be in possession of half a dozen rich sugar and dry-goods ships.

Whenever you find it convenient, you will remit to my brother *William* two hundred pounds, which will be somewhere about the amount of your share of the vessel. Should anything extraordinary turn up on the present campaign, you may expect to hear from me. I hope you reached home without any accident, and that you are all the better for your jaunt.

I shall be much obliged by your settling the matter with Captain *Patterson* as soon as possible, as *God* only knows whether I ever shall return; and I should like matters so settled as to give those who come after me as little trouble as possible.

*God* bless and protect you and yours, and believe me to be, with unfeigned sincerity, your affectionate and humble servant,

JOHN COX.

To Jasper Yeates, Esq.

P. S. The packet mentioned above has been delivered to Colonel *Ross*, by his particular request.

HENRY HALLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Reading, July 13, 1776.

SIR: We have received your letter, containing a resolve of Congress for the removal of the privates who are prisoners in this town, to *Lancaster*, which we shall carry into execution with all the despatch in our power.

We received a letter from the honourable the Delegates of this Province, mentioning that we should be informed by express, or by the gentlemen from our County then at *Lancaster*, that all the Militia that could possibly be equipped and armed should be called forth. We also received a letter from the Committee of *Lancaster*, enclosing copies of letters from a Committee of Congress, and from the Committee of the City of *Philadelphia*; in the former of which it is mentioned that the forces from the several Counties should be collected and marched to *Brunswick*; in the latter it is mentioned that only the four thousand five hundred men ordered to be raised in the Province, as part of the Flying-Camp, were meant by the letter of the Committee of Congress. We, therefore, continued our plan of raising our quota for the Flying-Camp, and, indeed, added a company more, to complete the battalion, hoping for the approbation of Congress in so doing; since which we have seen in the publick prints the proceedings of the Conference of the Delegates of the several Counties, and of the Committee of Safety of the City and Liberties. But as we had nearly raised several companies to compose the Flying-Camp, (the place of which this Militia is intended to supply,) and the others were proceeding with great success, considering the great scarcity of every kind of tolerable arms among the people to arm such a multitude, we hope our completing the original plan will be approved of, as the men will be more quickly raised and better equipped than if we were to take down the whole Militia.

Our conduct is dictated by the warmest attachment to the



cause of our country, and we trust it will be considered in that light by the honourable Congress.

We are, with great respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servants,

HENRY HALLER,  
EDWARD BURD,  
JOHN WHITMAN, Jun., } Committee of  
PAUL KERBER, } Correspondence  
COLLINSON READ, } for BERKS.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

WILLIAM H. ATLEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 16, 1776.]

In Committee, Lancaster, July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee were this afternoon honoured with your instructions of the 12th instant, with the resolve of Congress empowering and requesting the Committee to keep a guard over the prisoners in the Barracks in this place, and to surround the Barracks with a stockade fort. The Committee will give the strictest attention to the matters recommended to their notice by Congress, and will have these resolves carried into execution with all the despatch in their power. They have sent off an express to General *Irving*, requesting his presence to direct the form and manner of the stockade; and hope on *Monday* morning to begin this necessary work, and flatter themselves they will then have the opportunity of consulting with him as to the proper guard and necessary workmen, and materials to be employed and used in this business.

We have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM H. ATLEE, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COMMITTEE OF NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: A multiplicity of engagements, and a continual pressure of other concerns, have prevented our proceeding in the case of the soldiers confined for treasonable practices; but as soon as time will admit, a proper attention will be paid to it. In the mean time, I beg leave to suggest the propriety of the authority of the Province taking some steps with regard to those persons confined by them for the same offences. They certainly are to be deemed the principals; and justice to the inferior agents, while the others pass unnoticed, I observe, only excites compassion and censure. I am very sensible it is a case full of difficulty and perplexity, and well deserving your most serious deliberation; nor do I entertain a doubt but the result will be such as will conduce to the publick good.

I have, some time ago, mentioned to the body of which you are a Committee, the necessity of falling upon some measure to remove from the city and its environs persons of known disaffection and enmity to the cause of *America*. The safety of the Army, the success of every enterprise, and the security of all, depend so much on adopting the most speedy and effectual steps for the purpose, that I beg leave again to repeat it, and do most earnestly entreat you to fall upon some plan for this purpose, or to give me your assistance doing it, so as to remove those disquieting and discouraging apprehensions which pervade the whole Army on this subject. A suspicion that there are many Ministerial agents among us would justly alarm soldiers of more experience and discipline than ours; and I foresee very dangerous consequences in many respects, if a remedy to the evil is not soon and efficaciously applied.

The removal of the Tory prisoners, confined in the jail of this city, is a matter to which I would solicit your attention. In every view, it appears dangerous and important. In case of an attack and alarm, there can be no doubt what part they would take, and none can tell what influence they might have.

You will, gentlemen, do me the justice to believe, that nothing but the importance and necessity of the case could induce me thus to urge these matters, in which you have also an immediate and common interest.

The gentlemen appointed to give passes to persons leaving the city, I am informed, decline acting. Great inconvenience will ensue to the citizens, if this business should be committed to officers of the Army, who, from their ignorance of the inhabitants, as well as other reasons, are wholly improper for the management of it. I should be glad if your Committee will take this matter also into their consideration.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect and regard, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Committee of the Honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO EGBERT BENSON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 13, 1776.

SIR: Two ships of force with their tenders have sailed up *Hudson's River*. I am apprehensive that they design to seize the passes in the Highlands by land, which I am informed may be done by a small body of men. I must therefore request you instantly to desire General *Ten Broeck* to march down as great a force as he can collect to secure them, particularly the post where the road runs over *Anthony's Nose*. Send off an express directly (if you please) to the west parts of *Connecticut*, desiring them to collect all their force at the same point, since I have the highest reason to believe it will be absolutely necessary, if it were only to prevent an insurrection of your own Tories.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To *Egbert Benson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess County*.

P. S. A return must be immediately made to me of the number of men you collect.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO CAPTAIN DENNIS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 13, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Duer* informs me that there are two or three vessels lying at the dock of Mr. *Beverly Robinson*, in the Highlands. As it is probable the men-of-war which sailed up the river yesterday may have anchored to the northward of these ships, I think it absolutely necessary that an attempt should be made to secure these vessels for future service. I have therefore to desire the favour of you to procure proper persons to bring these vessels down the river, and to anchor them under the fort where General *Mifflin* commands. It is absolutely necessary that this matter should be conducted with the utmost secrecy, and despatch; and as I am of opinion that you possess these requisites, I have thought proper to apply to you for your services in this matter.

I am, sir, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Captain *Dennis*.

TO CAPTAIN JOHN JOHNSON. INSTRUCTIONS TO SUPERINTEND THE NORTH RIVER FERRY. 1ST NEW-YORK.

It is General *Washington's* orders that Captain *Johnson*, of Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, do daily attend from sunrise to dark in the evening at the *North-River Ferry* wharves, leading both to *Powles-Hook* and *Hoghook*, at which, or between which places, all boats coming to the west side of the town, are to land, where he in the first place is to examine all passengers going from the town, and to see that they have genuine passes from the Committee or one of the General Officers. In the next place, he is particularly to be attentive to the passengers who arrive in town. If they are travellers, such as he can have no suspicion of, he is only to require their names and the places where they intend to lodge, and report them to the General at noon and in the evening. If they are in any manner of suspicious characters, he is to detain them at some convenient house, to be appointed for that purpose in the neighbourhood, till he can send his report (which is to be done immediately) to Head-Quarters, and the General's determination be had thereon. He is also to examine the passengers of all other boats (besides the ferry boats) which may arrive, and report in like manner.

And in order the better to enable Captain *Johnson* to carry these instructions into execution, the commanding

officer of the *North-River* guard is to give him every necessary aid in his power. Captain *Johnson* is to communicate these instructions to the Committee appointed to give passes.

By the General's order at Head-Quarters, this 13th of July, 1776.

STIRLING.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, New-York, July 13, 1776.

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Committee, the Members of the different Fire-Engine Companies that remain in this City ought not to be called out on any military duty which the common Militia of this City and County are subject to; and that it be recommended to the different Captains of the said Firemen, to engage as many able citizens as are sufficient to fill up the vacancies of such Firemen as are entered in the Continental service, or have removed out of town; and that they pay strict attention to the state of the Engine and publick buckets; and that the Captains aforesaid return a list of all such Firemen as soon as possible to this Committee.

Extract from the Minutes.

Published by order of the Committee:.

JOSEPH WINTER, *Secretary*.

JOHN MCKESSON TO ROBERT BENSON.

Saturday, A. M., 10 o'clock.

DEAR BROTHER BOB: I received yours of *Thursday*. The city has been a scene of confusion, but begins to be more settled. Many of the *Jersey* Militia are gone to the *Kills* and *Bergen-Point*. They are the best Militia, and with better arms and accoutrements, than any other Militia I have ever seen. There are some exchanges of cannon about the *Narrows* and *Kills* every day. Yesterday afternoon, either two or three tenders went up the *Kills* successively, and fired at our troops, who returned the fire so briskly that the tenders soon returned. The first tender soon returned to the fleet, when a second was sent. She was, or appeared to be, larger, but did not tarry long after the firing between them began.

I send you a parcel of papers to put in the chest, and a few letters for the President and Members.

Pray let me know whether the order for issuing commissions extended to Colonels *Ritzema's* and *Clinton's* regiments, or either. If so, please to send me a bundle or two of commissions. I had only forty-two left here. All the officers are vastly impatient, and some of them seem unwilling to think of coming to any action without commissions. I have ventured to issue the commissions for Captain *Beauman's* company, as he, though the youngest Captain in the Artillery corps, is assigned to the first place of danger. I hope the gentlemen will approve my conduct in this instance.

I find I am of some use here, which, together with my expectation, as well from publick report as your letter, of your change of plan, has prevented my joining you. If you are likely to tarry at the Plains, or if you do not send me some blank commissions, I shall attend you without delay.

My best compliments to the gentlemen of Congress, and Mr. *Bancker*.

It is said that *Westchester* men are much alarmed at the great consumption of their sunfish, and that a considerable share of that waste is charged to Mr. Alderman *Brasher* and a few other gentlemen.

I have got cartridges for your fusee, and will bring both whenever I can be certain where to join you.

I am, sincerely yours,

JOHN MCKESSON.

To Robert Benson, Esq.

P. S. The Mayor's Court stands adjourned to next *Tuesday*. The Mayor refuses to appoint a Deputy. Some of the Magistrates fear the loss of the City charter; and Mr. Alderman *Bayard* writes by this conveyance to the Recorder to come to town, and open and adjourn the Court.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS IN QUEEN'S COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

By orders of the *Queen's* County Committee, July 13, 1776, we, the subscribers, were appointed a sub-Com-

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mittee to regulate the districts of Captain *Peter Nostrant*, on the south side of *Hempstead*, that four Companies had been thrown into one. Accordingly, we have made the district of the late Captain *John Birdsall's* Company for one Company, and accordingly notified the people on this day to meet and choose their military officers. There met a number of men, and made choice of *Richard Jackson* for their Captain, *Zebulon Seaman* for First-Lieutenant, *John Lewis* for Second-Lieutenant, and *Smith Brush* Ensign; to which we beg the favour of the honourable Provincial Congress to grant them their commissions.

Gentlemen, we are your very humble servants,

JOHN WILLIAMS,

JOHN BIRDSALL,

BENJAMIN BIRDSALL,

Three of the County Committee.

JOHN COE TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER AT PAULUS-HOOK.

Haverstraw, July 13, 1776.

SIR: The regiment of this County is now, and has been, under arms all night, occasioned by the appearance of several ships-of-war of the Ministerial fleet, now lying in *Tappan Bay*. We have heard that another part of the same fleet attacked the city of *New-York* last evening; but what has been the event, or whether they have been able to pass the forts on the river, we are not able to learn. As we would endeavour to ease the County as much as is consistent with the publick service, at this busy season of the year, we have despatched the bearer, Mr. *Resolvert Van Houter*, express to you, and beg you would give him the necessary information relative to the action of yesterday, and your advice on the necessary steps to be taken by us to prevent the enemy from making inroads and depredations on the west side of *Hudson's River*.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

By order of the County Committee for *Orange County*:

JOHN COE, *Dep. Chairman*.

To the Commanding Officer of the Continental Forces at *Paulus-Hook*, or on the west side of *Hudson's River*.

NATHANIEL WOODHULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 13, 1776. }

SIR: On being informed yesterday afternoon that two ships-of-war had gone into the *North River*, and passed by all the fortifications on *York-Island*, the Convention immediately sent an express to the commanding officer of the fort at the Highlands, advising him thereof.

Last evening, advice arrived that two frigates and two or three tenders were at anchor at *Tarrytown*; whereupon, the Convention sent the inhabitants a supply of powder and ball, and took immediate measures for reinforcing the inhabitants along that shore. This morning, the Convention were informed that the frigates and tenders still lay there at anchor, and that several barges were busy in sounding the river. Another detachment of the Militia has been directed to guard the stores in that neighbourhood, in which are sundry effects belonging to the publick.

The Convention will endeavour to prevent their making incursions into the country; and beg leave to suggest to your Excellency the propriety of keeping a strong guard at *King's Bridge*, the destruction of which they apprehend to be an object with the enemy.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *President*.

By order: To His Excellency General *Washington*, at Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO COLONEL HAMMOND.

White-Plains, July 13, 1776.

SIR: We last evening ordered Colonel *Thomas* to send you a reinforcement of forty or fifty men, together with one hundred pounds of lead, and two quarter-casks of powder, all of which we hope you have received.

There is no great reason to apprehend that any considerable incursions into the country will be made by parties from the ships in the river; and we are therefore of opinion that it

would not be expedient for great numbers of the Militia to leave their farms at this busy season of the year.

Great attention should be paid to the conduct of the disaffected among us, and care taken to prevent any unusual gatherings of them; and let all such of them be apprehended and secured as may give any aid to the enemy, or threaten to give us any molestation.

Colonel *Drake* will give the necessary orders for provisions, and we hope the Whigs of this County will distinguish themselves by their zeal and alacrity on this occasion.

We are, sir, your very humble servants.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Hammond*.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO COLONEL VAN CORTLANDT.

White-Plains, July 13, 1776.

SIR: Be pleased to order such a number of your regiment to guard the stores in which provisions and other effects belonging to the publick are lodged, at and near *Peekskill*, as you may think necessary. Colonel *Drake* will afford them the necessary supplies of bread and pork.

As it would not be prudent, on every little alarm, to call great numbers of the inhabitants from their farms, we hope the detachments you may order on service will not be greater than the exigency of affairs may require.

We are, sir, your most obedient servants.

To Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*.

COLONEL JAMES CLINTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Constitution, July 13, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Your express of the 12th I just now received, and will endeavour to comply with the contents.

We had a most unfortunate accident happen here yesterday. As Lieutenant *Bryant* and one *Nicoll*, both of the Artillery, were scaling out a couple of cannon which we had just mounted, before having flashed a little powder out of one of them, and not spunging her properly, when the Lieutenant was putting in the wad, the cannon went off, shot off his hand, and blew *Nicoll* several yards, as he was standing by to ram down the charge. *Nicoll* was mortally wounded; the Lieutenant had his right arm cut off.

We want more officers of the Artillery here very much, as Lieutenant *Bryant* is a great loss to us. We are scarce of gun-flints and good arms.

I am, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,  
JAMES CLINTON, Colonel.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO JOHN LANGDON.

Albany, July 13, 1776.

SIR: By Captain *Wentworth* I was favoured with yours of the 2d instant, who also delivered me £806 9s. 6d., lawful money, for which I have given him duplicate receipts.

Captain *Wentworth's* immediate return puts it out of my power to pay him that attention which your recommendation, and, I dare say his merit, would entitle him to. I have pressed him, but in vain, to accompany me to a treaty, to be held with the *Six Nations*, at the *German-Flats*.

General *Sullivan* is on his way down. He thinks a slight has been put on him, by appointing General *Gates* to the command of the troops that were then supposed to be in *Canada*, and talks of quitting the Army. I should be sorry if he did, because I have reason to believe him a good officer. His retreat from *Canada*, where he could not possibly have remained with an Army so miserably broken as that he commanded, has been judiciously made, and reflects honour on him.

Adieu, and believe me, with respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO JEREMIAH POWELL.

Albany, July 13, 1776.

SIR: Your letters of the 29th ultimo, and 1st instant, I had the honour to receive at *Ticonderoga* a few days ago. I deferred answering them until I should be able to give you some account of the measures taken to prevent that dreadful malady, which has so greatly reduced our Army, from infecting the Militia intended to reinforce it.

The main body of the Army is removing to *Ticonderoga*, when they will be immediately employed in constructing such fortifications on the west side of *Lake Champlain* as may be necessary to prevent the enemy from drawing over their boats into *Lake George*, should they obtain a naval superiority; which, however, I have not the least apprehension that they will be able to effect this campaign. On the east side of *Lake Champlain*, and opposite to *Ticonderoga*, the grounds are remarkably strong; and it is concluded to be the place for a fortified camp, to be occupied by the Militia to prevent the enemy penetrating the Colonies in that quarter; and by means of our batteaus, both bodies may reciprocally support each other, as the distance from shore to shore is only half a mile. This disposition will effectually prevent the small-pox from being conveyed to the Militia by the now infected Army; and we hope that in a few weeks both bodies may join without danger, should there be occasion, as all the sick and infected are removing to *Fort George*, to which place every one hereafter seized with the small-pox will be sent, and there kept until they are perfectly cleansed.

Our Army is much recovered since their return to *Crown-Point*, and I hope in a little time to find it healthy and fit to give the enemy a warm reception, should they be able to cross the Lake and attempt an attack.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *Jeremiah Powell*, Esq., President of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, &c.

P. S. When I was at *Crown-Point*, I proposed to a council of officers an expedient to procure the return of the deserters from the northern Army; and it was unanimously agreed that I should write to the different Governments from whence troops had been sent, entreating the Governours and Commanders-in-Chief to issue their Proclamations promising pardon to all such as should return by a limited time, to be fixed by such Governours, &c.; and to require all officers, civil and military, in their respective Governments, to apprehend all such deserters as should not comply with the terms offered. May I be permitted to entreat your Honour to issue such Proclamation in your Colony.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, July 13, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I arrived here at two yesterday afternoon. The latest accounts from *New-York* are of *Tuesday* last. The enemy were landed on *Staten-Island* to the number of about seven thousand, and, it is thought, were waiting for reinforcements. A body of them also debarked on *Long-Island*, but did not remain long, being apprehensive of an attack from some of our troops who were on their march toward them. A small tender of theirs, in going up the *Kills* between *Bergen-Point* and *Staten-Island*, has been sunk, either by our batteries or some craft we had there.

The Mayor of *New-York*, *Forbes*, and the other conspirators, are still confined. I cannot learn what is to be their fate.

I have this morning sent you three hundred and forty-eight felling axes and fifty spades, and have written to *Connecticut* and the western towns of the *Massachusetts*, to collect and immediately forward whatever they can. All the blacksmiths are at work in this place and in *Schenectady*, and I hope to collect some in the country, having given orders for that purpose.

On the 2d instant, Congress declared the *American* Colonies free and independent States; and it is said that there was not one dissenting Colony.

No lead is yet arrived here. I have again requested General *Washington* to send whatever he can spare. I have repeated my orders for a full supply of fresh provisions to be immediately sent; pray let the pork be husbanded as much as possible, as I fear we shall not be able to procure much more. Permit me to remind you to order all the brick from *Crown-Point*, as well those wrought up into chimnies as the others.

The bearer, Major *Ely*, is sent by the Colony of *Connecticut* to give his assistance as a physician who has had much experience in the fatal malady which so greatly distresses us. Permit me to recommend him to your attention.

I have written Governour *Trumbull* and President *Powell*, and pointed out the disposition we have made of the Army, and observed on the good prospect we have of eradicating the small-pox and preventing its seizing the Militia.

A quantity of lead is just arrived and shall be forwarded to you without delay.

We are this moment informed by Mr. *Wray*, who left *New-York* on *Tuesday*, that a fleet of seventeen *French* men-of-war was arrived at *Rhode-Island*, with Mr. *Deane* on board. The account has been repeated to him on his way up. I hope for the pleasure of a confirmation of this account.

I shall desire the Postmaster here to send you all the letters for the Army, with a blank commission for a Postmaster, to be filled up by you.

Pay my respects to General *Arnold*.  
I am, dear sir, with great truth and sincerity, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.  
To the Hon. General *Gates*.

P. VAN RENSSELAER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, July 13, 1776.

SIR: General *Schuyler* desired me to acquaint you that I have sent two sets of carpenter's tools and two of blacksmith's tools to *Fort George*, and to be forwarded to *Ticonderoga*. I also sent this day three hundred and fifty-one axes, fifty-one spades, eight boxes of musket ball, containing eleven hundred and thirty-five pounds, and two tuns of bar lead. Eight tuns remain in store.

I am, sir, with respect, your most humble servant,  
P. V. RENSSELAER.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*, *Ticonderoga*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Head-Quarters, *Ticonderoga*, July 13, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am anxious to have you here as soon as possible, as maintaining our naval superiority is of the last importance. I labour continually to get the Commodore to *Crown-Point* with the vessels, but am baffled by the laziness of the artificers, or the neglect of those whose duty it is to see them diligent at their work. I hourly expect one or two more gondolas from *Skenesborough*, and shall labour all in my power to get them rigged and armed. I am certain you will not lose a moment in forwarding the troops and stores from the Point. We shall be happy or miserable, as we are or are not prepared to receive the enemy.

I am your affectionate humble servant,  
HORATIO GATES.

To Brigadier-General *Arnold*.

COLONEL BEDEL TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 13, 1776.

SIR: I have just received intelligence by letter from the frontier towns on *Connecticut River*, viz: *Cohos*, that the inhabitants there are, in general, in great terrour on account of the savages, and a great number of them have left their farms with their families; some remain, making stockade forts round their houses to defend themselves. And as the savages from *St. François*, &c., are the only ones near them at present, I am, in a great measure, inclined to think that I could in a short time raise such a number of them as would be able to defend that part, as the savages from other parts would never venture that way when they found friendly savages protecting us. The savage who comes with this will be able to inform your Honour more particularly relating to the disposition and nature of savages in such cases.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,  
TIMOTHY BEDEL.

To Major-General *Gates*.

Providence, Rhode-Island, July 13, 1776.

Since the 6th instant some Officers of the *British Fleet*, who had broken their parole of honour by going beyond the limits prescribed by the General Congress, were brought to town and secured in Jail.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Lebanon, July 13, 1776.

SIR: In conformity to a resolve of Congress of the 27th ultimo, I sent to Mr. *Shaw* for an account of the cannon left at *New-London* by Commodore *Hopkins*—their number, size, bore, and weight; and also an account of the other cannon there. Enclosed is a copy of his return made me, by which it appears, that if the fourteen heaviest cannon had been sent to *Philadelphia*, there would not have been one twenty-four-pounder in our fort, and only one eighteen of those left by the Cominodore. The ten of nine are old. We have been necessitated to make use of them for the present: one of them unfit for use.

The plan sent, and other representations, show the situation and advantages of the harbour of *New-London*. Hitherto the Sound has not been invested by the enemy.

Yesterday I received your letter of the 6th instant, enclosing the Declaration of the *United States of America*. I shall have it proclaimed in the Colony in such a manner that the people may be universally informed of it.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable President *Hancock*.

Cannon received from Commodore HOPKINS, and to whom delivered.

	Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		
1 Cannon	35	2	18	Twelve.	
1 do.	35	1	4	do.	
1 do.	34	0	2	do.	
1 do.	34	0	11	do.	
1 do.	38	3	25	Eighteen.	
1 do.	42	3	12	do.	
1 do.	50	1	4	Twenty-four.	
1 do.	50	1	4	do.	
1 do.	52	1	16	do.	
10-1 do.	18	3	5	Nine.	
6 Cannon, twenty-fours					308 0 6, Philadelphia.
1 do.	51	2	3	Twenty-four.	
1 do.	52	0	5	do.	
1 do.	51	1	19	do.	
1 do.	40	0	5	Eighteen.	
1 do.	39	2	20	do.	
1 do.	34	3	25	Twelve.	
7-1 do.	34	1	8	do.	
1 do.	35	2	14	do.*	
2-1 do.	33	3	27	do.*	
25					
4 do.	75	0	20	Nine.	
4 do.	75	0	20	do.	
9-1 do.	18	3	5	do.	
34 Cannon.				Weight, 1,243 1 26	

\* Mounted on travelling carriages.

Account of Colony Cannon at NEW-LONDON.

	Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		
1 Cannon	34	2	0	Twelve.	
1 do.	39	3	14	Eighteen.	
1 do.	40	0	0	do.	
1 do.	-	-	-	Six.	
1 do.	-	-	-	Four.	
7-2 do.	-	-	-	Three.	

Mounted on ship carriages.

Mounted on field carriages.

Account of Colony Cannon at GROTON.

	Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		
1 Cannon	40	1	10	Eighteen.	
1 do.	39	3	11	do.	
1 do.	34	3	10	Twelve.	
1 do.	34	1	0	do.	
2 do.	old, no mark.			Six.	

Mounted.

LEBANON, July 13, 1776.

True copy from Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun.  
Account per JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

JOHN KEIGHLEY TO THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Boston Jail, July 13, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: I am extremely sorry I have occasion to be so troublesome, but this distressed situation obliges me—health of body and peace of mind being so much impaired; and with humble submission, I cannot conceive any crime I have committed that could deserve three months' close confinement in the room of a prison designed for felons. I have acted in no way prejudicial to this country. If any accuse me of it, I beg to face them, that I may acquit myself to the satisfaction of all. I know it is not in the power of man to prove me, directly or indirectly, concerned in taking away the property of any person whatever, and desire to acquit myself of any charge of that kind also.



Honourable gentlemen, my case is truly hard, in being obliged to suffer so long in the miseries of a common jail, without having it in my power to prove (by being brought to examination and duly heard) that I do not merit it, unless in attempting to take my property to another part of the world is a crime that deserves such rigorous treatment. Therefore, I humbly beg your Honours that if any accusation has been laid against me I may have an opportunity to clear myself, and induce your Honours to release me out of this unhappy, miserable situation.

And am, with respect, your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

EDWARD KEIGHLEY.

To the Honourable Council at *Watertown*.

JOSEPH HAWLEY TO THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Northampton, July 13, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The levies for reinforcing the northern Army are making in the County of *Hampshire* as expeditiously, and more so, than could be expected. But in the town of *Northampton*, where its full quota is complete, (and I am informed in some other towns,) there is a vehement desire to take small-pox by inoculation before they march. The delay which will unavoidably be occasioned by such a step will be so great that I dare not give the least countenance to the proposal; besides, the Army is retreated to *Crown-Point*, and thereby the practicability or possibility of suppressing that distemper in the Army appears to me very probable; and it is also very probable, in my humble opinion, that the service of that Army, through the season, will be much more by detached bodies than it would have been if they had continued in *Canada*, and perhaps in parts where there will be but very little danger of the small-pox. From these considerations, I have great doubt whether your Honours will give leave for such a delay. If it be granted to any, the indulgence must be general; and what destruction may befall that Army, in the mean time, for want of recruits, none can foresee; perhaps a total defeat and dispersion of them. But it is insisted that I should write to your Honours on this head, and I must beg an answer as soon as possible. I beg your Honours to pardon me if I suggest the absolute necessity of some person or persons being at *No. 4*, prepared to pay the men their mileage, and to deliver them their rations for their further march, as soon as any troops may arrive there; otherwise, it is easy to foresee that the greatest confusion will take place there. Sufficient care had not been taken in this most important particular when I left Court, and I can hear nothing of the matter since. There is no advice here that any person has arrived at *No. 4* as yet for that purpose. The Committee for *Hampshire* have not so much as received the resolve directing what route the troops shall take. I pray that it may be sent by the bearer, (Mr. *Clark*;) as also, if your Honours so please, your directions respecting inoculation.

I am, with most humble respects, your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To the Honourable the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*.

COLONEL J. HURD TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Haverhill, (Cohos,) July 13, 1776.

SIR: The bearer of this (Captain *Samuel Paine*) having made a voluntary offer of his services to go on a scout towards *Canada*, for the good of the common cause, I embrace the opportunity of paying my respects to you from this part of the country, and to acquaint you something of our present critical situation.

I was at *Exeter* about ten days ago, attending the publick business, where we were alarmed with repeated accounts of the ill success of our forces in *Canada*; that the Army under your command, having dismantled the fortress *St. John*, had retreated to *Isle-aux-Noix*, and from thence were going over the lake with all expedition to *Crown-Point*, which of course left the northwest parts of the *New-Hampshire* Colony open to the incursions of the enemy, and defenceless. This news, with the exaggerated accounts of the numerous Ministerial Army lately arrived at *Quebeck*, struck such a consternation and panick into our people settled along upon *Connecticut*

*River*, that they immediately began to pluck up stakes and remove with their effects and live stock from the *Upper* and *Lower Cohos* to the interior country. Those who determined to remain here set about building fortifications of some sort for the defence of their women and children, and a considerable number of families live now in garrison, having quitted their plantations and risked the loss of the near harvest, though the finest appearance of crops, to their great damage. My own family (the better part) I met half way on the road as I was returning here, where I left them, and came on to encourage the people in this quarter what I could.

Our Assembly have, in consequence of very pressing letters from the Continental Congress, resolved upon raising two battalions, of seven hundred and fifty men each, to march into *Canada* for your reinforcement; and have, for greater expedition, determined to draught the men proportionally from the several regiments of Militia, giving, at the same time, a bounty of £7 18s., besides a month's advance wages, for encouragement. They have also determined upon raising two hundred men, particularly for the defence of this part of the Colony, to be kept on ranging duty between *Connecticut River* and *Lake Champlain*, and towards the head of *Connecticut River*, in which quarter we are most exposed while your Army is stationed at *Crown-Point*. This, sir, you must be so sensible of, that I need but hint it. You are also acquainted of the new road which was opening under care of Colonel *Bayley*, from *Cohos*, on a northwest course, to *Missisque Bay*, and thence to *St. John's*, by particular direction from General *Washington*; on which road there were upwards of fifty persons employed, and had got nearly thirty miles through when this news reached here; upon which Colonel *Bayley* desisted, and called off his workmen. I take the liberty to enclose you a sketch of this road, from a plan first draughted by Mr. *McCalf*, which, if you have not seen, I thought might be of some service; and, if otherwise, your politeness, I trust, will excuse the trouble. You will please to give Captain *Paine* such advice and directions respecting his scout as you may think best. We shall be anxiously expecting his return, that we may know better what we have to depend upon; and if the multiplicity of your affairs will admit of a few minutes' time, I shall think myself much honoured by a line from you.

Wishing the hand of a kind Providence may cover you in every danger, preserve your valuable life and health, I am, with great esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HURD.

To the Hon. Major-General *Sullivan*.

P. S. I have had the pleasure to see a copy of your letter from *Crown-Point*, of 3d instant, to Colonel *Hoisington*, and to observe, though your Army was much weakened with sickness, you were not apprehensive of any immediate danger from the enemy, they having no vessels of force on the lake, nor boats in readiness for transporting. Our greatest danger, we fear, at present, is from small skulking parties of *Canadians* or *Indians*, should they take up the hatchet against us. Yet we have this good circumstance in our favour: the *St. Francois* tribe and *Caughnawaga* have still some of their children at *Dartmouth College*, under Doctor *Wheelock's* tuition, which one would think they would certainly remove before they begin hostilities.

July 14.—Since writing the above, I have seen a letter from Captain *Ira Allen*, on *Onion River*, by one of our scouts, in which he writes that Colonel *Waite*, by your orders, was stationed there with two hundred men, and that he expected there would be a line of block forts from that river to *Connecticut River*. This may answer a good purpose, but will not be sufficient. The northern parts of our Colony will still be exposed, our settlements extending seventy miles on this river above the *Lower Cohos*; and it appears to us here that nothing but the enemy's ignorance of the country and our weak situation, or their want of men, prevents them from forcing their way into these parts; the consequence of which, (should such a plan take place as recommended by the notorious Mr. *Brush*) you can easily conjecture.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN EAMES.

In Committee of Safety, July 13, 1776.

You are hereby authorized to enlist fifty good, able-bodied, and effective men, officers included, to serve as soldiers under

you for three months, (unless sooner discharged,) as scouting parties, to make their Head-Quarters at *Great Cohos*; not taking more than ten of the inhabitants of said *Great Cohos* in the number. And you are to make return, as often as you can conveniently, of your routes, discoveries, &c., &c., to Colonels *Bayley*, *Hurd*, and *Charles Johnson*, at *Lower Cohos*, and take their instructions from time to time for your future conduct.

The men you inlist are to be paid thirty shillings as a bounty, and assure them they shall receive forty shillings per month when your roll is made up. And the Company are to choose a Lieutenant, Ensign, and two Sergeants. You, as Captain, shall receive £6, your Lieutenant £4, and Ensign £3, each Sergeant 48s. per month. The Captain, Lieutenant, and Ensign, to receive no bounty.

To Captain *Jeremiah Eames*.

CAPTAIN ROBERT PARKER TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Lee, July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am to inform you that I have just received a letter from *Peter Bigerat*, Esq., merchant in *Martinico*, who informs me that there has been a great scarcity of provisions there, owing to a number of vessels being detained in *France* on account of contrary winds. On the 6th of *May*

was the first arrival for a long time; and since, unto the 14th of the above month, fourteen sail have arrived, and brought one hundred thousand weight of gunpowder, a great many chests of firearms, and great quantities of coarse woollen cloths. There are likewise twelve sail expected hourly, with ten thousand or twelve thousand weight of powder in each vessel. He further adds, there is not a board or codfish in the Island, and you may have immediate despatch and a great price for the above articles; therefore, if your Honours think fit to send a vessel with fish and lumber, I think there is a great prospect of making a good voyage, and little or no danger of being taken, as there are no cruisers on this coast, they being chiefly traced up in the *West-Indies* on account of the hurricane months. If your Honours see fit to hire a vessel and send it for the above purpose, I know of one that is a good sailer and will answer, and shall be glad to serve you in so good a cause if you think me worthy of being trusted as master.

And am, with respect, your most obedient, humble servant,  
ROBERT PARKER.

N. B. My letter was dated the 14th of *May*. He says powder was 5s. 10d., on account of our vessels waiting there so long, but it has since fallen a great deal, and he thinks it will be low. The woollen goods are cheap, and I fear they will be much wanted in our Army next winter. R. P.

#### RESOLVES OF MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

*Resolves of the General Assembly of the Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, begun and held at WATERTOWN, in the County of MIDDLESEX, on WEDNESDAY, the twenty-ninth day of MAY, being the last WEDNESDAY in said month, Anno Domini, 1776.*

*Resolve for supplying the Town of GLOUCESTER with Cannon, &c., passed MAY 31, 1776.*

Whereas the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* are doubtful whether the safety of the Colony will admit of *Peter Coffin*, Esq., being supplied by the Commissary-General with two pieces of Cannon, eighteen-pounders, agreeable to a Resolve of Court of the 8th instant: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That said Commissary be directed to deliver to the said *Peter Coffin*, Esq., either two pieces of Cannon, eighteen-pounders, or two other Cannon, such as said Committee may judge may be best spared, consistent with the safety of the Colony, agreeable to the spirit and intention of said Resolve of the 8th instant; together with the Carriages, Spunges, and all other appurtenances, and one hundred Balls for each Cannon, suitable for the same.

*Resolve for filling up the four Companies at DORCHESTER, passed JUNE 3, 1776.*

Whereas an Order passed the late General Court, directing that the four Companies which had done duty at *Dorchester*, *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, should be immediately filled up, and commissioned by the Council, and should be upon the sea-coast establishment; but no Inlisting Orders were delivered out; for want of which, and from the apprehension of their services being required without the limits of said Towns, the Order of Court has not been complied with: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That Inlisting Orders, agreeable hereto, be immediately delivered out, and signed by the Honourable *Joseph Palmer*, Esq., and that said Companies, when full, or nearly full, shall have their Officers commissioned by the Council; and if they should be required to do duty out of said Towns, in other parts of this Colony, they shall, during the time of their so doing duty, be entitled to the same pay that other Troops employed in said service may be entitled to.

*Resolve for paying Colonels MARSHALL and WHITNEY one month's advance Wages, &c.; passed JUNE 3, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That *David Jeffries*, Esq., be, and he hereby is, ordered and directed to pay to each Non-Commissioned Officer and Private Soldier (or his order) in the Regiments under the command of Colonel *Marshall* and Colonel *Whitney*, and in the seven Companies of Matrosses commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Crafts*, on their passing muster, one

month's advance wages, and 13s. 4d. in lieu of a blanket, together with one penny per mile from his usual place of abode to *Boston*: *Provided*, That the Captains of the several Companies shall exhibit to said Paymaster a roll, on oath, expressing each man's name, the town wherein he has been last a resident, and the number of miles from thence to *Boston*; and that there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to the said *David Jeffries*, the sum of £2000, for the purposes aforesaid—he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve to supply Captain WIGGLESWORTH with seven Fire-Arms; passed JUNE 3, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver unto Captain *John Wigglesworth*, commander of a Vessel fixed out by this Colony, to cruise to observe the motions of the enemy's ships, the number of seven Smallarms and appurtenances, for those men that are not able to procure them themselves—the said *Wigglesworth* giving his receipt to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*And it is further resolved*, That the Honourable the Council be, and they hereby are, desired to give the said *Wigglesworth* a commission as Captain of said vessel, to cruise against the enemy's ships.

*Resolve appointing a Committee to purchase Cannon for the armed Vessels; passed JUNE 3, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Captain *Batchelor*, Mr. *Durfee*, and Brigadier *Palmer*, be a Committee, with the Commissary-General of this Colony, to purchase and provide what Cannon are necessary for the armed Vessels of this Colony, with all expedition.

*Resolve on the Account of JACOB BOARDMAN; passed JUNE 3, 1776.*

On the Account of *Jacob Boardman*, for fitting out the Schooner *Britannia*:

*Resolved*, That there be paid to him, out of the publick Treasury, the sum of £11, in full of his Account.

*Resolve to erect a Fortification at PLYMOUTH; passed JUNE 4, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That a Fortification be erected on the *Gurnet*, at the entrance of the Harbour of *Plymouth*, and a number of men posted there, to secure that Harbour against the enemy's ships going in to land men there, or securing themselves against the danger of the sea, and for securing a place of rendezvous for the Continental and Colonial vessels, and a retreat for their prizes when they cannot get into the northern Harbours.

*Resolve for adjourning WORCESTER Court; passed JUNE 4, 1776.*

Whereas the Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Inferior Court of Common Pleas, in and for the County of *Worcester*, is by law to be holden at *Worcester*, in said County, on *Tuesday*, the eleventh of *June*, instant; and whereas many people are called away by the unhappy war that this Continent is engaged in, whose business cannot be acted on at that time; and by reason that many persons who are members of the General Court must give their attendance, if the Court should sit as by law appointed: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said Courts be, and hereby are, adjourned to the first *Tuesday* of *September* next, being the time at which the Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Inferior Court of Common Pleas, are by law to be holden at *Worcester*, within and for said County of *Worcester*; and that all Pleas, Processes, Writs, Actions, Suits, issued or to be issued, Complaints, Precepts, Recognisances, and all other matters and things, returnable and having day, and that should have had day in the said Courts, if the same were holden on *Tuesday* the eleventh of *June*, instant, shall be returnable and have day in the said Courts on the first *Tuesday* of *September* next, and shall abide and continue unto that time, and shall then be proceeded on, heard, and determined, to all intents and purposes, as effectually as if said Courts were held on the day by law appointed as aforesaid.

*Committee to correspond with Congress, appointed JUNE 4, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Brigadier *Palmer*, Mr. *Appleton*, and Mr. *Pitts*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a standing Committee of Correspondence, whose duty it shall be to transmit to our Delegates at the honourable Congress, the Journals of the House of Representatives, and the Acts and Laws that may from time to time be enacted by the General Assembly, together with such other interesting intelligence as may any way affect this or any of the United Colonies.

*Report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to repair to the Town of MENDON, to hear a number of Petitioners relative to some uneasiness subsisting in the Regiment there; accepted by both Houses, JUNE 4, 1776.*

Notice being given to the Petitioners, and all others concerned in said Regiment, of our appointment, and the Order of Court respecting the same, two Committees from the Company in the Town of *Uxbridge*, and a Committee from each of the other seven Companies in said Regiment, were present before your Committee, and were severally fully heard; after which, it appeared to your Committee that six of said Companies, and at least one-half of the Company in *Uxbridge*, appeared much dissatisfied with the appointment of Mr. *Joseph Chapin* for Lieutenant-Colonel, and Mr. *Caleb Whiting* for Second Major, in said Regiment, who were recommended without the knowledge, and contrary to the inclination of said Regiment, the Officers of which had met and agreed to recommend Captain *Nathan Tyler* for Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Ezra Whiting, Esq.*, for Second Major, which they appeared to be highly in favour of. The other part of the Company in *Uxbridge* appeared well pleased with the appointment of Messrs. *Chapin* and *Whiting*, and doubtless will be uneasy should their appointment be superseded. The remaining eighth Company, being the south Company in *Douglass*, it appeared to your Committee that they were somewhat divided, but not strenuous. This being the state of facts, as near as your Committee has been able to collect, and there being more than seven to one dissatisfied with the present appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel and Second Major, your Committee are humbly of opinion, that the most likely method to restore harmony to said Regiment, will be to indulge the Petitioners with a new appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel and Second Major, agreeable to their request; and in case that part of the Company in *Uxbridge*, who are against a new appointment, should renew their request to be joined to the Regiment to which *Sutton* belongs, that they also be indulged in their request, and be joined accordingly. All which is humbly submitted.

JABEZ FISHER, per order.

*Establishment for Gunners on board armed Vessels, &c.; passed JUNE 4, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Gunners in the service of this Colony, on board the armed Vessels thereof, be allowed and paid £3 per month; and in the distribution of the Prize Money have the same number of shares as are, by the establishment of this Colony, allowed to the Carpenter; the former establishment of this Colony notwithstanding.

*Resolved*, That the Commanders of said Vessels be allowed to enlist men to the last of *December* next, who may not incline to enlist for the time proposed by the last establishment.

*Adjutant for Third Regiment in SUFFOLK, chosen, JUNE 4, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Enoch Leonard*, as Adjutant to the Third Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Suffolk*.

Concurred in Council same day.

*JOHN CLOUSTON appointed to command the Sloop FREEDOM, JUNE 4, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of Captain *John Clouston* to command the armed Sloop building at *Swanzy*, called the *Freedom*.

Concurred in Council same day.

*JACOB MILLER appointed Major, JUNE 5, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Jacob Miller* as Major of Colonel *Josiah Whitney's* Regiment.

Concurred by Council same day.

*Adjutant for Fourth Regiment WORCESTER, appointed, JUNE 5, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Ebenezer Foster*, of *Oakham*, as Adjutant to the Fourth Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Worcester*.

Concurred by Council same day.

*Adjutant for Second Regiment HAMPSHIRE, appointed, JUNE 5, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *James Sheppard*, of *Northampton*, as Adjutant to the Second Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Hampshire*.

Concurred by Council same day.

*Adjutant for Seventh Regiment in WORCESTER appointed.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *William Clark* as Adjutant of the Seventh Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Worcester*.

Concurred in Council, *June 5, 1776.*

*Resolve to suspend sinking Hulks in the Harbour of BOSTON; passed JUNE 5, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Hulks which have been prepared by order of the General Court to be sunk in the Harbour of *Boston*, be in every respect fitted for that purpose, and anchored as near as may be, with convenience and safety, to the places where it is proposed they should be sunk; and that the sinking said Hulks as aforesaid be suspended until the further order of this Court; any order or resolve to the contrary notwithstanding: *Provided, nevertheless*, That if the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* shall, upon any sudden alarm or appearance of danger, judge it necessary that the said Hulks should be then sunk immediately, before any order of this Court can be taken thereupon, the said Committee be, and hereby are, fully empowered to cause the said Hulks to be sunk accordingly.

*Resolve to supply the Town of BEVERLY with Shot; passed JUNE 5, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to the Selectmen of the Town of *Beverly*, or order, sixty eighteen-pound Shot, and one hundred and twenty nine-pound Shot, to be by them applied for the use of said Town; they to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

*Resolve appointing a Committee on Accounts; passed JUNE 6, 1776.*

Whereas a necessary attention to the more important affairs of the Government, in the present extraordinary times of difficulty and distress, renders it impracticable to receive, examine, and pass upon the numerous Accounts now daily exhibited against the Government, agreeable to the mode heretofore usually practised, and the payment thereof has been greatly delayed, to the detriment of individuals, as well as to the injury of the credit of the Government: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That *Abraham Watson, Thomas Plympton, Jonathan Webster, Thomas Durfee, Aaron Wood, John Bliss, and Isaac Lothrop, Esqs.*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be, and they hereby are, appointed a Committee, until the further order of the Great and General Court or Assembly of this Colony, to receive, examine, and finally to pass upon all Accounts, not otherwise committed, which shall be presented to them for payment of services done and articles supplied by order of the late Provincial Congress, or of the General Court, and properly vouched; and the doings of said Committee shall be considered as valid as any vote or resolve of the General Court, touching said Accounts, as well in the recess of the Court as during any session of the same; and said Committee, or any six of them, who are hereby appointed a quorum, are hereby directed to assign an office, and advertise the publick thereof, and of this resolve, that the business may be constantly attended and effectually performed; and that a true copy of all such Accounts which shall be passed upon and allowed by them, shall, after payment thereof, be kept in a book, with an alphabet thereto, which shall be laid before either House for perusal and inspection, once or oftener in each session, as they shall severally order; and that the said Committee be, and are hereby, authorized to appoint some suitable person or persons for that purpose.

Also, *Resolved*, That the Secretary be, and he hereby is, directed to keep such Accounts as shall be passed by said Committee; and in consequence thereof, ordered to be paid by the honourable Board, in separate files. And, in order to prevent any delay in the payment of such of said Accounts as shall be passed upon and allowed by said Committee,

*Be it Resolved*, That the honourable Board be, and they are hereby authorized, from time to time, to issue their Warrants, requiring the Treasurer of this Colony to pay into the hands of said Committee such sum or sums of money as the honourable Board shall judge proper, for the purpose of discharging and paying such Accounts, the said Committee to be accountable therefor: *Provided always*, That the foregoing method of passing upon and allowing said Accounts shall be taken to be adopted, merely from the necessity of the present times, and not considered as a precedent for the future.

*Resolve empowering TIMOTHY EDWARDS, Esq., to receive Seventeen Hundred Pounds of MARK HOPKINS, Esquire, and to pay the same to General SCHUYLER; passed JUNE 6, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That *Timothy Edwards*, of *Stockbridge*, be, and hereby is empowered, to receive the sum of £1,700, lawful money, in Silver and Gold, of *Mark Hopkins, Esq.*, being so much left in said *Hopkins's* care by *Eldad Taylor, Esq.*, to whom it was committed by the Council, in order to be transmitted to General *Schuyler* for the use of the Army in *Canada*. And the said *Mark Hopkins, Esq.*, is hereby directed to pay the said sum of £1,700 into the hands of *Timothy Edwards, Esquire*, accordingly, who, as soon as he shall have received the same, is hereby empowered and directed to convey and pay the sum before mentioned into the hands of General *Schuyler*, as soon as may be, for the purpose aforesaid; for which he is directed to take duplicate receipts of General *Schuyler*, and return one of them into the Secretary's Office. And he is further directed to take such a guard with him as he shall deem necessary.

*Resolve for further fortifying the Harbour of Boston; passed JUNE 6, 1776.*

As the fortifying the upper part of the Harbour of *Boston* is now nearly completed, and it is necessary that other places in the lower parts thereof should also be fortified for

the security of the Town of *Boston*, and other Towns in the vicinity thereof: It is therefore,

*Resolved*, That a Redoubt be immediately raised upon a place called *Moon-Island*, in the said Harbour, near the main, in order to keep open our communication with *Long-Island*, and that four pieces of Cannon, nine-pounders, or such others as can be obtained, be placed therein; and that such Ammunition, Ordnance Stores, and Spears, be provided as shall be necessary. And that a Redoubt be also immediately raised upon *Hoff's Neck*, in said Harbour, to keep open our communication with *Pettick's Island*; and that the like number of Cannon, Ammunition, &c., be provided for the same. And that the four Independent Companies stationed at *Dorchester, Braintree, Weymouth, and Hingham*, be employed in this service, under the direction of the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston*.

It is also *Resolved*, That a Redoubt on the east head of *Long-Island*, another on the east head of *Pettick's Island*, and one on *Nantasket Hill*, with such outworks as the safety of those posts may require, be erected as soon as the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* shall judge expedient; and that three pieces of Cannon, of eighteen or twenty-four-pounders, be placed in each of the three Fortifications last mentioned, and that such Apparatus, Ammunition, Spears, and Intrenching Tools, be provided as shall be necessary.

It is further *Resolved*, That the Committee aforesaid be directed to apply to General *Ward*, or his successor in command of the Continental Troops left in this Colony, for Cannon, and the apparatus necessary, with Ammunition, Spears, and a sufficient number of Intrenching Tools; and that the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he is hereby, directed to supply the said Committee with such articles aforesaid as cannot be obtained from the said Commander.

*Resolve for supplying the Committee for procuring Saltpetre with Money to pay for the same; passed JUNE 6, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of the Colony the sum of £5,000 to *Tristram Dalton, Esq.*, to be by him delivered to Messrs. *Sayer and Tufts*, to enable them to pay for such Saltpetre as has been tendered to them agreeable to the Resolves of the General Assembly; and also that there be paid out of the publick Treasury the sum of £2,800 to Mr. *Samuel Phillips, Jun.*, to be by him delivered to Mr. *Zebediah Abbot*, of *Andover*, to enable him to pay for such Saltpetre as has been tendered, agreeable to the Resolves of the General Assembly; he, the said *Abbot*, together with the aforementioned *Sayer and Tufts*, to be severally accountable to this Court for the expenditure of those sums they shall receive.

Also *Resolved*, That there be paid out of the said Treasury to *Thomas Crane, Esq.*, the sum of £4,000, to enable him to pay for such Saltpetre as has been or may be tendered to him, agreeable to the Resolves of the General Assembly, he, the said *Crane*, to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

*Resolve to explain the Resolve of Court with respect to the price of a bounty on Saltpetre; passed JUNE 6, 1776.*

Whereas it is represented that divers persons have manufactured Saltpetre within this Colony before the 1st day of *June* instant, and have the same ready to be delivered to the Commissary-General of this Colony, or to such other person or persons as were appointed by the Great and General Court to receive the same: And whereas doubts have arisen in the minds of many persons whether the bounty of 4s. a pound for Saltpetre manufactured but not delivered before the 1st day of *June* instant, ought to be now paid: It is

*Resolved*, That for all Saltpetre manufactured within this Colony before the 1st day of *June* instant, and which shall be delivered on or before the 30th day of *June* instant to the Commissary-General, or such other person or persons as are or may be appointed to receive the same, there shall be paid the sum of 4s. a pound as a bounty: *Provided*, That the person or persons bringing and presenting the same, to be delivered as aforesaid, before he entitles himself by this Resolve to receive the said bounty, shall, before the said Com-



missary-General, or such other person or persons as are or may be appointed to receive the same, take an oath in the words following, viz:

"You, . . . . ., do solemnly swear, that the whole process of the manufacture of the Saltpetre now presented by you was begun, carried on, and finished within the limits of this Colony before the 1st day of *June* instant, and that no foreign Saltpetre, or Saltpetre manufactured since the said 1st day of *June* instant, is intermixed therewith."

Or otherwise shall produce a certificate from a Justice of the Peace in the County where the manufacturer is an inhabitant or resident, that he hath taken a like oath before the said Justice; in which case the person presenting the Saltpetre to be delivered as aforesaid shall, before he receives the said bounty of 4s. per pound on the same, make oath before the receiver thereof that he took the same Saltpetre into his possession in presence of said Justice; and that the whole thereof is the same Saltpetre referred to in such certificate; which certificate shall be lodged with the person or persons who are or may be appointed to receive the same, who are hereby severally authorized and directed to administer the said oaths.

And whereas doubts and difficulties may arise upon a Resolve of the Great and General Court, made and passed the 3d day of *May* last past, in the words following, viz: "That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Colony the sum of 5s. (inclusive of the 3s. before engaged) a pound for every pound of good and merchantable Saltpetre that shall be manufactured in this Colony from and after the 1st day of *June* next until the 1st day of *October* next, and delivered to such persons as the General Court shall appoint to receive the same:" To prevent which, it is further

*Resolved*, That said sum of 5s. per pound shall not be paid for any Saltpetre manufactured in this Colony between the said 1st day of *June* instant and the said 1st day of *October* next, unless the same Saltpetre shall be actually delivered before the said 1st day of *October* next, to such person or persons as are or may be appointed to receive the same.

*Commissary directed to deliver sixteen bolts of Duck to RICHARD DERBY, Esq.; passed JUNE 7, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver sixteen bolts of *Russia Duck* to the Hon. *Richard Derby, Esq.*, or order, to be by him applied for the use of the armed Brigantine now building at *Salisbury* for the service of this Colony.

*Officers for the Company at GLOUCESTER, appointed, JUNE 7, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *William Ellery* Captain, and *Benjamin Somes* First Lieutenant, of the Company of Matrosses to be raised and stationed at *Gloucester*.

*Resolve for raising a Company of Matrosses, to be stationed at FALMOUTH; passed JUNE 8, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That a Company of Matrosses, to consist of fifty men, including Officers, be raised and placed at *Falmouth*, to be under the command of Colonel *Jonathan Mitchell*, and to be upon the same pay and regulations as the Company of Matrosses stationed at *Marblehead*, said Company to be enlisted to serve till the last of *December* next, unless sooner disbanded by this Court.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to Brigadier *Preble*, for the use of the men stationed at *Falmouth*, nine hundred pounds of Gunpowder, three hundred weight of leaden Balls, and one thousand Flints, he, the said *Preble*, to be accountable to this Court for the same.

It is further *Resolved*, That Dr. *Russell* be directed to deliver to the said *Preble*, for the use of the men aforesaid, fifty Fire-Arms that were delivered to him by order of the last General Court, he, the said *Preble*, to be accountable to this Court for the same, and that such of the men stationed there as shall receive and use these Arms have deducted from their wages, for the use of this Colony, at the making up of the Muster-Roll, 6s. for each Fire-Arm; and the several Captains are hereby directed to observe this order.

*Resolve to remove the Apparatus, &c., of HARVARD College, from CONCORD to CAMBRIDGE; passed JUNE 8, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed by this Court April 24, 1776, to estimate the damages sustained by *Harvard College* for the accommodation of the Continental Army, and by means of the *British* forces, and to make such repairs immediately as may be necessary for the comfortable accommodation of the members of said College, be further empowered to estimate the damage sustained by the loss of the kitchen utensils belonging to the said College, which were taken for the use of the Army, and replace the same immediately, and do such other things as are necessary for reestablishing the College in its former situation; and that the governours of the College have power to remove the Apparatus, and such part of the Library as they think necessary, to *Cambridge* as soon as they shall judge the College buildings prepared for a removal from *Concord*, and lay the accounts before this Court.

*Resolve for supplying Captain JORDAN, bound to FALMOUTH, with a Guard; passed JUNE 10, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Whitney* be, and he hereby is, directed forthwith to order a Sergeant and ten men of his Regiment, properly equipped, to embark on board the sloop *Betsey, Israel Jordan*, Master, bound to *Falmouth*, in *Casco Bay*, as a Guard, he having on board six Cannon and other warlike stores for the defence of that Harbour, and to direct the said Sergeant and men to return to *Boston*, after their arrival at *Falmouth*, without delay; and the said Colonel *Whitney* is hereby directed to furnish the said men with sufficient Provisions for their passage to *Falmouth* and their return to *Boston* as aforesaid.

*Resolve relative to building a Powder-Mill in SUTTON; passed JUNE 10, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That one person be joined to the Committee appointed for erecting a Powder-Mill in *Sutton*, and that Colonel *Jonathan Holman* be appointed for that purpose.

Also *Resolved*, That the sum of £200 be paid out of the Colony Treasury to said Committee for forwarding said Mill, they being accountable to this Court for said sum.

*Resolve on the Petition from the Committee of KITTERY; passed JUNE 10, 1776.*

On the Petition of the Committee of Correspondence and Inspection of the Town of *Kittery*:

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Colony to *Edward Cutt, Esq.*, the sum of £43 11s. 5d., for the use of the Committee of Correspondence and Inspection for the Town of *Kittery*, by whom said Petition was presented, in full discharge of their account in building Carriages for two Cannon (twelve-pounders) belonging to this Colony, which are placed in the Battery at *Kittery Point*.

Also *Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to the Committee of Correspondence, Safety and Inspection, of *Kittery* aforesaid, five hundred pounds weight of Gunpowder, and eighty Shot, suitable for twelve-pounders, and eighty ditto, suitable for nine-pounders, to supply the Cannon in the Battery aforesaid, for which the said Committee or Town of *Kittery* shall be accountable to the General Court.

*Resolve appointing a Committee of Fortification; passed JUNE 11, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Honourable *Benjamin Lincoln, Esq.*, the Honourable *Joseph Palmer, Esq.*, the Honourable *Moses Gill, Esq.*, the Honourable *Ebenezer Thayer, Jun., Esq.*, *Solomon Lovell, Esq.*, *John Brown, Esq.*, and Major *John Batcheler*, be a Committee of Fortification, whose duty it shall be to lay out and constantly superintend and direct the erecting and perfecting all the Fortifications necessary for the defence of the Town and Port of *Boston*, at such places as have been, or shall be, ordered by the General Court. To inspect and direct all such Colonial Troops as are or may be ordered by the General Court, as well as such Continental Troops as are or may be ordered by the Commander of the Continental Troops resident at *Boston*, upon this

service, while so employed. And to employ all such Artificers, for effecting said works, as they may judge necessary. And to erect, repair, and perfect all such other Works and Buildings as have been or may be ordered by the Court. And to give orders to the Commissary-General for the delivery of all such Cannon, with their Apparatus and Ammunition, and all such Intrenching Tools and implements as said Committee may judge necessary for the erecting and finishing the Works aforesaid, and for the effectual defence of the same.

*Resolve for supplying the Town of GLOUCESTER with Cannon; passed JUNE 11, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Town of Gloucester be supplied with the following pieces of Cannon, viz: four twenty-four-pounders, four nine-pounders; and out of those that have one or both trunnions off, four six-pounders, properly stocked, with the necessary apparatus for each Cannon; also with forty rounds of Shot, ten of which to be double-headed, for each Cannon, and likewise with ten barrels of Gunpowder; and that the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver the same to *Peter Coffin* and *John Low*, Esqs., they giving a receipt to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*And it is further resolved*, That a Company of Matrosses, to consist of fifty men, including Officers, be raised to manage the Cannon stationed there, to be under the command of Colonel *Foster*, and on the same pay and regulations as the Company of Matrosses stationed at *Marblehead*; said Company to be inlisted to serve till the last day of *December* next, if not sooner disbanded by this Court.

*Resolve to pay the Committee for procuring Wood, two hundred Pounds; passed JUNE 11, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to assist the Quartermaster-General to procure Wood for the Continental Army, be allowed to receive out of the Treasury of this Colony the sum of £200, to enable them to discharge the debt of said Committee, they to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve on the Petition of EDWARD BARBER; passed JUNE 11, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Edward Barber*,

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Cook*, Esq., be appointed by this Court to appraise the four Cannon and Carriages ordered to be removed from *Truro* to the *Elizabeth Islands*, and to make returns to this Court as soon as may be; and that the Petitioner have liberty to appoint one person on his part (if he thinks proper) to join with the above *Thomas Cook*, Esq., in appraising said Cannon and Carriages, and in case of disagreement in judgment, they to choose a third person.

*Resolve on the Petition of BENJAMIN SMITH; passed JUNE 12, 1776.*

Whereas it appears that certain persons were concerned in taking and bringing into this Colony the Ship mentioned in said Petition, a number of whom were of a Sea-Coast Company, in the pay of the Colony; and it further appearing that the Vessel which attacked and took the said Ship was procured by, and was at the risk of, the said Petitioner:

*It is Resolved*, That after the charges of trial and condemnation are deducted from the gross produce of the said Ship, her cargo and appurtenances, and the shares of the other captors have been assigned them, the Colony shall receive one-third part, and the said Sea-Coast Men, two-third parts of the residue.

*Resolve on the Petition of TIMOTHY EDWARDS and SAMUEL BROWN, Jun.; passed JUNE 11, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Timothy Edwards* and *Samuel Brown*, Jun.,

*Resolved*, That each Non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier that were regularly inlisted into the service, in Colonel *James Easton's* Regiment, and were regularly discharged before the 25th of *October* last, be paid the sum of 25s., in lieu of a Coat; and that said *Edwards* or *Brown* be hereby directed to pay the same, and make return to this Court, and settle their Accounts as soon as may be.

*Resolve to supply RICHARD DERBY, Jun., Esq., with Cannon; passed JUNE 12, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to the Honourable *Richard Derby*, Jun., Esquire, one of the Committee for fixing out armed Vessels fitted out by this Colony, two pieces of Cannon, six-pounders, made use of by Colonel *Crafts* in *Boston*; and that the said *Richard Derby*, Esq., be also furnished by the said Commissary with eight more six or four-pounders, out of the Cannon now at *Boston*, with one or both trunnions on, for the use of the Sloop *Tyrannicide*.

*Resolve on the Petition of REUBEN HIGGINS; passed JUNE 12, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Reuben Higgins*,

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the said *Reuben Higgins*, the sum of £25, to enable him to procure and pay for the Powder and Ball therein mentioned, for the use of the said Town of *Truro*—he, the said *Higgins*, to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve on the Petition of WILLIAM WHITNEY, of WESTON; passed JUNE 12, 1776.*

On the Petition of *William Whitney*, of *Weston*,

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the Colony Treasury unto *Braddyl Smith*, Esq., the sum of £2, for the use of *William Whitney*, in full for his boarding and nursing *Caleb Chadwick*, a wounded Soldier in Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment.

*Officers for the Company at FALMOUTH; appointed JUNE 13, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen, Officers for the Company of Matrosses, to be raised and stationed at *Falmouth*, viz: *John Preble* Captain, *Levi Loring* First-Lieutenant, *Isaac Battle* Second-Lieutenant. Concurred by Council.

*Resolve on the Petition of STEPHEN HALL and PELEG CROCKER; passed JUNE 13, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Stephen Hall* and *Peleg Crocker*,

*Resolved*, That the Prayer of the Petition be granted, and that the Sloop *Nancy* be accordingly released to the Owners, on their paying the charges that have arisen thereon.

*Resolve for placing Cannon on the GURNET, and for raising one hundred Men, to be stationed there; passed JUNE 13, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be placed upon the *Gurnet*, at the entrance of the Harbour of *Plymouth*, which was, by this Court, ordered to be fortified, six pieces of Cannon, two of twelve, and four of six-pounders, properly fixed, with the necessary apparatus; and that a Company of a hundred men be raised, and that a Captain and two Lieutenants be appointed by this Court, one half of which number to be Matrosses, to be under the same pay, and on the same establishment, in all respects, with other forces stationed on the sea-coast, and continued in the service till the last day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged by order of this Court; said Company to be under the direction of the Committee of Correspondence, &c., for the Town of *Plymouth*, and to serve and do duty on the said *Gurnet*. And that the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., the Guns aforesaid, four barrels of Powder, and forty rounds of Shot for each Gun, he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Committee appointed to make inquiry relative to casting Cannon; passed JUNE 13, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Durfee*, Colonel *Mitchell*, and Mr. *Orr*, be a Committee, whose business it shall be immediately to repair to those places where they imagine the best information may be obtained relative to the business of casting Cannon, and the materials necessary for that purpose, together with a place most convenient for carrying on that business; and that they prepare an estimate of the expenses of erecting, or otherwise procuring, a Furnace convenient for casting said Cannon, and make a report to this Court as soon as may be.

*Resolves to pay for Losses at BUNKER-HILL, &c.; passed  
JUNE 14, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the following Sums be paid to the persons whose names follow, in discharge of the Accounts exhibited to this Court, for losses sustained in Battle, on and since the nineteenth of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, viz: to—

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Joseph Bread, - 2 16 7	Jabez Carter, - 0 13 6
Daniel Hardy, - 1 10 0	Jonathan Frost, - 0 7 6
Jonathan Stickney, - 0 8 0	Jonathan Beard, - 0 8 0
for Mary Easty, 4 2 0	Heirs of Jacob Frost, 2 14 0
Lieut. John Mosher, 2 12 0	Daniel Wood, - 0 10 0
Samuel Cory, - 5 1 0	Ezekiel Nutting, - 2 0 0
Josiah Haynes, - 1 0 0	Samuel Lovejoy, - 0 3 0
Eliphalet Hardy, - 2 2 0	Ezekiel Spaulding, 0 3 0
Joshua Haynes, - 3 2 0	Simeon Williams, 0 3 0
Paul Hardy, - 0 15 0	David Wetherbee, 0 3 0
John Hoyt, - 0 5 6	Simeon Green, - 1 15 0
Executors of John	Joel Porter, - 0 3 0
Bacon, - 3 0 0	John Hasen, - 0 8 0
Aaron Haynes, - 1 10 0	Solomon Gilson, - 0 3 0
Lieutenant Brewer, 1 10 0	Jonathan Lewis, - 0 3 0
John Maynard, - 4 2 0	John Ribburn, - 0 3 0
Isaac Moor, - 1 4 0	Heirs of John Meeds, 5 0 8
Peter Cuddy, - 0 18 0	Jonathan Evans, - 3 4 0
Levi Hosman, - 0 16 0	Stephen Temple, 1 17 0
Samuel Hill, - 5 6 6	Heirs of Corneny
Josiah Danforth, - 2 7 0	Fairbank, - 1 17 0
William Whittier, 1 17 0	Eliphalet Wharf, - 2 4 0
Elizabeth Moor, for	Alexander Panan, 0 4 0
Willard Moor's	Daniel Collins, - 1 4 0
loss, - 8 14 0	Andrew Bray, - 1 13 0
Joseph Adams, - 0 6 0	Jonathan Woodman, 0 6 0
Moses Pike, - 2 14 0	Lary Tregay, - 0 4 0
John Smith, - 0 1 6	Nathan Glover, - 0 12 0
Benjamin Merrill, 2 2 0	Capt. Nath'l Gage, 2 12 0
Samuel Carr, - 0 1 6	Annis Merrill, - 0 5 0
John Stevens, Jr., 0 1 6	Oliver Goodridge, 0 6 0
William Hackett, 0 1 6	Heirs of Amos Mills,
Aaron Chandler, - 0 1 6	deceased, - 1 10 0
Robert Merrill, - 0 6 0	John Beeten, - 0 18 0
Richard Osgood, - 0 6 0	Peter Page, - 2 0 0
Jonathan Wingate, 0 6 0	Aaron Wood, - 3 4 0
Jacob Bayly Cumer, 1 10 6	Deborah Mills, - 4 2 0
Benjamin Stevens, 0 9 0	Barnabas Richard-
Jonathan Greely, 0 1 6	son, - 1 11 0
Jacob Currier, - 0 6 0	Nathaniel Warner, 3 0 0
John Barker, 3d, - 0 16 0	Heirs of Ebenezer
Jonathan Stevens, 1 6 0	Laughton, - 5 8 0
Spafford Ames, - 0 19 0	James Davis, - 2 19 0
Stephen Farrington, 0 19 0	Nathaniel Monroe, 3 0 0
Samuel Phillips, for	Rachel McIntosh, 3 16 0
Stephen Chandler, 0 10 0	Samuel Farrar, - 2 16 10
Nathaniel Wade, 1 0 0	Samuel Bailey, - 7 16 8
Aaron Perkins, - 0 12 0	William Davis, - 0 12 0
Nathaniel Baker, 2 7 0	William Foster, - 2 5 0
Philip Lord, - 2 7 0	Thomas Thompson, 0 12 0
Joseph Wise, - 1 1 0	Ebenezer Wytham, 0 12 0
Isaac Giddings, - 1 6 0	Joshua Row, - 0 12 0
Benjamin Ross, - 1 11 0	Obadiah Atkins, - 0 12 0
John Fowler, - 0 16 0	Francis Lane, - 0 12 0
Thomas Farmer, - 0 19 0	Samuel Sprake, - 0 6 6
Nathaniel Choat, 0 6 0	Benjamin Ames, - 3 1 6
Abraham Knowlton, 0 6 0	Capt. John Nutting, 2 8 0
Samuel Hayward, 2 14 0	Nathaniel Lakin, - 0 13 4
Zaccheus Wright, for	John McFulsom, 0 4 0
the use of the heirs	Aaron Davis, - 1 17 0
of Cæsar Baron,	Philip Johnson, - 0 6 0
deceased, - 4 6 4	Patrick Harrington, 2 4 0
Captain Oliver Par-	Samuel Wyatt, - 2 0 0
ker, for the use of	William Eliot, - 1 17 0
Samuel Taylor, 1 9 0	William Page, - 3 2 0
Heirs of Wm. War-	Jonathan Norton's
ren, - 4 10 0	heirs, - 2 0 0
Benjamin Perkins, 2 1 0	Benjamin Read, - 5 4 0
Joseph Whittemore, 2 6 0	Waldron Stone, - 0 12 8
Samuel Foster, - 0 6 0	Wells Chace, - 6 6 0
Thomas Weskom, 0 14 0	William Whiting, 1 0 0
John Braizer, - 1 0 0	Capt. Joseph Moore, 5 18 0

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Timothy Dutton, - 0 13 6	John Hadley, - 5 9 6
John Welsh, - 0 18 11	Heirs of Philip Fow-
Eliphalet Manning, 0 12 0	ler, - 4 7 4
David Bailey, - 0 13 6	Cyrus Marble, - 2 5 4
John Adams, - 2 2 0	Elisha Marsh, - 3 4 0
Joseph Baker, - 3 3 0	Ezekiel Biggelow, 1 12 0
Samuel Bailey, - 1 0 6	Jotham Blanchard, 1 14 0
Malachi Allen, - 1 6 0	Josiah Wright, - 1 8 0
Joseph Phelps, - 0 1 6	Isaac Pierce, - 1 8 0
John Hall, - 0 7 6	Daniel Davis, - 1 10 0
Eliakim Walker, - 0 18 6	Spafford Ames, - 2 4 0
John Flint, - 0 12 0	Thomas Kenny and
Heirs of Ph. Fowler, 4 10 0	others, - 1 18 0
Obadiah Wetherell, 2 0 0	Josiah Burk, - 0 3 0
Oliver Patch, - 1 14 6	Joseph Howard, - 1 4 0
Levi Parker, - 0 6 0	John Burnham, - 0 3 0
Benjamin Peirce, 0 12 0	Amos Poor, - 0 16 0
Jonathan Stevens, 0 6 0	Benjamin Carr, - 0 5 0
Lemuel Blood, - 2 8 0	James Mosely, - 0 12 0
Nehemiah Parker, 1 7 0	William Linnihan, 1 5 0
Joseph Tarbell, - 0 5 0	Eleazer Johnson, for
Jacob Williams, - 0 3 0	use of Sarah Flint, 2 6 0
David Prescott, - 0 10 0	Francis Mitchell, - 5 2 6
Daniel Shed, - 1 15 0	Bartholomew Rich-
Joseph Shed, - 1 15 0	ardson, - 0 12 0
Benjamin Farnum, 3 13 0	Peter Sergeant, - 4 15 0
John Eaton, - 3 9 0	Joshua Haynes, - 3 0 0
Heirs of Simeon	Col. James Brackett, 4 18 0
Pike, - 5 9 2	William Hudson Bal-
Thomas Townsend,	lard, - 3 13 0
adm. of Daniel	Eleazer Butterfield, 1 10 0
Townsend, - 2 14 0	David Parks, - 2 16 9
Moses Harrington, 2 2 0	Daniel Sharwin, - 2 14 0
Heirs of Benj. Smith, 4 4 0	Daniel Barker, - 2 2 0
Daniel Coolghan's	William Hastings, 0 6 0
heirs, - 5 4 0	Jonathan Row, - 0 12 0
Nymphas Stacey, 2 0 0	Henry Parsons, - 0 12 0
Nathaniel Bennet, 1 4 0	Joseph Parsons, - 0 12 0
John Dunkin, - 2 12 0	Joseph Dresser, - 2 3 0
Sarah Hill, for her	Thomas Dresser, - 0 15 0
late husband's loss, 4 0 0	Heirs of Francis
Simeon Senter, - 2 8 4	Pool, Jr., - 5 5 0
Joseph Osgood, - 0 1 6	Heirs of Wm. Par-
Josiah Blood, - 0 1 6	sons, deceased, 4 3 0
Jacob Ames, - 0 13 6	Jonathan Minot, - 5 10 8
John Bayly, - 0 13 6	Timothy Johnson, 1 14 8
James Bayly, - 0 13 6	Isaac Abbott, - 2 8 0
David Putnam, - 1 11 0	John Hemmenway, 2 1 0
Thomas Treadwell, 0 18 0	Daniel Kidder, - 1 14 0
David Walker, - 1 8 6	William Danforth, 1 16 0
Hezekiah Thorndike, 2 5 0	John Jacques, - 1 16 0
Josiah Kidder, - 0 13 6	Moses Gray, - 1 14 0
Heirs of Josiah	Timothy Carlton, 2 16 0
Breed, - 4 8 0	Jonathan Stephens, 2 10 0

*Resolve establishing a form of Beating Orders and Inlistment for raising three Companies of Matrosses; passed  
JUNE 14, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the form of the Beating Orders and Inlistment of three Companies of Matrosses, to be stationed at *Gloucester, Falmouth, and the Gurnet in Plymouth*, be as follows, viz:

*Beating Orders.*

"To . . . , Gentleman, greeting:

"SIR: You are hereby empowered immediately to inlist a Company of Matrosses, to consist of able-bodied and effective men, including Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, and cause them to pass muster before as soon as possible; which Company of Matrosses, when inlisted and mustered, are to obey you as their Captain, and agreeable to a Resolve of this Court, the of *June* instant, are to be stationed at for the defence and security of the same."

*Inlistment.*

"We, the subscribers, do hereby engage to inlist ourselves as Matrosses in the service of the *Massachusetts* Colony, from the day of our inlistment to the last of *December* next, on the Sea-Coast establishment, unless the said service shall

admit of a discharge of a part or the whole sooner, which is to be determined by the General Court of said Colony. And we do hereby oblige ourselves to submit to all orders and regulations of the Army, and faithfully to observe and obey all such orders as we shall from time to time receive from our superior Officers."

*Resolve for supplying the Companies of Matrosses at Gloucester and Falmouth; passed JUNE 14, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissaries appointed to supply the men stationed at *Gloucester* and *Falmouth*, are hereby severally empowered and directed to supply the Companies of Artillery lately ordered to be raised for the defence of those towns, in the same manner as the sea-coast men, stationed in those places; and that the honourable Board grant their Warrant on the Treasurer for money to enable them so to do.

*Mustermasters appointed, JUNE 14, 1776.*

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Peter Coffin* muster the Company of Matrosses to be stationed at *Gloucester*; that Captain *Joseph Noyes* muster those to be stationed at *Falmouth*; and that *Isaac Lothrop, Esq.*, muster those to be stationed on the *Gurnet* at *Plymouth*: also, that Major *Whittemore* sign the Beating Orders for raising the three Companies aforesaid.

*Resolve on the Petition of THOMAS COOK, Esq.; passed JUNE 14, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Thomas Cook*,

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of £31 6s. to the Town of *Edgartown*, on the Island of *Martha's Vineyard*, for their expenses in victualling large numbers of men, who at sundry times, between the 19th of *April* and the 1st of *October*, 1775, appeared on alarms to defend said Town and Island against the hostilities wherewith they were threatened by *British* men-of-war.

*Resolve empowering WILLIAM WHITING, Esq., to receive a sum of Money of MARK HOPKINS, Esq., and to pay the same to General SCHUYLER; passed JUNE 14, 1776.*

Whereas *Timothy Edwards, Esq.*, of *Stockbridge*, was, on the 6th instant, by a *Resolve* of this Court, empowered to receive the sum of £1700, in Silver and Gold, of *Mark Hopkins, Esq.*, in whose hands it was lodged by *Eldad Taylor, Esq.*; and was further empowered to convey and deliver the same to General *Schuyler*, for the use of the Army in *Canada*: And it having been represented to this Court, that the said *Timothy Edwards* is now out of the Colony, on a journey to *Philadelphia*; and it being of great importance that the money aforesaid should be forwarded to *Canada* as soon as possible: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That *William Whiting, Esquire*, of *Great Barrington*, be, and he hereby is, empowered to receive the money above referred to, of *Mark Hopkins, Esquire*, who is hereby empowered and directed to deliver him the same; and the said *William Whiting, Esq.*, is further empowered and directed to convey and pay into the hands of General *Schuyler* the sum before mentioned as soon as may be, for the purpose aforesaid; and the said *William Whiting* is also empowered to receive of *Henry Gardner, Esq.*, the Receiver-General of this Colony, the sum of £75, in Silver and Gold, and to convey and pay the same also into the hands of General *Schuyler*, for the purpose before mentioned; for which, together with the sum first mentioned, (which, added together, amount to the sum of £1775 lawful money,) he is directed to take duplicate receipts of General *Schuyler*, and return one of them into the Secretary's Office; and he is further directed to take such a Guard with him as he shall deem necessary.

*Resolve on the Petition of LEWIS ALLEN, in behalf of his brother JOLLEY ALLEN; passed JUNE 14, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the Petitioner be so far granted that he have liberty to take the seven children of the said *Jolley Allen*, for which he shall be paid out of the proceeds of the sales of the goods and effects of the said *Jolley Allen* £36 8s., lawful money, for the maintenance and support of the same: the Petitioner to give bonds in the sum of £100, that they shall not become chargeable to

the community for any further support or maintenance; and that he shall receive and support the said *Jolley Allen*; and that he shall not depart the County of *Worcester*, or hold correspondence with any persons, knowing them to be enemies to the liberties of *America*, till the further order of this Court.

That *Mr. Nye, Mr. Kendell, and Mr. Thomas*, be a Committee to receive all the goods and effects of the said *Jolley Allen* that can be found, and deliver the Petitioner, at *Boston*, the children's four feather-beds and bedding, and the wearing apparel of the children and late wife of the said *Jolley Allen*, also his own wearing apparel; and the remainder of said goods and effects to be disposed of by said Committee, at publick auction; who are to pay the above sum of £36 8s. to the said *Lewis Allen*; also all necessary charges that have arisen or may arise in collecting and transporting said goods and effects; also the charges for supporting the said *Jolley Allen* and family at *Provincetown*, and to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

*Resolve for adding an Ensign to, and supplying the Men stationed on the Gurnet in PLYMOUTH; passed JUNE 15, 1776.*

Whereas the Company ordered by a *Resolve* of this Court to be raised and stationed on the *Gurnet* consists of one hundred men, and one-half of them are to be Matrosses, and but three commissioned Officers are appointed to said Company, which are not sufficient; and whereas no provision is made for the support of said Company:

*It is Resolved*, That there be one Ensign added to the other Officers, whose pay shall be the same as that of the Second Lieutenant on the sea-coast establishment. And that the Commissary appointed to supply the sea-coast Company, now at *Plymouth*, be empowered and directed, in the same manner, to supply the Company to be stationed on the *Gurnet*. And that the Council be desired to issue blank commissions to the Hon. *James Warren, Esq.*, *Isaac Lothrop, Esq.*, and *George Partridge, Esq.*, to be given to such persons, for Officers, as in their discretion they, or the major part of them, shall judge most suitable.

*Commissary-General directed to secure the Colony's Stores; passed JUNE 15, 1776.*

Whereas sundry Stores and Implements belonging to the late Light-House, having been left by the *British* Troops on the Island upon which the said Light-House was erected:

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed immediately to take some effectual measures to secure the Stores and Implements before mentioned, as also any other Stores belonging to the Colony that may have been left by the enemy on any other Island in the Harbour of *Boston*.

*Commissary-General and others appointed to receive and pay for Saltpetre; passed JUNE 15, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General, at his Store, and *Zebediah Abbot*, at the Powder-Mill at *Andover*, and *Thomas Crane, Esq.*, at the Powder-Mill at *Stoughton*, be, and they hereby are, appointed and empowered, in behalf of this Colony, to receive, examine, and pay for all good and merchantable Saltpetre that shall be brought and actually delivered to them, respectively, before the 1st day of *October* next, with such evidence as is required by a *Resolve* of the General Court, of the 6th instant, that the same was manufactured within this Colony. And that there be paid to each of the above mentioned persons, out of the Treasury of this Colony, the sum of £1000, and the Treasurer is directed to pay the same accordingly, to enable them to pay for the same; they to be respectively accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for bringing forward all Causes which were pending at the Superior Court, &c.; passed JUNE 15, 1776.*

Whereas, by reason of the difficulties raised in this Colony through the wicked designs of the enemies of our liberties, an interruption took place in the administration of civil distributive justice in this Colony, and, by a necessary act of the General Court for the removal of all officers from their offices, many civil suits, which have been before commenced



in the several Counties of this Colony, and were pending at the Superior Court, and other actions which had been appealed from the respective Inferior Courts in the several Counties, have not been prosecuted to final judgment, and much injury will happen if an adequate remedy is not provided:

*It is Resolved*, That all causes which were pending at the Superior Court in any of said Counties, and on which judgment has not been given, shall be brought forward at the next term of the said Court for each respective County, and the same proceedings had thereon as though such causes had been regularly continued to such term, from the term where the same were pending when such interruption took place. And in any causes appealed from any Inferior Court, and not entered at the Superior Court, by reason of said interruption, the Appellants may have liberty, if they see cause, to enter their said appeal at the next term of the Superior Court, to be holden in each respective County, as though the appeal had been originally to the same term. And if any Appellants shall neglect to enter their appeals, as aforesaid, the Appellees in such case may, if they see cause, enter their complaints, and the judgments of the Inferior Court shall be affirmed thereon, as though said complaints had been entered in due time: *Provided, always*, That no Execution or Writ of Possession shall issue on any judgment given in any of the cases aforesaid, until three months after such judgment; and where any causes were tried by a Jury, the Justices of said Superior Court, in such causes, shall, and in all others where it shall appear to them to be expedient, may continue the same, and cause the absent parties to be notified of the suits against them; and where any of the party shall be out of the County, and in the Continental or Colonial service, they shall have liberty to bring forward their suits at the next Superior Court held in said County after their return, and no action or complaint shall be entered against them while such person continues in said service, any law, usage, or custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Resolve on the Petition of WILLIAM TUPPER, respecting Captures; passed JUNE 17, 1776.*

Whereas it is provided, by a certain Act of the General Assembly of this Colony, that every person who shall make capture of any Vessel, shall, within twenty days from the 15th of April last, or within twenty days after the capture and bringing in of said Vessel, either by himself, his agent, or attorney, file a bill before the Judge appointed to try the justice of such capture, giving a full and ample account of the time, manner, and cause of the taking of such Vessel: And whereas captures of several Vessels have been made within the Eastern District of this Colony, or may have been made at sea and brought to any port within the Eastern District of this Colony, which could not be proceeded with agreeable to the requisition in said Act: Wherefore,

*Resolved*, That bills of the captures of all Vessels, their apparatus and cargoes, which captures have been already made within the Eastern District of this Colony, or made at sea and brought to any port within the Eastern District of this Colony, hitherto not filed before the Judge appointed to try the justice of such captures, may and shall be filed before said Judge, on any day preceding the first day of August next, anything in the aforesaid Act, made for the trial of the justice of such captures, notwithstanding.

*Resolve to supply the Town of HINGHAM with Powder, &c.; passed JUNE 17, 1776.*

Whereas there is a Cannon provided at Hingham, at the charge of the Town, for the defence of the Harbour:

*Resolved*, That two half-barrels of Powder and twenty Shot—viz: six-pounders—be delivered to the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of Hingham by the Commissary-General, said Committee to give a receipt to the Commissary, to be accountable for the same.

*Resolve on the Petition of ISAAC MELOON; passed JUNE 18, 1776.*

On the Petition of Isaac Meloon,

*Resolved*, That there be paid to him, out of the publick Treasury, the sum of £2 8s., in full for the loss of his Gun in the Bunker-Hill fight, as mentioned in his Petition.

*Resolve for procuring two Decoy Ships, &c.; passed JUNE 18, 1776.*

On the Report of the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of Boston,

*Resolved*, That the said Committee be, and they hereby are, empowered to procure, on the best terms, two Ships at the expense of this Colony, and man and fix them in such way and place them at such station, as may appear to the said Committee best calculated to serve as a decoy to the enemy's Ships and Vessels that may at any time be coming into the Harbour of Boston. And the aforesaid Committee are further empowered and directed to erect such Lights, where the Light-House stood, without erecting a Light-House, as may serve further to decoy and bring into the Harbour of Boston Ships and Vessels of the enemy aforesaid. And the Commissary-General of this Colony is hereby directed to supply the said Committee with those articles that may be necessary for the above purposes. And the Committee on the Report of the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of Boston have leave to sit again.

*Instructions to the Committee on the Abstracts; passed JUNE 19, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Abstracts are hereby directed not to allow to any Commissioned or Staff Officer, of whatever rank, more than three days' pay as an Officer, from the time of their engaging to the time of their marching; and that there be allowed to each Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier pay from the time of enlistment till they marched for the Camp.

*Honourable JAMES WARREN, Esq., appointed Second Major-General; JUNE 19, 1776.*

The House, according to the Order of the Day, made choice, by ballot, of the Honourable James Warren, Esq., as Second Major-General of the Militia of this Colony.

Concurred by Council, June 19, 1776.

*JONATHAN PARMENTER appointed Second Major of the Fourth Regiment in MIDDLESEX; JUNE 19, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of Jonathan Parmenter as Second Major of the Fourth Regiment of Militia, in the County of Middlesex, in the room of Major Joseph Smith, who declines serving.

Concurred by Council the same day.

*Resolve for payment of Colonel JOHN ROBERTSON's Abstract; passed JUNE 19, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, unto Colonel John Robertson, for himself and Staff and Field Officers mentioned in his Abstract, the sum of £11 6s.; also, for Captain John Ford the sum of £47 1s.; and for Captain John Lemont the sum of £26 3s. 7d.; and for Captain Asahel Wheeler the sum of £51 5s.; and Captain Benjamin Edgell the sum of £15 13s. 9½d.

*Resolve to prevent the exportation of Provisions till the 10th November next; passed JUNE 19, 1776.*

Whereas many inconveniences and dangerous consequences may, and in all probability will, accrue to this Colony in the course of its defence against its unnatural enemies, if a speedy and effectual prohibition of the exportation of Provisions from each and every Port, Harbour, and place within the same, to any other Harbour or place without the limits of the said Colony, is not immediately effected: Wherefore, it is

*Resolved*, That from and after the 21st day of this instant June, no person or persons whatsoever presume to lade on board any ship or vessel within this Colony any kinds or articles of Provisions, except Jamaica and Pickled Fish, with intent to convey the same out of this Colony by water, until the 10th day of November next, unless the same be laden on board such ship or vessel with intent to supply the fleets and armies of the United Colonies, or the inhabitants of some other part or parts of this Colony: *Provided, always*, That any person or persons who have, agreeably to, and in consequence of, a resolve of the American Congress for encouraging the importation of warlike stores into the United Colonies, imported any such stores, and have not already

exported Provisions or other Merchandise to the amount thereof, or may hereafter import such stores, such person or persons may lade on board any ship or vessel, and convey and send out of this Colony to any other place, except to the dominions of *Great Britain*, any kind of Provisions to the amount or value of such warlike stores, imported as aforesaid: *Provided, also*, That nothing in this resolve shall be construed to extend to the preventing so much Provisions as in the judgment of the Committee of Safety, &c., may be sufficient for the persons on board for the intended voyage, being put on board any ship or other vessel arriving at, trading with, or sailing from, any port, harbour, or other place in this Colony, such voyage not being prohibited by any resolve of Congress, or law or resolve of this Colony. And the Committees of Safety, &c., in the several Towns and other places within this Colony are hereby ordered and directed to see that this resolve be effectually carried into execution.

*Resolve on the Petition of GILBERT HARRISON; passed JUNE 19, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Gilbert Harrison*, showing his right to claim the property of certain goods on board the Schooner *Volante*, lately condemned in the Maritime Court held at *Plymouth*, and the impossibility of making that claim in the time by law prescribed:

*Resolved*, That the Judge in said Court and the captors stay all further proceedings on said condemnation, and that the said *Gilbert Harrison* be allowed to file his claim on the goods aforesaid, before the said Judge, within five days after the passing this resolve; and that thereupon the said Judge notify the trial of said claim in like manner as original trials of captures are by law to be notified, and that the said Judge be served with a copy of this resolve.

*Adjutant for the First Regiment in HAMPSHIRE, chosen; JUNE 19, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Solomon Brewer*, as an Adjutant to the First Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Hampshire*.

Concurred by Council the same day.

*Adjutant for the First Regiment in PLYMOUTH, chosen; JUNE 19, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *John Torrey, Jun.*, as an Adjutant to the First Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Plymouth*.

Concurred by Council the same day.

*Resolve on the Petition of NATHAN SMITH; passed JUNE 20, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Nathan Smith*:

Whereas it appears to this Court that certain persons were concerned in taking and bringing into this Colony a certain Schooner, mentioned in said Petition, a number of whom were of a sea-coast company in the pay of this Colony; and it further appearing that the Vessels or Boats which attacked and took the said Schooner were procured by and at the risk of the captors: Therefore, it is

*Resolved*, That after the charges of trial and condemnation are deducted from the gross produce of the said Vessel, cargo, and appurtenances, and the shares of the other captors have been assigned, the Colony shall receive one-third part, and the sea-coast men two-thirds part of the residue.

*Resolve on the Account of JEREMIAH PUTNAM; passed JUNE 20, 1776.*

On an Account of *Jeremiah Putnam*, for losses of his brother *Perly Putnam*, in battle on the 19th April, 1775,

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony to *Samuel Epes*, the sum of £5 10s., for the use of the heirs of *Perly Putnam*, in full of said Account.

*Adjutant for the Eighth Regiment in WORCESTER chosen; JUNE 20, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Mr. Ebenezer Co-nant, Jun.*, as an Adjutant to the Eighth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Worcester*.

Concurred by Council the same day.

*Resolve for supplying Colonels MARSHALL's, WHITNEY's, and CRAFT's Regiments with Medicines; passed JUNE 20, 1776.*

Whereas application has been made to this Court requesting that the three Regiments now in the service of this Colony, viz: *Marshall's, Whitney's, and Craft's*, be supplied from time to time with such Medicines as may be necessary for the sick and wounded: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That *Dr. John Greenleaf*, of *Boston*, be requested to supply the chief Surgeon of such Regiments respectively, with such Medicines as may be necessary for the sick and wounded aforesaid, during the continuance of said Regiments in or near *Boston*; that he be directed to take the Surgeons' receipts for all such Medicines as he may deliver, and that he exhibit his Accounts to this Court for payment. And the said Surgeons, before they shall be empowered to receive of the said *Greenleaf* any such Medicines as aforesaid, shall take an oath before some Justice of the Peace, that all the Medicines that he shall receive of the said *Greenleaf*, for the purposes aforesaid, shall be used for the sick and wounded persons in the Regiment to which he is Surgeon, and that he will account with the General Court of this Colony for all such Medicines as shall remain in his hands, after his being discharged as Surgeon of said Regiment; and the said Surgeons are required to produce a certificate from a Justice of the Peace of their being sworn to the faithful discharge of the aforesaid trust, before the said *Greenleaf* shall be empowered to deliver them any such Medicines as aforesaid.

*Commissary-General directed to receive all the Powder due from the Continent; JUNE 21, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed to receive all such Powder as is due to this Colony from the Continent, and to give his discharge therefor in behalf of this Colony.

*Resolve for supplying the several Towns with Powder; passed JUNE 21, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and hereby is, directed to deliver out of the Colony Store to each of those Towns that have lent Powder to the Colony, such quantity as may to them respectively remain due, and to pay reasonable charges for transportation of the same; and that there be paid to said Commissary, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of £20 for that purpose, he to account therefor with this Court; the Selectmen of such Towns leaving with the said Commissary those receipts whereby they support their claim to such Powder, and also certifying that they have not received recompense therefor.

*It is further Resolved*, That each Town and unincorporated Plantation in this Colony, not having such a quantity of Powder in their publick stock as will furnish the men borne on the Training-Band and Alarm-Lists with half a pound to each man, be allowed to purchase, at either of the Powder-Mills in this Colony, so much Powder as will make up the quantity aforesaid, which shall be sold to the Selectmen of said Towns, or Committees of unincorporated Plantations, (as fast as it can be spared,) at 5s. per pound; said Selectmen and Committees respectively certifying to the keeper of such Powder-Mill the number of men borne on the Lists aforesaid, together with the whole Powder they have in stock—preference being given to Sea-Coast Towns and unincorporated Plantations adjoining the Sea, when more apply than can be supplied.

*Resolve relative to delinquent Collectors; passed JUNE 21, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed immediately to give notice in the publick Prints, that all Collectors of Taxes or Constables that are delinquent in paying the several sums committed to them to collect from the year 1769 to the year 1774, inclusively, pay him the several sums due from them immediately; and that he issue out his Execution against all such Collectors or Constables as shall neglect to pay the same after the last day of *August* next.

*Resolve relative to Dr. STOCKBRIDGE and others, and Persons who, having fled to HALIFAX, &c., shall return to this Colony; passed JUNE 21, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Dr. Benjamin Stockbridge, John Tilden, Ephraim Little, John Baker, Elisha Ford, Sylvanus White, and Cornelius White, remain under confinement in Plymouth Jail, at their own cost and charge, until the further order of this Court; and that Nathaniel Garnet, Warren White, Stephen Tilden, and Joseph Tilden, be put under the care of the Committees of Correspondence for the Towns of Scituate, Pembroke, and Marblehead, to be by them put out to labour to some proper person or persons, who live remote from the sea-coast, and there to remain within the limits of such Towns where they shall be placed, until they shall be discharged by order of this Court, or to enlist on board some armed Vessel fitted out by this Colony or Continent, for the defence of the same; and that Joseph Younk, a minor, be ordered by the aforesaid Committee to return to his father in the Town of Scituate, his said father giving them bonds for his said son's future good behaviour.

*And it is further Resolved*, That those persons who have been inimical to the liberties of this Colony and the Continent of America, and have fled to Halifax, or elsewhere, in order to join the British Army, that on their arrival into any Port or Town within this Colony, the Committee of Correspondence in the Town or Towns where they shall so come, be, and they are hereby, directed and empowered to take them up and confine them immediately in any Jail within the same County; and the keeper or under-keepers of any of the Jails within this Colony are directed to receive them by orders from the Committees of Correspondence where they are taken up, and them safely keep till further orders of this Court; and the said Committee or Committees are directed to inform this Court of their proceedings.

*Resolve on the Petition of JOHN STEDMAN; passed JUNE 21, 1776.*

On the Petition of John Stedman,

*Resolved*, That there be paid to John Stedman, out of the Colony Treasury, the sum of £4, in full of the extraordinary expenses he was at in his sickness while belonging to the Army in Roxbury, and after his return, for doctoring and other extra charges home.

*Mr. ALEXANDER SHEPPARD directed to receive Saltpetre; JUNE 21, 1776.*

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander Sheppard, Jun., be, and he hereby is, directed to receive Saltpetre into the Commissary-General's Store, he observing the Resolves of this Court relative to receiving in that article.

*Resolve on the Petition of the Committee of BRUNSWICK; passed JUNE 22, 1776.*

On the Petition of the Committee of the Town of Brunswick,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to Mr. Samuel Stanwood one barrel of Gunpowder, for the use of the inhabitants of the Town of Brunswick, he paying him after the rate of 5s. per pound for the same.

*Resolve for supplying the Brig RISING EMPIRE with Cannon, &c.; passed JUNE 22, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to Thomas Durfee, Esq., out of the Colony Stores now at Dartmouth, in the care of Mr. Lemuel Williams, 4 Cannon, (four-pounders,) 14 Swivel-Guns, 12 Blunderbusses, 80 Cutlasses, 2,000 pounds of Gunpowder, one ton and a half of four-pound Shot, 600 Swivel-Gun Shot, 70 Hand-Grenades, 60 Small-Arms, and 700 pounds of Sheet-Lead, for the use of the Brig called the Rising Empire.

*Resolve on the Return made to the Court by Major BARACHIAH BASSET; passed JUNE 22, 1776.*

Whereas the four Cannon mentioned in said Return are proper for the sea service, and the armed Brig belonging to

this Colony at Dartmouth is in want of the same, and with them can proceed on a cruise: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That Thomas Durfee, Esq., one of the Committee for fitting out the said Brig, be, and he hereby is, empowered and directed to cause the said Cannon forthwith to be removed and put on board said Brig, and the said Committee are also directed to get the said Brig in readiness for a cruise as soon as may be.

Also *Resolved*, That in lieu of the said four Cannon, there be placed at Tarpaulin-Cove Harbour two pieces of Cannon, (nine-pounders;) and the Commissary-General is hereby directed to deliver the same to Mr. Durfee, or his order, to be conveyed to Major Basset; and also to deliver one hundred and nine pounds weight of Shot, together with Ladles and the necessary apparatus for the said two Cannon, and that the said Basset cause the same to be fitted and mounted as soon as may be for the defence of said Harbour.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the Hon. Walter Spooner, Esq., be, and hereby is, directed and empowered to provide ten old Whale-Boats, that are fit to be used for the protection of the neighbouring Islands and the shipping coming in and going out, and also purchase twelve Shovels, six Spades, and four Pick-Axes, the same to be for the use of said Basset and men under his command in the services aforesaid; and the said Walter Spooner, Esq., is directed to lay his account before this Court for payment thereof.

*Additional Resolve relative to supplying the three Colonial Regiments with Medicines; passed JUNE 22, 1776.*

Whereas, by a Resolve of this Court of the 19th current, directing how several Regiments raised by this Colony shall be supplied with Medicines, among other things it is resolved that all the Medicines that shall be received by the Surgeons of said Regiments shall be used for the sick and wounded persons in the Regiment to which he is Surgeon, which may be attended with some inconvenience in cases of necessity, and put said Surgeons to unnecessary trouble: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That when it shall so happen that any of the aforesaid Surgeons shall be called to give his assistance or advice for any sick or wounded person or persons in either of said Regiments, and he should find it necessary to make use of some of the Medicines delivered for the Regiment to which he is Surgeon, in such case he is directed to make use of such Medicines as are necessary, in the same manner he could if the sick or wounded person or persons belonged to the Regiment to which he is Surgeon; and in case it should at any time appear necessary to either of said Surgeons to make use of any Medicines for immediate relief of any person belonging to the Continental Army, he is directed to make use of the same, he keeping an account of all such Medicines as he shall make use of for the sick and wounded in said Army.

*And it is further Resolved*, That instead of the oath required to be taken by the Resolve afore recited, the Surgeon of each Regiment shall make oath before some Justice of the Peace that the Medicines he shall receive of Doctor Greenleaf shall be applied agreeable to the Resolves of this Court.

*Resolve on the Abstract of Colonel ISAAC SMITH; passed JUNE 22, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony unto Colonel Isaac Smith the sum of £9 12s. 8d., for himself and Field and Staff Officers borne on his Abstract; also for Captain Robert Dodge and Company the sum of £42 17s. 11d.; also for Captain Daniel Littlefield and Company the sum of £67 0s. 4d.; and for Captain William Rogers and Company £81 6s. 11d.; and for Captain Henry Merrill and Company the sum of £38 19s. 4½d.; and for Captain Benjamin Farnum and Company the sum of £42 6s. 8½d.; and for Captain Timothy Johnson and Company £16 15s. 5d.; and for Captain Benjamin Epes and Company £40 16s. 6d.

*Treasurer directed to receive two boxes of Money of Mr. GEORGE SPRIGGS; passed JUNE 24, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer and Receiver-General of this Colony be, and he is hereby, directed to receive of Mr. George Spriggs two boxes of Money, marked "Massachu-

setts," brought by said *Spriggs* from *Philadelphia*, with directions to deliver the same to the order of the General Assembly of this Colony, and that the Treasurer and Receiver-General give the said *Spriggs* a receipt therefor.

*Resolve on the Petition of GEORGE LANGFORD; passed JUNE 24, 1776.*

On the Petition of *George Langford*,

*Resolved*, That there be paid to him out of the publick Treasury of this Colony the sum of 15s., in full for the damage done to his Gun by a cannon ball fired from the enemy at *Boston Neck* on the 17th of *June*, 1775.

*Order on the Complaint of SAMUEL RICE; passed JUNE 24, 1776.*

On the Complaint of *Samuel Rice*, of *Lancaster*, setting forth fraud in the Muster-Roll of Lieutenant *Seth Heywood*, of said *Lancaster*, &c.:

*Ordered*, That the Secretary be, and he hereby is, directed to serve the said Lieutenant *Seth Heywood* with a copy of said Complaint and this Order, that he show cause, if any he has, on the second *Wednesday* of the next session of the General Court why he should not be prosecuted for fraud and perjury respecting said Roll; and that the Secretary be directed in like manner to serve the said *Samuel Rice* with a copy of his Complaint and this Order, that he have opportunity on the said second *Wednesday* of the next session of the General Court to support his complaint against said *Heywood*.

*Commissary for the Forces at TRURO chosen; JUNE 24, 1776.*

The House made choice of Mr. *John Sellew* as a Commissary for the Company stationed at *Truro*, in the room of Mr. *Harding*, excused.

Concurred by Council same day.

*Adjutant for the Third Regiment in YORK; chosen JUNE 22, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of Mr. *Theodore Lyman* as an Adjutant to the Third Regiment of Militia in the County of *York*.

Concurred by Council *June 24*, 1776.

*Adjutant to the Second Regiment in CUMBERLAND chosen; JUNE 22, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Joseph Ludden* as an Adjutant to the Second Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Cumberland*.

Concurred by Council, *June 24*, 1776.

*Adjutant to the Third Regiment in CUMBERLAND chosen; JUNE 22, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Gideon Mcserve* as an Adjutant to the Third Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Cumberland*.

Concurred by Council, *June 24*, 1776.

*Resolve to supply DAVID JEFFERIES, Esquire, with fifteen hundred Pounds; passed JUNE 24, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to *David Jefferies*, Esquire, Paymaster to the Regiments of Colonels *Marshall*, *Whitney*, and *Crafts*, the sum of £1,500, towards paying those Regiments, according to their establishment, so far as it respects Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates; said Paymaster to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve directing the Selectmen of the several Towns to lend Military Tools; passed JUNE 24, 1776.*

Whereas, by a late Act of the General Court, intituled "An Act for forming and regulating the Militia within the Colony, &c.," the Selectmen of each and every Town are directed to provide, at the expense of the Colony, a number of Spades or Iron Shovels, Narrow Axes, and Pick Axes; and the same to deposite and keep in some safe place, for the use of the Militia upon an alarm: And whereas it may

be found expedient to make use of such Tools in erecting Fortifications, or for other necessary purposes: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen of each and every Town within this Colony be, and they hereby are, severally empowered and directed, upon application being made, to deliver the whole, or any part of the Tools provided agreeably to the Act aforesaid, to any Commissioned Officer, commanding any number of Soldiers, employed in fortifying against the enemy, in any Town in this Colony, taking their receipts for the same, particularly mentioning the number of each Tool so delivered; and said officers are hereby directed to return said Tools to the said Selectmen as soon as conveniently may be, after they have done using them in fortifying as aforesaid, the aforesaid Act notwithstanding.

*Resolve for payment of Accounts for losses in battle, passed JUNE 24, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the following Sums be paid to the persons whose names follow, in full, for their accounts for losses in battle, on and since the 19th of *April*, 1775, viz: to

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Capt. Peter Coburn,	5	10	0	Jonah Emmerson, -	1	0	0
Thomas Cummings,	0	9	0	Reuben Carlton, -	2	8	0
Francis Darison, -	3	18	0	Daniel Keyes, -	1	18	0
William Chambers,	1	18	0	William Campfield,	1	13	0
James Spaulding, -	1	0	0	Isaac Green, -	-	2	8
Jedediah Thayer, -	2	14	0	Lieut. Isaac Brown,	2	10	8
Samuel Walker, -	3	3	2	Jeremiah Macho, -	1	16	0
Eli Lewis, - - -	0	16	0	David Adams, -	0	4	0
Joseph Thatcher, -	2	6	0	P. Dudley Sergeant,	0	12	0
Samuel Basset, -	0	14	0	Asahel Nim's heirs,	4	14	0
Maj. Stephen Cross,	2	6	0	Nathan Newell, -	0	6	0
David Livestone, -	3	11	3	Lt. Benjamin West,	3	16	0
Thomas Baker, -	2	14	3	Heirs of W. Fish, -	5	17	0
Thomas Pike, -	1	7	0	Edward Elsworth,	1	16	0
Ephraim Hidden, -	0	8	0	Moses Morss, -	-	1	10
Stephen Palmer, -	1	16	0	Jacob Lane, -	-	2	8

*Resolve making provision for the Families of such Tories as have left the Colony; passed JUNE 25, 1776.*

Whereas a Resolve passed this Court, dated the 19th of *April*, 1776, directing the Committee of Correspondence, &c., in this Colony, to lease out the Real Estates of Tories who have fled to the *British* Fleet or Army for protection, and to take an Inventory of their Personal Estates, &c., wherein no provision is made for their families which are left on those Estates, whereby great expenses may accrue to the Towns to which they respectively belong:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the Committees of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, in those Towns in this Colony wherein there are Estates which, in pursuance of said Resolve, come under their cognisance, be, and they hereby are, directed to allow to the families of those enemies to their country, described in said resolve, so much of the improvement of said Estates as, in their opinion, is necessary, together with the industry of said families, for their comfortable support, and account with this Court, as by said resolve is provided; and the Selectmen (or Overseers of the Poor, where such are appointed) are hereby empowered to bind out the children of such Tories, in like manner as they are by law empowered to bind out the Poor of their Towns.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the Committees aforesaid be, and they are hereby, empowered to dispose of any perishable goods belonging to said Estates, and which are otherwise in danger of being lost, for the most they will sell for.

*Resolve for raising one hundred Men, to be stationed at MARTHA'S VINEYARD; passed JUNE 25, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be raised on the Sea-Coast Establishment, in addition to the Companies stationed at *Martha's Vineyard*, one Company of one hundred Men, to be inlisted from the main, and to serve till the last day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged by order of this Court; and that one piece of Cannon (a six-pounder now at *Elizabeth Islands*) be removed from thence, and placed at *Martha's Vineyard*, and that they be supplied with two nine-pounders now at *Boston*; and that the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver the same to *Joseph Mayhew*, Esquire, or order, and also for the use of the Cannon and Men, stationed at the *Vineyard*, four barrels of Powder, forty rounds of



Shot for each of said Cannon, and three hundred weight of Leaden Balls; he, the said *Mayhew*, to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for raising five thousand Men, to coöperate with the Continental Troops at CANADA and NEW-YORK; passed JUNE 25, 1776.*

As the unrelenting spirit which possesses the King and Parliament of *Britain* has pushed them to leave no measures unessayed to accomplish our destruction, and, with infinite disgrace to themselves, are about to pour in upon us a number of foreign Troops, with intent, this year, to decide the contest, and to enslave us forever; and as such a manly and brave resistance, as, with the smiles of Heaven, we are able to make, will, in all human probability, utterly defeat their haughty and unrighteous designs, and establish our liberty; the Honourable *American Congress* have called upon this Colony for five thousand of its Militia, to coöperate with the Continental Troops at *Canada* and *New-York*; and as it is absolutely necessary that a proper number of men should be reserved for the defence of the sea-coasts against the attacks which may be made upon them, it renders it unavoidable that the levies should be made on the Towns least exposed to invasion from the sea; and although the numbers are large, yet the exertions now called for are to be disregarded when compared to the great and noble objects for which we are contending: this Court, therefore, have the fullest assurance that their brethren, upon this occasion, will not confer with flesh and blood; but being convinced of the necessity of the measure, will, without hesitancy, and with the utmost alacrity and despatch, fill up the numbers proportioned on the respective Towns, and in that case we shall have the highest prospect of defeating the bloody designs of our unjust and cruel adversaries. We derive the greatest confidence from the spirited and distinguished part our constituents have taken upon all important occasions. We flatter ourselves that a noble defence this campaign will put an end to the war. Everything, therefore, calls for their exertions on this occasion; not only the safety of their wives, children, and properties, but the security of the rights of the present and future generations: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the five thousand men from the Militia of this Colony, requested by Congress to be immediately raised and marched for reinforcing the Army in *Canada* and in *New-York*, be raised from the Militia on the Alarm and Training-Band Lists of the several Towns, and in the several proportions expressed in the schedule hereto annexed; and that those that are proportioned on the several Towns in the Counties of *Suffolk*, *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Hampshire*, *York*, and *Cumberland*, be destined and march for *Canada*; and that those which are proportioned on the several Towns in the Counties of *Plymouth*, *Bristol*, *Worcester*, and *Berkshire*, be destined and march for *New-York*. And that each man furnish himself with a good Firearm, and Bayonet fitted to the same, or, instead of a Bayonet, a Hatchet or Tomahawk, a Cartouch-Box, Knapsack, and Blanket; and for their encouragement readily to enter into the service of their country on this pressing exigency of affairs, there shall be paid to each non-commissioned Officer and private Soldier destined for *Canada*, at the time of his passing muster, £7; and to each non-commissioned Officer and private Soldier destined for *New-York*, at the time of his passing muster, £3—the better to enable him to furnish and prepare himself for the service on so sudden a call; and 6s. for the use of the Arms of each non-commissioned Officer and private Soldier destined to either of the places aforesaid, and 12s. to purchase a Blanket, and one month's advance pay on his passing muster, equipped as aforementioned.

*And it is further Resolved*, That *Jonathan Metcalf*, Esq., *Benjamin Guild*, Esq., Colonel *Aaron Davis*, *Nathaniel Bailey*, Esq., and Mr. *Daniel Perry*, be a Committee to go into the County of *Suffolk*; and that *Aaron Wood*, Esq., Major *Samuel Epes*, Mr. *Nehemiah Abbot*, Colonel *Daniel Spafford*, and *Dudley Carlton*, Esq., be a Committee to go into the County of *Essex*; and that *Jonas Dix*, Esq., Major *Timothy Walker*, Colonel *Josiah Sartel*, Colonel *Simcon Spaulding*, Mr. *George Brigham*, Captain *Joseph Hosmer*, Colonel *Jonathan Reed*, Colonel *William Thompson*, and *Josiah Stone*, Esq., be a Committee to go into the County of *Middlesex*; and that *Joseph Hawley*, Esq., *Noah Good-*

*man*, Esq., Major *William Pincheon*, Jun., Mr. *David Saxton*, Mr. *Luke Hitchcock*, and Captain *Israel Hubbard*, be a Committee to go into the County of *Hampshire*; and that *William Drew*, Esq., *Hugh Orr*, Esq., Colonel *Mitchell*, Colonel *Ebenezer White*, and Captain *Robert Lenthal Eels*, be a Committee to go into the County of *Plymouth*; and that Captain *John Stevens*, Colonel *Shubael Peck*, and Colonel *Nathaniel Leonard*, be a Committee to go into the County of *Bristol*; and that Captain *Seth Washburn*, Captain *Nathaniel Wilson*, Mr. *Abner Rawson*, Captain *William Page*, *Amos Singletary*, Esq., Mr. *John Ball*, Captain *John Haven*, Captain *Nicholas Dyke*, and Major *William Learned*, be a Committee to go into the County of *Worcester*; and that Mr. *Azariah Root*, Major *Caleb Hyde*, and Captain *Isaac Stratton*, be a Committee to go into the County of *Berkshire*; and that *Joseph Storer*, Esq., and Colonel *Ichabod Goodwin*, be a Committee to go into the County of *York*; and that Captain *Joseph Noyes* be a Committee to go into the County of *Cumberland*; whose business it shall be to endeavour to have the inlistments of the men apportioned by this Resolve on the several Counties made without delay, to form the men into Companies, to muster and pay them their bounty, and for the use of their arms, and blanket money, and for one month's advance pay, and to appoint meet persons for Captains and Subalterns of the Companies to be raised in their respective Counties; the non-commissioned Officers to be appointed by the respective Captains and Subalterns; no man to pass muster without being equipped as aforesaid.

*And it is further Resolved*, That this Court, as soon as may be, proceed to the choice of two Brigadiers as recommended by Congress, and of the Field-Officers for the several Battalions.

*And it is further Resolved*, That there be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony to the said Committees, to enable them to pay the Bounty aforesaid, and for the Blankets, and for the use of the Arms, and for a month's advance pay, to non-commissioned Officers and private Soldiers, the several sums following, viz:

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Suffolk*, the sum of £4,190.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Essex*, the sum of £4,280.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Middlesex*, the sum of £10,070.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Hampshire*, the sum of £7,100.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *York*, the sum £965.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Cumberland*, the sum of £365.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Plymouth*, the sum of £2,120.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Bristol*, the sum of £2,020.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Worcester*, the sum of £6,380.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Berkshire*, the sum of £1,400.

Each of said Committees to be accountable for the sum they shall severally receive.

*It is further Resolved*, That the pay and establishment of these Forces shall be the same as for those in the Continental service; that they be engaged to the first day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged by Congress; that their pay commence three days next preceding the day of their marching from home; and that they be allowed one penny, lawful money, a mile, in lieu of rations, for travelling expenses, and one day's pay for every twenty miles between home and the general rendezvous, going and returning.

*It is further Resolved*, That *Edward Mitchell*, Esq., *Theophilus Cushing*, Esq., and *William Drew*, Esq., be a Committee to provide suitable Camp-Kettles or Pots, and Canteens or Wooden Bottles, and transport them to suitable places, for the accommodation of the Troops.

*And be it further Resolved*, That the Committees to go into the several Counties receive Blank Commissions, to fill up and deliver to such Captains and Subalterns as they shall appoint.

*And it is further Resolved*, That the men to be raised and destined for *Canada*, be formed into four Battalions, of

nearly seven hundred and fifty men each, including Officers, and each Battalion to consist of eight Companies; each Company of one Captain, one First Lieutenant, one Second Lieutenant, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drum, and one Fife, and as near as may be of seventy-nine Privates. And that the men to be raised and destined for *New-York* be formed into three Battalions, each to consist, as near as may be, of six hundred and sixty-six men, including Officers; and also each Battalion to consist of eight Companies, and each Company of one Captain, one First Lieutenant, one Second Lieutenant, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and as near as may be of sixty-nine Privates. And the several Militia Officers in the several Counties are hereby required to afford their utmost aid to the said Committees in raising the men aforesaid, by calling together the men under their command, and in any other way the said Committees shall request.

And it is further Resolved, That the four Battalions destined to *Canada* shall be constituted in the manner following, that is to say: The first of said Battalions of all the men to be raised in the County of *Suffolk*, and of all the men to be raised in the following Towns in the County of *Middlesex*, viz: *Cambridge, Watertown, Charlestown, Medford, Malden, Waltham, Sherburne, Hopkington, Holliston, and Natick*; and the second of said Battalions shall be constituted of all the men to be raised in the Counties of *Essex, York, and Cumberland*; and the third of said Battalions shall be constituted of all the men to be raised in the County of *Middlesex*, except the Towns in the same County joined with the County of *Suffolk*, as above expressed; and that the fourth of the said Battalions shall be constituted of all the men to be raised in the County of *Hampshire*.

And it is further Resolved, That the three Battalions destined to *New-York* shall be constituted in the manner following, that is to say: The first of the said Battalions of all the men to be raised in the Counties of *Plymouth and Bristol*; and the second of the said Battalions shall be constituted of all the men to be raised in the several Towns in the County of *Worcester*, excepting the Towns hereinafter named; and the third of the said Battalions shall be constituted of all the men to be raised in the County of *Berkshire*, and the following Towns in the County of *Worcester*, viz: *Lancaster, Bolton, Harvard, Mendon, Upton, Southborough, Grafton, Northborough, Westborough, Shrewsbury, Lunenburg, and Leominster*.

And it is further Resolved, That the several Battalions which shall be raised agreeably to, or in consequence of the foregoing Resolves, shall march to their respective places of destination by such routes as may be ordered by the General Assembly of this Colony; and in case no order is made for that purpose by the General Assembly, then by such routes as the Council of this Colony, or the major part of them, shall order and direct.

Also Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Committee appointed to procure Camp-Kettles, &c., the sum of £400, to enable them to purchase those articles, to pay for their transportation, and any other charges that may attend their doing said business; and that said Committee duly account with this Court for the expenditure of the sum or sums which they may receive for the purpose before mentioned.

<i>Suffolk.</i>		<i>Essex.</i>	
Roxbury, - - - -	42	Danvers, - - - -	50
Dorchester, - - - -	8	Ipswich, - - - -	10
Milton, - - - -	23	Newbury, - - - -	30
Braintree, - - - -	20	Lynn, - - - -	10
Weymouth, - - - -	10	Andover, - - - -	64
Hingham, - - - -	15	Rowley, - - - -	20
Dedham, - - - -	65	Salisbury, - - - -	18
Medfield, - - - -	26	Haverhill, - - - -	43
Wrentham, - - - -	65	Topsfield, - - - -	30
Brookline, - - - -	17	Amesbury, - - - -	37
Needham, - - - -	26	Bradford, - - - -	43
Stoughton, - - - -	40	Wenham, - - - -	6
Stoughtonham, - - - -	24	Methuen, - - - -	40
Medway, - - - -	26	Boxford, - - - -	38
Bellingham, - - - -	17	Middleton, - - - -	18
Walpole, - - - -	22		457
Chelsea, - - - -	2	<i>Middlesex.</i>	
	448	Cambridge, - - - -	57

Watertown, - - - -	30	Norwich, - - - -	6
Concord, - - - -	44	Murrayfield, - - - -	4
Newton, - - - -	41	Ervingshire, - - - -	4
Reading, - - - -	47	Plantation No. 7, - - - -	6
Marlborough, - - - -	55	Plantation No. 5, - - - -	6
Billerica, - - - -	35		754
Framingham, - - - -	45	<i>Plymouth.</i>	
Lexington, - - - -	29	Plymouth, - - - -	12
Chelmsford, - - - -	34	Kingston, - - - -	9
Sherburne, - - - -	21	Duxbury, - - - -	8
Sudbury, - - - -	58	Middleborough, - - - -	66
Weston, - - - -	28	Bridgewater, - - - -	95
Medford, - - - -	30	Pembroke, - - - -	34
Littleton, - - - -	23	Halifax, - - - -	12
Hopkinton, - - - -	29	Marshfield, - - - -	9
Westford, - - - -	27	Scituate, - - - -	17
Waltham, - - - -	26	Hanover, - - - -	16
Stow, - - - -	24	Wareham, - - - -	12
Groton, - - - -	42	Rochester, - - - -	25
Shirley, - - - -	15	Abington, - - - -	39
Pepperell, - - - -	25	Plympton, - - - -	26
Townsend, - - - -	22		380
Ashby, - - - -	11	<i>Bristol.</i>	
Stoneham, - - - -	12	Taunton, - - - -	76
Natick, - - - -	13	Rehoboth, - - - -	55
Dracut, - - - -	24	Norton, - - - -	32
Bedford, - - - -	17	Mansfield, - - - -	31
Holliston, - - - -	22	Attleborough, - - - -	53
Tewksbury, - - - -	23	Dighton, - - - -	25
Acton, - - - -	22	Easton, - - - -	30
Lincoln, - - - -	19	Swanzey, - - - -	20
Wilmington, - - - -	17	Raynham, - - - -	22
Malden, - - - -	24	Berkley, - - - -	18
Charlestown, - - - -	10		362
Dunstable, - - - -	22	<i>York.</i>	
Woburn, - - - -	47	Berwick, - - - -	32
	1,070	Kittery, - - - -	10
<i>Hampshire.</i>		York, - - - -	10
Springfield, - - - -	44	Wells, - - - -	10
Brimfield, - - - -	17	Lebanon, - - - -	10
Wilbraham, - - - -	24	Sandford & Smith's Co. - - - -	10
Northampton, - - - -	47	Arundell, - - - -	4
Southampton, - - - -	17	Biddeford, - - - -	5
Hadley, - - - -	13	Pepperellborough, - - - -	4
South-Hadley, - - - -	12	Buxton, - - - -	10
Amherst, - - - -	27		105
Granby, - - - -	9	<i>Worcester.</i>	
Hatfield, - - - -	16	Worcester, - - - -	56
Conway, - - - -	13	Lancaster, - - - -	72
Sunderland, - - - -	9	Spencer, - - - -	22
Montague, - - - -	13	Holden, - - - -	18
Northfield, - - - -	18	Paxton, - - - -	15
South-Brimfield, - - - -	23	Leicester, - - - -	25
Monson, - - - -	14	Howard, - - - -	36
Pelham, - - - -	20	Bolton, - - - -	33
Greenwich, - - - -	18	Princeton, - - - -	17
Blanford, - - - -	21	Mendon, - - - -	40
Leverett, - - - -	6	Uxbridge, - - - -	20
Warwick, - - - -	10	Upton, - - - -	21
Bernardstown, - - - -	11	Douglass, - - - -	23
Murrayfield, - - - -	10	Northbridge, - - - -	12
Charlemont, - - - -	9	Brookfield, - - - -	69
Worthington, - - - -	10	Hardwick, - - - -	38
Shutesbury, - - - -	11	New-Braintree, - - - -	24
Chesterfield, - - - -	10	Weston, - - - -	24
Southwick, - - - -	11	Oakham, - - - -	10
West-Springfield, - - - -	48	Oxford, - - - -	23
Whateley, - - - -	9	Sutton, - - - -	67
Williamsburgh, - - - -	9	Sturbridge, - - - -	32
Westfield, - - - -	31	Dudley, - - - -	22
Deerfield, - - - -	18	Charlton, - - - -	27
Greenfield, - - - -	17	Southborough, - - - -	25
Shelburne, - - - -	11	Grafton, - - - -	25
Palmer, - - - -	17	Northborough, - - - -	17
Granville, - - - -	27	Westborough, - - - -	28
New-Salem, - - - -	15	Shrewsbury, - - - -	50
Belchertown, - - - -	22	Lunenburg, - - - -	32
Colerain, - - - -	14	Leominster, - - - -	24
Ware, - - - -	13	Westminster, - - - -	23
Ludlow, - - - -	7	Fitchburg, - - - -	15
Ashfield, - - - -	7		

Ashburnham, - - -	11	West-Stockbridge, - -	6
Rutland, - - -	33	Pittsfield, - - -	17
Hutchinson, - - -	29	New-Marlbrough, -	15
Petersham, - - -	26	Egremont, - - -	9
Athol, - - -	14	Richmond, - - -	14
Templeton, - - -	19	Glass-Works, Grant, &	
Royalston, - - -	6	part of Hartwood, -	5
Winchendon, - - -	7	Stockbridge, - - -	14
Hubbardston, - - -	6	Lenox, - - -	9
	1136	Tyringham, - - -	11
<i>Cumberland.</i>		Loudoun, - - -	4
Scarborough, - - -	4	Alford, - - -	6
Windham, - - -	5	Lanesborough, - -	19
Gorham, - - -	10	New-Ashford, - - -	3
Pearsontown, - - -	4	Sandisfield, - - -	14
New-Boston, - - -	2	Plantation Hartwood, -	5
New-Gloucester, - -	6	Williamstown, - - -	13
North-Yarmouth, - -	4	Becket, - - -	6
Brunswick, - - -	4	Gageborough, - - -	7
	39	Partridgefield, - - -	5
<i>Berkshire.</i>		East-Hoosuck, - - -	9
Sheffield, - - -	27	Jericho, - - -	9
Great-Barrington, - -	16	New-Providence, - -	6
			249
TOTAL—Suffolk, - - -			448
Essex, - - -			457
Middlesex, - - -			1070
Hampshire, - - -			754
Plymouth, - - -			380
Bristol, - - -			362
York, - - -			105
Worcester, - - -			1136
Cumberland, - - -			39
Berkshire, - - -			249
			5000

The following is the form of the Inlistment to be signed by those who shall engage in the service, agreeable to the foregoing Resolve :

"We, whose names are underwritten, do hereby severally inlist ourselves into the service of the United American Colonies, and severally promise and engage to continue in such service until the first day of *December, 1776*, unless sooner discharged; and to furnish ourselves, each, with a good effective fire-arm, and, if possible, a bayonet fitted thereto, or, in lieu thereof, a hatchet or tomahawk, a cartridge-box, and blanket. We also, in like manner, promise and engage to obey all the lawful commands of the officers appointed, or to be appointed, over us, pursuant to the resolves of the General Court of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*; and under the direction of such officers, to march with the utmost despatch to , and to be subject to all such rules and regulations, in every respect, as are provided for the Continental Army. *June, 1776.*"

JOHN CUMMINGS, Esq., chosen Brigadier-General; JUNE 25, 1776.

The House made choice, by ballot, of *John Cummings*, Esq., as a Brigadier-General, to command the forces to be sent to *Canada*.

Concurred by Council, *June 26, 1776.*

JOHN FELLOWS, Esq., chosen Brigadier-General; JUNE 25, 1776.

The House made choice, by ballot, of *John Fellows*, Esq., as a Brigadier-General, to command the forces to be sent to *New-York*.

Concurred by Council, *June 26, 1776.*

Resolve on the Petition of JACOB BARKER, and others, of NOVA SCOTIA; passed JUNE 26, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver one barrel of Gunpowder, three hundred and fifty Flints, and two hundred and fifty weight of Lead, from the Colony stores, to *Asa Perly* and *Asa Kimball*, or their order, Agents of the Committee appointed by the inhabitants of the County of *Sunbury*, for

the use of their constituents; and that they, the said *Perly* and *Kimball*, be accountable to this Court for the same; and that the said Agents have liberty to purchase from such of the inhabitants of this Colony as shall be willing to part with the same, forty stand of Small-Arms, for the use of their constituents; and that the Committees of Correspondence, &c., in any of the sea-ports within this Colony, are directed to grant permits to the said Agents, to transport the same, or any other goods or merchandise that may legally be transported from port to port within this Colony.

Resolve on the Petition of ALEXANDER McLELLAN; passed JUNE 26, 1776.

On the Petition of *Alexander McLellan*, Resolved, That the Commissary-General be directed to deliver him seventy pounds' weight of Gunpowder, and twenty dozen Flints, the said *Alexander* paying current price for the same.

Resolve relative to erecting Beacons; passed JUNE 26, 1776.

Whereas, by a Resolve of this Court, passed the sixteenth of *April* last, it was ordered, that a Beacon should be erected at *Cape-Ann*, on the height of *Governour's Hill*, so called, another at *Marblehead*, on the height of the land there, one at *Boston*, on the usual place, and another on the height of the *Blue-Hills*, in *Stoughton*, or *Milton*, and no person or persons were appointed to carry this Resolve into execution: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Selectmen of the several Towns where the Beacons are respectively to be erected, be, and hereby are, directed and empowered forthwith to erect the same on the places specified in the Resolve above mentioned, at the expense of this Colony, and make report to this Court as soon as they have completed the business respectively assigned them.

And also Resolved, That *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., Mr. *Whittemore*, and Mr. *Otis*, be a Committee to form such regulations as may be necessary relating to said Beacons.

Resolve on the Account of the Selectmen of HAVERHILL passed JUNE 26, 1776.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of *Haverhill*, the sum of £57 4s. 6d., in full of their Account of Provisions supplied the Army at the time of *Lexington* Fight, on the 19th of *April*, 1775.

Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fourth Regiment in MIDDLESEX chosen; JUNE 26, 1776.

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Cyprian Howe*, as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fourth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Middlesex*, in the room of Lieutenant-Colonel *Barnes*, who declines serving.

Concurred by Council same day.

Field-Officers of the Battalion to be raised in ESSEX, YORK, and CUMBERLAND chosen; JUNE 25, 1776.

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the Battalion to be raised in the Counties of *Essex*, *York*, and *Cumberland*, for the Continental service, agreeable to a Resolve which passed the House this day, viz: *John Whittier*, Esq., Colonel; *Archelaus Fuller*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Roberts*, Esquire, Major.

Concurred by Council *June 26, 1776.*

Field-Officers of the Battalion to be raised in PLYMOUTH and BRISTOL chosen; JUNE 26, 1776.

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the Battalion to be raised for the service of the Continent, in the Counties of *Plymouth* and *Bristol*, agreeable to a Resolve which passed the House yesterday, viz: *Simeon Cary*, Colonel; *Stephen Richardson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Paine*, Major.

Concurred by Council the same day.

*Field-Officers for the Battalion to be raised in HAMPSHIRE chosen; JUNE 25, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the Battalion to be raised in the County of *Hampshire* for the Continental service, agreeable to a Resolve which passed the House this day, viz: *Rugles Woodbridge, Esq., Colonel; David Leonard, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; William Stacy, Esq., Major.*

Concurred by Council *June 26, 1776.*

*Field-Officers for the Battalion to be raised in WORCESTER chosen; JUNE 26, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the Battalion to be raised in the County of *Worcester* for the Continental service, agreeable to a Resolve which passed the House yesterday, viz: *Jonathan Holman Colonel, Paul Raymond Lieutenant-Colonel, Barnabas Sears Major.*

Concurred by Council the same day.

*Field-Officers for the Third Battalion destined to CANADA chosen; JUNE 26, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the Third Battalion destined to *Canada*, to be raised agreeable to a Resolve which passed the House yesterday, viz: *Jonathan Reed Colonel, Benjamin Brown Lieutenant-Colonel, Daniel Fletcher Major.*

Concurred by Council the same day.

*Field-Officers for the Battalion to be raised in BERKSHIRE, &c., chosen; JUNE 26, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers of the Battalion to be raised for the service of the Continent in the County of *Berkshire* and part of the County of *Worcester*, agreeable to a Resolve which passed the House yesterday, viz: *Jonathan Smith Colonel, Robert Longley Lieutenant-Colonel, Moses Wheelock Major.*

Concurred by Council the same day.

*Resolve for applying part of the Moneys appropriated to the purchase of Flour to pay for Tents; passed JUNE 27, 1776.*

Whereas the risk of importing Flour from the Southern Colonies is greatly increased: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed by the late General Court to import ten thousand barrels of Flour, &c., be, and they are hereby, directed so far to countermand their orders to Messrs. *Mifflin & Barrell*, for purchasing said ten thousand barrels of Flour, as to direct them not to purchase any more of that article, except the six thousand and sixty-one barrels already purchased.

*It is further Resolved*, That the said Committee be, and they are hereby, directed to order that so much of the Money that was appropriated to pay for said Flour, &c., as will be sufficient to pay for one thousand Tents, (which are purchased at *Philadelphia*, on account of this Colony, by order of the Commissary-General,) be applied for that purpose.

*Resolve for signing Bills of publick Credit; passed JUNE 27, 1776.*

*Ordered*, That *Abraham Fuller, Esq., Captain Samuel Carlton, Stephen Hall, tertius, Esq., Mr. George Partridge, Jonathan Brown, Esq., John Pitts, Esq., Mr. Samuel Allyne Otis, Dr. Moses Gunn, Tristram Dalton, Esq., Mr. Abner Ellis, Joseph Nye, Esquire, of Harwick, Edward Wigglesworth, Esq., Benjamin Mills, Esq., Israel Hobart, Esquire, George Williams, Esq., and Caleb Davis, Esq.,* be a Committee to sign and number the Bills of Credit of the present emission.

*Resolve for the Commissary-General to purchase Tents; passed JUNE 27, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to purchase the materials for five hundred Tents, and have them made at the expense and for the use of this Colony; and the honourable Council are hereby empowered to grant their Warrant on the Treasury for a sum of money sufficient to pay for the same.

*Resolve for procuring Hard Money; passed JUNE 27, 1776.*

Whereas repeated applications have been made by the honourable Congress to this Court to procure a sum of Hard Money to be forthwith sent into *Canada* for the support of our Army in that quarter, and have sent us Continental Bills to be exchanged for said Hard Money, but this Court have not been able as yet to procure more than £2,000 of the £30,000 required by Congress; and whereas it appears to this Court necessary to the carrying on the *Canadian* expedition with success, that our Army in that quarter be supplied with Hard Money without delay: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be, and hereby is, recommended to the friends of *America* in the several Towns in this Colony, (as they regard the success of our arms, and would prevent the *Canadian-French* and Savages from joining our more savage *British* enemy, to harass and distress our frontiers, and to make inroads into this and the neighbouring Colonies,) that they sign subscription papers, purporting what sum in Hard Money each man is willing to exchange for Continental Bills. And the Committees of Correspondence, &c., in the several Towns aforesaid, to whose patriotism and unwearied exertions in their country's cause these Colonies are so much indebted, are hereby further called upon to procure subscriptions as aforesaid in their respective Towns, without delay, and transmit such subscriptions to this Court, in order that the amount of said subscriptions may be sent to said Committees in Bills to be exchanged; and that the names of those worthy members of society who are disposed to assist their distressed country in this critical day, may be publickly known.

*Resolve for paying the Delegates of this Colony at Congress four hundred Dollars each; passed JUNE 27, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed by the General Court to purchase and import Flour and Rice, for the use of this Colony, be, and they hereby are, directed to order \$400 to be paid to each of the honourable Delegates of this Colony at Congress, out of the money appropriated for the purchasing of said Flour; they to account with this Court for the same.

*Resolve for appointing Staff Officers for the Regiments destined to CANADA, &c.; passed JUNE 27, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That one Chaplain, Surgeon, Surgeon's Mate, Adjutant and Quartermaster, be appointed for each of the four Regiments raising for *Canada*, and the three Regiments destined for *New-York*; and that the pay and allowance to the officers aforesaid be agreeable to the Continental establishment.

Also *Resolved*, That the Committees of the General Court, appointed to give out Commissions to the Captains and Subalterns of the foregoing Regiments, be severally empowered and directed to deliver Commissions or Warrants to such persons for Staff Officers as the Field Officers of their respective Regiments shall recommend to be most suitable for the services aforesaid.

*Resolve for providing Canteens and Camp Kettles; passed JUNE 27, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed by this House to provide Canteens and Kamp-Kettles for the Troops to be raised, destined for *Canada* and *New-York*, be and hereby are directed to provide one Canteen for each Soldier, and five hundred Tin Kettles, if to be obtained, for the use of the Troops destined for *Canada*; and also three hundred and thirty-three Kettles of Tin for the Troops destined for *New-York*, if to be had; otherwise that they procure Iron ones; to be delivered at the following places, and in the subsequent proportions, viz: At *Medfield*, 75 Kettles and 448 Canteens, for the County of *Suffolk*. At *Haverhill*, 101 Kettles, and 601 Canteens, for *Essex, York, and Cumberland*. At *Westford*, 178 Kettles, and 1070 Canteens, for *Middlesex*. At *Rehoboth*, 123 Kettles, and 742 Canteens, for *Plymouth and Bristol*. At *Brookfield*, 189 Kettles, and 1136 Canteens, for *Worcester*. At *Pittsfield*, 44 Kettles, and 261 Canteens, for *Berkshire*. At *Northampton*, 67 Kettles and 374 Canteens, and at *Hadley*, 67 Kettles and 374 Canteens, for *Hampshire*.

*And it is further Resolved*, That the above-mentioned



Camp Kettles and Canteens be deposited with the under-named persons, to be by them delivered to the Troops, taking their receipts therefor, viz: Those for *Medfield*, to *Eleazer Wheelock*; those for *Haverhill*, to *Isaac Reddington*; those for *Westford*, to Captain *Joseph Reed*; those for *Rehoboth*, to Mr. *Ephraim Starkweather*; those for *Pittsfield*, to Captain ——— *Bush*; those for *Northampton*, to Mr. *Robert Brick*; those for *Hadley*, to Major *John Chester Williams*; those for *Brookfield*, to *David Hitchcock*; and that those persons be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for paying Captain WILLIAM SCOTT and Men; passed JUNE 27, 1776.*

Whereas a Resolve passed this Court in *March* and *April* last, ordering the sum of £14 15s. to be paid out of the publick Treasury to Captain *William Scott*, and the Officers and Soldiers in his Company, for the losses sustained by said Company at *Chelsea* and *Bunker Hill*, to each of said Officers and men, the several sums set to their names; and it appearing to this Court that the sums amount to £19 15s.: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to Captain *William Scott*, for the use of the officers and men mentioned in the Return on which the said Resolve passed, the several sums set to their names respectively; said sums amounting in the whole to £19 15s.: *Provided*, That he shall not be entitled to receive anything in consequence of this Resolve for any person who has received the sum intended to have been allowed him by the Resolve aforesaid.

*Officers for the Company at MARTHA'S VINEYARD chosen; JUNE 27, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Officers for the Company of one hundred men, to be stationed at *Martha's Vineyard*: *John Russell*, Captain; *Stephen Fisk*, Jun., First Lieutenant; *Silas Hatch*, Jun., Second Lieutenant.

Concurred by Council the same day.

*Resolve on the Petition of the Committee of SALEM; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

On the Petition of the Committee of *Salem*, relative to the Company stationed there,

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the Petition be so far granted, as that the Commissioned Officers of said Company consist, in future, of one Captain, one First Lieutenant, one Second Lieutenant, and one Ensign; and that suitable persons, to be appointed by this Court, be commissioned to complete the corps of Commissioned Officers in said Company, agreeable to this Resolve; and that the pay of said Ensign be £3 3s.

*Officers for the Company at SALEM appointed; JUNE 28, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Officers for the Company stationed at *Salem*, viz: *William Marston*, First Lieutenant, in the room of *Jonathan Haradon*, who is engaged on board the Sloop *Tyrannicide*; *Benjamin Ropes*, Jun., Second Lieutenant, in the room of *William Marston*, elected First Lieutenant; and *Christopher Babbage*, Ensign.

Concurred by Council the same day.

*Resolve for paying Captain WARNER and Men; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury, to Captain *Daniel Warner*, £30 2s. 4d., in full for himself and men borne on his Roll.

*Form of Inlistment, &c., for raising one hundred Men, to be stationed at MARTHA'S VINEYARD; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the following be the form of an Inlistment and Beating Orders for raising one hundred Men, to be stationed on *Martha's Vineyard*, viz:

#### *Form of an Inlistment.*

"We, whose names are hereto subscribed, do severally inlist ourselves into the service of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, on the sea-coast establishment, to continue in the said service until the last day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged; and we severally promise to furnish ourselves with a good firearm and bayonet fitted thereto, if possible, and also a cartouch-box and blanket; and, when inlisted, we promise to march to *Martha's Vineyard*, for the defence of that Island, and be subject to the command of the officers which are or may be appointed over us by the General Court.

"Dated the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1776."

#### *Form of Beating Orders.*

"To \_\_\_\_\_, Gentleman, greeting:

"You are hereby empowered and directed to inlist a Company, to consist of ninety-seven Men, including Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, to serve on the Island of *Martha's Vineyard*; and when so inlisted to cause them to pass muster before Major *Joseph Dimmock*, who is hereby ordered to muster them accordingly; and when mustered, you are to march said men immediately to said *Martha's Vineyard*, for the defence of that Island, to be under the field command of Major *Barachiah Basset*."

*Resolve for the delivery of Gunpowder to WILLIAM BENNET; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be directed, and he hereby is ordered, to deliver to *William Bennet*, one hundred pounds of Gunpowder, he paying for the same.

*Resolve for paying the Selectmen of SANDWICH; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

On the Account of the Selectmen of *Sandwich*, for Barracks, Wood, Cartridges, Powder, and Flints, amounting to £4 18s. 2d.,

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony £2 3s. 6d., in full for the above-mentioned Account, to the Selectmen of *Sandwich*.

*Resolve on the Petition from the Town of CHARLTON; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

On the Petition of the Town of *Charlton*,

*Resolved*, That the prayer of said Petition be so far granted, that the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, for said Town, be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to make division, with the Honourable *Samuel Danforth*, Esq., and others, of any Lands lying in common, or undivided, in the Town of *Charlton*, where the said *William Brown*, of *Salem*, a Mandamus Counsellor, is interested, in any lawful way that they shall be able; and when said *Brown's* interest is ascertained, they, the said Committee, to take care of the same, and see that no strip or waste is made on said land, until the further order of this Court.

*Resolve appointing Signers to Bills of Publick Credit; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Warwick Palfrey*, Mr. *Henry Hill*, and Colonel *Samuel Thatcher*, be of the Committee to sign the Bills of Credit in the room of Mr. *Nye*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Mr. *Mills*, excused.

*Resolve for supplying MARBLEHEAD with Cannon, &c.; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That four forty-two-pounders and two twelve-pounders be supplied for the Town and Harbour of *Marblehead*; and that the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver the same to Mr. *Joshua Orne*, or his order, (provided they are not under improvement in any fortification in *Boston* or *Nantasket Harbour*;) and that the said *Orne* fix and prepare the same for use; and the Commissary-General is also directed to deliver to the said *Orne* forty rounds of Shot for each of said Cannon, and also for two twenty-four-pounders now at *Marblehead*, and one thousand pounds of Gunpowder—he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for supplying the Town of SALEM with Cannon, &c.; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That two twenty-four or eighteen-pounders, and two nine-pounders, be supplied for the Town and Harbour of *Salem*; and that the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver the same to Captain *George Williams*, or order, (provided they are not under improvement in any fortification in *Boston* or *Nantasket Harbour*;) and that he, the said *Williams*, fix and prepare the same for use; and the Commissary-General is also directed to deliver to the said *Williams*, or his order, forty rounds of Shot for each of said Cannon, and also for one eighteen-pounder now at *Salem*, and eight hundred weight of Gunpowder—he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for supplying the Town of BEVERLY with Cannon, &c.; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to Captain *Josiah Batchelder*, or his order, for the use of the Town of *Beverly*, four pieces of Cannon, nine-pounders, (provided they are not under improvement in any fortification in *Boston* or *Nantasket Harbour*;) and that he, the said *Batchelder*, fix and prepare the same for use; and the Commissary is also directed to deliver to the said *Batchelder*, or his order, forty rounds of Shot for each of said Cannon, and five hundred weight of Gunpowder—he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for supplying the Town of NEWBURYPORT with Cannon, and for raising two Companies to be stationed there; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Town of *Newburyport* be supplied with three pieces of Cannon out of those in and about *Boston*, one forty-two-pounder, and two twenty-four or eighteen-pounders, one found, (provided they are not under improvement in any of the fortifications in *Boston* or *Nantasket Harbour*;) the other with one or both trunnions off, with necessary apparatus, in lieu of six nine-pounders before granted by this Court, for the use of that Town; and that the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver the same to Captain *Edward Wigglesworth*, or order, as also twenty rounds of Shot for each of said Cannon, and forty rounds of Shot for ten nine-pounders now at *Newburyport*, and three hundred weight of Gunpowder for the use of *Newburyport*—he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*And it is further Resolved*, That one Company of fifty men, including Officers, be raised on the sea-coast establishment, for the defence of said Town; and also one Company of Matrosses, on the same establishment, to consist of fifty men, including Officers, to manage the Cannon there.

*Resolve on the Petition of EDWARD PERRY; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Edward Perry*,

*Resolved*, That the said *Edward Perry* be released from his present confinement to the Town of *Sturbridge*, and that he be permitted to return to *Portsmouth*, in *New-Hampshire*, at his own expense, to settle and adjust his private affairs there—he giving his parole of honour to the Selectmen of *Sturbridge*, that he will abide by this Resolve, and not hold any correspondence with any of the Officers of either the Fleet or Army of *Great Britain*, or aid, assist, or abet said Fleet or Army in any way or manner whatever. And we would recommend to the Committee of Correspondence and Safety of the Town of *Portsmouth*, to take him under their inspection and direction for the future; and that the said Committee be furnished with a copy of this Resolve.

*Resolve for a grant of fifty Pounds, for the Committee to purchase Camp-Kettles; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

Whereas the £400 ordered by this Court to be put into the hands of Colonel *Mitchell* and others, a Committee appointed to procure Camp-Kettles, &c., for the Army, appears to be not sufficient for that purpose:

*It is Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to the Committee aforesaid, the further sum of £50, to enable them to complete the business of their commission—the said Committee to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for paying Captain MITCHELL's Men; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury to Captain *Elisha Mitchell*, for the use of the Men borne on his Roll, the sum of £36 11s. 1d., in full.

*Resolve for purchasing Cannon Ball for the Committee of TRURO; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to *Reuben Higgins*, the sum of £4, for the use of the Committee of *Truro*, to purchase six hundred weight of Cannon Ball, and that the said *Reuben Higgins* be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Route of the Troops destined to CANADA and NEW-YORK; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That all the Troops that are destined by this Colony for *Canada* march to *Crown-Point*, by the way of *Number-Four*, and from thence in the most direct way to *Lake Champlain*, opposite to *Ticonderoga*, and that they receive their rations at *Number-Four*; that the Companies destined to *New-York* (except in the County of *Berkshire*) march through the Town of *New-Haven*, and there receive their rations, and then proceed in the most direct road to *New-York*; and that all the Troops raised in the County of *Berkshire* march in the most direct way, by land, to *New-York*, and there receive their allowance for travel; and that all said Troops march in Companies, as soon as they are ready, under the direction of their Officers; and that a letter be sent to General *Schuyler*, and also one to Commissary *Trumbull*, informing them of this Resolution.

*Resolve for supplying THOMAS CUSHING, Esq., with Lead; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to the Hon. *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., or order, the amount of fifteen hundred weight of Lead, for the use of the Continental Vessels by him building, he paying for the same the amount of what Lead now sells for.

*Resolve on the Account of JOHN BRADBURY, Esq., Treasurer of YORK; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That *John Bradbury*, Esq., Treasurer of the County of *York*, be, and he hereby is, discharged of the sum of £50 19s. 11d., for sundry payments made, as by his account, and that he be accountable to the said County for the further sum of £67 5s. 1d., which appears to be the balance due from him to said County as Treasurer.

*Resolve for paying the Selectmen of GLOUCESTER; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony unto the Selectmen of *Gloucester* £7 15s., in full of their Account.

*Resolve for paying the Selectmen of GLOUCESTER for billeting Men; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony to the Selectmen of *Gloucester* the sum of £15 2s. 6d., in full for the Account of billeting forty-seven men nine days, at 5s. per week.

*Resolve for supplying the Town of CAPE-ELIZABETH with Cannon, &c.; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Town of *Cape-Elizabeth* be allowed four pieces of Cannon, now in and about *Boston*, with one or both trunnions off, viz: two of twelve-pounders and two of nine-pounders; and the Commissary-General of this Colony is hereby required to deliver the same, with apparatus, to Mr. *James Leach*, or order, for the use of the said Town, and also forty rounds of Shot for each of said Cannon, and four barrels of Gunpowder, he, the said *James Leach*, to be accountable to this Court for the same. And he is desired to get the Cannon properly fixed.

*Resolve on the Petition of JERATHMEEL BOWERS, Esq., and others; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

Whereas, by reason of the unhappy disputes which subsisted in the Town of *Swansey*, the inhabitants of that Town in the month of *March* last formed themselves into two parties, each of which assembled and chose such Town Officers as are by law directed to be chosen in the month of *March* annually; and as each party supposed they were acting agreeable to the rules of law, they did not respectively attend the meeting of the other party, so that such Officers must have been in each case partially chosen; and as it appears to be conducive to the peace and welfare of said Town that the Officers so chosen at such partial meeting should be all of them disqualified from acting any further under such choice:

It is *Resolved*, That the several meetings aforesaid shall be considered as illegal and void, except for the purposes hereafter mentioned; that all Officers chosen at said meeting shall cease to exercise any powers or authorities by virtue of said choice, only any publication of purposes of marriage and certificate respecting the same by either of the Clerks then chosen, and the doings of the several Selectmen respecting the poor of said Town, be, and they are hereby, confirmed.

And it is further *Resolved*, That *John Turner*, Esq., be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered forthwith to issue his Warrant to either of the persons who served as Constables for the said Town of *Swansey* for the last year, directing him to notify the Freeholders, and other inhabitants of said Town by law qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Meeting-House in said Town, near *Elder Russell's* Mansion-House, at the time mentioned in said Warrant, for the purpose of choosing Town-Clerk, Selectmen, and such other Town Officers as are by law directed to be chosen in the month of *March* annually; which Officers so chosen shall have the same powers and authorities as if they had been regularly chosen in the month of *March* last; and the said *Turner* shall preside as Moderator of the same meeting until such Officers are chosen as aforesaid; and the said *Turner* is directed in his said Warrant to order the said Constable to warn the Freeholders, and other inhabitants by law qualified to elect Representatives for the General Assembly, to meet at the same time and place for the purpose of choosing one or more Representative or Representatives to serve in the General Assembly for the present year, agreeable to the precept which shall be issued for that purpose, at the choice of which Representative or Representatives, the Selectmen which shall be chosen at the same meeting preside as Moderators.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the assessment of Taxes by the Assessors of said Town for the year 1775 be, and it hereby is, confirmed and made good, notwithstanding the said Assessors may not have been sworn in the manner directed by law; and the valuation of Real Estates by such Assessors is also hereby established and made good, as a rule to determine the right of Voters for the present year.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the Agents who appeared to support the Memorial against the election of a Representative for said Town the present year, be paid their own charges and the charges of their Witnesses out of the Treasury of said Town, after their Accounts have been examined and adjusted by the Selectmen which shall be chosen for said Town for the present year; and that the charges of the Agents and Witnesses who opposed the said Memorial, be paid in like manner.

*Resolve for annexing the Militia to be raised in NEWTON, for the service in CANADA, to the First Battalion; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

Whereas it appears that the men to be raised for the *Canada* service in the Town of *Newton*, in the County of *Middlesex*, were by mistake omitted in the *Resolve* for forming the First Battalion for said *Canada* service: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said men to be raised in said Town of *Newton* be, and they are hereby, annexed to the said First Battalion, said former *Resolve* to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Resolve for paying Captain BRIDGE's Roll; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the Colony Treasury to Captain *John Bridge*, for the use of the Officers and Soldiers borne on his Roll, the sum of £13 13s. 3d., in full.

*Resolve for paying Captain MUNRO's Company; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the Colony Treasury to Captain *Edmund Munro*, for the use of the Officers and Soldiers borne on his Roll, the sum of £9 11s. 11½d., in full.

*Resolve for paying Captain JOHN PACKER's Roll; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the Colony Treasury to Lieutenant *Joseph Symonds*, for the use of the Officers and Soldiers borne on Captain *John Packer's* Roll, the sum of £16 19s. 10d., in full.

*Resolve for paying Captain JOHN PARKER's Roll; passed JUNE 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the Colony Treasury to Captain *John Parker*, for the use of the Officers and Soldiers borne on his Roll, £13 11s. 6d., in full.

*Resolve for supplying the Committee for raising Men with Money for that purpose; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the \$21,000 lately received from the honourable Congress for the use of two Regiments ordered to be raised and stationed in this Colony, and also that the \$30,000 lately received from the said honourable Congress to be exchanged by this Colony for hard money, amounting in the whole to the sum of £15,300, be paid into the hands of the Committee lately appointed to raise men for the publick service in *Canada* and *New-York*, in the manner following, viz: That £1,400, part of the aforesaid sum, be paid to the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Berkshire*; and that £7,100, part of the sum aforesaid received from Congress, be paid to the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Hampshire* to raise men; and that £365 be paid to the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Cumberland*; and that £965 be paid to the Committee appointed to go into the County of *York* for the purpose aforesaid; and that the remaining sum of £5,470 be paid to the Committee appointed to raise men in the County of *Middlesex*.

*Resolve relative to fortifying the GURNET; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

Whereas this Court some days ago passed a *Resolve* that two pieces of Cannon, of twelve-pounders, and four of six-pounders, should be placed at the *Gurnet*, at the entrance of *Plymouth Harbour*; and it hath been represented to this Court that it is necessary to have some Cannon of a larger size than six-pounders to defend *Plymouth* and other places adjacent: It is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That three pieces of Cannon, of nine-pounders, be delivered by the Commissary-General of this Colony, in lieu of three of the six-pounders before granted, with Powder, Shot, and the necessary apparatus therefor, in the same proportion as heretofore granted for the six-pounders; and that Major *Thomas Daves*, of *Boston*, be employed as an Engineer, to repair to the *Gurnet* and direct in raising a Fortification there, and placing the Guns; and that the Commander of the men stationed there be authorized to make use of seven of the Whale-boats belonging to the Colony.

*Resolve appointing a Committee to confer with a Committee of the Assembly of RHODE-ISLAND; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

Whereas the honourable the General Assembly of the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, &c., at their last *March* Session, did appoint the Hon. *William Bradford*, Esq., and *Simeon Potter*, Esq., a Committee to confer with the General Court of this Colony, upon the subject of erecting suitable Fortifications at *Bristol Ferry*, and also respecting fortifying *Howland's Ferry*, and to agree with the General Assembly of

this Colony respecting the erecting Fortifications at both the said places, as it is apprehended that proper Fortifications at the said places would be very advantageous to the inhabitants of this Colony, as well as of that Colony: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Hon. *Walter Spooner*, Esq., Mr. *Durfee*, and Captain *Stearns*, be a Committee in behalf of this Court, to confer with the honourable Committee of the said Assembly of *Rhode-Island* above named, on the subjects abovesaid, and (if they shall judge necessary) to view the places, and in any other way fully satisfy themselves of the advantages likely to result to this Colony from Fortifications at the said places, or either of them; and in case they shall find that such Fortifications will be for the benefit and advantage of this Colony, then further to consider what share or proportion of the expense of such Fortresses it would be reasonable for this Colony to bear; and to report to this Court as soon as may be.

*Resolve for the delivery of the Schooner CATHARINE; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Cobb* be directed to deliver the Schooner *Catharine*, *Thomas Parks* late master, to *John Webb* or order, owner of said Schooner, said *Webb* paying charges.

*Resolve on the Petition of JONATHAN STICKNEY; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Jonathan Stickney*,

*Resolved*, That notwithstanding the imprudent and criminal discourse and behaviour of the Petitioner, in times past, whereby he has incurred the publick resentment; yet if he shall now freely and fully promise and engage before the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, for the Town of *Ipswich*, that for the future he will observe a strict decorum in his words and actions, and in nowise attempt anything inconsistent with the publick peace and safety, the keeper of the Jail in the Town of *Ipswich* be, and hereby is, directed to discharge him from his present confinement, he first paying the charges that have accrued by means of his being apprehended and confined.

*Resolve to supply the Committee for raising Men with more Money; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

Whereas, by a Resolve of this Court of the 25th instant, several sums of Money were ordered to be paid to the several Committees appointed to go into the several Counties in this Colony, to enable them to pay the Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers the several sums mentioned in said Resolve; and whereas, through some mistake, the several sums ordered to be paid said Committees fall short of the sum intended to be put into their hands for the purpose aforesaid: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the Treasury of this Colony, to the said Committees, for the purposes mentioned in said Resolve, the further sums following, viz:

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Suffolk*, the sum of £59 8s.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Essex*, the sum of £61 6s.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Middlesex*, the sum of £112.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Hampshire*, the sum of £37 14s.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *York*, the sum of £27 8s.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Cumberland*, the sum of £12 8s.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Plymouth*, the sum of £123 4s.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Bristol*, the sum of £101 16s.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Worcester*, the sum of £86 12s.

To the Committee appointed to go into the County of *Berkshire*, the sum of £41 12s.

Each of said Committees to be accountable to this Court for the sum they shall severally receive.

*Resolve on the Account of ALEXANDER GRAY; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer of this Colony be, and he is hereby, directed to pay out of the publick Treasury the sum of £5 5s., to *Alexander Gray*, in full discharge of his Account.

*Resolve for supplying the Town of ARUNDEL with Powder, &c.; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to Mr. *Benjamin Durril*, or order, one barrel of Gunpowder, and one hundred weight of Leaden Ball, for the use of the said Town of *Arundel*, he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for paying JAMES MINOT for numbering the People; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he hereby is, directed to pay out of the publick Treasury to Mr. *James Minot*, or order, £6 19s. 4d., in full for his services in taking the number of the People on the eastern side of *George's River*.

*Resolve for procuring Stockings for the Army; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That *Abraham Watson*, Esq., of Cambridge, *Jonathan Brown* and *Samuel Fisk*, Esqs., of Watertown, Mr. *John Nazro*, of Worcester, *Joseph Nye*, Esq., of Sandwich, and Mr. *James Sheppard*, of Northampton, be, and they hereby are, appointed a Committee to collect a quantity of Yarn Stockings, not exceeding four thousand pair; and that the Committee apply to the Selectmen of the several Towns in this Colony most likely to procure them, requesting their immediate assistance in effecting the above business; and the said Committee are hereby directed not to allow more than 5s. a pair for good Stockings.

And it is further *Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony the sum of £1000, to enable them to purchase said Stockings; and that the said Committee be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for supplying the Town of HARPSWELL with Fire-Arms and Powder; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That twenty-five of the Firearms delivered by order of this Court to Doctor *Edward Russell*, be now delivered to *Isaac Snow*, or order, for the use of the said Town of *Harpswell*, he to be accountable to this Court for the same. And that the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to the said *Isaac Snow*, or order, one hundred pounds of Gunpowder and one hundred weight of Leaden Ball, for the use of the said Town; he, the said *Snow*, to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for paying BENJAMIN EPES, Post-Rider; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to Major *Samuel Epes*, for the use of *Benjamin Epes*, the further sum of £4, for his service as Post-Rider from *Falmouth* to *George-Town* six months, in the year 1775.

*Resolve for paying JOSEPH BERNARD, Post-Rider; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury to *Joseph Bernard*, or order, the further sum of £13 4s. 4d., for his service as Post-Rider from *Portsmouth* to *Falmouth*, four months and five days, in the year 1775.

*Resolve for payment of losses in Battle on the 19th APRIL and 17th of JUNE, 1775; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the following sums be paid out of the publick Treasury to the persons hereafter mentioned, in full for their accounts for losses in Battle on the 19th of April, and 17th of June, 1775, viz: To the heirs of *Jeremiah Shattuck*, Jun., £4 19s.; to the heirs of *Jonathan Jenkins*, £5 6s. 9d.; to Lieutenant *Joseph Gilbert*, £2 6s.; to Captain *Ebenezer Battle*, for the use of *Jemima Haven*, £3 7s. 6d.; to *Isaac Green*, £2 2s.



*Officers for the Company of Matrosses at NEWBURYPORT chosen; JUNE 29, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen, as Officers for the Company of Matrosses to be stationed at *Newburyport*, viz: *Edward Wigglesworth*, Captain; *Michael Hodge*, First Lieutenant; *Joseph Whittemore*, Second Lieutenant.

Concurred by Council same day.

*Officers for Sea-Coast Men at NEWBURYPORT chosen; JUNE 29, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Officers for the Company of Sea-Coast Men, to be stationed at *Newburyport*, viz: *Moses Nowell*, Captain; *Elias Davis*, First Lieutenant; *Moses Greenleaf*, Second Lieutenant.

Concurred by Council same day.

*JOSEPH MAYHEW, Esq., appointed to sign Beating Orders, &c.; JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That *Joseph Mayhew*, Esquire, be, and hereby is, empowered and directed to sign Beating-Orders, directed to *John Russell*, Gentleman, appointed Captain of a Company now to be raised, and to be stationed on *Martha's Vineyard*, for the defence of that Island, empowering and directing said Captain *Russell* to enlist a Company for the purpose before mentioned.

*Resolve for payment of the Overseers of READING; passed JUNE 29, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of *Reading*, the sum of £3 6s., in full of their Account.

*Resolve for procuring a Company of Ship-Carpenters, to go to ALBANY; passed JULY 1, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be a Company of fifty Ship-Carpenters immediately agreed with to enter into the Continental service, and ordered to *Albany*, there to be under the direction of General *Schuyler*, or other Commanding Officer; that they provide themselves with suitable tools, at their own expense, and that necessary wagons be provided to transport their tools and baggage to *Albany*; and that £3 per man be advanced in part of his wages, to enable him to equip himself and march to *Albany*; and that those Carpenters who have no tools be provided therewith, deducting the cost thereof from the wages of such deficient Carpenters; and that a master workman be appointed to command this Company, whose wages and allowance, together with the Company, be conformable to a memorandum of an Agreement transmitted by General *Schuyler* the 25th instant.

*Resolve relative to procuring a Company of Ship-Carpenters to go to ALBANY; passed JULY 1, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the following form of an Inlistment or Agreement be the form of the Agreement with the Company of Ship-Carpenters this day resolved to be raised for the Continental service, viz:

"An agreement made the      day of      , 1776, between the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* of the first part, and of      , and the several persons whose names are hereunto subscribed, of the second part. The several persons of the said second part, each for himself, do hereby agree that they severally will immediately repair to *Albany*, or to such other place as General *Schuyler*, or the Commander-in-Chief in that department for the time being, shall direct, and there employ themselves in constructing and building such and so many batteaus, other vessels, and buildings, as the said Commander-in-Chief, or his appointed Superintendent, shall direct, from the day of their engagement till the first day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged; that they will, during the time they shall be employed, continue each day at their said work and employment between the times following, viz: to begin their work at sunrise, and continue at it till sunset, excepting one hour at breakfast, and one and an half hour at dinner; that each and every of

them shall and will find and provide themselves proper tools and implements for the carrying on the said work; and that if any of the said persons of the second part shall leave the said work, and go from the post where he shall be employed, without the leave of the Commanding Officer of such post first had and obtained, the person so going off shall forfeit all the wages which otherwise would be due to him.

"In consideration whereof, the said Colony promises and agrees, with each and every person of the said second part, that they shall severally have and receive the wages following, viz: the said      , at and after the rate of one dollar and a quarter; and each and every other person of the said second part, at and after the rate of one dollar, for each and every day they shall be in actual service as aforesaid; and that, over and above said sums, they shall severally receive one and a quarter pounds of pork or beef and one pound and a half of flour per day, four pints of peas per week, one pint of molasses per week, and half a pint of rum per day; that said wages shall commence on the day they shall leave their homes to proceed on their journey; that they shall, each of them, receive ten dollars advance pay, in part for their wages, before they march; and shall also be allowed one day's wages for each and every twenty miles travel, on their return to their homes; and upon their travel, both out and home, they shall severally be allowed, instead of their rations aforesaid, one-third of a dollar for every twenty miles travel, to bear their expenses on the road; and if any person of said second part should be taken sick during the time in which they shall be in employ as aforesaid, they shall not be entitled to any wages for the time they abstain from working, unless the Commanding Officer of the post where they shall be stationed shall, on application to him made, refuse to discharge the persons so taken sick; in which case, they shall be entitled to wages, in the same manner as though no such application and refusal had taken place, or they had not been taken sick."

Also, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Bagley*, Mr. *Webster*, and Mr. *Little*, of *Newbury*, be a Committee to agree with the Carpenters as aforesaid, and to hire Wagons to carry their Tools and Baggage, and to pay their advance wages as aforesaid; and said Committee are hereby empowered to draw upon the Colony Treasurer for the sum of £170, for the purposes aforesaid; and the Treasurer is hereby directed to pay said sum to said Committee, they being accountable for the expenditure of the same.

*Resolve vesting certain Powers in the Council during the recess of the Court; passed JULY 1, 1776.*

Whereas it is necessary that in the recess of the Court certain Powers should be vested in the Council, or Committee of Council, for the publick good: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the honourable Council, or such part of them as they shall appoint, be a Committee of Safety, whose business it shall be, during the recess of the General Court, to direct the Commissary-General of this Colony respecting the taking in and delivering out the Warlike Stores of this Colony to and from the publick Magazines as they may think necessary; and that said Council, or Committee of Council, have power to appoint Agents for, and in all respects provide for and give out such Instructions to the Commanders of the armed Vessels that are or may be fitted out on the account of this Colony as shall be necessary for the defence and interest of this Colony, or of the United Colonies, such Instructions not being contrary to any law or resolve of the General Court, or the resolves of the Continental Congress; and that the Council, or said Committee of Council, have power to direct the Commissary-General of this Colony to procure such Warlike Stores and Provisions as they may find necessary; and that they be empowered to grant Warrants on the Treasury for such sum or sums of Money as there may be occasion for, for the purposes aforesaid, such Moneys to be accounted for by the persons who shall receive the same; and that the three Regiments of Colonel *Marshall*, Colonel *Whitney*, Colonel *Crafts*, and the four Companies that have been doing duty in *Dorchester*, *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, and the other Companies of sea-coast men, be under the direction of the Council, or said Committee of Council, who may, if occasion should require, put them under the command of such person or persons as they shall think proper; these powers to continue until the next meeting of the General Assembly.

*And it is further Resolved*, That the Council, during the recess of the Court, be empowered and authorized to treat with any *Indians* that may arrive, and make such provision for them as the Council may think best; and that the Council be further authorized to appoint and commissionate such Field Officers as may be necessary to fill up any vacancies which may happen in any of the Regiments which are now raising; and if the Council shall not be sitting, that the said Committee of Council have the same power in these respects:

*Resolve on the Petition of REBECCA BRIDGE and LEMUEL CHILD; passed JULY 1, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Rebecca Bridge and Lemuel Child*,  
*Resolved*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted; and that the Petitioners be, and hereby are, empowered to make sale of all the Real Estate therein mentioned, for the most it will fetch, and make and execute a good deed or deeds thereof, observing the rules of the law respecting the sales of Real Estates by Executors and Administrators, and giving security to the Judge of Probate for the County of *Suffolk* that the proceeds be applied as follows, viz: The said Widow of *Edward Bridge* to have the income of one-third part annually during her natural life; the other two-thirds to be appropriated to the payment of the said deceased's just debts; and the remainder (if any there shall be) to be put to interest, for the benefit of said deceased's heirs, to be paid to them, respectively, in legal proportion, when they shall be of age; also, that said heirs shall have and enjoy said Widow's thirds, after her decease, in case the debts of the said *Edward Bridge* be all first discharged.

*Resolve empowering the Commissary to deliver out Powder, &c., to the Forces bound to CANADA; passed JULY 1, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver fifteen hundred weight of Gunpowder and three thousand five hundred weight of leaden Musket-Balls, and nine thousand Flints, to Mr. *Ezra Sargeant*, for the use of the Forces of this Colony bound to *Canada*, and that said *Sargeant* procure a sufficient number of Teams and Drivers for the same, to carry said Powder, Ball, and Flints, to *Charlestown*, in *New-Hampshire* Colony, to be there delivered to Mr. *Samuel Hunt*, for the use of the said Forces.

*And be it further Resolved*, That Mr. *Samuel Hunt* be, and is hereby, directed to deliver, out of the said Powder, Balls, and Flints, to each officer and private soldier of the said Forces, half a pound of Powder and twenty Balls and three Flints.

*And it is further Resolved*, That Mr. *Ezra Sargeant* be, and hereby is, appointed and directed to guard said Teams, with sixteen men, to *Charlestown* aforesaid.

*And it is further Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony £40, to enable him to procure and pay for said Teams and Drivers; and that he be accountable to this Court for the sum or sums he may receive for the purpose aforesaid.

*Resolve for appointing an Engineer to direct in the Works carrying on at the GURNET, &c.; passed JULY 1, 1776.*

Whereas a few days since a Resolve passed this Court appointing Major *Thomas Dawes*, for the purpose of repairing to the *Gurnet*, at the entrance of *Plymouth Harbour*, and to direct in the Fortifications to be there erected: and it was at the same time resolved, that seven of the Colonial Boats should be furnished for said service; but as Major *Dawes* cannot attend said service, and no Colonial Boats are to be had: It is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That Major-General *Lincoln* be desired to procure and send forward, without loss of time, a suitable person to direct in the Works aforesaid; and that Major-General *Ward* be also desired to furnish seven of the Continental Whale-Boats for said service; which Boats shall be returned in good order, as soon as the service will admit of it.

*Resolve relative to the Accounts of the Guardians of the DUDLEY INDIANS; passed JULY 1, 1776.*

On the Accounts of the *Dudley Indians*,  
*Resolved*, That it appears the said Accounts are rightly cast and well vouched; and that the said Guardians, at their  
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last settlement, on the 24th *February*, 1774, were in advance the sum of £6 7s. 3½d., and since have paid for said *Indians'* benefit the sum of £13 14s. 9d., and that they have received two years' income, at £9 per year, and that the said Guardians are in advance the sum of £2 2s. 0½d.

*Resolve directing the Committee of MILTON to take into possession the Estates of THOMAS HUTCHINSON and HENRY LLOYD; passed JULY 1, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence, Safety, and Inspection, of the Town of *Milton*, be, and they are hereby, empowered to take into their possession all the Personal Estate of *Thomas Hutchinson*, late of said *Milton*, which is in the possession of Colonel *Taylor*, in said *Milton*, or wherever it may be found, excepting such as may have been otherwise disposed of by order of the General Court, and to follow the directions of this Court respecting the same, as in similar cases provided.

*And further Resolved*, That said Committees take into their care the Estate let to Captain *Daniel Vose* by *Henry Lloyd*, late of *Boston*, who fled with the Ministerial Fleet, observing the directions of Court with respect to the Estates of Refugees.

*Resolve relative to the Commissary's receiving Saltpetre; passed JULY 1, 1776.*

Whereas the Orders of the late General Assembly of this Colony, directing the Commissary-General to receive and pay for Saltpetre at *Watertown*, manufactured in the said Colony, is found to be very defective in this respect, that he is empowered to receive the said article on two days in each month only, which restriction is found greatly inconvenient for manufacturers of that commodity, and tends much to the discouragement of the manufacturing of that article:

*It is therefore Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony, by himself or his Deputy, immediately examine such Saltpetre as has been manufactured in this Colony before the first of *June* last, and brought to *Watertown* aforesaid within the time limited by this Court for the delivery of the same, in all instances when the manufacturer or any one in his behalf is attending to deliver the same, and to accept and pay for such Saltpetre, if in his power, in case he shall find that the manufacturer or manufacturers are entitled to be paid for the same by any Resolve or Resolves of the General Assembly now in force; and that for the future, until the first of *October* next, he, the said Commissary-General, by himself or some sufficient Deputy in his stead, give his attendance at some proper place in *Watertown* aforesaid, at least two days in a week, for the examining, receiving, and paying for such Saltpetre as shall be brought and offered to the said Commissary by such persons as may be entitled to be paid therefor by any Resolve or Resolves of the General Assembly of this Colony, which are now or shall be in force before the said first day of *October* next; and that the said Commissary-General be, and he is hereby, directed to notify the publick of the particular days of the week on which he will give such attendance.

*Resolve on the Return of Estates in WOBURN; passed JULY 1, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the proceedings of the Committee of Correspondence, Safety, and Inspection, for the Town of *Woburn*, in taking into possession and leasing out the Estate of Mr. *Coffin*, is conformable to a late Act or Resolve of the Great and General Court in that case made and provided, &c.; and the inhabitants of the Town of *Woburn* are hereby required to aid and support their Committee in their doings with regard to said Estate, said Committee conforming their proceedings to the Acts and Resolves of this Court in such case made and provided.

*Resolve for discharging the Schooner CHARLESTOWN CUTTER; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Captain *Batchelder* be directed to discharge the Schooner called the *Charlestown Cutter*, and her crew, from the service of this Colony, and deliver the said Schooner to her lawful owner, and pay him the hire that may be due to him for her service. Also to settle the Port-lidge Bill, and pay the master and people that belong to said Schooner the wages that are due to them, and to

receive and take care of all the publick stores now on board said Schooner that belong to this Colony, and lay his accounts before this Court for allowance and payment of the same.

*Resolve to fit out a Vessel of Observation; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Captain *Batchelder* be directed to hire and fit out a small Vessel, and employ a master and a suitable number of men to man her, for the purpose of cruising, obtaining and giving intelligence of the enemy's fleets, &c.; and when said Vessel is fit for the sea, the said *Batchelder* is directed to send the master to the Council or Committee of Council, to receive such orders and instructions as will be necessary.

*It is further Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby, directed to pay out of the publick Treasury the sum of £50 to said *Batchelder*, to enable him to carry this Resolve into execution, he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for raising a Company of Matrosses to be stationed at SALEM; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That a Company of Matrosses, to consist of fifty men, including Officers, be raised and placed at *Salem*, to be under the direction of the Committee of Correspondence, Safety, and Inspection, at *Salem*, and to be upon the same pay and regulations as the Company of Matrosses stationed at *Marblehead*—said Company to be inlisted to serve till the last of *December* next, unless sooner discharged by this Court.

*Resolve for supplying the Selectmen of BOSTON with eighty Pounds, &c.; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony the sum of £80, towards defraying the expenses incurred by removing persons to the Province Hospital at *Boston*, and supporting them while sick with the small-pox; and that Mr. *Oliver Wendell* be appointed to receive and pay said Moneys to the Selectmen of *Boston*, and be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Committee for procuring Flour, directed not to purchase any more; JULY 2, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Deacon *Elnathan Curtis*, *Gideon Wheeler*, Esquire, and Mr. *Benedict Dewey*, the Committee appointed *February 20, 1776*, to purchase a quantity of Flour in the western parts of this Colony, not exceeding two thousand barrels, (and who have given information that they have purchased about fifteen hundred barrels,) be, and they are hereby, directed not to purchase any more on account of this Colony, until the further order of this Court; and that Captain *Noah Goodman* and Major *William Pyncheon* be, and they are hereby, directed to pay the moneys they have received from this Court to the several persons that have supplied them with Flour, and apply to this Court for any further sum that may be wanting to complete said payments, and account with this Court for the same.

*Establishment for the Row-Galleys; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

Whereas there are two Row-Galleys now building in this Colony, which are nearly ready for the Sea, but no establishment having been made for them, and a recess of this Court is likely soon to take place: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the establishment for the Row-Galleys shall be the same with that for other vessels of war belonging to this Colony, and that the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* be a Committee, during the next recess of this Court, to recommend to the honourable Council suitable persons to command said Galleys, which persons shall be commissioned by the honourable Council.

*Resolve relative to Leaden Window Weights; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

Whereas it is of great importance for the defence of this Colony, in the present struggle with *Great Britain*, that a sufficient quantity of Leaden Balls be immediately procured: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of the several Towns in the Colony, that they spare their Leaden Window Weights for that purpose, and the Commissary-General is directed to receive and pay for all such Lead, and have it cast into Balls.

*Resolve for supplying the Town of FALMOUTH with four Cannon, &c.; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

Whereas a grant of ten Cannon was made by the last General Court to the Town of *Falmouth*, for the defence thereof, and only six have already been provided: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to *Samuel Freeman*, Esq., or his order, four pieces of Cannon, either twelve, eighteen, or twenty-four-pounders, or any other sizes that he thinks can be best spared from the Cannon now in or near *Boston*, having one or two trunnions off; the said *Freeman* to get them properly fixed at the expense of the Colony as soon as possible. And the said Commissary is hereby directed to deliver the said *Freeman*, or his order, forty rounds of Shot for each Cannon, suitable for the same.

*Resolve appointing Mr. DANIEL HOPKINS a Signer of Bills; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Daniel Hopkins* be of the Committee to sign the Bills of Credit, in the room of Mr. *Dalton*, absent.

*Captain and Lieutenants appointed for the Company of Matrosses at SALEM; JULY 2, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen as Officers for the Company of Matrosses to be stationed at *Salem*, viz: *John Symonds*, Captain; *Richard Masury*, First Lieutenant; *Daniel Felt*, Second Lieutenant.

Concurred by Council the same day.

*Resolve relative to the Test Act; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Committees of Inspection and Safety of each and every Town and place in this Colony be, and they hereby are, directed to omit tendering the Declaration prescribed by an Act passed in the last session of the General Court of this Colony, commonly called the Test Act; and also to refrain from requiring the inhabitants of this Colony, severally, to subscribe said Declaration; and all proceedings against such persons as have already refused or neglected to sign the same Declaration, be stayed till the further order of this Court.

*Resolve relative to the Form of an Inlistment for a Company to be stationed at SALEM; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Form of the Beating Orders and Inlistment of the Company of Matrosses to be stationed at *Salem*, be the same with that ordered for the like Companies to be stationed at *Gloucester*, *Falmouth*, and the *Gurnet*; and that the person to whom said Beating Orders are or may be directed, cause said Company to pass muster before *Timothy Pickering*, Jun., Esq., as soon as possible after their inlistment.

*Resolve to encourage the manufacture of Firearms and Cannon; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

Whereas, notwithstanding the encouragement hitherto given by this Government for the manufacturing of Firearms, a sufficient number has not yet been obtained: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That for every effective and substantial Firearm which shall be manufactured in this Colony, with a barrel of three feet and nine inches in length that will carry an ounce ball; a good bayonet with a blade not less than eighteen inches in length, a steel ramrod, with a spring to retain the same, two loops for gun-strings, and the maker's name stamped or engraved on the lock, and which shall be delivered at *Boston* or *Watertown*, to *Richard Devens*, Esq., Commissary, on or before the 1st day of *January* next, there shall be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury to the owner thereof, the sum of £3 12s.: *Provided always*, That the owner of each Firearm which shall be received for

the Colony, shall prove the same at his own risk, by four inches and a half of powder, a ball, and wads on each, in presence of the said Commissary or some other person or persons appointed by him for that purpose.

And whereas the casting and manufacturing of Cannon, for the service of this Colony, has become absolutely necessary:

*Be it therefore further Resolved*, That Dr. *Lewis Sweeting* be a Committee to repair to the Furnaces in *Abington* and *Providence*, in order to obtain all possible insight and knowledge in this very necessary branch of business, and make report to this Court as soon as may be.

*Resolve for procuring Teams, &c.; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Committees appointed to go into the several Counties to raise men to go to *Canada*, be directed to provide suitable carriages for the conveyance of the baggage of the Officers and Soldiers from their several Towns to *Charlestown*, in *New-Hampshire*; said Committee to bring in their Accounts to this Court for payment.

*Resolved*, That the Committees appointed to go into the several Counties to raise the men destined for *New-York*, be directed to provide suitable carriages for the conveyance of the baggage of the Officers and Soldiers from their several Towns to *New-Haven*, in *Connecticut*, excepting the troops to be raised in the County of *Berkshire*, the Committee of which County is hereby directed to convey the baggage of the troops to be raised in that County to *New-York*; the said Committees to bring in their Accounts to this Court for payment.

*A Mustermaster appointed for the two Companies of Matrosses in Newburyport; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That *Jonathan Titcomb*, Esq., be, and hereby is, appointed Mustermaster in the Town of *Newburyport*, to muster the two Companies of men lately ordered to be raised by this Court for the defence of said Town.

*Resolve for procuring Coats, Blankets, Hats, &c.; passed JULY 2, 1776.*

Whereas it is of the greatest importance that the Army of the United Colonies should be well supplied with necessary Clothing agreeable to the requisition of Congress: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Samuel Allyn Otis*, of *Boston*, Major *Richard Godfrey*, of *Taunton*, *Joseph Nye*, Esq., of *Harwich*, *Samuel Osgood*, Esq., of *Andover*, *William Stickney*, Esq., of *Billerica*, Mr. *Ephraim Wright*, of *Northampton*, *William Drew*, Esq., of *Kingston*, Captain *Benjamin Rice*, of *Brookfield*, Mr. *Elnathan Curtis*, of *Stockbridge*, and *Thomas Cook*, Esq., of *Edgartown*, be a Committee to procure, as soon as may be, as many Coats, Waistcoats, and Breeches, Blankets, Felt Hats, Shirts, Hose, and Shoes, as they may be able to procure before the 1st of *December* next, and cause them to be baled, invoiced, and stored in suitable places, to be delivered to the order of Congress, or the Commander-in-Chief of the *American Army*.

*Resolve on the Petition of DAVID CHEEVER, Esq.; passed JULY 3, 1776.*

Whereas the late Committee of Supplies did, on the 29th day of *March*, 1775, give to *David Cheever*, Esq., an order on the Colony Treasurer for the sum of £350, and charged said *Cheever* for the same, which order *Cheever* endorsed and delivered to said Treasurer, in confidence that the Town of *Charlestown* would immediately pay him the said sum, it being due to the said Treasurer from the Town of *Charlestown*, as Province Tax, on which the Treasurer gave credit to said Town for that sum; but the Town of *Charlestown* aforesaid has paid only £31 16s. 6d. of the same: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Colony Treasurer be, and he hereby is, directed to charge the Town of *Charlestown* with the sum of £318 6s. 6d., and call on the Collectors of said Town for that sum; and the Committee appointed to settle the Accounts remaining unsettled on the books of the late Committee of Supplies, &c., is hereby directed to credit *David Cheever*, Esq., for that sum, on the books of the late Committee of Supplies.

*Resolve lending Cannon to the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE; passed JULY 3, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Council, or Committee of Safety who may be appointed by Council to sit in the recess of Court, be, and hereby are, empowered to deliver to the order of the President of the Council of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, for the use of said Colony, such Cannon as he may desire, if they, in the opinion of said Council or Committee, can be spared without endangering the safety of this Colony.

*Resolve for sending Prisoners from TRURO to BOSTON; passed JULY 3, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Captain *Joseph Smith*, who commands the forces stationed at *Truro*, be, and hereby is, directed to send a master of a vessel cast on shore in *March* last at *Cape Cod*, with all the men cast away as aforesaid, who are now there with him, in different vessels, to *Boston*, as soon as may be, to be delivered to those Justices residing in or about *Boston*, who are appointed and empowered by this Court to hear and examine all persons in said Town who are suspected of being inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*; and the said Justices are hereby directed and empowered to hear, determine, and dispose of them, as they shall think proper.

*And it is further Resolved*, That the said Captain *Smith* be, and he hereby is, directed to permit the women and children to repair to their respective places of abode.

*Resolve desiring the Council to appoint a Day of solemn Humiliation and Prayer; passed JULY 3, 1776.*

It having been the laudable practice of this Government to recommend and appoint days for Fasting and Prayer upon solemn and special occasions; and as this Court apprehend that the present time is big with the most important events to this and the other Colonies, and that these events are at the disposal of the Supreme Governour of the Universe:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the honourable Council be, and hereby are, desired to set apart *Thursday*, the last day of *July* instant, to be observed as a day of solemn Humiliation and Prayer, devoutly to implore of *Almighty God*, that the monitory dispensation of Providence, in the drought wherewith some parts of the land has been visited, and the humbling events which have lately taken place in *Canada*, may, accompanied with a Divine influence, produce a sincere repentance and thorough reformation of manners among all orders and degrees of persons; that He will command his blessing on our councils and arms at this important crisis of our publick affairs, and that this People, placing their hope and confidence in that *God* in whom their fathers trusted and were not made ashamed, may be moved and encouraged manfully and freely to offer themselves for the defence of those rights, civil and religious, upon the enjoyment of which the peace and happiness of the present and future generations absolutely depend; that He will, at a time of increased demand of provisions for the support of our brethren in the field, and when the usual foreign supplies are not to be obtained, be graciously pleased so to order the seasons as that we may have, in the course of this year, a sufficiency of the fruits of the earth, both for man and beast. And that they cause a Proclamation to be immediately issued and sent to the Ministers and Pastors of the several denominations of Christians in this Colony, for the purposes aforesaid.

*Resolve for supplying the County of LINCOLN with Gunpowder, &c.; passed JULY 3, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and hereby is, empowered to deliver to Captain *Samuel Nichols*, of *New-Castle*, in the County of *Lincoln*, or his order, for the use of the inhabitants of said County, ten hundred weight of Gunpowder, twenty hundred weight of Balls, and thirty hundred Flints; he, the said *Samuel*, giving security to the said Commissary, for the use of said Colony, for the payment of the same, in twelve months from the delivery thereof.

*Resolve relative to Men's inlisting out of other than their own Towns; passed JULY 3, 1776.*

Whereas, by a late Resolve of this Court, the number of five thousand men are apportioned on, and to be raised in,



the several Towns in this Colony, agreeable to a schedule thereto annexed, and as some persons may be induced to inlist from other Towns than those in which they have their usual place of abode: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That all persons who shall inlist into any of the Battalions destined for *Canada* or *New-York*, shall be considered as a part of the levy on their respective Towns, until such time as those Towns to which they respectively belong have inlisted their full complement of men, and not to those Towns in which they shall so inlist.

*Resolve for advancing one month's Pay to the Officers destined to CANADA and NEW-YORK; passed JULY 4, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That one month's advance pay be paid unto all the Commissionated and Staff Officers of the several Regiments designed for the service of *Canada* and *New-York*. And the Council are hereby empowered to draw warrants on the Treasurer of this Colony for such sums as they shall think necessary, to be paid, for the purpose aforesaid, into the hands of the Committees appointed to forward the raising of said Regiments.

*Resolve appointing a Court to try certain persons suspected of being inimical to the AMERICAN Colonies; passed JULY 4, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That *Samuel Niles*, *Samuel Pemberton*, *Joseph Greenleaf*, *Joseph Garduer*, and *Theophilus Cushing*, Esqs., Justices of the Peace within and for the County of *Suffolk*, residing at or near *Boston*, be, and hereby are, authorized and empowered to cause to come before them, or any three of them, at such time and place in the Town of *Boston*, and by such methods as the Justices in the former Resolve were authorized to do, such of the said persons in the former Resolve named as to them may appear expedient; and that they have power likewise of convening witnesses before them, or any three of them, in the same manner the former Court of Inquiry had, and such of the said persons as, from their past conduct, the said Justices conceive would probably take and act an inimical part against this or any of the United Colonies if they had a convenient opportunity for so doing, they the said Justices, or any three of them, may restrain, by causing them to find good and sufficient sureties for their good behaviour; and in that behalf more especially for any term of time not exceeding twelve months; and to commit such persons until they find such surety. And such others of the said obnoxious persons, whose continuance under bonds in the Town of *Boston*, shall to them or any three of them, appear incompatible with the safety of this or the other United Colonies, they may commit to prison, or may order in some inland Town in this Colony, for a term not exceeding four months, there to remain within the limits of such Town, he or they finding sureties for their duly observing such order, as well as for their good behaviour for a further term not exceeding twelve months in the whole; such removal and continuance to be at the expense of the person removed, if of ability, and in want thereof, at the charge of this Colony; and, in default of their recognising with sufficient sureties as aforesaid, in reasonable sums, him or them to commit to prison until he or they shall find such sureties. And the Committee of Safety, &c., in the Towns where such persons may be sent in consequence of this Resolve, are directed to receive them, to inspect their conduct, and to prevent their consorting or associating with any prisoners of war that are or may be placed in such Town.

And the said Justices are hereby authorized, if they or the major part of them, upon deliberation, think it may be done consistently with the publick safety, to send into some inland Town in this Colony such of the said five persons now confined in *Boston Jail* by the Justices of the former Court, under the restrictions aforesaid; and also to continue under bonds any or all the said other five persons now bound for their appearance before the Superior Court, for a term not exceeding twelve months, and them to release and discharge from the present recognisances.

And the said Justices, or any three of them, are also directed to disarm all and every person they shall judge expedient to restrain as aforesaid; and that all bonds taken in pursuance of this Resolve be to the Treasurer of this Colony. And the said Justices are directed to sit from day to day, or as often as they conveniently can, till they have discharged

the trust reposed in them by this Resolve; and on or before the last day of *August* next, make a particular report of their proceedings herein to this Court, and that a proper compensation be made to them, as well as to the Justices that constituted the former Court.

*Resolve for supplying BARTHOLOMEW PUTNAM with Powder; passed JULY 4, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he is hereby, directed to sell and deliver to Captain *Bartholomew Putnam* three hundred pounds weight of Gunpowder out of the Colony stores, and that he receive of said *Putnam* 5s. a pound for the same.

*Resolve to sell the Tories' Chaises and other Carriages; passed JULY 4, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That *John Brown*, *William Cooper*, *John Pitts*, *Josiah Sartel*, and *Edward Rawson*, Esqs., being a Committee for taking Inventories, &c., of the Estates within the Town of *Boston* which have been left or deserted by sundry persons supposed to be inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*, be, and they hereby are, directed to make sale of all Chaises and other Carriages belonging to such Estates, they first having the same appraised by the most suitable persons, and then advertising the same for sale at such appraisements; and all that may remain unsold at a day that said Committee may appoint, shall then be advertised to be sold at publick vendue. All which shall be carried into effect by said Committee as soon as conveniently may be, they to be accountable to the General Court for the proceeds of such sales.

*Resolve for supplying the Company stationed at SALEM; passed JULY 4, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary appointed to furnish the sea-coast men stationed at *Salem* be, and he hereby is, directed to furnish the Company of Matrosses, to be raised and stationed at *Salem*, with all necessaries, agreeable to the sea-coast establishment.

Also, *Resolved*, That the said Company, when raised, be under the direction of *Timothy Pickering*, Jun., Esq.

*Additional power given to the Court appointed to try suspected persons, JULY 4, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That in the stead and place of *Samuel Niles* and *Theophilus Cushing*, Esquires, who have not had the small-pox, that *John Hill*, Esq., and *Edmund Quincy*, Esq., be appointed Justices of the Court of Inquiry, with the same power the said *Niles* and *Cushing* were vested with.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence, &c., in the Town of *Boston*, or the major part thereof, be and hereby are, directed to file information or informations against any person or persons suspected of being unfriendly to the rights and liberties of *America*, before the major part of the Justices of the Court of Inquiry, which Justices, or any one of them, are hereby directed forthwith to issue his or their warrant against such person or persons against whom information shall be filed as aforesaid, directed to some lawful officer, commanding him forthwith to apprehend the body or bodies of any such person or persons, and secure him or them by imprisonment or good and sufficient bail, against the time of trial; and the said Committee, or the major part thereof, are hereby further directed to produce the witnesses, and bring forward and prosecute the trial of every such person or persons to effect.

*Resolve appointing a Committee on Accounts; passed JULY 4, 1776.*

Whereas, a necessary attention to the more important affairs of the Government in the present extraordinary times of difficulty and distress renders it impracticable for this House to receive and examine the numerous Accounts now daily exhibited against the Government, agreeable to the mode heretofore usually practised, and the payment thereof has been greatly delayed, to the detriment of individuals, as well as to the injury of the credit of the Government: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That *Abraham Watson*, *Jonathan Webster*, *Thomas Durfee*, *Aaron Wood*, *John Bliss*, and *Isaac Lo-*

throp, Esqs., and Captain *Woodbridge Brown*, be, and they hereby are, appointed a Committee, until further order of this House, to receive, examine, and, in behalf of this House, finally to pass upon all Accounts not otherwise committed which shall be presented to them for payment of services done and articles supplied by order of Congress or the General Court, and properly vouched; and the doings of said Committee shall be considered as valid as any Vote or Resolve of the House touching said Accounts, as well in the recess of the Court as during the sitting of the same. And said Committee, or any four of them, who are hereby appointed a quorum, are directed to open an office, and advertise the publick thereof and of this Resolve, that the business may be constantly attended and effectually performed. And a true copy of all Accounts which shall be passed by them and sent to a Committee of the Board for concurrence shall, after concurrence and payment, be kept in a book, with an alphabet thereto, which shall be laid before the House for perusal and inspection once or oftener in each session, as the House shall order; and the Committee of the honourable Board are desired to employ some suitable person for that purpose.

Also, *Resolved*, That the Secretary be, and he hereby is, directed to keep such Accounts as shall be passed by said Committee, and in consequence thereof concurred and ordered to be paid by the honourable Board, in separate files.

Also, *Resolved*, That the honourable Council, or such Committee of Council as they shall appoint, be, and they hereby are, empowered, both in the sitting and recess of the Court, to concur all such Accounts as shall have been passed by the Committee aforesaid; and the payment of said Accounts, thus passed and concurred, shall be ordered in the manner which the Charter directs: *Provided, always*, That the foregoing method of allowing Accounts shall be taken to be adopted merely from the necessity of the present times, and not considered as a precedent for the future, anything in the Resolve of this Court of the 7th June last appointing a Committee to receive, examine, and finally pass upon all Accounts not otherwise committed, to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Resolve relative to Dr. GELSTON; passed JULY 5, 1776.*

Whereas it appears that Dr. *Samuel Gelston* is now in the custody of *Berachiah Basset*, Esquire, at the *Elizabeth Islands*, and as he appears to have in divers instances acted a part inimical to the liberties of this Colony:

*Be it therefore Resolved*, That the said *Berachiah Basset*, Esq., be, and he hereby is, directed to send the said Dr. *Samuel Gelston*, under a proper Guard, to the five Justices in the County of *Suffolk*, appointed a Court to inquire into the conduct of persons suspected to be enemies to the liberties of this Colony, who are hereby directed and empowered to examine into the conduct of the said Dr. *Samuel Gelston*, and to proceed with him according to the directions of the Resolve appointing them a Court of Inquiry as aforesaid.

*Resolve relative to procuring Hard Money; passed JULY 5, 1776.*

For the more effectual carrying into execution a Resolve of this House of the 27th of June last, relative to exchanging of Continental Bills for Hard Money for the use of the Continent:

It is *Resolved*, That the Treasurer of this Colony pay out to the several Committees of Correspondence, &c., for the several Towns, upon their producing a subscription for Hard Money, such a sum in Continental Bills as the same shall amount to, taking a note of two or more of the said Committee, including a promise that they shall return that sum or the amount in Hard Money on demand; and the Treasurer, on their fulfilling the said promise, is directed to deliver up their said security.

*Resolve on the Petition of JONATHAN CAPEN; passed JULY 5, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Jonathan Capen*,

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the Petition be so far granted as that *Jonathan Capen*, Guardian to the *Puncapaug Indians*, be, and he is hereby, empowered to sell so much of said *Indians'* unimproved Lands, where it will be the least prejudicial to the whole, as to satisfy their just debts and

the necessary charges arising by such sale, he observing the rules and directions of an Act of this Colony respecting the sale of Lands taken by execution, and to execute good and lawful deed or deeds therefor, he, the said Guardian, to be accountable to the General Court for his doings upon the matter.

*Resolve for supplying DAVID JEFFERIES, Esq., with fifteen hundred Pounds; passed JULY 5, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury to *David Jefferies*, Esq., or order, the sum of £1,500, for the purpose of discharging the advance pay of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers in Colonel *Whitney's*, Colonel *Marshall's*, and Colonel *Craft's* Regiments, he to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

*JAMES BRICKET, Esq., appointed Colonel of a Battalion to be raised in the Counties of ESSEX, &c.; passed JULY 5, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *James Bricket*, Esq., as Colonel of the Battalion to be raised in the Counties of *Essex*, *York*, and *Cumberland*, for the Continental service, agreeable to a Resolve which passed the House the 25th of June last, in the room of Colonel *Whittier*, who declines serving.

Concurred by Council.

*Resolve desiring the Council to write a Letter to General WASHINGTON, relative to raising Men, &c.; passed JULY 5, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That a Letter be immediately sent, by express, to His Excellency General *Washington*, setting forth the real state of this Colony respecting raising men, and recommending that he instantly order two of the fullest Regiments upon the *Boston* station to march immediately to *Canada*, and to give His Excellency the strongest assurance that this Colony will take effectual measures that there be a sufficient number from the Militia upon the Continental account brought in upon the *Boston* station to do duty in the stead and place of said Regiments.

Also *Resolved*, That two other Regiments, upon the Continental establishment, be raised as soon as possible, to relieve the Militia that may be brought in upon the *Boston* station as aforesaid.

And also *Resolved*, That the honourable Council be desired to order such and so many of the Militia as they may judge proper, to be and hold themselves in readiness to march upon the *Boston* station at an hour's notice, to do duty in the stead and place of such Continental Troops as may be ordered from thence upon the *Canada* service; and that said Council have full power in the recess of this Court to do everything relative to the raising and officering the said Militia, and the said two Regiments to be raised, in as full and ample manner as might or could have been done had the whole Court been sitting.

*Resolved*, That the Council be desired to write the Letter before mentioned to General *Washington*, and also to inform the honourable Congress of this Resolve.

*Resolve desiring the Council to defer ordering any Moneys to Captains O'BRIAN and LAMBERT; passed JULY 5, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the honourable Board be desired to defer ordering any Moneys to Captains *O'Brian* and *Lambert*, and their Companies, that may be due to them from the Colony, till determination shall be had on the Petition of *William Hazen*, praying that he may be enabled to obtain satisfaction for waste of Goods committed on board a certain Schooner belonging to said *Hazen* and others, and for the illegal capture and detention of the same.

*Resolve to supply Dr. JOHN GREENLEAF with fifty Pounds, for purchasing Medicines; passed JULY 5, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding £50 be paid out of the Colony Treasury to Dr. *John Greenleaf*, for the purchasing such Medicines for Colonels *Whitney's*, *Marshall's*, and *Craft's* Regiments as he cannot supply from his own stores, he being accountable for the expenditure of the same.

*Resolve relative to a number of Masts at GEORGETOWN; passed JULY 5, 1776.*

Whereas it has been represented to this Court that a large number of Masts, procured for the use of the *British Navy*, or some *British Merchants*, are now lying in *Georgetown*, in the County of *Lincoln*, and are in danger of being taken away or destroyed:

*It is therefore Resolved*, That Mr. *Freeman*, Colonel *Lithgow*, and Colonel *Cushing*, be a Committee to inquire into the circumstances relative to said Masts, of their number, value, for what purposes fit, and by whom they were procured; that they take effectual care to preserve the same, and in case of danger from our enemies, that they cause the same to be removed to some place of safety, if it can be done without great difficulty, otherwise to render them unfit for the use of our said enemies, and make report of their doings to this Court at its next session.

*Resolve on the Petition of JOHN COLLAS, and others, Prisoners in SALEM Jail; passed JULY 6, 1776.*

On the Petition of *John Collas*, *Joseph Temple*, and *Peter Larchee*,

*Resolved*, That the prayer of said Petitioners be so far granted as that the said *John Collas*, *Joseph Temple*, and *Peter Larchee*, be set at liberty from their present confinement in *Salem Jail*, upon any person or persons appearing to contract with, and shall actually hire said Prisoners, and engage to employ them in some inland Town in this Colony; and the Committee of Correspondence of the Town in which they may be employed are hereby ordered to inspect the conduct of the said *John Collas*, *Joseph Temple*, and *Peter Larchee*, and to take care they do not depart the limits of the Town they may be employed in; and the Keeper of the Jail in *Salem* is hereby ordered and directed to discharge said Prisoners from his custody accordingly.

*Resolve for employing two persons to ride Post to CROWN-POINT; passed JULY 6, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That *Jonathan Brown*, Esq., *Dr. Moses Morse*, *Mr. Benjamin Guild*, *Oliver Wendell*, Esquire, and *Major Jacob Davis*, be a Committee to agree with two suitable persons to ride Post to *Crown-Point* once a week, until the last day of *November* next; and that the said Posts take such routes as the Committee aforesaid shall think best: the said Post to set out from and return to *Watertown*, until the further order of this Court.

*And it is further Resolved*, That some person be appointed at *Watertown*, by the Committee aforesaid, to receive and deliver all such Letters as shall not be delivered before said Post's arrival at *Watertown*; and that all Letters to or from any persons in the Army be carried free of charge.

*Additional Resolve relative to paying the Officers of the several Regiments destined to CANADA and NEW-YORK one month's advance Wages; passed JULY 6, 1776.*

Whereas by a Resolve of this Court of the 4th instant it is resolved that one month's advance Pay be paid unto all the Commissionated and Staff Officers of the several Regiments designed for the service of *Canada* and *New-York*, and the Council are empowered to draw Warrants on the Treasurer of this Colony for such sums as they shall think necessary to be paid for the purpose aforesaid into the hands of the Committees appointed to forward the raising of said Regiments; but no directions are given how the said Council are to proceed in giving Warrants to said Committees where Officers are appointed for a Regiment raised partly in one County and partly in another, and said Officers living some in one County and some in another: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Council be, and they hereby are, empowered and directed to give Warrants to either of said Committees to pay any of said Officers living in either of the Counties, but belonging to the Regiment to which they were appointed, said Committees to be severally accountable to this Court for all such sums of money as they shall receive in consequence of this Resolve.

*Resolve on the Petition of HANNAH MATHER; passed JULY 8, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Hannah Mather*,

*Resolved*, That whereas it appears that the facts set forth

in the Memorial of Mrs. *Hannah Mather*, of *Boston*, with respect to the loss which she and her family have sustained by the cruel burning of *Charlestown*, are true, and she apprehends that some balance is justly due to her from her brother *Hutchinson's Estate*: that therefore, agreeable to the request of said Mrs. *Mather*, leave and liberty be, and hereby is, granted to her to take into her possession such of the Household goods of her brother *Hutchinson* as she may stand in need of, now in the possession of Colonel *Taylor*, or the Committee of Correspondence of *Milton*, or wherever they may be, not disposed of by this Court, she delivering an inventory of the same, and the Reverend Doctor *Mather* giving sufficient security for the return of said Goods to the order of this Court.

*Resolve for supplying WILLIAM UPHAM with Powder, &c.; passed JULY 8, 1776.*

On the Petition of *William Upham*,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be directed to deliver the Petitioner, *William Upham*, or order, fifty pounds of Powder, thirty-five rounds of Ball, and seven dozen of Flints, he paying for the same.

*Resolve to adjourn the Maritime Court for the Middle District; passed JULY 8, 1776.*

Whereas the Maritime Court for the Middle District of this Colony is advertised to be held at *Boston*, on the 23d day of *July* instant, for the trial of the justice of the captures of the Ships named the *Lord Howe*, *George*, *Anne*, and *Lady Juliana*, and the Brigantine named the *Annabella*, and the Judge of said Court has, in his Petition to this Court, shown that, since the advertisement aforesaid, he finds it will be inconvenient, if not impracticable, to hold his Court at *Boston* as aforesaid, and prayed this Court to enable him to hold the same Court at *Salem*, in the County of *Essex*, on the said 23d day of *July*:

*Resolved*, That the Maritime Court aforesaid, for the trial of the captures aforesaid, be held at *Salem*, in the County of *Essex*, on *Tuesday*, the 23d day of *July* instant, at the Meeting-House of the Reverend Messrs. *Barnard* and *Dunbar*, at the hour of ten in the forenoon; and that all proceedings at the same Court shall be valid and effectual in law, in like manner as if it had been held at *Boston* on the same day, according to the original advertisement thereof, of which all persons concerned will take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

*Resolve for furnishing Forces stationed on ELIZABETH ISLANDS with Powder, &c.; passed JULY 8, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, ordered to deliver to Mr. *John Reed*, for *Major Basset*, for the use of the men stationed on the *Elizabeth Islands*, and the Cannon there placed, the quantity of one hundred and fifty weight of Powder, one hundred and fifty weight of leaden Balls, and three hundred Flints, he, the said *Basset*, to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for draughting Men to make up the five thousand to reinforce the Army in NEW-YORK and CANADA; passed JULY 9, 1776.*

Whereas this Court have been informed that some of the Towns and Plantations in this Colony have not as yet raised the proportion assigned them of the five thousand Men for the reinforcement of the Continental Army in *New-York* and *Canada*, and it is of great importance that those reinforcements should be immediately raised and sent forward: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That where any Town or Plantation shall be delinquent as aforesaid, the Commanding Officers, where there is a Field Officer, or where there is no Field Officer, the Commanding Officers of the Company, and where the Militia is not settled, the Committees of Correspondence, &c., of such Town or Plantation, and where no such Committees are, the Selectmen, shall forthwith call together all the men borne on the Training List and Alarm List in such Town or Plantation; and if a sufficient number to complete their complement do not then enlist for the service aforesaid, the said Officers, Committees, or Selectmen, shall proceed to draught out so many men as shall be necessary to com-

plete the proportion assigned to such Town or Plantation, in order that the men so inlisted or draughted out may march without delay to the places of their destination. And in case any person, either on the Training or the Alarm List, shall neglect to attend at such time as he shall be notified, not having sufficient reason therefor, in the judgment of the Officer, Committee, or Selectmen, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of £10. And in case any person draughted as aforesaid shall neglect or refuse to go upon the service required, either in person or by procuring some able-bodied effective man in his stead, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of £10; said forfeiture to be paid within twenty-four hours to the Officers, Committees, or Selectmen, aforesaid; and on failure hereof, he shall forfeit and pay the further sum of £3, both of said forfeitures to be recovered in the same manner as is prescribed in an act lately passed for regulating the Militia of this Colony, for the recovery of fines and forfeitures that may be incurred by a failure of attendance on regimental musters therein required. And the Officers, Committees, or Selectmen, shall proceed in draughting, in manner as is before directed, till the moneys collected shall be sufficient to hire men to complete the number required of such Town or Plantation; which money the said Officers, Committees, or Selectmen, are hereby required to expend for this purpose; and if there shall be any overplus remaining, it shall be employed for the benefit of the Company to which such delinquent or delinquents belong, in such manner as said Company shall agree.

*Resolve for lending the Selectmen of SALEM two Field-Carriages; passed JULY 10, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the Selectmen of the Town of *Salem*, two of the Field-Carriages belonging to the Colony, now at that Town, viz: one for an eighteen-pounder, one for a twelve-pounder, or one for a nine-pounder, to be used in said Town for their defence till the further order of this Court, or of the Council, or such Committee of this Court as they may appoint to direct in the military concerns of this Colony in the recess or recesses of this Court.

*Resolve for furnishing the Colonial Regiments with necessary articles for the Sick; passed JULY 10, 1776.*

Whereas the Commissary-General of this Colony is directed, by a Resolve of this Court, to serve out the Rations to the Regiments of Colonels *Whitney*, *Marshall*, and *Crafts*, conformable to the proportions stated in the establishment for said Regiments; and whereas numbers of the men are now sick and daily falling sick: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, authorized and permitted to furnish said Regiments with such articles as may be more suitable for the sick than Fresh or Salt Provisions, provided that said Supplies do not exceed the value of the Salt Provisions allowed in said establishment. And the Commissaries of the several Companies upon the sea-coast are hereby directed to furnish the sick of the said Companies in like manner, provided that the said Supplies do not exceed the value of the Salt Provisions allowed in said establishment.

*Resolve for raising every twenty-fifth Man to reinforce the Northern Army; passed JULY 10, 1776.*

Whereas the honourable the *American Congress* have lately made upon the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* a most urgent requisition for a further reinforcement by two Regiments of its Militia, to support our Army in the Northern or *Canada* department: And whereas the reinforcements lately received by the enemy in that quarter render it of the last consequence to the safety of the United Colonies, and of this in particular, that the readiest compliance be made herewith:

*Resolved*, That there be immediately raised two Regiments, in the following manner, viz: That the Commanding Officer in every Town and Plantation where there is a Field-Officer, or where there is no Field-Officer, that the Commanding Officers of the Companies, or where the Militia is not settled, that the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety, or where there is no such Committee, the Selectmen, cause the whole Militia of such Town or Plan-

tation, consisting of the Training Band and Alarm Lists, to be immediately mustered, and one man out of every twenty-five, exclusive of those already raised or ordered to be raised, of all the persons borne on both the aforesaid Lists, to be inlisted into the service of the United Colonies, to serve until the first day of *December* next, unless sooner duly discharged. And in case of a fraction in the number on the said Lists, if it amounts to more than half of twenty-five, an additional man shall in that case be inlisted; but if less, no such additional inlistment shall be made. Each man to be furnished with a good Firearm and Bayonet fitted thereto, a Cartouch-box, Knapsack, and Blanket; or instead of a Bayonet, a Hatchet or Tomahawk. And for their encouragement readily to enter into this important service, there shall be paid to each Non-Commissioned Officer and Private Soldier, equipped as aforesaid, on his passing muster, 12s. to purchase a blanket, 6s. for the use of his arms, and one month's advance pay. Their further pay and establishment shall be the same as is for Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers in the Continental Army. Their monthly pay to commence three days next preceding the day of their marching from home. They shall be allowed one penny, lawful money, per mile, in lieu of rations, to support them on their march going and returning, and one day's pay for every twenty miles between their home and the general rendezvous, and also from the place of their discharge back again to their homes.

*It is further Resolved*, That there be appointed a Committee for each County in the Colony, whose business it shall be to see the aforementioned inlistments completed without delay, to form the men into Companies, to muster and pay them for their blankets, and for the use of their arms; also to pay all the Commissioned, Non-Commissioned, and Staff Officers, and Privates, one month's advance pay; and to appoint meet persons for Captains and Subalterns of the Companies to be raised in their respective Counties; to fill up and deliver to said Captains and Subalterns their Commissions accordingly, for which purpose they shall receive blanks from the honourable Council.

*It is further Resolved*, That to each Regiment there shall be appointed and commissioned by the honourable Council, one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, and such Staff and other Officers, as are ordered for the other Regiments destined for *Canada*; that each of said Regiments consist of eight Companies; each of said Companies, of one Captain, one First Lieutenant, one Second Lieutenant, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drum, one Fife, and as near as may be, of seventy-seven Privates—the Non-Commissioned Officers in each Company to be appointed by the Commission Officers of the same.

*It is further Resolved*, That the Regiments be formed in the following manner, viz: Beginning at the westerly part of the County of *Berkshire*, and proceeding from west to east, the eight first Companies shall make one Regiment; then proceeding in the same course, the eight next Companies shall make another Regiment; each of said Regiments to march for the Northern or *Canada* Department at such time, in such manner, and by such routes, as the Council shall order; and each Non-Commissioned Officer and Private belonging to the said Regiments to be paid a bounty of £7 on receiving said orders, by the Committees aforesaid. And in case there shall be any supernumerary men, they shall be forthwith marched into the Works or Forts in or near *Boston*, and shall be subject to the regulation and orders of Council. And notwithstanding this Court entertain a high confidence in the readiness of the good people of this Colony to comply with a request so important, yet in case there should be any individual who should be so far divested of regard for his own and country's salvation, as to refuse to bear his part in its defence, this Court consider themselves under the hard necessity, in duty to the whole, to Resolve, and it is accordingly

*Resolved*, That in case the number required by the aforementioned Rule of any Town or Plantation is not inlisted without delay, and every other attempt for this purpose prove ineffectual, the Commanding Officer in such Town or Plantation, if there is a Field Officer, or if there is no Field Officer, the Commanding Officer of each Company, or where the Regiment is not settled, the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, or where there is no such Committee, the Selectmen, shall, within forty-eight hours after



receiving these orders, proceed to complete the number required of such Town or Plantation by the Rule before mentioned, by a draught on the whole Militia of said Town or Plantation, consisting of the Alarm List, as well of the Training Band. And in order hereto, the aforesaid Officers, Committees, or Selectmen, respectively, shall seasonably cause to be warned a muster of the whole Militia of said Town or Plantation; and in case any person, either on the Training Band or Alarm Lists, shall neglect to attend agreeable to such warning, not having any sufficient reason therefor, in the judgment of the Officers, Committee, or Selectmen, aforesaid, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of £10; and in case any person draughted as aforesaid shall neglect or refuse to go upon the service herein required, either in person or by procuring some able-bodied effective man in his stead, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of £10; said forfeitures to be paid within twenty-four hours to the Officers, Committees, or Selectmen, aforesaid; and on failure hereof, he shall forfeit and pay the further sum of £3; both of said Forfeitures to be recovered in the same manner as is prescribed in an Act lately passed for regulating the Militia of this Colony for the recovery of Fines and Forfeitures that may be incurred by a failure of attendance on Regimental musters therein required. And the Officers, Committee, or Selectmen, shall proceed in draughting in manner as is before directed, until the moneys forfeited shall be sufficient to complete the number of men required of such Town; which money the said Officers, Committee, or Selectmen, are hereby required to expend for this purpose; and if there shall be any overplus remaining, it shall be employed for the benefit of the Company to which such delinquent or delinquents belonged, in such manner as said Company shall agree.

*It is further Resolved*, That the following persons be a Committee for the purposes before mentioned, for the several Counties hereafter named, who shall receive out of the Treasury of this Colony such sums as the Council shall order, to enable them to discharge the duty herein required of them, who shall be severally accountable to this Court, viz: *Jonathan Metcalf, Esq., Benjamin Guild, Esq., Colonel Aaron Davis, Nathaniel Bayley, Esq., Mr. Daniel Perry, and Oliver Wendell, Esq., for the County of Suffolk; Aaron Wood, Esq., Major Samuel Epes, Mr. Nehemiah Abbot, Colonel Daniel Spafford, Dudley Carlton, Esq., Thomas Gerry, Esq., and Captain Daniel Chute, for the County of Essex; Jonas Dix, Esq., Major Timothy Walker, Colonel Josiah Sartell, Colonel Simeon Spaulding, Mr. George Brigham, Captain Joseph Hosmer, Colonel William Thompson, Josiah Stone, Esq., and Captain Joseph Reed, for the County of Middlesex; Joseph Hawley, Esq., Noah Goodman, Esq., Major William Pyncheon, Jun., Mr. David Saxton, Mr. Luke Hitchcock, Captain Israel Hubbard, and Captain Elisha Cranston, for the County of Hampshire; William Drew, Esq., Hugh Orr, Esq., Colonel Edward Mitchell, Colonel Ebenezer White, and Captain Robert Lenthall Eels, for the County of Plymouth; Mr. Amos Knowles, Jun., and Joseph Nye, Esq., of Sandwich, for the County of Barnstable; Captain John Stearns, Colonel Shubael Peck, Colonel Nathaniel Leonard, Edward Pope, Esq., and Colonel Seth Pope, for the County of Bristol; Joseph Storer, Esq., and Colonel Ichabod Goodwin, for the County of York; Thomas Cook, Esq., for the County of Dukes-County; Captain Seth Washburn, Captain Nathaniel Wilson, Mr. Abner Rawson, Captain William Page, Amos Singletary, Esq., Mr. John Ball, Captain John Haven, Captain Nicholas Dyke, and Major William Learned, for the County of Worcester; Captain Joseph Noyes, Joshua Fabyer, Esq., and John Lewis, Esq., for the County of Cumberland; William Lithgow, Esq., for the County of Lincoln; Mr. Azariah Root, Major Caleb Hyde, and Captain Isaac Stratton, for the County of Berkshire; Mr. Stephen Hussey, for the County of Nantucket.*

*Resolve for furnishing the Town of MARBLEHEAD with apparatus for eight Cannon, &c.; passed JULY 10, 1776.*

Whereas this Court have granted to be supplied for the Town and Harbour of Marblehead eight pieces of Cannon, and the Commissary-General was directed to deliver the same to Mr. *Jonathan Orne*, or order, and the Commissary-General declines to deliver with said Cannon the apparatus, as Ladles, Spunges, Match-Rope, Port-Fires, and other articles necessary and fit for said Cannon:

*It is therefore Resolved*, That the Commissary be, and hereby is, directed to deliver to Mr. *Samuel Giles*, or order, such articles of the apparatus necessary for said eight pieces of Cannon, as the said Commissary has in his possession belonging to this Colony and not otherwise appropriated, he, the said *Samuel Giles*, to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*And it is further Resolved*, That Colonel *Thomas Crafts* be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to the said *Samuel Giles*, or order, a Fieldpiece belonging to and mounted by the Town of *Marblehead*, and now in possession of said Colonel *Crafts*.

*JAMES BRICKET, Esq., appointed a Brigadier-General, to command the Forces to be sent to CANADA; passed JULY 11, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *James Bricket, Esq.*, as a Brigadier-General, to command the Forces to be sent to *Canada*, in the room of *John Cummings, Esq.*, who declines serving. Concurred by Council.

*A Second Lieutenant chosen for the Company of Matrosses at SALEM; JULY 11, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *John Berry*, as Second Lieutenant of the Company of Matrosses, in the Town of *Salem*, in the room of *David Felt*, who declines serving.

Concurred by Council.

*Resolve on the Petition of NATHAN PHILLIPS; passed JULY 11, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Nathan Phillips*,  
*Ordered*, That the Petitioner serve the Committee of Correspondence, &c., of *Boothbay*, for 1775, with a copy of this Petition, that they show cause, if any they have, on the third *Wednesday* of the next sitting of this Court, why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

*Resolve on the Petition of JOSIAH KING; passed JULY 11, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Josiah King*,  
*Ordered*, That the Petitioner serve the Committee of Correspondence, &c., of *Boothbay*, for 1775, with a copy of this Petition, that they show cause, if any they have, on the third *Wednesday* of the next sitting of this Court, why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

*Resolve for paying JAMES OTIS, Esq., Interest on his Notes; passed JULY 11, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed to pay the said *James Otis, Jun.*, Esq., or order, the Interest of any Notes or Obligations payable to him, which he may exhibit to said Treasurer, signed by *Harrison Gray*, in behalf of this Colony, as Receiver-General of the same, according to the tenor thereof: *Provided*, said Notes appear to be signed before the 19th of *April*, 1775.

*Resolve establishing the form of Inlistment for the twenty-fifth part of the Militia, &c.; passed JULY 12, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the form of the Inlistment for the twenty-fifth part of the Militia, ordered by this Court in their present session to be draughted from the Alarm and Training-Band Lists in this Colony, for the service of the United American Colonies, be as follows:

“We, whose names are underwritten, do hereby severally inlist into the service of the United American Colonies, and severally promise and engage to continue in such service until the first day of *December*, 1776, unless sooner discharged; and to furnish ourselves each with a good effective fire-arm, and, if possible, a bayonet fitted thereto, a cartridge-box, and blanket, or, in lieu of a bayonet, a hatchet or tomahawk. We also, in like manner, promise and engage to obey all the lawful commands of the officers appointed, or to be appointed, over us, pursuant to the Resolves of the General Court of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*; and, under the direction of such Officers, to march, when ordered, with the utmost despatch, to the Northern Depart-

ment, or *Canada*, and to be subject to all such rules and regulations, in every respect, as are provided by the Continental Army. *July, 1776.*"

*Adjutant appointed for the Fourth Regiment of Militia, in the County of LINCOLN; JULY 12, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Abijah Waterman*, as an Adjutant to the Fourth Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Lincoln*.

Concurred by Council.

*Resolve for supplying the Town of FALMOUTH with Spunges, &c., for Cannon; passed JULY 12, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed to supply *Samuel Freeman*, Esq., or his order, with suitable Spunges, Ladles, and other apparatus necessary for the four Cannon which he was lately ordered, by a Resolve of this Court, to deliver to said *Freeman*, for the defence of the Town of *Falmouth*.

*Resolve on the Petition from FRYBURGH and BROWNFIELD; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Samuel Phillips*, Jun., of *Andover*, be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to Mr. *Richard Kimball*, of *Fryburgh*, or his order, ninety pounds of Gunpowder, and twenty-five pounds of Gunpowder to *Benjamin Epes*, of *Brownfield*; and that the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to the abovesaid *Richard Kimball*, or order, two hundred and seventy pounds of Lead, three hundred Flints, and twelve good Fire-Arms; and to the abovesaid *Benjamin Epes*, seventy-five pounds of Lead, one hundred Flints, and eight good Fire-Arms; they, the said *Kimball* and *Epes*, to be accountable to this Court therefor.

*Resolve directing that the Maritime Court for the Middle District should be held at SALEM, JULY 30; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

Whereas the Maritime Court for the Middle District of this Colony is advertised to be held at *Boston*, on the 23d day of *July* instant, for the trial of the justice of the captures of the Ships named the *Lord Howe*, *George*, *Anne*, and *Lady Juliana*, and the Brigantine named the *Annabella*; and the Judge of said Court presented a Petition to this Court, showing that since the advertisement aforesaid, he finds it will be inconvenient, if not impracticable, to hold his Court at *Boston*, as aforesaid, and praying this Court to enable him to hold the same Court at *Salem*, in the County of *Essex*, on the said 23d day of *July*; and this Court thereupon, by a Resolve passed the 9th day of *July*, instant, ordered the said Maritime Court to be held at *Salem* accordingly, but it now appearing to this Court that it will be most convenient that the said Maritime Court, for the trials aforesaid, be held at *Salem* aforesaid, on the 30th day of *July* instant:

*Resolved*, That the Resolve aforesaid of this Court, passed on the said 9th day of *July*, be, and hereby is, revoked; and that the said Maritime Court, for the trial of the justice of the captures aforesaid, be held at the Court-House in *Salem* aforesaid, on *Tuesday*, the 30th day of *July* instant, at the hour of ten, in the forenoon; and that all proceedings at the same Court shall be valid and effectual in law, in like manner as if it had been held in *Boston*, according to the original advertisement thereof: of which all persons concerned will take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

*Resolve for supplying WESTMINSTER, in the Province of NEW-YORK, with Powder, Lead, &c.; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

On the Petition of the Committee of Safety, of *Westminster*, in the County of *Cumberland*, and Province of *New-York*, representing that said Town is in an exposed situation, and destitute of Ammunition, &c., and praying for a supply, &c., &c.,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to Major *Abijah Lovjoy* sixty pounds of Powder, one hundred and twenty pounds of Lead,

and one hundred Flints, he paying for the same at the stated price.

*Resolve on the Petition of the Committee of Safety of CAVENDISH, in NEW-YORK; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

On the Petition of *Phineas Kimball*, and others, Committee of Safety of *Cavendish*, in the County of *Cumberland*, in the Colony of *New-York*, praying for Powder and Lead,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to Captain *John Coffin* fifteen pounds of Powder, thirty pounds of Lead, and thirty Flints.

*Resolve for forwarding Tents, &c., to the Army; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed, as soon as possible, to transport such Tents as he has received from *Philadelphia*, and such others as he can provide, to the amount, in the whole, of nine hundred, to *Crown-Point*, for the use of the Forces raised by this Colony, and destined for the Northern Department, or *Canada*, to be delivered to the Commissary of the United Colonies there, or his order.

*Further Resolved*, That *Edward Mitchell*, Esq., *Theophilus Cushing*, Esq., and *William Drew*, Esq., be a Committee to provide fifteen hundred Canteens, and two hundred and fifty Camp Kettles, and Camp Equipage, for the use of the last fifteen hundred men to be raised agreeable to the last Resolve of the honourable Continental Congress, and that they send them forward to the several places, and in like proportions with those by a Resolve of this Court ordered for the other Forces destined to the same place.

*Resolve for supplying Mr. TIMOTHY NEWELL with three boxes of Tin; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

Whereas this Court is informed that some boxes of Tin are in the hands of the Committee of this Court for securing the effects belonging to the enemies of this Colony who have left the Town of *Boston* since *April 19, 1775*; and as Camp Kettles are absolutely necessary for the men now going on the Northern Department: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Committee aforesaid be, and they hereby are, directed to deliver to Mr. *Timothy Newell*, three boxes of said Tin, or such part thereof as may be sufficient for completing the number of Tin Kettles ordered to be made—he giving his receipt to them to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for supplying BAKER'S TOWN, in the County of CUMBERLAND, with Powder, &c.; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to Mr. *Nathaniel Bailey*, for the use and defence of the inhabitants of a plantation called *Baker's Town*, in the County of *Cumberland*, twenty-seven pounds of Gunpowder, eighty pounds of Balls, and one hundred Flints—the said inhabitants to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolve for appointing Gunners to the Companies of Matrosses; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

Whereas in the Resolve of the tenth of *February* last, establishing a Company of Matrosses at *Marblehead*, it is ordered, that the establishment for said Company be the same as the other sea-coast Companies; and as Gunners, Quarter-Gunners, &c., for Companies of Matrosses appear more proper than Sergeants and Corporals: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That there be appointed by the commissioned Officers of every Company of Matrosses, consisting of fifty men, including Officers, one Gunner, whose pay shall be 46s. per calendar month; one Gunner's Mate, at 44s.; and eight Quarter-Gunners, at 42s. each.

And whereas the above-mentioned Resolve of the tenth of *February*, for the establishment of the Company of Matrosses now stationed at *Marblehead*, directed that said Company should be augmented to the number of one hundred, (by draughting troops to join it from the Companies of sea-coast men,) which makes it necessary that said Company should have a greater number of Officers: Therefore,

*It is further Resolved*, That so long as it consists of a

hundred men, including Officers, there be allowed to said Company, one Gunner, one Gunner's Mate, and sixteen Quarter-Gunners, whose pay shall be as above; and that the Pay-Roll exhibited by Captain *Fitteplace* be paid accordingly.

*Adjutant appointed for the Sixth Regiment of Militia, in the County of LINCOLN, JULY 13, 1776.*

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Jonas Farnsworth*, as an Adjutant to the Sixth Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Lincoln*.

Concurred by Council.

*Resolve on the Petition of ISRAEL DAVIS; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

On the Petition of Captain *Israel Davis*,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, ordered to deliver to *David Reed*, Commissary for the Company under said *Davis*, or his order, fifty weight of Powder, one hundred and fifty weight of Leaden Ball, one hundred Flints, and two Whale-Boats, all for the use of said Company—the said *Reed* to be accountable for said articles.

*It is likewise Ordered*, That said *Davis* extend his guards to the east side of *Boothbay Harbour*; and that the said *Reed* apply to *James Cargill* for the Boat formerly belonging to *Fort Pownall*, who is hereby ordered to deliver the same to him, or his order; and if the Commissary-General cannot supply said Whale-Boats, the said *Reed* is hereby ordered to furnish the same, and lay his accounts before this Court for allowance.

*Resolve relative to the ST. JOHN'S and MICKMACK INDIANS; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That *Stephen Smith*, the Truckmaster at *Machias*, be, and hereby is, directed to trade with the *St. John's* and the *Mickmack Indians*, and, in exchange for their Furs, to supply them, from time to time, with such goods as they may want; and the Council are desired and empowered to draw warrants upon the Treasurer of this Colony for a sum not exceeding £1,000, in favour of said *Stephen Smith*, to enable him to purchase a sufficient quantity of goods for the purpose above mentioned.

*Resolved*, That the Council be desired, and are hereby empowered to provide some suitable person, of our own profession, to officiate as a Minister among them, and the Government will allow him a suitable compensation for his service.

*Resolved*, That there be employed in the Continental service five hundred *Indians* out of the two Tribes above mentioned, which, together with two hundred and fifty of such of the *English* as may enlist, shall form one Regiment; the three Field-Officers to be *English*, the other commissioned Officers to be one-half *English* and one-half *Indian*, to be put upon such an establishment as the Court may order; each *Indian* to be allowed a Rifle Shirt, a Blanket, a pair of Shoes and Buckles, or Moccasins.

*Resolved*, That the honourable Council be, and hereby are, desired to order that a Silver Gorget, with proper devices, be provided; as also a Silver Heart, with proper devices on each side; and be presented to the *Indians* above mentioned.

*Resolved*, That the honourable Council be desired, and are hereby empowered, to make the same presents to the *St. John's* and *Mickmack Indians*, as were the last year made to those *Indians* that represented the *Penobscot* Tribe; and that their expenses in coming up from or returning to their own country be also defrayed by the Council.

*Resolve to put the Companies at SALEM under the direction of Colonel PICKERING; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the Company of Sea-Coast men, and the Company of Matrosses stationed at *Salem*, be, and they hereby are, in future, till the further order of this Court, put under the order and direction of Colonel *Timothy Pickering*, Jun.; and in case of his absence from *Salem*, said Companies to be, during such absence, under the order and direction of Major *Joseph Sprague*; any former Order or *Resolve* of this Court to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Resolve on the Petition of WILLIAM TUPPER; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

Whereas it appears that five separate Accounts have been exhibited to this Court by Mr. *William Tupper*, for sundry necessities supplied the Schooner *Diligent* and the Sloop *Machias Liberty*, in the Colony service, and that the several Committees that have examined the same have reported that the whole thereof should be paid, and that any longer delay of payment would be greatly to the damage of the parties by whom said articles were furnished: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the sum of £286 18s. 7d. be allowed and paid out of the Colony Treasury to the said *William Tupper*, or his order, in full of said five Accounts—he giving proper receipts to the Treasurer for the same.

*Resolve for procuring Wool; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

Whereas it may be very difficult to obtain such quantities of Clothing as will be necessary for the supply of our Army, unless a quantity of Wool is procured: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Durfee*, Esq., of *Freetown*; *Joseph Mayhew*, Esq., of *Chilmark*; Captain *John Richardson*, of *Templeton*; Mr. *Lemuel Williams*, of *Dartmouth*; *Thomas Cook*, Esq., of *Edgartown*; Mr. *James Robinson*, of *Dorchester*; *Jonathan Bass*, Esq., of *Braintree*; and *Stephen Huss*, Esq., of *Nantucket*, be a Committee, immediately to purchase, on the best terms they can, and secure in some safe place or places, all the Sheep's Wool they can obtain; and that the Committee report to this Court the names of all persons whom they shall find purchasing that article with an intent to monopolize, or obtain an advanced price on the same.

Also, *Resolved*, That the honourable Council be, and hereby are, authorized and empowered to draw Warrants on the Treasurer of this Colony for such sums as they may judge necessary to answer the purpose aforesaid.

*Resolve on the Report of the Committee appointed to distribute twelve hundred Pounds among the Inhabitants of the Eastern parts of the County of LINCOLN; passed JULY 13, 1776.*

Whereas this Court, on the 11th of *April* last, did lend to the inhabitants of the easterly part of the County of *Lincoln*, from *Camden* to *Machias*, inclusively, the sum of £1200, and committed the same to the Honourable *John Taylor*, Esq., Colonel *William Jones*, and Mr. *James Noble Shannon*, to be distributed by them equally among said settlements; and it appears to this Court that the said Committee have distributed the sum of £1006 13s. 8d. thereof, for which they have Notes from the Committees of the several Plantations: Therefore,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Shannon* deliver the said Notes to the Treasurer of this Colony.

And whereas it appears that the Settlements or Plantations of *Camden*, *Majorbeggaduce*, *Fox-Islands*, and the Town of *Belfast*, have not received their proportion of the said loan; and it being represented by Colonel *Jones* and Mr. *Shannon*, that they can no longer attend to the duties of that appointment: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That they deliver the sum of £193 6s. 4d., now in their hands, unto Major *James Minot*, of *Camden*, who shall give his Note therefor to the Treasurer, and shall be accountable to this Court for the distribution thereof, and shall deliver the same to the order of the four places above mentioned, or any of them, in the proportions above referred to, taking their Notes, payable to the Treasurer, as formerly ordered; and his receipt, together with that of the Treasurer, if amounting to the sum of £1200, shall be deemed sufficient to acquit the said *Jones* and *Shannon* from any obligation heretofore given by them to the Treasurer of this Colony.

And whereas the inhabitants of *Camden*, *Majorbeggaduce*, *Fox-Islands*, and *Belfast*, stand in need of a quantity of Ammunition for their defence: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to the said *James Minot* so much Powder, Balls, and Flints, as will amount to one half the sum of £193 6s. 4d., aforesaid, at the rates following, viz: Powder at 5s. per pound, Balls at 6d. per

pound, and Flints at 5s. per hundred: said *Minot* paying the Commissary aforesaid for the same.

And the said *Minot* is hereby directed to distribute the same among the inhabitants of the said Towns of *Camden*, *Majorbeggaduce*, *Fox-Islands*, and *Belfast*, in the same proportion as the money, and on the same terms.

*Resolve permitting* Mr. MASON WHEATON to improve an Estate of THOMAS FLUCKER, Esquire; passed JULY 13, 1776.

*Resolved*, That *Mason Wheaton* have leave to improve the Estate of *Thomas Flucker*, who has quitted this country, till the 15th day of *April* next, he giving the Committee on

the East side of *St. George* security to pay them, for the use of this Colony, such a sum, as rent for the same, as they shall judge it to be reasonably worth.

*Grant for the Travel and Attendance of the Members of the House*; passed JULY 13, 1776.

*In the House of Representatives*: The Pay-Roll of the Members of the House, with their Travel and Attendance in the House, from the 29th of *May* last to the 13th of *July* current. Read and approved by the House.

*In Council*: Read and allowed.

*Ordered*, That a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury for £1819 15s., in full of said Roll.

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 14, 1776.

SIRS: I received your letter, and am well satisfied that I have so far pleased you. You mention sending two hundred and fifty pounds by Captain *Nicholson*. He brought me an order for that sum, but no cash. I have sent the order by Mr. *Wells* to receive the money. After paying the flour expense to the *Potomack*, the expense of discharging the brigs, and the hire for the vessels for the troops to *Elk*, I shall lay out the remainder in any way you please to order. As I have opened an account for you, I shall credit you with the money, and charge you for what I do and pay for you, and render you a statement of the account monthly, or at the end of certain jobs done.

Mr. *Wells* has sundry proposals to make, but thinks it hard that he can't be paid his old account, which I know is hard on him, as a man can have no trust here for anything, and his circumstances won't admit of his laying out of his money so long.

There are twenty barrels of superfine flour left with me, and I was at the baker's last night; there is a good deal of bread baked and very good. If there is any wanted for the brig, please let me know in time; or if flour is wanted, I have a few barrels of flour I would sell at nine shillings per hundred, which I would send down for the brig.

From your humble servant,

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the Hon. Council of Safety, at *Annapolis*.

P. S. My flour is fresh and good, if you should want to send any to *Chingoteague* for the brig.

JOHN HANSON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, July 14, 1776.

SIR: The mode pointed out by the Convention for arming the men now raising for the Continental service, I am afraid will prove ineffectual. The people are much averse to parting with their arms, unless they are immediately paid for them; and we know of no resolve authorizing such purchase. Should there be any such, be pleased to order a copy to be sent; or if your honourable Board should think proper to order such guns as may be necessary, to be bought up, I think the men would soon be sufficiently armed; and humbly offer it as my opinion, that unless some such step be taken, the providing of arms here, for the men that may be raised in this part of the County, will be altogether impracticable.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANSON, Jun.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety.

COLONEL SOMERVILLE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Calvert County, July 14, 1776, }  
Sunday, five o'clock. }

GENTLEMEN: About one o'clock yesterday morning, by express from Captain *Beall*, I received information that there were forty sail of vessels off *Point Lookout*, (eight of which were square-rigged,) and requesting some assistance from our Militia, and to get the other part in readiness in case they should proceed up the bay. Colonel *Mackall* not being in the country, I gave such orders as I thought might put us in the best posture of defence. The six upper companies were to hold themselves in readiness to march on the

shortest notice, and with part of the rest I went to *Drum-Point*. About four o'clock a firing of cannon, &c., was heard, (supposed to be in the *Potomack*;) which is confirmed this morning by Mr. *Hugh Hopewell*, Jun., who was down near where the firing was, and brought the enclosed letter from Colonel *Barnes*, who also requested the assistance of Captain *Beall* and his men. Mr. *Hopewell* came to *Drum-Point* this morning about nine o'clock, and Captain *Beall*, with all the men he had there, set out about half-past ten, leaving that post in charge of our Militia, who are now but few in number; but I propose to get (and keep) there about sixty or seventy men, exclusive of officers, until I receive your orders, or until Captain *Beall's* return. The ships-of-war, tenders, &c., were this morning lying off between the *St. Mary's River* and *Point-Lookout*; and it is reported by some deserters from them, that they intend to land on *St. George's Island*, in the mouth of *St. Mary's River*. Captain *Beall* desired me to inform you of his marching, and desires your orders how he shall proceed. Colonel *Barnes* could not get an express to carry his letter to you in *St. Mary's*, and therefore sent it this way, and expects to receive your answer the same way, which I will send him as soon as it comes. I shall go to *Drum-Point* in the morning, and you may depend I will do all in my power to prevent their landing in this County, if they should alter their course so as to come up the bay or into the *Patuxent*.

This express is to be paid from *Drum-Point* to *Annapolis*, which is about fifty-five miles, and by which I expect your orders, which shall be punctually obeyed.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
ALEXANDER SOMERVILLE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. A messenger will be waiting at the late Captain *Carroll's* dwelling-house to-morrow evening to receive your answer to Colonel *Barnes's* letter. You will be pleased to direct what number of Militia can be kept on duty in this County, and what number of officers.

COLONEL DORSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Riggs* waits on you with a company of Militia out of my battalion. This extremely busy time has prevented my sending them sooner. I hope they will be relieved by the Flying-Camp in a few days. If they are not, I purpose to relieve them by another company out of my battalion.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,  
THOMAS DORSEY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL ROBERDEAU.

Philadelphia, Sunday, July 14, 1776.

SIR: I have it this day in command from Congress to desire you will issue fresh orders and exert yourself to forward the immediate march of the whole Militia destined for the *Jerseys* from this Colony, the service requiring their being as soon as possible imbodyed in the *Jerseys*, in consequence of fresh advices from General *Washington* by express. I beg to request your particular attention to this matter.

I have the honour to be, sir, your very humble servant,  
JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Honourable Brigadier-General *Roberdeau*.



## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, July 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by Congress most earnestly to request you will supply the Flying-Camp and Militia in the *Jerseys* with as many musket-cartridges, with balls therein, as you can possibly spare, and send them forward with the greatest despatch. The state of our affairs will not admit the least delay, nor need I use arguments to induce you to an immediate compliance with this requisition. I am likewise to request you will immediately order to the respective places of their destination all the *British* officers prisoners in this city. The ladies are not to go till the weather is fair.

The Committee of Congress are instructed to replace an equal quantity of powder to that delivered in cartridges.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.To the Hon. Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL MERCER.

Philadelphia, July 14, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having been informed by General *Washington*, that he had given the command of the Flying Camp and Militia in *New-Jersey*, to you, and for that purpose you were stationed in the *Jerseys*, I have it in charge from Congress to empower and direct you to march such of the Militia and Flying-Camp to *Brunswick*, or other places in the *Jerseys*, as you may on all occasions judge necessary and most conducive to the publick service, provided it does not interfere with any prior direction from General *Washington*.

Four tons of powder were sent off to you a few days ago; and a large parcel of cartridges, well balled, will be this day forwarded to you, for the use of the troops under your command. Colonel *Biddle*, the Quartermaster-General, has orders to furnish all necessaries. He will wait on you, and follow such directions as you may judge necessary to give him.

You will please to give me the earliest intelligence of every occurrence by express, that it may be laid before Congress.

I most heartily wish success to your arms, and have the honour to be, with much esteem, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.To Brigadier-General *Mercer*, *New-Jersey*.

## LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE FOR LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

In Committee, Lancaster, July 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee have received orders from the Congress, to keep a guard over the prisoners at the barracks, and to have the barracks surrounded by a stockaded fort. One principal design in this order is, doubtless, to prevent the prisoners from straggling abroad, and making their escape. The Committee, therefore, request of you to have strict inquiry made throughout your township immediately, for such prisoners as may be there, and have them immediately sent in to the barracks in this place, under a proper guard; and the officers of the Militia in the District are requested to give you every necessary assistance in carrying this matter into execution.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM S. ATLEE, *Chairman*.

To the Members of the Committee in Township,  
and the Officers of the Militia there.

## CUMBERLAND COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Carlisle, July 14, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: In obedience to your letter, by order of Congress, bearing date *Philadelphia*, the 3d instant, now before us, and of the resolve of the Conference of Delegates, &c., at the State-House, the 5th instant, approved in Congress, we sent circular letters to each battalion in this County, requesting their compliance. By the intelligence

we have already received, we think ourselves warranted to say, that we shall be able to send five companies, viz: one from each battalion, to compose part of the Flying-Camp, provided so many good arms can be had, and three companies of Militia, for the present exigency—some of whom will march this week.

With pleasure we assure you that a noble spirit appears amongst the inhabitants here. We find great scarcity of cash, even amongst men of considerable property. We are, therefore, under the necessity of sending the bearer hereof, Mr. *John Boyd*, express to you, with our draft, bearing date herewith, for £1,000, without which, we find the men cannot be suitably fitted out; and, therefore, we make no doubt you will honour our order, more especially when we inform you that we have taken up money already upon our own credit.

The spirit of marching to the defence of our country is so prevalent in this town, that we shall not have men left sufficient to mount guard, which we think absolutely necessary for the safety of the inhabitants and ammunition, and as a watch over the ten *English* officers, with their ten servants, to keep their parole of honour; especially as their brethren lately at *Lebanon*, in *Lancaster County*, lost it. And as there will not be more left in town here for the above purpose, we shall be obliged to hire a guard of twelve men from the County, which we think ought to be at the publick expense.

Although we do not charge those gentlemen with such behaviour as would warrant us to confine them, yet we have reason to believe their conversation has influenced many weak and ignorant persons, as well in town as within the six miles around it which is the line of their confinement; and their servants are dressed with hunting-shirts and trowsers, the uniform of our people, which might facilitate their escape.

We are, sir, your most obedient humble servants.

Signed by order of the Committee:

JOHN MONTGOMERY, *Chairman*.To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

## GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth Amboy, July 14, 1776.

SIR: This morning Lord *Howe* sent Lieutenant *Reeve*, of the *Eagle* man-of-war, with a flag of truce to this post. He delivered me the letters which accompany this.

Nothing worthy your attention has happened here since I had the honour to receive your instructions of the 11th inst., by Mr. *Boss*. The enemy's guards in our view continue without any new movement. From their number, it is probable that two regiments encamp near this end of *Staten Island*. We have been able, however, to procure no certain intelligence of their situation. No person has yet come over to us, nor is it easy to find one of our friends duly qualified or ready to undertake the business of a Spy on the Island. About four hundred of the *Pennsylvania* rifle battalion have joined us, and another party of the same regiment is on the way. From this last, I have ordered one hundred men to take post at the ferries of *Passaic* and *Hackensack*, and shall relieve all the *Jersey* Militia as soon as reinforcements arrive. When the two battalions of riflemen and one of musketry from *Pennsylvania*, are posted from hence to the ferries towards *New-York*, a favourable opportunity may probably offer to surprise the enemy's small posts. Boats may, I think, be procured; and the riflemen would be happy to be so employed. Such an enterprise is not suspected by the enemy, nor believed to be under consideration here.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

H. MERCER.

## PHILIP B. BRADLEY TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Bergen, July 14, 1776.

HONoured SIR: I flatter myself that the continual hurry and multiplicity of business which I have had will apologize for not writing you sooner. The next day after my arrival at *New-York*, I was ordered, with General *Wadsworth's* brigade, to *Bergen*, in the *Jerseys*, nearly opposite to the enemy, besides which I have one battalion of the *Jersey* forces under my command.

The fleet, by small parties, are daily falling in. Vice-

Admiral *Howe* arrived *Friday* night last, so that we may expect a visit from them soon, but we hope to give them a warm reception.

I would acquaint your Honour that I have appointed the Rev. *Isaac Lewis* as Chaplain, and Doctor *Salua Pell* as Surgeon, with *Amos Baker* as his mate. I wish they may meet your approbation. Their abilities in their different departments, I make no doubt, are equal to the task.

And I am, honoured sir, your obedient, humble servant,  
 PHILIP B. BRADLEY.

The Hon. Jonathan Trumbull, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 16, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

New-York, July 14, 1776.

SIR: My last, of *Friday* evening, which I had the honour of addressing you, advised that two of the enemy's ships of war and three tenders had run above our batteries here and the works at the upper end of the Island. I am now to inform you, that yesterday forenoon, receiving intelligence from General *Mifflin* that they had passed the *Tappan Sea*, and were trying to proceed higher up, by advice of *R. R. Livingston*, Esq., and other gentlemen, I despatched an express to General *Clinton*, of *Ulster*, and the Committee of Safety for *Dutchess County*, to take measures for securing the passes in the Highlands, lest they might have designs of seizing them, and have a force concealed for the purpose. I wrote the evening before to the commanding officers of the two garrisons there, to be vigilant, and prepared against any attempts they or any disaffected persons might make against them, and to forward expresses all the way to *Albany*, that provision and other vessels might be secured and prevented falling into their hands. The information given General *Mifflin* was rather premature, as to their having gone past the sea. A letter from the Committee of *Orange County*, which came to hand this morning, says they were there yesterday, and that a regiment of their Militia was under arms to prevent their landing and making an incursion. The messenger who brought it, and to whom it refers for particulars, adds, that a party of them in two or three boats had approached the shore, but were forced back by our people firing at them. Since the manœuvre of *Friday* there have been no other movements in the fleet.

General *Sullivan*, in a letter of the 2d instant, informs me of his arrival with the Army at *Crown-Point*, where he is fortifying and throwing up works. He adds, that he has secured all the stores, except three cannon left at *Chambly*, which in part is made up by taking a fine twelve-pounder out of the Lake. The Army is sickly, many with the small-pox, and he is apprehensive the Militia ordered to join them will not escape the infection. An officer he had sent to reconnoitre had reported that he saw at *St. John's* about one hundred and fifty tents, twenty at *St. Roy's*, and fifteen at *Chambly*, and works at the first were busily carrying on.

I have enclosed a General Return of the Army here, which will show the whole of our strength; all the detached posts are included.

A letter from the eastward, by last night's post, to Mr. *Hazard*, Postmaster in this city, advises, that two ships have been taken and carried into *Cape Ann*—one from *Antigua*, consigned to General *Howe*, with four hundred and thirty-nine puncheons of rum; the other a *Jamaican*, with four hundred hogsheads of sugar, two hundred puncheons of rum, thirty-nine bales of cotton, pimento, fustic, &c., &c.; each mounted two guns, six-pounders.

About three o'clock this afternoon I was informed that a flag from Lord *Howe* was coming up, and waited with two of our whale-boats until directions should be given. I immediately convened such of the General Officers as were not upon other duty, who agreed in opinion that I ought not to receive any letter directed to me as a private gentleman; but if otherwise, and the officer desired to come up to deliver the letter himself, as was suggested, he should come under a safe conduct. Upon this, I directed Colonel *Reed* to go down and manage the affair under the above general instruction. On his return he informed me, that after the common civilities, the officer acquainted him that he had a letter from Lord *Howe* to Mr. *Washington*, which he showed, under a superscription "To George Washington, Esq." Colonel *Reed* replied, there was no such person in the Army, and that a letter in-

tended for the General could not be received under such a direction. The officer expressed great concern; said it was a letter of rather a civil than military nature; that Lord *Howe* regretted he had not arrived sooner; that he (Lord *Howe*) had great powers. The anxiety to have the letter received was very evident, though the officer disclaimed all knowledge of its contents. However, Colonel *Reed's* instructions being positive, they parted. After they had got some distance, the officer with the flag again put about, and asked under what direction Mr. *Washington* chose to be addressed; to which Colonel *Reed* answered, his station was well known, and that certainly they could be at no loss how to direct to him. The officer said they knew and lamented it; and again repeated his wish that the letter could be received. Colonel *Reed* told him a proper direction would obviate all difficulties, and that this was no new matter, the subject having been fully discussed in the course of the last year, of which Lord *Howe* could not be ignorant: upon which they parted.

I would not, upon any occasion, sacrifice essentials to punctilio; but in this instance, the opinion of others concurring with my own, I deemed it a duty to my country and my appointment to insist upon that respect which in any other than a publick view I would willingly have waived. Nor do I doubt but, from the supposed nature of the message and the anxiety expressed, they will either repeat their flag, or fall upon some mode to communicate the import and consequence of it.

I have been duly honoured with your two letters, that of the 10th by Mr. *Anderson*, and the 11th with its enclosures, and have directed the Quartermaster to provide him with everything he wants to carry his scheme into execution. It is an important one, and I wish it success, but I am doubtful that it will be better in theory than practice.

The passage of the ships of war and tenders up the river is a matter of great importance, and has excited much conjecture and speculation. To me, two things have occurred, as leading them to this proceeding: first, a design to seize on the narrow passes on both sides the river, giving almost the only land communication with *Albany*, and, of consequence, with our northern Army, and for which purpose they might have troops concealed on board, which they deemed competent of themselves, as the defiles are narrow, or that they would be joined by many disaffected persons in that quarter; others have added a probability of their having a large quantity of arms on board, to be in readiness to put into the hands of the Tories immediately on the arrival of the fleet, or rather, at the time they intend to make their attack. The second is, to cut off entirely all intercourse between this place and *Albany* by water, and the upper country, and to prevent supplies of every kind going and coming. These matters are truly alarming, and of such importance that I have written to the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, and recommended to their serious consideration the adoption of every possible expedient to guard against the two first, and have suggested the propriety of their employing the Militia, or some part of them, in the Counties in which their defiles are, to keep the enemy from possessing them, until further provision can be made; and to write to the several leading persons on our side, in that quarter, to be attentive to all the movements of the ships and the disaffected, in order to discover and frustrate whatever pernicious schemes they have in view.

In respect to the second conjecture of my own, and which seems to be generally adopted, I have the pleasure to inform Congress, that, if their design is to keep the Armies from provisions, the Commissary has told me, upon inquiry, that he has forwarded supplies to *Albany*, now there and above it, sufficient for ten thousand men for four months; that he has a sufficiency here for twenty thousand men for three months, and an abundant quantity secured in different parts of the *Jerseys* for the Flying-Camp, besides having about four thousand barrels of flour in some neighbouring part of *Connecticut*. Upon this head there is but little occasion for any apprehensions, at least for a considerable time.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of great esteem, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

P. S. I have sent orders to the commanding officer of the *Pennsylvania Militia* to march to *Amboy*, as their remaining at *Trenton* can be of no service.

General Return of the Army in the service of the UNITED COLONIES, in and near the City of NEW-YORK, commanded by His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.												RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.		Since last Return.								
	Commissioned.						Staff.		Non-commissioned.				Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Initiated.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.			
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'ns.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.														Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	
Colonel Hand's.....	1	1	-	5	7	3	6	1	1	1	1	-	19	9	252	1	6	1	22	282	9	17	358	3	-	-	-	
Colonel Learned's.....	-	1	1	8	8	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	32	15	275	43	10	221	-	549	-	1	91	1	-	-	-	
Colonel Nixon's.....	1	1	1	7	6	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	31	15	307	31	21	79	-	438	-	-	202	-	-	1	-	
Colonel Prescott's.....	1	1	1	8	6	7	7	1	1	1	1	1	29	16	320	26	13	55	-	414	1	-	226	-	1	-	1	
Colonel Varnum's.....	1	-	1	7	8	4	5	-	1	-	-	-	26	16	280	58	11	50	-	399	-	-	241	4	3	-	-	
Colonel Parsons's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	7	-	1	1	1	1	29	16	362	138	7	87	1	595	-	-	45	4	3	-	-	
Colonel Hitchcock's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	7	1	1	1	1	1	29	15	296	38	10	45	-	389	-	-	251	-	1	-	-	
Colonel Little's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	7	1	1	1	1	1	29	16	336	42	10	75	-	463	-	-	177	-	1	1	1	
Colonel Read's.....	1	1	1	8	4	7	8	-	1	1	-	-	31	16	302	80	14	132	-	528	-	-	112	-	-	1	-	
Colonel Huntington's.....	1	1	-	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	32	16	327	107	4	100	4	542	-	-	98	1	1	3	-	
Colonel Webb's.....	1	1	-	6	6	2	7	-	1	1	1	1	23	14	327	83	11	134	2	557	-	2	83	-	-	1	-	
Colonel Arnold's.....	-	1	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	29	15	370	66	4	101	-	541	-	1	99	-	1	-	1	
Colonel Ward's.....	1	-	1	4	7	8	6	1	1	1	1	1	26	13	233	117	2	159	-	511	-	2	129	3	-	-	-	
Colonel Wylls's.....	1	1	1	8	6	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	28	14	357	66	7	119	-	549	-	-	91	-	-	1	-	
Colonel Bailey's.....	1	1	1	6	7	6	7	-	1	1	1	1	30	15	317	87	12	122	-	538	-	1	102	1	-	-	-	
Colonel Baldwin's.....	1	1	1	2	5	6	3	1	1	1	1	1	18	11	228	62	6	191	1	488	-	-	152	-	-	-	1	
9 Comp's of Col. McDougall's....	1	1	1	6	6	7	6	1	1	1	1	1	35	18	285	75	8	104	-	472	1	-	248	5	-	2	1	
Colonel Ritzema's.....	-	1	-	7	5	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	27	15	306	74	1	67	1	449	-	1	191	-	1	-	12	
Colonel Magaw's.....	1	1	1	8	7	7	6	1	1	1	-	-	31	15	403	53	23	4	8	491	1	1	149	1	1	-	-	
Colonel Shea's.....	1	1	1	8	7	8	8	-	1	1	1	1	31	12	437	34	22	2	5	500	1	4	140	5	1	-	9	
Total.....	17	18	16	138	137	130	133	14	20	19	18	16	565	292	6,320	1281	202	1,848	44	9,695	13	30	3,185	28	14	10	27	
Return of General SCOTT's Brigade, sixty-seven the establishment, rank and file, in a Company, and ten Companies to a Regiment.																												
Colonel Lasher's.....	1	1	1	10	10	9	-	-	1	1	-	-	30	16	439	26	43	56	1	565	-	4	105	61	-	-	-	-
Colonel Malcom's.....	1	1	1	9	9	10	-	-	1	1	1	-	27	15	245	11	-	21	1	278	3	5	392	2	-	-	12	2
Colonel Drake's.....	1	1	1	10	9	8	-	-	1	1	-	-	28	16	420	29	3	30	4	486	2	4	184	-	-	3	2	-
5 Com. of Lt. Col. Hardenburgh's..	-	1	-	5	4	5	-	-	1	1	-	-	15	7	212	18	-	24	2	256	-	3	79	2	-	-	-	-
Total.....	3	4	3	34	32	32	-	-	4	4	1	-	100	54	1,316	84	46	131	8	1,585	5	16	760	65	-	3	14	-
Return of General HEARD's Brigade, seventy-two the establishment, rank and file, in a Company, and eight Companies in a Regiment.																												
Colonel Forman's.....	1	1	-	7	7	8	5	-	1	1	1	1	28	15	459	19	1	3	-	482	1	-	94	-	-	-	-	-
7 Companies of Col. Hunt's.....	-	1	1	7	6	2	5	-	1	1	-	-	20	14	256	11	-	-	2	269	8	-	235	87	-	-	-	-
7 Companies of Col. Martin's.....	1	1	1	7	7	5	7	-	1	1	1	1	27	7	268	14	-	56	2	340	1	4	164	252	-	-	-	-
2 Companies of Col. Newcomb's.....	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	6	3	79	-	-	-	-	79	2	1	65	-	-	-	-	-
1 Comp. of Col. Van Cortlandt's.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	30	-	-	15	-	45	-	-	27	-	-	-	-	-
Total.....	2	3	2	23	23	17	19	1	3	4	3	2	85	31	1,092	44	1	74	4	1,215	19	5	585	339	-	-	-	-
Return of General WADSWORTH's Brigade, eighty-three rank and file the establishment for one Company, and eight Companies in a Regiment.																												
7 Companies of Col. Silliman's....	1	1	1	6	4	6	4	-	1	1	1	1	28	13	170	2	2	144	-	318	-	1	263	-	-	-	-	-
7 Companies of Col. Gay's.....	1	1	-	7	5	5	5	-	1	1	1	1	23	16	351	5	-	-	-	356	5	-	225	-	-	-	-	-
6 Companies of Col. Bradley's....	1	-	1	6	6	5	4	-	1	1	-	-	22	11	161	-	-	218	-	379	-	-	119	-	-	-	-	-
3 Companies of Col. Sage's.....	1	-	-	3	2	1	3	-	1	1	-	-	12	6	125	-	5	11	-	141	-	-	108	-	-	-	-	-
1 Company of Col. Selden's.....	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	7	3	76	-	-	-	-	76	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
7 Companies of Col. Douglass's....	1	1	1	6	6	6	7	1	1	1	1	1	22	10	262	5	-	106	-	373	6	4	208	-	-	-	-	-
3 Companies of Col. Chester's....	1	-	-	4	4	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	11	5	157	1	1	15	-	174	1	1	75	-	-	-	-	-
13 Companies of Light Horse of Col. Seymour's.....	-	1	3	13	13	13	13	-	1	1	1	1	52	1	289	25	-	43	-	357	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.....	6	4	6	46	40	38	38	1	7	7	3	4	177	75	1,591	38	8	537	-	2,174	12	6	1,005	-	-	-	-	-
The total of General Heard's brought down.....	2	3	2	23	23	17	19	1	3	4	3	2	85	31	1,092	44	1	74	4	1,215	19	5	585	339	-	-	-	-
The total of Gen. Scott's brought down.....	3	4	3	34	32	32	-	-	4	4	1	-	100	54	1,316	84	46	131	8	1,585	5	16	760	65	-	3	14	-
The total of the whole established Regiments brought down....	17	18	16	138	137	130	133	14	20	19	18	16	565	292	6,320	1281	202	1,848	44	9,695	13	30	3,185	28	14	10	27	-
Total of the whole.....	28	29	27	241	232	217	190	17	34	34	25	22	927	452	10,319	1447	257	2,590	56	14,669	49	57	5,535	432	14	23	41	-

Head-Quarters, July 13, 1776.

Return of the Regiment of Artillery in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, commanded by HENRY KNOX, Esq.

	Colonel.	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Captain-Lieutenants.	Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Drums and Fifes.	Cadet.	Matrosses.
Present, fit for duty.....	1	1	1	6	6	5	12	1	1	1	1	1	21	18	33	36	16	1	176
Sick, present.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	16
Sick, absent.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
On command.....	-	-	-	4	4	6	8	-	-	-	-	-	12	15	26	26	7	-	103
Total.....	1	1	1	10	10	11	20	1	1	1	1	1	33	33	62	64	23	1	300

New-York, July 13, 1776.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, July 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The passage of the enemy up *North River* is a point big with many consequences to the publick interest; one particularly occurs to me well deserving your attention, and to prevent which I shall gladly give every assistance in my power, consistent with the safety of the Army. I am informed there are several passes on each side of the river, upon which the communication with *Albany* depends, of so commanding a nature that an inconsiderable body of men may defend them against the largest numbers. It may be that on board these ships there may be troops for this purpose, who, expecting to be joined by the disaffected in that quarter, or confiding in their own strength, may endeavour to seize those defiles, in which case the intercourse between the two Armies, both by land and water, will be wholly cut off, than which a greater misfortune could hardly befall the service and Army. I must entreat you to take the measure into consideration, and, if possible, provide against an evil so much to be apprehended. I should hope the Militia of those Counties might be used on such an emergency, until further provision was made.

I have also thought it very probable those ships may have carried up arms and ammunition, to be dealt out to those who may favour their cause, and coöperate with them at a prefixed time. I would, to guard against this, submit to your consideration the propriety of writing to the leading men on our side in those Counties, to be very vigilant in observing any movements of this kind, in order that so dangerous a scheme may be nipped in the bud; and for that purpose, to keep the utmost attention to the conduct of the principal Tories in those parts—any attempts of intercourse with the ships, and all other circumstances which may lead to a discovery of their schemes and the destruction of their measures.

I am, gentlemen, &amp;c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA TROOPS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 14, 1776.

SIR: From sundry accounts received of the troops you command, I have reason to believe they will halt at *Trenton*, and there wait further orders. As I do not see any advantage which can arise from your continuance there, and the honourable Continental Congress has committed the disposition of them to me until the Flying-Camp is formed, you will, on receipt of this, proceed to *Amboy*, in *New-Jersey*, where General *Mercer* is appointed to command, and there, putting yourself under his direction, receive and obey such orders as he may give.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Commanding Officer of the *Pennsylvania* Troops, at *Trenton*, (or elsewhere,) *New-Jersey*.

## COLONEL RITZEMA TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, July 14, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Conscious in my own mind that I never have said or done anything wittingly which had a tendency to disparage the Continental troops or service, much less to speak contumeliously of any of the General Officers, and, above all, of the *American* cause—a cause which I have as much at heart as any man in *America*, and in which I have frequently ventured my life the last campaign, and was the first man in the Province of *New-York* who ever took up arms in defence of it, a cause for which I am still willing to lay down my life,—it therefore grieves me sorely that my integrity should be called in question, and that secret enemies should endeavour to blast my character in your Excellency's estimation. Finding that I have many of these, and that words which I may have unguardedly uttered have been construed to the worst of purposes, I humbly crave, to avoid further persecution, your Excellency's leave to resign my commission, and to retire to my good and aged father in the country, not doubting but in

a little time your Excellency and the world will be convinced that I am not the man I am by some represented to be.

I am, may it please your Excellency, your Excellency's very humble servant,

RUDOLPHUS RITZEMA.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL RITZEMA.

Head-Quarters, July 14, 1776.

SIR: At a period so critical as the present, when our unnatural enemies are in full view, and hourly expected to strike a blow which may be supposed in a great measure to decide the fate of *America*, I must confess I am not a little surprised to find an officer of your rank in the Army soliciting leave to resign his commission, more especially considering the predicament you are now in. I should rather hope that, as you are so conscious of your innocence, you would urge an inquiry into your conduct, to convince the world that the complaints exhibited against you are totally groundless; and that the malice of your worst enemies cannot do the least injury to your reputation, which, to a soldier, ought ever to be dearer than life.

I don't know how far I can, with propriety, countermand the order for the Court of Inquiry, as it is already given out in General Orders; however, I will think of it, and give you my answer to-morrow.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Rudolphus Ritzema*.

## GOUVERNEUR MORRIS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Committee of the Convention of Representatives of the  
State of New-York, at the City-Hall of the City of  
New-York, July 14, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Committee to inform your Excellency that a great number of the persons now confined in our jail are from *Queen's County*, on *Long-Island*, and, from all appearances, we are confident that they are in sentiment inimical to that glorious cause in which, with your Excellency, we have the honour to be engaged. We have it in our power to confine them close prisoners, or take security for their future conduct. The inconvenience of crowding the jails throughout the County with people of this character, if they can safely be permitted to continue at their usual places of residence, is striking, as it must fill their minds with the sourness of opposition, and at the same time, by rousing and enraging all their connexions, and giving a just alarm to every person suspected of holding similar principles, raise up numerous enemies actuated by revenge and despair. If, on the other hand, security is taken for their peaceable demeanour, at the same time binding them to continue at their usual places of abode, the dangers I have just suggested to your Excellency will indeed be removed; but another cause of serious apprehension will still remain, and we shall risk much from their correspondence with the enemy, while perhaps it may be difficult to prevent them from knowing the measures which may be taken by your Excellency for the publick service. In this disagreeable dilemma, we find ourselves under the necessity of asking advice, sir, from you, and such persons in your council as you may think proper to consult, it being our wish that our conduct should conform to the sentiments of those who are intrusted with the important concerns of the *United States*.

We have seriously pondered on the business your Excellency recommended to our attention, by the letter we were yesterday honoured with; and while we are alarmed at the dangers impending upon a neglect of what your Excellency hath pointed out to us, we feel ourselves much at a loss for measures which will be effectual. We shall suggest to your Excellency the propriety of removing from this Island every person, except the soldiery, who shall not have a permission from the Committee of this County to continue thereon; and after that period, a small degree of caution may prevent vagrants or spies from obtaining intelligence. But upon this and every other plan which may be proposed, we should be glad to have an opportunity of consulting with your Excellency, being extremely anxious for the adoption of the most speedy and efficacious measures to promote the publick service.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

GOUV. MORRIS.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.



To His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esquire, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Thirteen UNITED STATES of NORTH AMERICA.

The Memorial of sundry Inhabitants of the City of NEW-YORK, and other friends to the peace and safety of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA, sheweth :

That your Memorialists have been vigilant in finding out the enemies to the American States, in order to their being removed from all such places where they have opportunity of doing mischief to our common cause at this critical time ; when the greatest precaution is necessary for the publick safety.

Your Memorialists are of opinion, that suffering Tories to remain in this city, or near it, in *Long-Island*, and *Shrewsbury*, &c., will be attended with much danger.

Zeal for the prosperity of the glorious cause in which we are engaged, and for the safety of your Excellency's person, prompt us now to address your Excellency on this interesting affair. Give us leave at the same time to express our readiness to assist, as far as in our power, in every laudable measure that may be recommended for the publick safety.

Your Memorialists therefore pray your Excellency, that orders may be given for the removal of dangerous persons from this city, and other places, to some distant parts in the country, that the minds of your Memorialists and other friends to our cause may be relieved from their uneasiness.

And your Memorialists shall pray, &c.

Richard Leayeraft, John Burger, Thomas Pratt, John Anderson, Lemuel Bunce, John Keating, George Traile, John Gilbert, Ephraim Brasher, Richard Livingston, George Graham, John Buchanan, Nathan Fish, Alexander Fortune, Thomas Lawrence, John Keily, Ethan Sickels, Theodorus Deforest, Aaron Stockholm, James Byers, Daniel Green, Engelbart Kemmenay, Benjamin Hoghland, Thomas Ark, Ger. Hardenbrook, Abra. Van Gelden, Adolph De Grove, Anthony Glean, Edward Collord, John Rutter, Christopher Codwise, Henry Beekman, Peter Sim, James Smith, David Currie, Isaac Sebring, Cornelius Sebring, John Ellis, Robert Wool, Daniel Cryble, Marinus Willett, John Stout, Henry Sheafe, Robert Campbell, John Hamilton, Garret Kip, Joseph Carr, Isaac Sears, Joseph Smith, Thomas Henderson, Benj. Lightbourn, James Smith,

Isaac Pinto, John Holt, Jonathan Durell, Gershom Mott, William Mercier, Isaac Van Vleck, Richard Norwood, Viner Van Zandt, Malcom McEuen, Jeremiah Platt, Garret Roorback, Ward Hunt, Frederick Bassett, James Colvin, F. Lewis, Abraham De Lanoy, John Abeel, Richard Sands, Benjamin Quereau, Joshua Sands, Peter Vandervoort, David Dickson, Andrew Stockholm, Wm. S. Livingston, James Abeel, William Adams, Henry Brashers, Walter Moffatt, Nicholas Fish, Johs. Hardenbergh, Jeremiah Wool, Jonathan Blake, Edward Meeks, John Hunter, Aaron Gilbert, John Thomas, John Hyatt, Robert Manley, Gilbert Dean, Ephraim Lockwood, Abram S. Haddery, Samuel Fleming, Joshua Rogers, Sybert Acker, John Jackson, James Rumsey, Jacob Lawrence, Joseph Cheesman, William Faulkner, Ebenezer Phillips, Capt. Jas. Robison, John Gillespy,

John McArthur, W. Cur, John Fish, Stephen Howell, Cornelius J. Duboys, Abraham Smedes, Henry Sloson, Stephen Oakley, George Knox, Nathaniel Ketchum, James Black, Wm. Dewitt, Capt., Prentice Bowen, Daniel Shaw, Abm. A. Van Wyck, Sebastian Bauman, David Dickson, Capt., Lewis Norris, John Campbell, Henry Wilmot, Wm. Willierks, Capt., William Goforth, Wynd Kettleas, James Bate, John Wiley, Jacob K. Duryee, Henry Riker, Cary Dunn, Oliver Glean, James Riker, John Riker, Jr., Elias Pelletreau, Robert Troup, William Tapp, Henry Tiebout, Peter Vergereau, Thomas Delessy, Wm. W. Depeyster, Henry D. Tripp, Theodosius Fowler, Cornelius Bicker, Daniel Winter, Caleb Hobby, Benjamin Jones, William Whetten, John Anthony, Hugh Hughes, Abraham P. Lott, Henry H. Kip, Ebenezer Hazard, Samuel Johnson, Malachy Treat.

#### COLONEL PARKE TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York Camp, July 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I did not receive your notification till this morning after the time appointed. I send you herewith the names of the neighbours who are acquainted with Mr. Tyler's character, and can best inform you of his past conduct ; nor would he have been noticed now, had not he come into Colonel Wyllis's encampment and began to display the inveteracy of his heart among the soldiers, at the same time treating the officers with the greatest insolence. I hope he will be able to wipe this infamous stigma from his character ; but if not, I know your attachment to your country will suggest a proper mode of treatment for him. The persons

ready to give evidence against him are: *Paul Green* and wife, *Pelatiah Haws*, *Nathaniel Peck*, Mrs. *Susan Halloway*, Captain *John Warner*, Sergeant *Isaac Piper* and wife, Mrs. *Sarah Wood*, and Captain *Ives* ; besides other witnesses, which may be procured on occasion. These persons live in the neighbourhood, and may be had by a summons for that purpose.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN PARKE.

To the Committee of Safety, New-York.

P. S. Mr. Tyler belongs to Captain Warner's company. John Lowe and his brother are further evidences.

#### GENERAL MIFFLIN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Mount Washington, July 14, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: The party opposite to us on the *Jersey* side are at work on the mountain, and will soon have the ground prepared for cannon. I was obliged to call the party of one hundred and fifty men from our point and set them at work on two traverses, which the enemy's fire on *Friday* convinced me were necessary in the fort.

I have removed the small building, which was placed near the bastion on the right entering the sally-port, behind one of the traverses ; and have, through necessity, made use of it as a Magazine.

When the carpenters have finished the proper Magazine, I will take care to settle it as low as possible, and render it as secure as the ground will permit. At present, we have no security for our powder.

A battery on the height, above our point, of eighteen pounders, would render the passage of the river very difficult, although our late experiments may have taught us that it is not easy to prevent it. The ships were obliged to pass very near to it: our rifles reached them. The men having worked all *Friday* night, and being much fatigued, I have relieved them from fatigue this day. I want much your Excellency's orders respecting the places next to be secured. Bulwarks connected with our fort are certainly necessary ; we are weak without them. I shall, therefore, unless otherwise directed, order the party of one hundred and fifty from *Nyack*, to finish the battery on the point, and then erect another on the rock above it ; our own men to finish the traverses, and proceed with some outworks and a strong abattis. As to a ditch, it is very difficult, and will require much time to complete one: that I must leave until more essential works are completed.

Last night I sent an alert and prudent officer to watch the motions of the ships and Tories. He is properly equipped and well qualified for the business. The ships lay in sight of us all yesterday, about four or five miles above *Dobbs's Ferry*. I have sent out to know where they are this morning ; the weather prevented our seeing them at their station yesterday.

I beg leave to mention the necessity of securing the communications, opposite to us, with *New-Jersey* ; a small part of the Flying-Camp, as the ground is strong, would answer the purpose.

The heights over the bridge, and south of *King's Bridge*, near the *Three Trees*, well known by your Excellency, are, in my opinion, of immense importance to us, especially if the enemy attempt an impression, or determine to throw up a line of contravallation against our posts on this Island, and try to shut us in.

Mr. *John Delany* frequently passes *King's Bridge*, with a pass from General *Putnam*. I have seen him twice, and heard of his being on the road to and from *New-York*, four times since *Wednesday*.

To His Excellency General Washington.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COMMITTEE OF ORANGE COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Nothing can be more pleasing than, on all occasions, to see the people ready to fly to the protection of any part of the country where there is any danger from the enemy ; but at this extremely busy season, I cannot recommend your keeping the regiment imbodyed. It would be well to notify them all to be ready at a moment's warning to assemble at any place they may be called to. Every precaution ought to be taken to prevent the men-of-war

from getting any supplies of fresh provisions, or keeping up any intercourse or correspondence with the disaffected inhabitants. I shall be much obliged for timely information of every manœuvre of the ships and tenders up the river, and hope that every necessary step will be taken to prevent any of our vessels falling into their hands.

I am, gentlemen, with esteem, your most humble servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Committee of *Orange County, New-York.*

COLONEL HAY TO GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON.

Sunday Evening, July 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: On *Friday* afternoon three ships of war and four cutters of the Ministerial fleet passed the city of *New-York*; one forty and one twenty-gun ship, with the four cutters, anchored in the bay, opposite *Nyack*. On *Friday* night I called out my regiment, in order to prevent the enemy from landing and committing depredations on the west shore, which we have hitherto done. At twelve o'clock yesterday a barge and cutter attempted to land; the latter grounded at some distance from the shore, and the barge, being fired upon by our guard, returned to the ships. In the night another barge came so near the shore that she was spoken to by the guard; and we are in hourly expectation of another attempt. My regiment, which consists of but four hundred men, has now been upon duty, night and day, since *Friday* evening, and are greatly fatigued with the service. The men express great uneasiness, under apprehension that they shall lose their harvest, as the grain is now fit to gather, and no persons to take it in, if they are obliged to guard the shore. In this situation, I thought it my duty to apply to you for support. As we have considerable extent of shore to guard, it is necessary to employ the whole regiment on constant duty; which, if continued, will be ruinous to the country, unless supported by a detachment of one hundred and fifty or two hundred men from your brigade; for this purpose I have despatched the bearer express. Your known attachment to the cause, and the zeal your people have shown, leaves us every reason to hope for an immediate support. The Militia of *Bergen* are drawn off towards *Staten-Island*; and the city of *New-York* is in hourly expectation of being attacked; so that we can expect no assistance from that quarter. If two or three armed boats could be sent down with the detachment, it would be most convenient for the transportation of the men and their provision, and will be an essential service in keeping off the barges, and following them from place to place. Despatch the bearer as soon as possible. As I have been up two days and nights and am much fatigued, I hope you will excuse the inaccuracy of this scrawl.

I am, dear sir, yours, in haste, A. HAWKES HAY.

P. S. Should be happy to have your advice and assistance in this matter.

EGBERT BENSON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Red-Hook, Dutchess County, July 14, 1776.

SIR: This acknowledges the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday, which I immediately transmitted to General *Ten Broeck*, and shall without delay transmit the necessary expresses to *Connecticut*.

As the matter may be exaggerated, I take the liberty of informing your Excellency that the late insurrection of the Tories in this County was rather an inconsiderable affair—no person of the least repute or importance concerned, and is entirely suppressed.

I am your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
EGBERT BENSON.

To General *Washington*.

COLONEL JAMES CLINTON TO THE COMMITTEE OF DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

Fort Constitution, July 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received yours of this day, and approve much of your plan for making fire-rafts, and doubt not but that you will carry the same into execution with the utmost expedition. I think it advisable to purchase two other old sloops (or more if necessary) for the purpose; but let it be

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done at the cheapest rate—the oldest and worst sloops will do. Let men value them; but they must be had at any rate. When your rafts are completed, they must be sent here without delay—the sooner the better. I could wish, if the General's letter (a copy of which you have) will warrant it, a galley or two, to carry a nine-pounder in their bows, as they might answer a valuable purpose; but this I must submit to you. I want a whale-boat exceedingly, to reconnoitre the enemy; if one can be had, or built, and sent here, without retarding the other business, it would be of great service.

I am, gentlemen, with much respect, your most obedient servant,

JAMES CLINTON, Colonel.

COMMITTEE OF POUGHKEEPSIE TO COLONEL JAMES CLINTON.

Poughkeepsie, July 14, 1776.

SIR: We have sent off to *Esopus* for the Tory sloop there, and the ship-carpenters are busied in making fire-rafts. We would ask your opinion if it would not be best to purchase two other old sloops, which lash together with chains, two fire-rafts between each two sloops, and, if a northerly wind, sail them directly down on the enemy. When the rafts are completed, and if the ships have not passed your forts, we would ask you if we must not send down the sloops and rafts near the forts.

I am, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN BAILEY, Chairman.

To Colonel *James Clinton*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Albany, July 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I had the honour to write his Excellency General *Washington* on the 12th, by express, which I then communicated; I hope you will have received it before this comes to hand. Captain *Marquisie* has begged me for a letter to you, and to mention that he has lost all his baggage in the retreat from *Canada*: he is the bearer of this.

I wish you much health and happiness. I am, dear sir, with perfect esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock, Esq.*

P. S. Mr. *Marquisie* has received from me eighty dollars on account.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, July 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Soon after *Bennet* had left me, I received a line from General *Gates*, covering a paper, copy of which I have the honour to enclose.

Yesterday a discovery was made of some desperate designs of the Tories in this quarter. I am bound by oath not to divulge names or particulars. Such measures are taken that the danger is, I hope, over; and about one o'clock this morning four of the conspirators (amongst whom is a ring-leader) were apprehended about three miles from town. I have ordered two companies of *Van Schaick's* immediately to march from *Fort George* to this place.

I am, dear sir, most truly, your Excellency's obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, July 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The bearer, Captain *Marquisie*, a French gentleman, sent by Congress as an Engineer to the Northern Department, is on his return to *Philadelphia*, and has entreated me to introduce him to your Excellency. I do not know what his abilities are as an engineer; he appears to be a modest and discreet man.

I am, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

## H. SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Pursuant to general orders which came to hand this day, I have sent a lad, who is a fifer in Captain *Coughran's* company in one of the new regiments that is now raising, which lad has been lately to *Crown-Point* with his father, and has taken the small-pox. The father of the lad is named *Seth Stow*, and the lad's name is *Abijah*. In my opinion, the father of this lad, as being a recruiting sergeant, should be made to suffer for his contempt of general orders. Your Honour will best know how to act when he arrives at *Ticonderoga*.

I am, dear sir, your very humble servant,

HAR. SCHUYLER,

*Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General.*

To the Honourable General Gates.

## CAPTAIN VEEDERS TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am but lately arrived here with part of my company; expect the remainder very soon. Came by the way of *Ticonderoga*, but by General *Schuyler* ordered to this station. And having no ammunition for my men, and appointed here as a guard, I thought it my duty, as soon as I conveniently could, to acquaint your Honour, or any other commanding in your room, of our want of such necessaries. I therefore beg your Honour will, as soon as may be, send what quantity you think will best suit our present situation. A quantity of flints, with powder and ball, will be very necessary.

I am, dear sir, your very humble servant,

ABM. VEEDERS, *Captain.*To the Hon. General Gates, *Ticonderoga*.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER AT FORT GEORGE TO HIS FRIEND, AN OFFICER IN NEW-YORK, DATED JULY 14, 1776.

I never knew the fatigues of a campaign until I arrived at *Canada*. The most shocking scenes that ever appeared in a camp were constantly exhibited to view. When General *Sullivan* arrived in *Canada* the Army was torn in pieces by sickness and other unaccountable occurrences. A whole regiment was not to be found together. General *Sullivan*, with his usual activity and alertness, collected together a debilitated, dispirited army, tried the strength of the enemy, who were at least four to our one, and performed one of the most remarkable retreats that was ever known. No person who was not present can conceive a tenth part of the difficulties attending it: the enemy at our heels; three thousand of our men sick of the small-pox, and those who were most healthy like so many walking apparitions; all our baggage, stores, and artillery, to be removed, officers as well as men all employed in hauling cannon, &c. Our batteaus loaded, were all moved up the rapids six miles; one hundred of them were towed by our poor wearied men up to their arm-pits in water. This was performed in one day and a half, our sick and baggage all safely landed at *St. John's*, and from thence at *Crown-Point*, with the loss of only three cannon, which were but poor ones. All this was accomplished through the amazing exertions of General *Sullivan*, who performed what appeared to be almost impossible to have been done by mortal man. He is now on his way to *New-York*.

## GENERAL GATES TO LIEUTENANT GANSEVOORT.

Tyonderoga, July 14, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Lieutenant *Tenbrook*, has the care of thirteen *Indians*, sent hither from *Crown-Point* with a letter to Major-General *Schuyler*. The small-pox is broke out upon one of the young *Indian* lads. You will order the surgeons at your post to give all the assistance in their power to recover him. When the *Indians* incline to go on to *Albany*, you will send an escort with them to see them safe to General *Schuyler*. Though they are considered in the light of prisoners, I would recommend that their imprisonment be made as easy as possible. You will order them to

be supplied with such refreshments and accommodations as your post affords.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Lieutenant *C. Gansevoort*, or Commanding Officer at *Fort George*.

## GENERAL GATES TO HERMANUS SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, July 14, 1776.

SIR: The iron, axes, &c., which you wrote for yesterday, are sent you by the conveyance. General *Waterbury*, who presents you this letter, goes to *Skenesborough* to wait for the Militia who are upon their march from *Connecticut*, and will soon be with you. He has General *Schuyler's* directions for several things to be immediately done at your post, which he will acquaint you with upon his arrival. You will act in conjunction with General *Waterbury*, and do your utmost, with his command and assistance, to forward the publick service.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Mr. *Hermanus Schuyler*.

## GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 14, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I have this morning sent off Colonels *Maxwell's* and *Winds's* regiments, with most of the artillery and stores. Want of boats prevented my sending off all the sick and companies of artillery. I have just sent off the last boats we had to *Onion River*, and other places, for boards; believe I can procure twenty or thirty thousand feet, and send you, in a few days. We shall have occasion for at least one hundred boats, to take up all the Army, unless part of them should march by land. If you think proper to order the Army to *Ticonderoga*, will it not be necessary to keep one regiment here?

Enclosed is the sentence of a general court-martial, who have thought proper to dismiss Colonel *Campbell* the service. He is under confinement, and will be glad to know if his sentence is confirmed or not. I am surprised we hear nothing from *New-York*.

I am, dear General, your affectionate and obedient humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Major-General Gates.

## CAPTAIN BROWNSON TO GENERAL GATES.

Pittsford, July 14, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: At seven o'clock last evening one *Brica Dunlap*, of Captain *Jones's* company, of the First Battalion, under Colonel *De Haas*, of the *Pennsylvania* forces, who I confined on the 7th of last *May* near *Point de Trembles* for the murder of Corporal *Kelly*, belonging to said company and battalion, came to this post, when I immediately confined him. Having sent off all my men scouting except a few, (and they have not had the small-pox,) which disenables me to send said prisoner back, I have sent an express, waiting your Honour's direction respecting the prisoner.

As your Honour gave Colonel *Warner* orders to send a party of men to *Sisco Bay* to burn *Medcalf Mills*, before he arrived at this post I had sent off the men in scouting parties, so that there were not men sufficient to perform it. Till some come in, which I expect soon, whether it would not forward the business to send to Colonel *Wait* orders to do it, your Honour's wisdom can determine. Your command by the express will be punctually obeyed by your Honour's very humble servant at command,

GIDEON BROWNSON, *Captain.*His Honour Major-Gen. *Gates*, Commander at *Crown-Point*.

N. B. The express was present when the murder was committed.

## EBENEZER BARTRAM TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, July 14, 1776.

HONoured SIR: I take the liberty to inform your Honour that this day the brig *Defence* came from *Newport*, and arrived here; and in our cruise, of which your Honour has had infor-

mation, in the engagement with the ship and brig, (by the side of the ship, and the brig lying right astern,) and not being in our power to fire on the brig, we had to suffer their fire near two hours, until both were compelled to strike, by the brave activity of our worthy Captain, who behaved like the seaman, like the gentleman, and like a man of honour. Therefore, honoured sir, if you have any promotions to make, it is my opinion that Captain *Harding* is as deserving a gentleman as any in the Colony of *Connecticut*, without exception; and I must applaud the gallant behaviour of Lieutenant *Smedley*, and likewise the other officers and men, who behaved in the most brave manner. If any promotion to Captain *Harding*, may it please your Honour to let me know the gentleman whom your Honour appoints to succeed Captain *Harding*.

With due respect, I am, your Honour's humble servant,  
EBENEZER BARTRAM.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., *Lebanon*.

ANDREW HAMILTON TO JABEZ FISHER.

Springfield, July 14, 1776.

SIR: Major *Pyncheon* informed me that the honourable Board of Council intended taking my case into consideration. Should it be agreeable to them to release me from my present disagreeable situation, I will be ready to wait on them, and give them any reasonable assurances for my future behaviour that they may think requisite.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

ANDREW HAMILTON.

To the Honourable *Jabez Fisher*, Esq.

SIR: You may remember, when I saw you at *Watertown*, I told you I knew of nothing that could be alleged against Mr. *Hamilton*, since his stay amongst us, that would prevent his discharge. I am, sir, still of the same opinion. He is still very desirous of the same; and should the honourable Board see fit to do it, he is ready to give any assurances to them that they will require for his future conduct.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM PYNCHON, JUN.

To the Honourable *Jabez Fisher*, Esq.

COLONEL CHILD TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Chester, July 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Pursuant to my direction, I proceeded to *Ipswich*, *Salem*, and *Marblehead*, in quest of guns; purchased twenty-three, the price about ten dollars each; also, by Colonel *Bayley's* advice, bought two hundred weight of lead. The amount of the whole is £77. Am forwarding the same as fast as possible. Have received the guns you lodged at Mr. *Webster's*. The expense of buying, freight, &c., I cannot now ascertain. Will forward an account as soon as possible. Any commands you may have further for me shall be punctually complied with.

In haste, I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JONATHAN CHILD.

To the Committee of Safety at *Exeter*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ONE OF THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY AT ANNAPOLIS TO HIS FRIEND IN BALTIMORE, DATED MONDAY, JULY 15, 1776.

The Council of Safety have this moment received information, by express, from Colonel *Barnes*, of *St. Mary's* County, that Lord *Dunmore* had been compelled by the *Virginians* to remove from *Gwin's Island*; that on *Saturday* morning he made his appearance off *Point Lookout*, in the mouth of *Potomack*, with a fleet of fifty-five sail, including eight square-rigged vessels; that on *Sunday* morning he had got as high up the river as *St. George's Island*, in the mouth of the *St. Mary's River*, and that he (Colonel *Barnes*) conjectured that his intention was to take possession of that Island; that the Militia in *St. Mary's* were all in motion, and that many of them had taken stations on the river side, to give him a proper reception, if he attempted landing on the main, &c. Two boats from the fleet, with five persons on board, (three whites and two blacks,) were either driven on shore by my Lord, or deserted, with the

small-pox on them. I think the former is most likely, because the villain would be glad to spread that horrid disease as much as possible. Those people informed Colonel *Barnes* that our good friend Governour *Eden* is in the fleet. This Island is a poor miserable place, it is said; if so, *Dunmore's* stay there will not be long; and where he will next push to is altogether uncertain—perhaps up the bay.

WILLIAM LUX TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Robert Saunders* has been on board the *Alfred*, Admiral *Hopkins*, ever since he first fitted out. He went on board at first as a pilot, when the fleet was intended for *Virginia*; but after their destination was altered, he remained on board, and was in the action with the *Glasgow*. He has testimonials of his good behaviour, and I believe will meet preferment in the Continental service; but, as you are intended to fit out tenders and gondolas, if it be agreeable to give him the command of one, I presume it would be more satisfactory to him; and when you direct, I will write for him to return.

Commodore *Bouchier* has sent up for Captain *Moore*, to go into the *Virginia* service; but as I made application to you in his behalf, I have prevailed on him to wait a day or two for your answer. I must say that I think him very clever in his deportment, and has, perhaps, seen more service than any other that will be in that employ, and should be sorry were he to quit the service of our Province. If, therefore, you choose to keep him as Captain to one of your vessels, you will please to write by Mr. *Yoks*, who returns early to-morrow.

You will want rigging for your vessels, which we shall hope to furnish; and, with much respect, I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM LUX.

To the Honourable Council of Safety, at *Annapolis*.

COLONEL JORDAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

St. Mary's County, July 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This serves to inform you that there is now lying off the mouth of *St. Mary's River* between seventy and eighty vessels. I am now at *Leonardtown*, on my way down, with part of the Sixth Battalion under my command, where I received an express from Colonel *Barnes*, (who is now at *St. Inigoes Neck* with the lower battalion,) informing me that this morning ten boats full of men landed on *St. George's Island*, and had returned for more. I expect to be opposite the Island some time this night, and shall endeavour to get the best intelligence I can of their numbers, and give the earliest notice. We shall want more powder and lead, and also flints, if they are to be had. Major *Eden*, by whom this goes, will inform you more fully. The Committee for this County sat this day, and have detained Captain *Forrest's* company until they hear from you.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JEREMIAH JORDAN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. Enclosed are Captain *Forrest's* and Lieutenant *Bond's* enrollments; the other two officers have completed theirs, but have not returned them to Captain *Forrest*. Captain *Forrest* desires me to inform you that his enrollment was completed the day before they were received by the Field-Officer.

JOHN DORSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

SIR: My son tells me that Captain *Nathaniel Smith* informed him that there is a vacancy in his company of a Third Lieutenantcy, and as he had not an opportunity of being pressed into Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion, I should be very happy in getting him with Captain *Smith* or Captain *Fulford*. Major *Price*, if in town, can inform your Honours of his behaviour while under him. If these vacancies should be filled up, he will continue with Captain *Smith* till he may meet with an opportunity of preferment. I hope you will excuse the freedom I have taken in writing to you on this occasion.

I am, with respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN DORSEY.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., *Annapolis*.



## WILLIAM HINDMAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, Talbot County, July 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We herewith send you, under the guard of Messrs. *Charles Troup*, *John Hindman*, and *Nathan Walker*, three of our Militia, *William Barclay Townsend*, who was this day presented to us under an authority from the Committee of *Worcester* County, to appear before your Board.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM HINDMAN, *Chairman*.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## SAMUEL BARRETT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Skipton, July 15, 1776.

SIR: By a resolve of our Committee I am to apply to you for eight hundred weight of lead to answer the powder received, we having no lead in this district, and therefore the powder is useless without the lead.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

LEMUEL BARRETT, *Chairman*.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., *Chairman* of the Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL SOMERVILLE.

[No. 34.]

Annapolis, July 15, 1776.

SIR: We received yours of the 14th, and by the same opportunity one from Colonel *Richard Barnes*, informing us that Lord *Dunmore* and the fleet were within the mouth of the *Potomack*, and, as he heard, intended to take possession of an Island called *St. George's Island*; but as their designs are uncertain, we think you had better give notice to your battalion to keep themselves in readiness to march to oppose any attempt they may make to land in your County, and likewise to assist in any neighbouring County.

Captain *Beall* will have orders from us to remain in *St. Mary's* County with Colonel *Barnes*, to watch the motion of the enemy, and to regulate his motions accordingly. He will move to you if there should be a necessity. We have written to Brigadier *Dent*, who will take the command of the Militia and regular forces in his district. You will communicate this to Colonel *Mackall*, if he should have returned to your County. We are, &c.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Alexander Somerville*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN REZIN BEALL.

[No. 35.]

Annapolis, July 15, 1776.

SIR: We expect this will find you in *St. Mary's* County, as we hear from Colonel *Somerville* that you marched from *Drum-Point* on the 14th. It is impossible for us to give absolute and particular directions to you, as the designs of the enemy are not known to us. We can only instruct you to watch their motions, and regulate your own accordingly. You will stay in *St. Mary's* County so long as you apprehend the enemy may have any design of landing there, or making any attempt to distress or plunder the inhabitants. If they should move from thence to any other part of the *Potomack*, or up the bay, to land on this shore, you will follow them with all the despatch you can. We have sent instructions to Brigadier *Dent*, to take the command of the Militia and regular forces in this district; whose orders, when they reach you, you will obey.

We are, &c.

To Captain *Rezin Beall*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL DENT.

[No. 36.]

Annapolis, July 15, 1776.

SIR: By different letters we have received from *St. Mary's* and *Calvert*, we are informed that the fleet under Lord *Dunmore* have appeared in the mouth of the *Potomack*, and it is apprehended they may attempt a landing on some part of that river in the lower Counties on this shore. We therefore think it expedient that you should give directions to the Militia of your district to have themselves in readiness to oppose the enemy in case they should attempt any hostilities. We think it expedient that, on this emergency,

you should yourself take the command, and remain with them till you hear further from us. As the Militia for the *Flying-Camp* are not in readiness, we conceive it will not interfere with your duty as Brigadier of those corps, and your presence will be much wanted at this time in your district. Captain *Beall*, with his Independent Company, is now at *St. Mary's* County, ready to oppose the enemy. He and his company will likewise be subject to your command. We shall be glad to hear from you. We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Dent*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO RICHARD BARNES.

[No. 37.]

Annapolis, July 15, 1776.

SIR: We have yours of the 13th, and are glad you sent for Captain *Beall's* company, who, we have the pleasure to hear, marched immediately to you. We would have that company remain with you to watch the motions of the enemy, and assist you in case they should attempt a landing. We have written to Brigadier *Dent* to have all the Militia in his district kept in readiness to march to your assistance, if there should be a necessity. He will also take on him the command of the Independent Company. You will, on all occasions, send us up notice of the motions of the enemy, and we shall order you every assistance in our power. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Richard Barnes*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN THOMAS.

[No. 38.]

Annapolis, July 15, 1776.

SIR: We have just received intelligence that makes it necessary for us to stop your proceeding up the bay with your company. We therefore desire that you will immediately return with it to *Annapolis*. We are, &c.

To Captain *John Allen Thomas*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN HINDMAN.

[No. 39.]

Annapolis, July 15, 1776.

SIR: We have just now received intelligence that Lord *Dunmore*, with the fleet under his command, is in motion about the bay; and as his designs are uncertain, we think it necessary, for the service of the Province, that you, and the company under your command, instead of proceeding up the bay to march to *Philadelphia*, should directly, with your company, come to *Annapolis*, where you may receive further orders. We are, &c.

To Captain *James Hindman*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL HOOPER.

[No. 40.]

Annapolis, July 15, 1776.

SIR: We have just received information, by express, from *St. Mary's* and *Calvert* Counties, of Lord *Dunmore*, and the fleet under his command, being removed from *Gwin's Island* a small distance up *Potomack River*, with intention, as we suppose, of landing at some place within that river; and if he should be unsuccessful in that attempt, we think it not improbable but he may endeavour to make a landing somewhere or other upon the *Eastern Shore*; and should that be the case, we have no doubt but that, upon the receipt of this, you will be in readiness, as soon as may be, with the Militia under your command, to repel every attempt that he may make to land within your district.

Should the Militia in your district be in want of powder, you will be pleased to apply to Brigadier *Chamberlain* for as much as may be necessary for your immediate purpose.

We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Henry Hooper*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN SMYTH.

[No. 41.]

Annapolis, July 15, 1776.

SIR: Be pleased to send down immediately, by the tender *Resolution*, two eighteen-pounders, with carriages, rammers, sponges, ladles, and worms, and a sufficient number of wads of all sizes, with five hundred five-pound shot.

We are, &c.

To Captain *Nathaniel Smyth*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL JOHNSON.

[No. 42.]

Annapolis, July 15, 1776.

SIR: We are in want of about twenty four-pound cannon, twenty three-pound, and twenty two-pound, and forty swivels, for the use of the Province, and desire to know whether you will engage to furnish us with these quantities immediately. If you can, be pleased to favour us, as soon as possible, with your terms, and the time by which you will have them made, though it will be much more agreeable to us to see you upon the occasion. We shall likewise want two hundred iron pots, some to contain four, and others two gallons, with bales or handles, to supply the place of camp kettles; and should be glad you would advise us whether you could also cast them for us, and by what time; likewise the price. We are, &c.

To Colonel James Johnson.

## BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, July 15, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman; William Lux, Vice Chairman; Robert Alexander, William Aisquith, Benjamin Griffith, Andrew Buchanan, John Cradock, Abraham Britton, John Merryman, Jun., James Calhoun, E. Talbot, Zachariah McCubbin, John Eager Howard, John Cockey, Isaac Griest.

Mr. *Abraham Evening* was imprisoned last *Thursday* for not giving security for his good behaviour as a Non-Associate; applied to the Chairman of the Committee to be discharged, in consequence of the Resolve of the Convention of the 5th instant; and the Chairman reports that he has accordingly discharged him, and delivered his portmanteau, which was seized.

*Habakuk Holton* having enrolled with Captain *Galbraith's* Company, the Fine imposed on him is hereby remitted, and a certificate given accordingly.

A Letter from the honourable Council of Safety of the 11th instant, respecting the building of a Magazine not less than five or more than ten miles from town, was received and read; on which the Committee appoint Messrs. *Darby Lux*, *John Cockey*, *Edward Talbot*, and *James Calhoun*, to view the ground at or near *Armstrong's Town*, to inquire the terms on which one acre may be purchased, and report the same on *Monday* next.

The Committee also appoint Messrs. *Benjamin Griffith* and *Isaac Griest* to draw a draught, and estimate the expense, of a house for the said Magazine, sufficient to contain at least four hundred barrels of Powder, and a proportionable quantity of Lead.

Application was made by Captain *Henry Shaafe* for a Warrant to recover Fines from *Andrew Hooke* for £2 10s., for non-attendance in his Militia Company; which was granted.

A Letter from the Council of Safety, dated *June 28*, enclosing a requisition of Congress for numbering the Inhabitants of the Colonies, was received; on which the Committee appointed the following persons in each Hundred of his County to collect the same, viz:

<i>Patapsco, Lower Hundred,</i>	<i>Job Smith.</i>
<i>Patapsco, Upper,</i>	<i>James Croxall.</i>
<i>Back River, Upper,</i>	<i>Benjamin Talbot.</i>
<i>Back River, Lower,</i>	<i>Job Garritson.</i>
<i>Middle River, Upper,</i>	<i>Benjamin Talbot.</i>
<i>Middle River, Lower,</i>	<i>William Galloway.</i>
<i>Soldier's Delight,</i>	<i>William Cromwell, (of Wm.)</i>
<i>Middlesex,</i>	<i>Henry Rutter.</i>
<i>Delaware,</i>	<i>Robert Twiss, Jun.</i>
<i>North,</i>	<i>Nich. Merryman, (of Mich'l.)</i>
<i>Pipe Creek,</i>	<i>Barney Hooker.</i>
<i>Gunpowder, Upper,</i>	<i>Captain James Bosley.</i>
<i>Mine Run,</i>	<i>Edmund Stansbury.</i>
<i>Deptford, Baltimore, East,</i>	<i>William Aisquith.</i>
<i>and Baltimore, West,</i>	
<i>Westminster,</i>	<i>George Welsh.</i>

And that each of the said persons be allowed one Dollar per day, whilst employed in said service, and render the accounts upon oath; and that printed papers, reciting the Resolve of Congress, per order of Committee, be delivered to each and every person employed as above.

Attested:

GEO. LUX, Secretary.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 15, 1776.

SIR: In perusing the enclosed resolves, which I do myself the honour of transmitting, you will perceive your letters of the 11th and 12th instant have been received, and laid before Congress, and that in consequence thereof, they have taken such measures as are calculated to expedite the raising the Flying-Camp, and to furnish them with articles of the greatest use and necessity.

I have written to General *Mercer* to march the Militia and Flying-Camp to *Brunswick*, or any other place in the *Jerseys* which he may judge best, provided it does not interfere with any prior direction from you. All the other enclosed resolves, I have likewise given orders to the proper persons to have executed.

I expect your several letters, which are now before Congress, will receive a speedy determination, and that I shall have the pleasure of forwarding the result on *Tuesday* or *Wednesday*, at farthest.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To His Excellency General Washington.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO CONVENTION OF NEW-JERSEY.

Philadelphia, July 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The article of lead being so essentially necessary for our Army, and the propriety of every Colony being furnished with it so evident, that the Council of Safety of this Colony recommended to the inhabitants to spare the lead weights from their windows, by which means they have been furnished with a considerable quantity, which has been run into ball; and part of which the Council of Safety here have willingly spared, and is now on the way to the *Jerseys*. But as, under the present exigency, that quantity is far short of what is wanted for the Army in *New-Jersey*, and every method should be used to furnish it, I have it therefore in charge from Congress most earnestly to request you to supply the Flying-Camp and Militia with all the lead in your possession, or that you can possibly procure. The exigency of our affairs will not admit the least delay; and I am convinced there is no necessity to use arguments to induce you to an instant compliance with this requisition.

I am to inform you, that as you have not enclosed to Congress copies of General *Washington's* and Brigadier-General *Livingston's* letters, no judgment can be formed by Congress concerning the contents of them, and to request copies of them to be sent hither.

Measures are taking in *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland* for forming the Flying-Camp; and, in the mean time, the associated Militia are marching in great numbers from *Pennsylvania* for the defence of *New-Jersey*. Ammunition has been and will be supplied by this Congress for the defence of *New-Jersey*. With regard to the pay of the Militia, I am to acquaint you that Congress will observe the same rule of conduct towards *New-Jersey* as towards other Colonies.

Four tons of powder are on the way to *New-Jersey*; and a large number of musket cartridges, well balled, will this day be sent forward.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Honourable the Convention of New-Jersey.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO DOCTOR WILLIAM SHIPPEN.

Philadelphia, July 15, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from Congress to acquaint you that they have this day appointed you Surgeon-General and Director of the Hospital for the Flying-Camp and Militia in *New-Jersey*, with the pay of four dollars a day. Should you accept this appointment, on a signification of such acceptance to me, I will immediately send you your commission.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of esteem, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To William Shippen, Jun., Esq., at Philadelphia.

SAMUEL ADAMS TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Philadelphia, July 15, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: I must acknowledge that, when you left Congress, I gave you reason to expect a letter from me before this time. You will not, I am very certain, attribute my omission to the want of a most cordial esteem for you. The truth is, I hardly know how to write without saying something about our *Canadian* affairs; and this is a subject so thoroughly mortifying to me that I could wish totally to forget all that has passed in that country. Let me, however, just mention to you that *Schuyler* and *Gates* are to command the troops—the former while they are without, the latter while they are within, the bounds of *Canada*. Admitting these Generals to have the accomplishments of a *Marlborough* or an *Eugene*, I cannot conceive that such a disposition of them will be attended with any good effects, unless harmony subsists between them. Alas, I fear this is not the case. Already disputes have arisen, which they have referred to Congress; and, although they affect to treat each other with a politeness becoming their rank, in my mind, altercations between commanders, who have pretensions so nearly equal, (I mean in point of command,) forebode a repetition of misfortune. I sincerely wish my apprehensions may prove groundless.

General *Howe*, as you have heard, is arrived at *New-York*. He has brought with him from eight to ten thousand troops. Lord *Howe* arrived last week, and the whole fleet is hourly expected. The enemy landed on *Staten-Island*. Nothing has been done saving that last *Friday*, about three in the afternoon, a forty and a twenty-gun ship, with several tenders, taking the advantage of a fair and fresh gale and flowing tide, passed by our forts as far as *King's Bridge*. General *Mifflin*, who commanded there, in a letter of the 5th instant, informed us, that he had twenty-one cannon planted, and hoped, in a week, to be formidable. Reinforcements have arrived from *New-England*, and our Army are in high spirits. I am exceedingly pleased with the calm and determined spirit which our Commander-in-Chief has discovered in all his letters to Congress. May Heaven guide and prosper him. The Militia of the *Jerseys*, *Pennsylvania*, and *Maryland*, are all in motion. General *Mercer* commands the Flying-Camp in the *Jerseys*. We have just now appointed a Committee to bring in a plan for the reinforcement, to complete the number of twenty thousand men, to be posted in that Colony.

Our Declaration of Independence has given vigour to the spirits of the people. Had this decisive measure been taken nine months ago, it is my opinion that *Canada* would by this time have been in our hands. But what does it avail to find fault with what is past? Let us do better for the future. We were more fortunate than we expected, in having twelve of the thirteen Colonies in favour of the all-important question. The Delegates from *New-York* were not empowered to give their voice on either side. Their Convention has since acceded to the Declaration, and published it even before they received it from Congress. So mighty a change in so short a time! *New-Jersey* has finished her form of Government, a copy of which I enclose. They have sent five new Delegates, among whom are Dr. *Witherspoon* and Judge *Stockton*. All of them appear zealously attached to the *American* cause. A Convention is now meeting in this city to form a Constitution for this Colony. They are empowered by their constituents to appoint a new Committee of Safety to act for the present, and to choose new Delegates for Congress. I am told there will be a change of men, and, if so, I hope for the better.

A plan of Confederation has been brought into Congress, which I hope will be speedily digested, and be made ready to be laid before the several States for their approbation. A Committee has now under consideration a plan of foreign alliance. It is high time for us to have Ambassadors at foreign Courts. I fear we have already suffered too much by delay. You know on whom our thoughts were turned when you were with us.

I am greatly obliged to you for favouring me with the form of Government agreed upon by your countrymen. I have not yet had time to peruse it, but I dare say it will be a feast to our little circle. The device on your great seal pleases me much.

Pray hasten your journey hither. Your country most

pressingly solicits, or, will you allow me to say, demands your assistance here. I have written in great haste.

Adieu, my dear sir, and be assured that I am, very affectionately, your friend,  
S. ADAMS.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, July 15, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: Yours of the 1st instant is now before me, and I am obliged to you for your intelligence. The affair of the agency you have heard is settled, and in your favour, and I hope another Delegate will be appointed to attend Congress, as you have resigned.

The marine affairs I shall leave to brother *Whipple*, who will inform you from time to time what is to be done.

The Congress and people here are engaged in making preparation for the reception of the *British* fleet and army in the neighbourhood of *New-York*. Lord *Howe*, with the *Germans*, &c., is hourly expected. I pray *God* we may be able to give a good account of them. The Confederation is agreed to by the Committee, and is before Congress; when they will finish it is uncertain. Two of the frigates here are launched. There is a report in town that General *Clinton* endeavoured to land his men at *South-Carolina*, and was repulsed with loss; I know not the particulars, and mention it only as a report. I hope you will excuse my not writing every week, as brother *Whipple* has written you everything of importance.

Major *Rogers* was taken up by order of General *Washington*, and having your letters of recommendation to us, the General ordered him to Congress to be examined; and though no absolute proof was made of his ill designs, his conduct appeared so very suspicious that he was ordered to be sent to *New-Hampshire*, to be disposed of by our Legislature; but before he was sent off, he found means to make his escape, and has not been retaken yet.

The Colony of *New-York* have fully acceded to the Declaration of Independence, so that it now has the sanction of the Thirteen *United States*. The unparalleled conduct of our enemies have united the Colonies more firmly than ever.

The Convention of this Colony are to meet here this day, who will form a Constitution for the Colony, and take upon them its Government; in the mean time the Constitutions of *Virginia* and *New-York* are in this city. I shall send them forward, and the Constitutions of the other Colonies as they are formed, as possibly something may be taken from them to amend our own.

Please to give my best regards to all friends, and believe me to be your sincere friend, &c.,  
JOSIAH BARTLETT.

P. S. Colonel *Roberdeau* is appointed a Provincial Brigadier-General; Colonel *Dickinson*, Colonel *McKean*, and Colonel *Cadwalader*, are gone with their regiments to the *Jerseys*; twelve hundred *Maryland* Militia are hourly expected in this city to join the Army in the *Jerseys*; Colonel *Miles*, with one thousand Provincial riflemen, and with him our friend Major *Patton*, have joined the Army in *New-Jersey*; in short, *Maryland* and *Pennsylvania* are all in motion. This day an Artillery company of Militia, consisting of fifty-seven men, with two brass field-pieces, and every necessary accoutrement, marched for the same place. Mr. *William Livingston*, of *New-Jersey*, is appointed a Provincial Brigadier-General. Our friend, Mr. *Deane*, is appointed Captain of Marines to one of the frigates here. He desires to be remembered to you.  
J. B.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JOHN ADAMS, DATED PHILADELPHIA, JULY 15, 1776.

My very deserving friend, Mr. *Gerry*, sets off to-morrow for *Boston*, worn out of health by the fatigues of this station. He is an excellent man, and an active, able statesman. I hope he will soon return hither. I am sure I should be glad to return with him, but I cannot; I must wait to have the guard relieved.

There is a most amiable, laudable, and gallant spirit prevailing in these middle Colonies. The Militia turn out in great numbers, and in high spirits, in *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, *Maryland*, and *Delaware*, so that we hope to resist *Howe* and his myrmidons.

Independence is at last unanimously agreed to in the

*New-York* Convention. You will see, by the newspapers enclosed, what is going forward in *Virginia* and *Maryland* and *New-Jersey*. Farewell, farewell, infatuated, besotted, Step-dame!

GENERAL ROBERDEAU TO RICHARD PETERS.

Philadelphia, July 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I enclose you the order of last evening, and my Major will parade the guards at the State-House yard; which is attended with so much trouble and reluctance in the Associators, who are more desirous of a campaign, that I intend to address the Convention on the subject, and to get distinct corps created for city guards, that the four companies may join their corps. If Captain *Peters* should be one of the officers it would make me happy.

I am, dear sir, your very obedient servant,

DANIEL ROBERDEAU.

To Captain *Richard Peters*, Secretary at War.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, July 15, 1776.

Whereas the Assembly of this Province, did, in a former session, resolve that "If any Associator, called into actual service, shall leave a family, not of ability to maintain themselves in his absence, the Overseers of the Poor, with the concurrence of one Justice of the Peace of the City or County where such Associator did reside, shall immediately make provision, by way of out pension, for the maintenance of such family; and a true and proper account being kept thereof, shall be returned to the Assembly, in order that the same may be made a Provincial expense, and paid accordingly:" And as it is the opinion of this Committee, that the funds of the said Overseers will prove greatly insufficient whenever any considerable number of Associators shall be drawn into actual service, and that the administering to the wants of such families, by the hands of the Overseers, will not be satisfactory to the Associators, or be likely to answer the good ends proposed:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That this Committee will, out of the funds of which they have the disposition, make such provision as shall be thought necessary to answer the said purposes; and that it be recommended to the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the City of *Philadelphia*, and the several Counties in the Province, to nominate and appoint a proper number of judicious persons, residing in the said City and Counties respectively, to distribute to such distressed families the allowance they shall judge reasonable; and that the said Committee be empowered to draw, as they shall see occasion, on this Board for the necessary sums of money, to be by them lodged in the hands of the persons so nominated and appointed, to be applied as above directed. The said Committees to return accounts to this Board of the expenditure of the same.

Extract from the Minutes:

WILLIAM GOVETT, *Secretary*.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Philadelphia County Committee, July 15, 1776.

*Resolved*, That this Committee, in consequence of a Letter from the honourable Continental Congress, as well as from a recommendation of the Provincial Conference, do proceed to raise our part of the Flying-Camp; and that the following gentlemen be appointed Officers: Colonel, *Robert Lewis*; Lieutenant-Colonel, *Isaac Hughes*; Major, *John Moore*, Esq.; Surgeon, *Enoch Edwards*; Quartermaster, *Marshall Edwards*; Adjutant, *Solomon Bush*. Captains: *Archibald Thompson*, *George Smith*, *Henry Deringer*, *Jacob Lauchlin*, *Rudolph Neff*, *Aaron Levering*, *Christian Schnyder*, *Henry Pawling*, *Joseph Jones*. First Lieutenants: *Marshall Edwards*, *Solomon Bush*, *Samuel Swift*, *William Wilson*, *Casper Doll*, *Samuel Hains*, *Graudus Schlatter*, *Mordecai Morgan*, *David Schrack*, *Stephen Porter*, *Thomas Rossetter*. Second Lieutenants: *William Armstrong*, *Leonard Doll*, *James Hazlet*, *George Brinlhurst*, *Matthew Holgate*, *Jesse Roberts*, *Alexander Hall*, *Peacock Major*. Ensigns: *Andrew Barge*, *William North*, *William Noa*, *Abraham Duffield*, *Nathaniel Childs*, *Alexander Wright*, *James Potts*, *Rees Nanna*.

Extract from the Minutes:

ENOCH EDWARDS.

Philadelphia, July 16, 1776.

Yesterday Lieutenant-Colonel *Allen* arrived in town from *Crown-Point*.

The Rev. *Jacob Duché* is appointed Chaplain to the honourable Continental Congress.

This afternoon the First Battalion of *Maryland* Regulars, commanded by Colonel *Smallwood*, arrived in this city, on their way to the *Jerseys*, where they are to compose a part of the Flying-Camp.

CARPENTER WHARTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 17, 1776.]

Trenton, July 15, 1776.

SIR: I have the pleasure of acquainting you that two thousand of the *Pennsylvania* Militia have arrived here, and that Colonel *Dickinson's* battalion have just marched for *Woodbridge*, agreeable to orders from General *Mercer*; and the whole body of the *Pennsylvania* Militia, as by his instructions, are immediately to proceed to *Woodbridge*. I have supplied them with one day's provision at this place, and at their arrival at *Princeton* they will receive two days' allowance, to last them until they arrive at *Woodbridge*.

Agreeable to your orders, I wrote to the Commissary-General respecting my supplying the Flying-Camp, for which he had appointed two persons; therefore shall not continue supplying them farther than *Princeton*. Colonel *Cadwalader* has written to Mr. *Trumbull*, desiring of him to admit of my supplying the *Pennsylvania* Militia, which, if it is agreeable to him, I will cheerfully continue. I have just received one hundred and fifty head of oxen, and five hundred head of sheep, and fifteen hundred barrels of flour, which will last but a short time in supplying the troops in only passing through.

The money I have received from Congress, I have expended in service, which the returns will specify. I am now in want of fifteen thousand dollars, which I flatter myself you will please to order, as it will require that sum to provide for the *Maryland* and *Pennsylvania* troops as they pass through to Head-Quarters. The bearer, Lieutenant *Joseph Bullock*, will receive and deliver me the money.

Should the honourable Congress not have appointed a Commissary of Stores for the Flying-Camp, I shall be happy in entering in that service, if I should not be continued for the supplying of the Militia, which I do not expect.

I have the honour to be your obedient humble servant,

CARPENTER WHARTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, July 15, 1776.

SIR: This will be handed to you by Mr. *Griffin*, who has also taken upon him the charge and delivery of packets containing sundry letters, which were sent to *Amboy* yesterday by a flag, and forwarded to me to-day by General *Mercer*. The letter addressed to Governour *Franklin* came open to my hands.

I was this morning honoured with yours of the 13th inst., with its important and necessary enclosures; and, in obedience to the commands of Congress, have transmitted General *Howe* the resolves intended for him; those for General *Burgoyne*, I enclosed and sent to General *Schuyler*, with directions immediately to forward them to him. The inhuman treatment to the whole, and murder of part of our people, after their surrender and capitulation, was certainly a flagrant violation of that faith which ought to be held sacred by all civilized nations, and was founded in the most savage barbarity. It highly deserved the severest reprobation; and I trust the spirited measures Congress have adopted upon the occasion will prevent the like in future; but if they should not, and the claims of humanity are disregarded, justice and policy will require recourse to be had to the laws of retaliation, however abhorrent and disagreeable to our natures in cases of torture and capital punishments.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.



GENERAL WASHINGTON TO ROBERT YATES AND OTHERS.

Head-Quarters, July 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In answer to your favour of yesterday, I beg leave to acquaint you, that I have consulted with such of the General Officers as could be easily convened, with respect to the prisoners confined in the Jail of this city. We are all of opinion, that to enlarge them, or permit their continuance here, is equally dangerous. No other course, therefore, remains than to send them to some place where they can be safely kept, can have no influence, and, consequently, do us no injury. If such a place could be conveniently found in the Province, it would be most proper; but if not, we are of opinion they should be sent to some other, and that without any delay. To obviate any difficulty which may arise from the authority of one Province sending its prisoners to another, I will most cheerfully coöperate with you, so as to give the measure the weight it may derive from my general command. The place which, in this case, has been proposed, is *Farmington*, in *Connecticut*.

The multiplicity of other engagements obliges me to solicit your attention and care to these matters, which are rather of civil than military concern; and I would particularly request you to consult and determine upon some method to remove persons out of town, whose conduct, connexions, and office, afford the strongest presumption of their remaining here with dangerous and unfriendly views to the *American* cause. An indiscriminate order to remove all who do not belong to the Army, or are connected with it, or have not taken up arms to defend the city, would probably involve many innocent and inoffensive persons in difficulty. On the other hand, to leave the city open to spies and emissaries from the enemy, and facilitate their intelligence, is totally inconsistent with common prudence. I must, therefore, beg your advice and assistance in this delicate and difficult circumstance, that while time and opportunity will admit some effectual measure may be taken to provide against so alarming a danger.

I am, gentlemen, with great truth and regard, your most obedient and humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Robert Yates* and others, the Committee of the Convention of Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The enclosed resolve and extract of a letter, you will see, are of some standing. Upon considering the matter, I do not see how it is possible for me to carry the resolve into execution, with tolerable precision or certainty. The persons, the witnesses, and all other circumstances, are so totally unknown, that any inquiry made by me must prove delusive and unsatisfactory. I am therefore under the necessity of passing it wholly by, or putting it under your direction, that as time and circumstances will admit, you will have it executed in the best manner you can, to answer the wishes and expectations of Congress.

Colonel *Nicolson*, of a regiment raised in this Province, requests that his conduct may be inquired into. I suppose he would be included in the above general inquiry, but as that may be long delayed, and perhaps never fully had, I could wish his case might be distinguished from the general mass. I expected to receive from the Commissioners of Congress who went to *Canada* some vouchers and proofs respecting him, as his conduct did not appear to them in the most favourable view; but none have yet come to hand. Lieutenant-Colonel *Vister* is, I understand, a material witness against Colonel *Nicolson*, and will direct to such others as are expected to support the charge against him.

I am very sensible the general inquiry requested by Congress must be a work of difficulty and delicacy; but as they seem to desire it very earnestly, I hope it is not impracticable. I should hope, upon a conference with Generals *Gates* and *Arnold*, some plan may be devised to comply with it. I am persuaded you will leave nothing unattempted on your part for this purpose.

Go. WASHINGTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Since my last, two of the enemy's ships—one of forty, the other of twenty guns—taking advantage of a strong wind and tide, passed us, notwithstanding a warm fire from all the batteries. They now lie in *Taupan Sea*, between twenty and thirty miles up *Hudson's River*, where no batteries from the shore can molest them. Their views, no doubt, are to cut off a communication between this and *Albany* by water, which they effectually will do. If the gondolas, row-galleys, &c., from *Connecticut* and *Providence* were here, I should think of making the enemy's station uncomfortable, if possible. I must request they may be sent on as soon as they conveniently can be. I have written Governour *Cooke*, requesting the same of him. It is but reasonable to suppose these ships have a number of small-arms on board, which are intended to be put into the hands of the disaffected on the *North River* and in the back parts of this Province, when a favourable opportunity may offer for their making use of them against us. I am sorry to say their numbers, by the best information I can get, are great. Enclosed is a letter I wrote the 11th instant, which, through mistake, was neglected by the *Thursday's* post. We have one large row-galley nearly completed, and another which may be ready by the time those arrive from your Honour and Governour *Cooke*. The whole, when collected, will be sufficient to attack the two ships up the river, as the channel they now occupy is narrow, which will prevent them from working their guns to advantage.

I am, with esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. Governour *Trumbull*.

[A similar letter written Governour *Cooke*, of the same date.]

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, July 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Enclosed you will receive a letter from Congress, which came to hand this morning, with a copy of some resolves, to which you will pay your attention, as their execution will be under your direction.

I have also enclosed a letter for General *Burgoyne*, which I request you to seal and forward to him as soon as you have perused the important and necessary resolves (of July 10) it contains. The spirited measures Congress have entered into, I am hopeful, will make the *British* troops more regardful of that faith which ought to be preserved inviolate between nations, and that the rights of humanity may not be infringed in future.

Admiral *Howe* arrived on *Friday* last, and we hourly expect his fleet. The same day, just before he came in, two ships-of-war, one of forty and the other of twenty guns, and three tenders, passed our batteries without any certain damage that I could perceive, though an incessant fire was kept up. They availed themselves of a brisk and favourable wind and tide. Our last intelligence is, that they are at *Taupan Bay*. You may readily conjecture a variety of bad purposes intended by this manœuvre.

I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

P. S. I wrote to *Fort Constitution*, and directed that intelligence should be forwarded respecting the ships passing by us to *Albany*, that precautions might be used to prevent vessels falling into their hands. You will give further directions in this matter.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL HOWE.

New-York, July 15, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from Congress to transmit the enclosed resolution to you. And have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant-General *Howe*.

[To General *Burgoyne* the same, enclosed in a Letter to General *Schuyler* this day.]

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL JOSEPH REED TO CHARLES PETTIT, DATED NEW-YORK, JULY 15, 1776.

After writing the above, a flag came in from Lord *Howe*. The General Officers advised the General not to receive any

letter directed to him as a private gentleman. I was sent down to meet the flag. A gentleman (an officer of the Navy) met us, and said he had a letter from Lord *Howe* to Mr. *Washington*. I told him we knew no such person in the Army. He then took out a letter directed "To *George Washington, Esq.*," and offered it to me. I told him I could not receive a letter to the General under such a direction. Upon which he expressed much concern, and said the letter was rather of a civil than military nature; that Lord *Howe* regretted he had not come sooner, that he had great powers, and it was much to be wished the letter could be received. I told him I could not receive it consistently with my duty. Here we parted. After he had got some distance he put about, and we again met him. He then asked me under what title General—but catching himself, Mr. *Washington* chose to be addressed. I told him the General's station in the Army was well known; that they could be at no loss; that this matter had been discussed last summer, of which I supposed the Admiral could not be ignorant. He then expressed his sorrow at the disappointment, and here we parted. I cannot help thinking but that we shall have a renewal of it to-day, or a communication of the business in some other way. For though I have no hopes that the letter contains any terms to which we can accede, or, in short, is anything more than a summons of submission, yet the curiosity of the people is so great, and if it is, as may be supposed, couched in strong and debasing terms, it would animate the Army exceedingly to do their duty.

#### EXAMINATION OF DESERTERS FROM THE FLEET.

New-York, July 15, 1776.

The examination of *Nathan Spicer* and *Mathias Isclton*: *Spicer*, a *Connecticut* man, taken by the *Cerberus* frigate, in the *Macaroni*, on the 9th of last *May*, left the *Prince Rupert*, a transport ship, *Sunday* evening, the 14th *July*, says: The troops have all landed, and have consumed all the fresh provisions—the sailors got none. The ships that passed us up the *North-River* were the *Phoenix* and *Rose*. Said they had gone to land men to come down on our backs. The fleet which left *Spithead* five days before Lord *Howe* sailed, is hourly expected. The *Eagle* and *Asia*, it is said, are to come up and fire on the town the first wind. The *Jersey* people killed one officer and four privates on *Saturday* night firing on the Island; this account they had from Lieutenant *Wheeler* of the *Thirty-Fifth* Regiment. No baggage yet landed from the ships. About nine thousand men in the Army. The ships weakly manned. The old troops seem disinclined to the service; the new, fond of it. Lord *Howe* had nine weeks' passage from *Spithead*. Lord *Howe's* fleet consisted of eighty sail of transports, two or three frigates, one sixty-four, and one fire-ship.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED JULY 15, 1776.

• Yesterday Lord *Howe* sent up a flag with the Captain and Lieutenant of the *Eagle* man-of-war. The Adjutant-General met them after some little ceremony, but as their letter was directed "For *George Washington, Esq.*," he would not receive it. The officers insisted much on his receiving it, saying it was of a civil nature, his Lordship being invested with unlimited powers, and was sorry that he had not arrived a few days sooner. This morning we have accounts that the ships, &c., which passed the town, are thirty miles up, opposite *Tarrytown*, where the river is four miles wide, and where they may lie safely. It is reported that they attempted to land, and were beat off. We expect another flag up.

#### NATHANIEL WOODHULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
White-Plains, July 15, 1776. }

SIR: Your letter of the 14th was read in Convention. They see the importance of securing the passes your Excellency mentions, and will immediately take the measures you are pleased to recommend, and every other which they conceive will tend most to the security of this State.

Your Excellency was informed, by our letter of the 13th, of the precautions we had used in order to prevent any intercourse between the disaffected people of our State and

the ships of the enemy, and to repel any attempts they might make to land. They see the necessity of watching with the utmost vigilance the steps of the Tories in this and the neighbouring Counties, and shall give your Excellency the earliest notice of any resolution that they may form for this purpose.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

#### NATHANIEL WOODHULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
White-Plains, July 15, 1776. }

SIR: One or two pettiangers have been observed going to and from the ships of war at *Tarrytown*. Had the detachment of Militia stationed there been supplied with boats, they would certainly have taken them. The Convention, therefore, take the liberty of requesting your Excellency to send them four whale-boats, which they will take care to man.

I am directed by the Convention to transmit the enclosed resolution to your Excellency; and have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient servant.

By order: NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

#### WESTCHESTER (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Safety for the County of Westchester, }  
White-Plains, July 15, 1776. }

Whereas this Committee has received the fullest information that many persons, unfriendly to the liberties of the *United States of America*, have frequent meetings in divers parts of this County, with intent to frustrate the measures now pursuing for its safety; and as this Committee conceives such meetings are dangerous, and ought to be prevented: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That if any person or persons shall, after the publication hereof, presume to allow or permit any persons (knowing or suspecting them to be unfriendly to *American* liberty) to hold any meeting or meetings at or in their respective houses, they shall be treated as enemies to their country. And all persons are hereby required to take up and commit to close confinement all such persons as shall act in opposition to this Resolve, and give in their names to the Chairman of this Committee.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., *D. Chairman*.

#### GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Montgomery, July 15, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 13th instant yesterday, at this place; previous to which, about nine o'clock on *Saturday* morning, the signal at *Fort Constitution* being given, and the masters of two sloops, which about the same time came to opposite my house, having informed me that the enemy had attacked *New-York* the evening before, and that they judged by the reports of the cannon that their shipping had passed by and were up the river as far as *King's Bridge*, I thought it my duty to put the neighbouring Militia in motion, and accordingly issued orders to three regiments: one immediately to march into these works, another into *Fort Constitution*, and the third to rendezvous at *Newburgh*, on the bank of the river, about nine miles above *Fort Constitution*, with orders to march and reinforce that garrison upon the next signal given. At the same time I issued orders to all the regiments in my brigade to stand ready to march on a moment's warning, and despatched expresses to all owners of sloops and boats, twenty miles up the west side of the river, to haul them off so as to prevent their grounding, that as many of them as were necessary might be ready to carry down the Militia to the Forts. The residue I ordered down to *Fort Constitution*, as I believe, by drawing a chain of them across the narrowest part of the river and fixing them properly to be set on fire, should the enemy's shipping attempt passing by, they would answer a most valuable purpose. Early in the afternoon of that day I marched into *Fort Constitution*, with about forty of my

neighbours, and in the evening came to this Fort, being nearer the enemy and better situated to discover their motions.

Yesterday evening I was joined by Colonel *Woodhull*, with between two and three hundred of his regiment; this morning, early, by Lieutenant-Colonel *McClaghry*, with upwards of five hundred of his; and I hourly expect parts of two other regiments; when these join me, I will draught out of the four, six hundred men, and employ them as your Excellency has directed.

I have ordered the Colonels I have called in to leave the frontier companies at home, to protect the country against the *Indians*, should they be troublesome; and as many men out of each company as will be sufficient to guard against any attempts that might be made by internal enemies.

The men turn out of their harvest-fields to defend their country, with surprising alacrity. The absence of so many of them, however, at this time, when their harvests are perishing for want of the sickle, will greatly distress the country. I could wish, therefore, a less number might answer the purpose. I would fain hope the enemy mean, by their shipping in our bays, at present, only to cut off the communication between the country and city, and prevent our obstructing the channel. Many of the Militia may be called in in eight hours, some in a much less time, should there be occasion for them.

Since writing the above, I received a letter from Colonel *Hay*, of *Haverstraw*, a copy of which is enclosed. I will send a small party down there this evening, or in the morning, but don't believe I shall be able to continue them long, as the Militia here will think it hard to be carried there.

The bearer, Mr. *Boyd*, who is well acquainted with this country, the fortifications here, and may be confided in, will be able to give your Excellency any further information.

I am, with great esteem, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. CLINTON.

P. S. I should be glad to know whether it is best to keep the sloops, &c., ordered down to *Fort Constitution*, there, as it may be attended with considerable expense; which, however, if they can be made to answer good purpose, ought not, in my opinion, to be regarded.

COLONEL HAMMAN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Tarrytown, July 15, 1776.

May it please your Excellency to take into consideration our humble petition. Whereas two of the enemy's ships of war, with their barges and their tenders, are arrived up the *North River* as far as *Tarrytown*, we suppose with a hostile design to distress us; with the concurrence of the Congress and assistance of the Committee, and by the forwardness of a number of volunteers, a considerable number of people are collected to our assistance, most of whom are very anxious about their harvests, which are now fit for collection, and in a suffering condition for want of labourers. We therefore humbly petition your Excellency to send us such a number of troops as your Excellency shall judge proper, to rescue the inhabitants up and down the river from the cruel designs of the enemy. As to further particulars, must beg leave to refer your Excellency to the bearer, Captain *Dutcher*.

In the name of the officers here present, I have the honour to subscribe myself your Excellency's most obedient,

JAMES HAMMAN,

Lieutenant-Colonel of the First Battalion of Militia in Westchester County.

To the Hon. George Washington, Esq., &c.

EGBERT BENSON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Red-Hook, July 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received a letter yesterday from General *Washington*, informing that two ships of war had sailed up *Hudson's River*, with design, as supposed, to seize the passes in the Highlands, and requesting that the Militia of this County and from the western towns in *Connecticut* might instantly march to secure those posts. The letter I immediately transmitted to Brigadier *Ten Broeck*, and despatched the necessary expresses to *Connecticut*.

This general call of our Militia will be attended with many difficulties, which has induced me to write you on the

subject, in order that we may have the advice of the Convention, and that the peculiar circumstances of our County may be taken into consideration. I conceived it a matter of such importance that I have hired an express to convey this letter.

In no part of the Colony have the resolutions of Congress respecting dangerous and disaffected persons been so strictly executed as in this County. Agreeably to those resolutions we have disarmed a great number of people, and the arms have been applied either to arm the companies from time to time raised in the County, or sent to the forts in the Highlands, for the use of the troops in garrison there, and consequently the County is entirely deprived of them, without a possibility (as there are none either manufactured or to be purchased) of procuring others in their stead. Not only so, but many of our friends have parted with their arms to the Continental forces, out of zeal for the cause; and very lately, upon a very pressing letter from Colonel *Clinton*, the Whigs in this neighbourhood spared him seventy-five muskets, conceiving that we had much better be without arms ourselves than that the troops, whom we were obliged daily to pay and subsist, and stationed in places subject to an immediate attack, should remain unarmed.

The number of persons in the County who, by these means, are destitute of arms, must be considerable. In the precinct where I live, (than which I doubt whether there are two in the County where there is less disaffection,) the Militia of which consists of about four hundred men, upwards of one hundred have been disarmed for that cause, besides many who have sold their arms from the motives I mentioned; and I am informed by a gentleman who attended the late reviews, that of some regiments the entire rear and great part of the centre ranks were without arms.

To disarm people because they were supposed too dangerous to be entrusted with arms—which, indeed, was the case—and it being out of their power either to procure them again, or others in their stead, and then to call these people out to action, appears rather inconsistent. But even admitting we could equip them properly, it is a matter well worth considering, the danger of bringing a number of persons, (and the number will be great if our whole Militia marches,) actually our enemies, into the field to oppose an army which they are daily seeking opportunities to join. On the other hand, to permit them to remain at ease, without compelling them to bear their part of the burden, is unreasonable, and will be productive of clamour and dissatisfaction, if not entirely prevent others from turning out in defence of their country. It is true, we have always obliged the Tories to appear in the ranks and be subject to be draughted, because we knew that in most cases they would hire others to serve in their stead, (I mean when the draughts were intended to form a part of the Army;) and such as were not of sufficient ability for that purpose have deserted, and lurked in the woods, and were the occasion of the late insurrection. We have always thought we should be happy if we were capable of combating our internal foes, and leave those from without to be resisted in some other way.

Our Militia, merely as a Militia, seems to be not properly the subject of a general call; or, in other words, considering how many are unarmed, and how many, from their enmity to our cause, should be confined at home, were they even disposed to march, the inhabitants of this County, collectively, cannot be formed into a Militia for every purpose. What is the proper remedy, I will not pretend to determine.

I take the liberty of mentioning the expedient I proposed when last before Congress, namely, that, without depending upon the Militia, a certain military force or corps should be raised to act in its stead. If it should be deemed unreasonable that it should be at the expense of the Colony, let it be a County charge; the expense will be great, it is true, but it will then be an equal, whereas it is now a partial tax. I have no digested plan for raising this corps or body of men to serve in lieu of the Militia. Suppose they were to have a trifling pay when at home, (for they need not always be imbedded,) and when in actual service the Continental allowance. I would propose that certain superintending officers should always be in pay, who should constantly go through the County and see that the men were trained, equipped, and furnished with ammunition. I fear that, estimating the strength of the Militia by the number of men in the County, we may rely too much on them, and be fatally deceived.

But there is another matter, which I would not choose to make publick, and that is, you cannot command the Militia throughout the County. Your Government is not firmly enough established for the people to yield a willing obedience; and I think it dangerous at this critical time to put it to the test. A successful resistance in one instance might be attended with very serious consequences. I can appeal to some of you that I have made the Militia of the County the object of my attention for some time, and the result of my observations and reflections has been, that, as they are now circumstanced, we shall derive very little, if any, advantage from them in the present conflict.

Upon the whole, considering how critical affairs are become with respect to us, and that by these ships sailing up the river the seat of war is in some measure transferred to our own borders, it is high time, nay, it will not admit of the least delay, to provide for the safety of the County in some way independent of the Militia. Do not let the fear of expense deter you. Our all is at stake, and I am not convinced that the least expensive mode of warfare is by suffering the whole body of farmers to be called out and harassed upon every occasion.

I remain your very humble servant,

EGBERT BENSON.

To the Representatives of the County of *Dutchess*, in the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

N. B. The Militia from the extreme part of the County have marched to the southward. Should they not have been kept as a reserve, in case of a disaster to the northward?

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ALBANY, DATED JULY 15, 1776.

Last *Saturday* evening a plot was discovered here, (by confession of two Tories,) that this week the town was to be set on fire in different places, and the Magazine blown up. Yesterday between two and three hundred men went out with their arms to take up those scoundrels, who, by information, were skulking in the woods, &c., and they have taken several of them. As there are no soldiers in town, the inhabitants watch twenty-four hours round, to guard the Tory Jail, Magazine, &c.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: After suitable regards to your Excellency, I here send a return of the number of men, and their occupation, now at this place, and likewise the quantity of provision of all sorts as given in to me. I must likewise acquaint your Excellency that I think the business is going on very lively, according to the number of men. Colonel *Schuyler* and myself have viewed the ground east of the Mill, and we think it proper to have a small guard placed there, with a breastwork, to keep the *Indians* from burning the Mills, and I shall do it as soon as possible. I hope the men from *Connecticut* will be in soon, as we may go on with more speed; and am, with the greatest esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*, *Ticonderoga*.

P. S. Colonel *Schuyler* desired I would mention it to your Excellency that he was out of rum, and that he feared the men would get sick by drinking this bad water without a little rum; therefore he would take it as a favour if some might be sent down for the labouring men. There is likewise great want of some peas.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, July 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Last night I received your favour of the 14th. I sent you yesterday fifty-four batteaus, under the care of a Captain of Colonel *Wayne's* regiment. This afternoon forty more batteaus will go from hence to *Crown-Point*. I do not think it necessary for any of the regiments to march by land to *Tyonderoga*, as I will take care to supply batteaus sufficient for the conveyance of the whole. As we have so much work to do here, I cannot see how a regiment can be spared to remain at *Crown-Point*. The vessels will be there

as soon as possible. I hope the Commodore will sail to-morrow; and if our naval force cannot protect that part of the lake from invasion, I do not think one regiment will be able to do it.

I shall not approve or disapprove of Colonel *Campbell's* court-martial; that must be left to General *Schuyler*, to whom it is referred. Colonel *Hazen* complains of several irregularities in the proceedings against him, and in particular of his not being tried by a court composed entirely of Field-Officers. Where this can be done, a Colonel has an undoubted right to demand it. Colonel *Hazen* further alleges, that the members of the court ordered for his trial are not taken from the roll of duty, but named by his accuser. This (if a fact) is also very irregular. Colonel *Campbell* may be sent here, his arrest continued.

I am, sir, &c.,

HORATIO GATES.

To General *Arnold*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WATERBURY.

Tyonderoga, July 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: As the communication to *Skenesborough* from this place becomes an object of such importance, and the conveyance of provisions and stores by that communication will be so very necessary if we make our stand at the place proposed, it is essential that the road from *Cheshire's* to *Fort Edward* be immediately repaired and rendered easy for carriages. The obstructions in *Wood Creek*, by the trees which may have fallen across, must likewise be immediately removed. You will be pleased to stop a part of the Militia sufficient for this purpose, and urge the matter with all possible despatch. I should think it proper that the *York* Militia, and such part of the *Connecticut* as are necessary, should be stopped for this purpose. You will likewise post three companies of a regiment with a field-officer at *Cheshire's Mill*, and the other field-officers and remainder of the regiment at *Skenesborough Mills*, and let them erect some little works at each place for their defence. The tools necessary I will, as soon as it is in my power, supply you with; in the mean time you will endeavour to collect all that you possibly can. General *Schuyler* has engaged to send me a number of axes from *Albany* as soon as possible, but they cannot arrive yet.

I am, dear sir, your very obedient servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Brigadier-General *Waterbury*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 15, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received your favours of the 13th and 14th instant last evening, also a letter this minute respecting the cattle. I am heartily rejoiced at the good news from *New-York* by General *Waterbury*. I make no doubt the enemy will be baffled in all their efforts. The Paymaster is gone this minute for *Ticonderoga*. Two companies of the train went off early this morning. Six regiments were ordered off; so many artillery stores, &c., were remaining, that only four could be supplied with batteaus. If batteaus arrive this evening, the whole will go off to-morrow morning. To-morrow I expect to have the pleasure of seeing you.

We want oars for near thirty batteaus lying here, which are at present useless, as none can be procured. We have few cattle on hand; eight or ten yoke may be procured, which the Commissary will send to *Ticonderoga*. To-morrow Colonel *Bedel* and Major *Butterfield* are ordered up, and go off immediately. You may depend on my utmost exertion in forwarding our naval armament, on which I think much depends.

I shall detain the inhabitants brought up from below for the present, and shall be obliged to leave a small party here. I am at a loss whether I shall remove the families on the Point or not; most of them are inimical. I will forward on the troops as fast as possible. All that are able will be sent off by land.

I am, with great esteem and affection, dear General, your obedient humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

P. S. If oars can be spared, pray send us one hundred and fifty.



## COLONEL WINDS TO GENERAL GATES.

Shelburne, July 15, 1776.

SIR: I am here, by leave of General *Sullivan*, with twenty-six men, and have built a stockaded fort here for the safety of my men and the inhabitants. I this day heard that my regiment is ordered down to *Ticonderoga*; if so, would be glad to receive some orders whether to stay here or to go after them. I have sent a batteau for provisions, as we are just out. Beg the favour that the Commissary may be ordered to send some by the bearer, Sergeant *Edwards*.

From, sir, your very humble servant,

WILLIAM WINDS, Colonel.

To the Commander at *Crown-Point*.

## THOMAS BULL TO GENERAL GATES.

Manchester, July 15, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: The present alarming state of our country seems to call for every soldier to be well equipped with arms and ammunition. Therefore the town-ship of *Manchester*, lying under difficulty about ammunition, would make a return to your Excellency for ammunition for eighty men, as we cannot draw from the County stores.

From your humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

THOMAS BULL, Chairman.

## DANIEL TILLINGHAST TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, July 15, 1776.

Agreeable to a resolve of Congress of the 6th instant, I yesterday forwarded your Excellency three cases of fire-arms, (as per invoice enclosed,) to the care of *Nathaniel Shaw*, Esq., of *New-London*, who, I requested, immediately on receipt of the same, to send you without delay, and which I wish safe to your hands. I expect in a few days to be able to forward you a parcel more of the above arms, which I am to have from *Newport*, and you may depend I shall make no delay in doing the same.

I am your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

DANIEL TILLINGHAST, Continental Agent.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

## F. GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, July 15, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to the request of his Honour Governour *Cooke*, I have sent forward to the care of *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., the small-arms, flints, and cutlasses, imported by *Samuel Chase* for the Continent. Wish them a safe arrival at *New-York*, and your Excellency health, and the Army of the *United States* success against our common enemies.

Yours, with respect,

F. GREENE.

P. S. There are fourteen thousand five hundred flints, thirty cutlasses, and twenty small-arms.

## NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN., TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-London, July 18, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you have Captain *Jehiel Tinker's* receipt for three chests of arms, and one barrel and one keg of flints, as per invoice enclosed. The arms were sent to me by *Daniel Tillinghast*, Esq., the flints by Messrs. *Clark* and *Nightingale*, merchants in *Providence*, desiring I would forward them to you by the first opportunity. Hope they will come safe to hand; and am, sir, your very humble servant,

NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the *United States* of *America*, in *New-York*.

Providence, July 15, 1776.

Invoice of seventeen thousand Gun-flints, sent by *William Brown* from *Clark & Nightingale*, of *Providence*, to *Nathaniel Shaw*, Esq., at *New-London*, and by him to be forwarded to his Excellency General *Washington* at *New-York*, viz: No. 6, a barrel, No. 7, a keg, containing seventeen thousand Gun-flints.

Errors excepted:

Per CLARK &amp; NIGHTINGALE.

Providence, July 15, 1776.

Invoice of 117 Small-Arms, 89 Bayonets, 20 Broad Swords, and 3 Fusees, sent by *William Brown's* team from *Daniel Tillinghast*, of *Providence*, to *Nathaniel Shaw*, Esq., at *New-London*, who is immediately to forward them to his Excellency General *Washington*, at *New-York*, viz:

S. A. 3 cases containing *Scotch Arms*, taken by the *Andrew Doria* at sea, viz:

No. 1, a case containing 36 Small-Arms, 36 Bayonets, 2 Broad Swords.

No. 2, a case containing 42 Small-Arms, 42 Bayonets.

No. 3, a case containing 39 Small-Arms, 3 Fusees in cases, 11 Bayonets, 18 Broad-Swords.

Errors excepted:

DANIEL TILLINGHAST, Agent.

N. B. Nos. 6 and 7, a barrel and keg, containing 17,000 Gun-flints, sent in the above team to Mr. *Shaw's* care, by *Clark & Nightingale*, and are to be forwarded to his Excellency General *Washington*, with the above Arms, the first opportunity.

NEW-YORK, July 25, 1776.—I have received the within mentioned Arms, &amp;c., into Ordnance Store.

EZEKIEL CHEEVER, Com. Artillery.

## TORIES AT NINE-PARTNERS.

Hartford, Connecticut, July 15, 1776.

Last week, about one hundred and fifty Tories, in the *Nine-Partners*, and places adjacent, rose in a body, fell upon the Sons of Liberty there, disarmed them, and took possession of the Committee-Chamber, but were quelled by a party of near three thousand men from the western parts of this Colony, and about twenty of their number were taken and confined in prison. May their ringleaders soon receive the punishment due to such traitors to the *American States*.

## GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO NATHANIEL SHAW.

Lebanon, July 15, 1776.

SIR: I have sent you by Captain *Harding* your appointment as Agent for the Colony, for the purpose therein mentioned. We are informed by him that he expects a number on board his brig may soon be taken with the small-pox, as they were much exposed before he left *Boston*. If any should be taken with that infectious disease, you will take timely and prudent care for their being provided for, either at your pest-house, or at *Duck-Island*, whichever you may think most proper, or any other convenient place, where the utmost precaution may be taken against spreading the infection, and by all means to prevent it getting in, or spreading among, our soldiery. We doubt not of your attention to this, as well as every other matter committed to your charge. And am your obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., Esq., *New-London*.

## COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO CAPTAIN HASKELL.

In Council, July 15, 1776.

SIR: You being appointed Captain of the small vessel called the *Dove*, fitted out by this Colony for gaining intelligence respecting the *British* fleets and armies, you are, as soon as your vessel is ready, to sail for some part of the coast of *Nova-Scotia*, or you may cruise on the seas between *Cape Ann* and *Nova-Scotia*, and use your utmost endeavours for gaining intelligence as aforesaid; and when you shall gain any certain accounts of the movements of any considerable fleet of the enemy, and the course for which they have for some time steered, you are then, with all possible despatch, to give information to the Council of this Colony, and the Committee of Safety, &c., of the town where you may arrive, that such measures may be taken as the defence and security of this Colony may require; and you are to use all necessary precaution to prevent your vessel from falling into the hands of the enemy, whereby the good design of fixing out your vessel may be frustrated.

JOHN AVERY, Dep. Secretary.

To Captain *Robert Haskell*, Commander of the *Dove*.

## COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO JOSEPH HAWLEY.

Watertown, July 15, 1776.

SIR: The Board have attended to your letter of the 13th instant, and, upon the fullest consideration, are unanimously of opinion, that it may be of the most dangerous consequence to allow of such a delay in the marching of the troops destined for the Northern Department as must necessarily be occasioned by their being inoculated before they march. By the best information the Board can get, they apprehend there is a probability of suppressing that distemper in the Army at *Crown-Point*; and Brigadier-General *Bricket*, who is to command the reinforcement, and has not had the small-pox, is so persuaded of this that he has declared he would not choose to be inoculated before the march. The Board therefore insist that the levies should be marched with all possible expedition, as any delay may perhaps occasion a total defeat and dispersion of the Northern Army, the consequences of which must be fatal to every one.

The Board rely on it that Commissary *Trumbull* has taken effectual measures to provide for paying the mileage to the troops till they arrive at the stores, agreeable to his letter of the 11th *June*, as the Court, in answer thereunto, in theirs of *July* 1st, informed him that they depended upon his doing; and they understand that Captain *Farnsworth* proceeded to make provision accordingly; but as you do not hear of his arrival there, shall write to Commissary *Trumbull* on that head.

Enclosed you have a copy of the resolve directing what route the troops shall take.

## COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

Watertown, July 15, 1776.

SIR: The foregoing is copy of what the Court wrote in answer to yours of the 11th *July*, to which they have received no answer; nor do we hear of the arrival of any person at *Number Four*, for the services mentioned in the Court's letter; for which reasons, the Board have directed that you be furnished with a copy of their last letter, as any failure in that service may be of the most fatal consequences, the troops being now under marching orders.

If you have not already sent a person to make provision for this service, the Board earnestly desire that you would do it without delay.

To Mr. Commissary *Trumbull*.

## RICHARD NEWTON TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston Jail, July 15, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: I am very sorry to trouble your Honours so often, but necessity now obliges me to do it. Having been closely confined for upwards of three months, and no allowance of any kind made me, I am reduced very low, having been obliged to dispose of my watch, clothes, &c. I am also destitute of friends that will support me without payment. I beg your Honours will be pleased to order me some subsistence, or liberty to earn it, or otherwise I shall certainly starve. I defy the world to prove I ever wronged or defrauded any person living, or ever was concerned in plundering the town of *Boston*, or in any way assisting against *America*. I do not know yet what I am committed for. It can't be for being in the King's service, as I never was in it. All I have to add is, I humbly beg your Honours will order me some relief, or inflict upon me the punishment I deserve, if any can be found; which is all that is wished for by your Honours' most obedient and distressed servant,

RICHARD NEWTON.

[Acted upon, and released, August 15, 1776.]

## COL. BELLWS TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Walpole, July 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In obedience to the orders I received from General *Folsom*, of the 4th instant, I have raised seventy-three men out of the regiment under my command, agreeable to said orders.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

BENJAMIN BELLWS, Jun., Colonel.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

## COMMITTEE OF MOULTONBOROUGH TO JONATHAN MOULTON.

Moultonborough, July 15, 1776.

SIR: By *Daniel Beede*, Esq., we understand there was a prospect of obtaining, on proper security, from the Treasury, a sum of money to purchase fire-arms for this almost defenceless town. Esquire *Beede* informed us you were so good as to tell him you would join him in security for the money on a day appointed, which day he was obliged to leave Court on express; and he agreed with Captain *Josiah Moulton* to join with you for security for the money in his stead, by which we flatter ourselves you may have obtained the money. We, together with Lieutenant *James Brown*, (who waits on you with this,) were chosen a Committee for this town, to purchase the guns. Lieutenant *Brown* goes on purpose to consult you on the matter, receive the money, if it can be had, and purchase the guns, if they are to be bought. If any difficulty should arise in your mind in taking his security singly, we hereby engage to indemnify you in letting him have the money, and will, with him, be answerable for the payment of the same, agreeable to the tenor of the obligation he may give for the money.

We beg, sir, your forwarding the matter, and you will much oblige the inhabitants here, as well as your most humble servants,

BRADBURY RICHARDSON,  
NATHANIEL AMBROSE.To *Jonathan Moulton*, Esq.

## COURT-MARTIAL ON LIEUTENANT WILLIAMS.

Williamsburgh, July 16, 1776.

In consequence of an order from the Honourable Brigadier-General *Lewis*, for the trial of Lieutenant *Henry Williams*, of the *Virginia* forces, by a General Court-Martial, at *Williamsburgh*, July 16, 1776, he, the said Lieutenant *Williams*, was found guilty of behaving in a scandalous and infamous manner, unbecoming the character of an officer or soldier, was cashiered, drummed along the line at *Springfield* camp, through *Williamsburgh* and *College* camp, and, as a part of his sentence, is now held up with infamy to the publick, as a person not worthy of enjoying the common blessings of society.

JAMES HENDRICKS, President.

## ST. JOSEPH DASHIELL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Worcester County, July 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: When Captain *Kelly* was down, my sloop lay at such a distance, that we could not go to her, as they were in such a hurry; but I promised to send up her dimensions. He heard her character of being the fastest sailer in this place. Her standing rigging in good order; sails and running rigging very indifferent; forty-six feet long on deck, fourteen-and-a-half feet beam, and six feet hold. I consider her sails and rigging as worth nothing to the Province, except her standing rigging, and should not have mentioned her only for her fast sailing. I gave £150 for her last year, and if better to answer the purpose cannot be got, I am willing to take the same for her now.

This comes by a *French* gentleman, whom I have had at my house, and sent part of the way to *Annapolis*. He has papers which will show that he is desirous to enter into our service in defence of liberty, and from his experience, hope he will be serviceable. If you please, lay this before your brethren, and oblige, sir, your humble servant,

St. JOSEPH DASHIELL.

To *James Tilghman*, Esq., *Annapolis*.

## BENNETT BRACCO TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am extremely sorry that I am obliged once more to trouble you; but hope you will excuse it, as it is done through necessity. I have exhausted both money and credit to support the men under my command here, and assure you that, unless you furnish me very shortly with a sum of money for their subsistence, I shall be obliged to suffer the men to disperse, and let each man look out for himself. I expect that, in ten days from this, we shall be able to do duty, as the small-pox is very favourable.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

BENNETT BRACCO.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## RICHARD DALLAM TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Harford County, July 16, 1776.

SIR: In answer to yours of the 10th instant, which I received yesterday, I inform you I have twenty-two muskets, finished complete, and fifteen more ready for stocking, six of which will be finished this week. Harvest, and sickness of two of my best hands, and the bursting of twelve or thirteen of my barrels in my absence, have disappointed my expectations. Twelve of the guns finished have been proved with two ounces of powder and one ball, the remainder with one ounce of powder and ball; but if this proof will not satisfy, I will apply to the gentlemen you mention to prove them, though it will be attended with expense and trouble in taking them out of the stocks, and fitting them in again. What other barrels I make, I shall apply to Mr. *James Harris* to see them proved before stocked, as he lives handy to us, and take his certificate. I will deliver at my factory, or at *Harford* town, to your order, what arms I have or can have made in time, according to agreement; but will not deliver them at *Baltimore* town at my own risk and expense. As Colonel *Hall* is in this neighbourhood, will not a delivery of the arms to him answer? I believe I could get slings for the muskets, and scabbards for the bayonets, made here, if you would let me know the price given for them.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

RICHARD DALLAM.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety.P.S. I have not the least doubt but that my arms will please, and be found as good as any made in *Maryland*.

R. D.

## CAPTAINS BARNES AND ELLIOTT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 16, 1776.

We, the subscribers, having the command of the two companies of Militia on *Kent Island*, beg leave to inform you, that the people of the Island are much dispirited by reason of the removal of the Independent Company off the Island, and also of a number of young men who are gone to the Flying-Camp, which has weakened our Militia companies very much. And as the people are apprehensive of being plundered and driven off the Island very soon, unless reinforced, we therefore humbly desire that your Honours will immediately take the same under your consideration, and order a reinforcement to come to our assistance as soon as possible, or many of the people will go off; and, indeed, we are in some doubt that some of them will not take up arms, unless we have some other force to assist us; and then there is no doubt but that they will be very spirited, and will endeavour to defend the Island as long as possible.

This request we hope your Honours will grant us, or we shall be in a most deplorable situation, expecting to be plundered, and perhaps driven off the Island, if the enemy appears, which we hourly expect, as it is said the Island is intended as a place of rendezvous for them.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,

THOMAS BARNES, JUN.

THOMAS ELLIOTT.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## B. JOHNSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Frederick Town, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Meromy* has been employed by me, and acted as Adjutant to my battalion for two months. You will be pleased to give him an order for £12. I presume that it will be very serviceable at present.

Mr. *Williams*, I understand, declines accepting his commission in the Flying-Camp. I have not altered my opinion, but am ready to obey the command of my country.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

B. JOHNSON.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, *Annapolis*.

## GENERAL DENT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles County, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter contains the first information I have had on the subject. I shall immediately set out to St.

*Mary's*, and take every precaution in my power to guard against and repel the enemy. From the instructions heretofore given the Field-Officers, I expected to have had notice given me upon the appearance of an enemy as soon as possible; but no such thing have I had.

I am, gentlemen, in haste, your most obedient servant,

JOHN DENT.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

## ROBERT PORTEUS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 16, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I have been told that your honourable House has done me the honour of promoting me to a Third Lieutenantcy in Captain *Nathaniel Smith's* Company of Artillery now stationed here. If what I have been told be true, I hope I shall merit the appointment, as my study shall be in every respect to discharge the trust you are so kind as to put in me with every mark of honour. I would most readily do myself the honour of waiting on you in person, but I am this day ordered to mount guard to-morrow as one of the Militia. I coming in turn in our company, (*Baltimore* Independents,) and being one of the first subscribers to that company, and having been a member ever since its commencement, I make no doubt, if you have not yet appointed a Lieutenant to Captain *Smith's* Company, that you will think of me, which will be acknowledged as a particular honour conferred; and have the honour to be, gentlemen, your very humble and obedient servant,

ROBERT PORTEUS.

## JOHN SKINNER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, Nottingham Iron-Works, July 16, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with yours of the 8th instant, concerning the casting some small cannon for the use of the Province; in answer to which I have to acquaint you that the *Nottingham* Company's furnace under my care blowed out about five weeks ago. The remainder of this year will be employed in providing stock for another blast, so that we shall not be able to get to work again sooner than sometime next *January*.

I am, with respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN SKINNER.

## COLONEL TYLER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your orders, a company out of my battalion will be at *Annapolis* to-day; they are not quite complete, but will be made so to-morrow. The notice I had was so short there was not time to collect the whole battalion, which is the reason that some of them are badly armed. It was past seven o'clock on *Tuesday* morning before I received the orders. Colonel *Williams* waits on you with this, and, if necessary, will attend the company till relieved. I should have waited on you myself, but have just recovered from a spell of sickness, and being a good deal fatigued by attending the battalion yesterday, it would have gone hard with me.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

ROBERT TYLER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE COMMITTEES OF OBSERVATION.

[No. 43.]

Annapolis, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed we send you the Declaration of Independence, and the Letter that accompanied it from Congress to the Convention, requesting that it should be proclaimed in our Colony. We transmit the Declaration to you, that you may proclaim it in your County in the manner you judge most proper for the information of the people.

We are, &amp;c.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BENTON HARRIS.

[No. 44.]

Annapolis, July 16, 1776.

SIR: We received your letter by Mr. *Smyly*, and send you by him the sum of £150, currency, to defray expenses, for which you will hereafter render us an account.

We send you enclosed exact copies of the invoice that have been transmitted to us from Messrs. *Vanbibber & Harrison*. There is some variation in the article of powder, a deficiency of two chests or packages of arms, and a very large deficiency in the bolts or pieces of duck. You say twenty-eight only are received; there ought to have been twenty-three bales, containing each four pieces or bolts—in all ninety-two bolts.

We request you would exert yourself in getting our cargo according to invoice and bill of lading. Colonel *Hooe* is down loading his vessel. He, on application, will assist you; and Captain *Martin* himself ought to be applied to. We depend on your diligence and activity; and are, with respect and esteem, yours, &c.

To *Benton Harris*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of Observation for *Worcester County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COMMITTEES ON THE  
EASTERN SHORE.

[No. 45.]

Annapolis, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: It is impossible for us to attend so particularly as we could wish to the execution of every part of the enclosed resolves, and therefore must request the favour of you (though we are conscious it will give you a good deal of trouble) to assist us, as far as the nature of the subject and your situation will admit of, to comply with them; particularly in borrowing firelocks from such of the Militia as will lend, on the publick faith that the same shall be returned in the like good order as received, or, in case of loss, the value thereof, in having them valued; and also in collecting a sufficient quantity of blankets for the troops directed to be raised in *Queen Anne's*, and, if practicable, more, to make up the deficiency which we are apprehensive there will be in some other Counties.

We think it best that the defective arms for the companies to be raised with you for the Flying-Camp, should be repaired and fitted up in your County if possible; and as Mr. *Winters*, of *Chestertown*, (who is the only person we know of on the *Eastern-Shore* capable of undertaking it for the whole battalion to be raised there,) is already engaged in making arms for the Province, we should be sorry to take him from that business, unless through absolute necessity, and therefore request that you will exert yourselves in your endeavours to have them done without applying to him; if, however, you cannot accomplish it, you will be pleased to send them up to him for that purpose as fast as you collect them, taking his receipt for such as you may deliver. We desire to know how many arms you have in your possession belonging to the Province, and the number delivered in by, or taken from, those who have not subscribed the Association or enrolled in the Militia; and that those belonging to the Province may not be given out without the orders of this Board. We have already a sufficient quantity of cartouch boxes, bayonet belts, and slings, and have advertised for persons to contract with us for making knapsacks, with haversacks, priming-wires and brushes, camp-kettles, and canteens or wooden bottles; but if you can recommend to us any who can and will engage to supply the Militia with either of these articles, we shall be obliged to you. Steel ramrods we presume you can get made, but not bayonets, and therefore we have written Mr. *Hollingsworth*, of *Cecil County*, immediately to procure a number, a sufficient quantity of which we will endeavour to supply you with as soon as possible, upon being informed you can have the arms repaired and fitted. No period can furnish a greater necessity for your warmest efforts, and we trust you will not leave anything unessayed upon the present occasion.

We will send you, by the first opportunity, some cash to buy guns and blankets with, which we request you will lay out accordingly. We have not exceeded £4 5s. for a musket, with a steel ramrod and bayonet, but upon this occasion would have you go as high as £4 10s. Guns which you may purchase without either, ought not to cost so much that the necessary repairs and providing ramrods and bayonets will carry them above £4 5s., unless they are very good, in which case we will also allow £4 10s.

We are, &c.

N. B. There is a person on *Kent Island* who has repaired many guns for the Militia there, particularly in the locks, and we are informed is well qualified for the business.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE COMMITTEES ON THE  
WESTERN SHORE.

[No. 46.]

Annapolis, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: It will be impossible for us to attend so particularly as we could wish, to the execution of every part of the enclosed resolves, and therefore must request the favour of you (though we are conscious it will give you a good deal of trouble) to assist us, as far as the nature of the subject and your situation will admit of, to comply with them, particularly in borrowing firelocks from such of the Militia as will lend, on the publick faith that the same shall be returned in like good order as received, or, in case of loss, the value thereof on having them valued; and also in collecting a sufficient quantity of blankets for the troops directed to be recruited in your County for the Flying-Camp, and, if practicable, more, to make up the deficiency which we are apprehensive there will be in some other Counties. We wish the defective arms which may be collected in your County for the Flying-Camp should be repaired and fitted there if possible, and therefore request you will exert yourselves in your endeavours to have them done as expeditiously as you can. We desire to know how many arms you have which have been delivered in by, or taken from, those who have not subscribed the Association or enrolled in the Militia. We have already a sufficient quantity of cartouch-boxes, bayonet belts, and slings, and have advertised for persons to contract with us for making knapsacks with haversacks, priming-wires and brushes. But if you can recommend to us any who will engage to supply the publick with either of those articles we shall be obliged to you. Steel ramrods, we presume, you will be able to get made, but are doubtful as to bayonets; however, if you can provide them also, we would have you do it.

Mr. *Hanson* will deliver you this and we request you will lay it out in the purchase of arms and blankets. We have not hitherto exceeded £4 5s. for a musket with a steel ramrod and bayonet, but upon this occasion would have you go as high as £4 10s. Guns which you may purchase without either ought not to cost so much that the necessary repairs and providing ramrods and bayonets will carry them above £4 5s., unless they are very good, in which case we will allow £4 10s. We are, &c.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Although the Council of Safety of this Colony, by a recommendation to the inhabitants to spare the lead weights from their windows, and the lead from their houses, have collected a considerable quantity, which has been run into ball, and a part of which is now on the way to the *Jerseys*; yet it is by no means sufficient in our present exigency. A much greater quantity is still wanted for the Army in *New-Jersey*, and every method should be taken to procure it; I have it therefore in charge from Congress to request you will send by the return wagons, which are now on their way to your Colony with powder, as much lead as you can spare, and that you will order fifteen or twenty tons more of lead from the mines to this city as soon as possible. The state of our affairs will not admit the least delay; and I am persuaded arguments are not necessary to induce you to a compliance with this requisition with the greatest despatch.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

Honourable Council of Safety, *Virginia*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL FIELDING LEWIS.

Philadelphia, July 16, 1776.

SIR: The article of lead is so essentially necessary for our Army at this juncture, that the Council of Safety of this Colony, have recommended to the inhabitants to spare the lead weights from their windows, and the lead from their houses, by which means they have been furnished with a considerable quantity, which has been run into ball, and part of which is now on the way to the *Jerseys*. But as, under the present exigency, that quantity is far short of what is wanted for the Army in the *Jerseys*, and every method should be taken to collect it, I am therefore directed to request you will send by the wagons, which are now on their



way to your Colony with powder, all the lead you can possibly procure at *Fredericksburgh*. The state of our affairs will not admit of the least delay, and I am convinced there is no necessity for arguments to induce you to an immediate compliance with this requisition.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

Colonel *Fielding Lewis*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Congress Chamber, July 16, 1776.

SIR: I have only time to forward the foregoing resolves. By to-morrow's post I hope to write you on the subject of all your letters which remain unanswered.

I have the honour to be your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. Your favour of the 14th just received.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO M. KIRMOVAN.

Philadelphia, July 16, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of the recommendation the Congress have received of you, I am to inform you they have this day been pleased to appoint you an Engineer in the Continental service, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and the pay of sixty dollars per month.

It is the order of Congress that you immediately repair to *New-Jersey*, and put yourself under the command of the officer commanding the Flying-Camp.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Monsieur *Kirmovan*, *Philadelphia*.

P. S. Enclosed I send your commission.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Philadelphia, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Since I had the honour of addressing you on the 4th of *June*, at which time I transmitted sundry resolves of Congress requesting you to call forth your Militia; our affairs have assumed a much more serious complexion. If we turn our attention towards the Northern Department, we behold our Army reduced by sickness and obliged to flee before an enemy of vastly superior force. If we cast our eyes to Head-Quarters, we see the *British* Army reinforced under Lord *Howe*, and ready to strike a blow which may be attended with the most fatal consequences, if not timely resisted. The situation of our country at this season calls, therefore, for all the vigour and wisdom among us; and if we do not mean to desert her at this alarming crisis, it is high time to rouse every spark of virtue, and, forgetting all inferior considerations, to exert ourselves in a manner becoming freemen.

The intelligence received this day from General *Washington* points out the absolute, the indispensable necessity of sending forward all the troops that can possibly be collected, to strengthen both the Army in *New-York* and that on this side of *Canada*. I do therefore once more, in the name and by the authority of Congress, request and beseech you, as you regard the liberties of your country and the happiness of posterity, and as you stand engaged by the most solemn ties of honour to support the common cause, to strain every nerve to send forward your Militia, agreeably to the former requisitions of Congress. This is a step of such infinite moment, that, in all human probability, it will be the salvation of *America*. And as it is the only effectual step that can possibly be taken at this juncture, you will suffer me again most ardently to entreat your speedy compliance with it. In short, the critical period is arrived that will seal the fate not only of ourselves, but of posterity. Whether they shall arise the generous heirs of freedom, or the dastardly slaves of imperious task-masters, it is in your power now to determine; and, as freemen, I am sure you will not hesitate a moment about the choice.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

[The same to *Massachusetts* Assembly, *Connecticut* Assembly, and Convention of *New-Jersey*.]

In Congress, July 16, 1776.

Resolved, That Letters be written to the States of *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Connecticut*, and *New-Jersey*, setting forth the situation of our affairs in the *New-York* department, and pressing them immediately to comply with the requisition of Congress of the 3d *June*. That the situation of our Army at *New-York* be stated to the State of *Connecticut*, and that it be earnestly desired of that State immediately to send all the Militia thereof which can be spared into *New-York*, to reinforce the Army there, and continue in service until the proportions requested of the several States arrive.

Copy:

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, July 16, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 1st instant came duly to hand. There can be no objection to your contracting for guns wherever they are to be had. I find by the backwardness of the furnaces here, that they must be got somewhere else. Governour *Hopkins* has written agreeable to what I wrote last post. However, I think it would not be amiss for you to contract, if they won't spare you those already made, which they will, if they consider the good of the service, as they may make more by the time their ships are ready for them. You may depend the officers will be appointed agreeable to your recommendation; their commissions not being sent, need be no hinderance to you in engaging petty officers and men. Provisions I wrote you about last post. I agree with you that these matters have not been properly attended to, but I by no means take any part of the charge of neglect to myself; for no poor devil ever begged for alms with more earnestness than I have to get these matters settled, and am still determined, if possible, to have everything complete before I leave this. Two of the ships were launched here last week, viz: the *Randolph* and *Delaware*; but when they will get to sea is uncertain, as they have no anchors yet.

Independence was proclaimed in the Army at *New-York* last *Wednesday*, when the leaden King in the *Bowling-Green* was dismounted, and is by this time cast into bullets for the destruction of his tools of tyranny. May every one of them be properly commissioned.

We are daily in expectation of some grand military operations at *New-York*. The Militia are all marching from this Colony. The Associators are mostly gone from this city—Colonels *Dickinson*, *Cadwalader*, &c., at the head of their regiments. No doubt in a very few days twenty thousand men, if not more, will be embodied at *New-Jersey*, besides the Army at *York*. This Declaration has had a glorious effect—has made these Colonies all alive: all the Colonies forming Governments, as you will see by the papers. I expect there will be some interruption in the communication, but hope it won't last long.

In very great haste, yours,

WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

P. S. Please to send the enclosed paper to the *North End*. I have sent the play you mention to Mr. *Brackett*.

JOHN ALSOP TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yesterday our President read in Congress a resolve of your honourable body, dated the 9th instant, in which you declare *New-York* a free and independent State. I cannot help saying that I was much surprised to find it come through that channel. The usual method hitherto practised has been, for the Convention of each Colony to give their Delegates instructions to act and vote upon all and any important questions. And in the last letter we were favoured with from your body, you told us that you were not competent or authorized to give us instructions on that grand question; nor have you been pleased to answer our letter of the 2d instant, any otherwise than by your said resolve, transmitted to the President. I think we were entitled to an answer.

I am compelled, therefore, to declare, that it is against my judgment and inclination. As long as a door was left open for a reconciliation with *Great Britain*, upon honourable and just terms, I was willing and ready to render my country all the service in my power, and for which purpose I was

appointed and sent to this Congress; but as you have, I presume, by that Declaration, closed the door of reconciliation, I must beg leave to resign my seat as a Delegate from *New-York*, and that I may be favoured with an answer and my dismissal.

I have the honour to be, &c.

JOHN ALSOP.

In Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, }  
Trenton, July 16, 1776. }

*Ordered*, That the several Township Committees throughout this Colony do immediately exert themselves in procuring Lead for the use of the Army now engaged in our defence, as the demand for that article is very great and pressing; that, to this end, they do forthwith collect all the Leaden Weights from Windows and Clocks, and all the Leaden Weights of Shops, Stores, and Mills, of one pound weight and upwards; also all other Lead in and about Houses and other places; and that they forward all the Lead which shall by them be so collected to the hands of *Alexander Chambers*, *Abraham Hunt*, *David Pinkerton*, and *William Tucker*, of *Trenton*; *Hendrick Fisher*, of *Somerset County*; *Azariah Dunham*, of *New-Brunswick*; *John Ross*, of *Woodbridge*; *Isaac Woodruff*, of *Elizabethtown*; and *Dr. William Burnet*, of *Newark*, or any of them, Commissioners appointed for purchasing arms, &c. And the said Commissioners are directed to pay for all such Lead at the rate of six pence, Proclamation money, the pound weight, together with the reasonable expenses in forwarding the same.

*July 17th.*—Whereas the honourable the Continental Congress have declared the United Colonies free and independent States: We, the Deputies of *New-Jersey*, in Provincial Congress assembled,

*Do Resolve and Declare*, That we will support the freedom and independence of the said States with our lives and fortunes, and with the whole force of *New-Jersey*.

Extract from the Minutes:

WILLIAM PATERSON, *Secretary*.

GENERAL MERCER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, July 16, 1776.

SIR: I just now received the honour of your letter of the 14th instant, containing the instructions of Congress relative to the troops which are intended to compose the Flying-Camp.

Two battalions of *Pennsylvania* Riflemen have arrived at *Amboy*, where it is proposed to form the encampment, as most convenient for the protection of this part of the *New-Jerseys*, or for marching towards *Philadelphia* or *New-York*, should the operations of the enemy point either way.

The *British* troops remain cantoned along the shores of *Staten-Island*, by all our intelligence, to the number of eight or nine thousand. Three days ago, Lord *Howe* sent Lieutenant *Reeve*, of the *Eagle* man-of-war, in a flag, to *Amboy*, with letters to the late Governours from hence to *Georgia*, which were immediately conveyed to Head-Quarters in *New-York*. His Lordship left *England* before the fleet; had nine weeks' passage to *Sandy-Hook*; he touched at *Halifax*. I shall not fail to communicate every remarkable occurrence.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabethtown, July 16, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of Colonel *Reed's* letter, and the plan shown me by Major *Knowlton*, I have reconnoitred the enemy's posts, and last night had the assistance of Captain *John Mercereau* to bring some intelligence from *Staten-Island*. He undertook the service very cheerfully; told me he could go very secretly to his brother-in-law's house, who, it seems, resides back in the woods, remote from the parties along shore. The Captain informs that he got to the house, where his brother and wife were alone; that he told him there were soldiers in every house near the shore—the numbers rather uncertain; but on the Neck, where we propose an attack, I cannot collect, from his account and all observation, that there are more than six or seven hundred. Two creeks enclose this Neck all to a point of woods three or four hundred yards

wide. The principal posts of the enemy are three; the *Blazing-Star* is the lowest, where there appear to be from one hundred to two hundred men. The two other houses, about a mile or more asunder, do not appear to contain so many men. Some scattering houses on the Neck also have soldiers quartered, but, being more inconvenient and small buildings, cannot be supposed to contain many men. Every morning and evening a patrol of one hundred men passes into the Neck, from house to house, where guards are kept, and returns to some other post. This is the state of the enemy.

The plan of the attack which I propose, is as follows: To ferry over, between the hours of eleven and two o'clock to-morrow night, from *Thompson's Creek* to the woods, where the marsh is most practicable, fourteen hundred men—Colonel *Brodhead*, with four hundred *Pennsylvania* Riflemen, to pass over first and take possession of the ground, where the creeks form the Neck of smallest width, and there to lie in ambush from creek to creek; Major *Knowlton* to march next, with two hundred and fifty of his regiment, fifty *Pennsylvania* Riflemen, and fifty Militia, towards the *Blazing-Star*; Colonel *Piper*, with one hundred Riflemen and one hundred and fifty Militia, to take the road to the middle house in our view from this shore; and another Field-Officer, with a like number, to make towards the upper house. One hundred Riflemen and fifty Militia will remain for a reserve, to scour the Neck, and attack any scattering houses we may discover there. The orders to these parties will be, to proceed, if possible, under cover, and to remain near the enemy till daybreak, and then to make a vigorous attack; those at the upper houses to wait till firing is heard at the *Blazing-Star*, the most distant point. If the enemy attempts to pass into the Neck to the relief of their guards, Colonel *Brodhead* will have orders to place his men so as to form an ambuscade that may give him a great advantage; his men are, I think, to be depended on for such service. We propose, if successful, to retire by the *Blazing-Star*. For this purpose, not only the craft we cross over in from *Thompson's Creek*, but all others that can be collected along the shores, will be collected there by the parties stationed at our different posts near that place.

The clamour of the Militia to get to their harvest, has obliged me to discharge many. However, we have at *Amboy* seven hundred and fifty Riflemen; we expect two hundred and fifty from *Paulus-Hook*; and depend on four hundred of the *Pennsylvania* Light-Infantry, or Militia, to be at *Woodbridge* to-morrow; but should their march be so slow as to disappoint us, I shall have that number of Militia prepared in this quarter, without weakening too much the several posts we occupy on the *Jersey* shore. I shall endeavour to procure guides for the several parties. Your instructions for the improvement of the above plan will give great pleasure, and may ensure its success.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. The parties sent to attack the posts will have orders to send on a few men, if possible, to seize the sentinels and guards before they can give an alarm, which, if executed properly, may save our men. There are two field-pieces at our post, opposite the *Blazing-Star*, which may be employed to favour our retreat, if necessary.

All the troops for this service will assemble by to-morrow evening at *Woodbridge*, excepting those from *Paulus-Hook*, which I shall look for here by that time if your Excellency approves of going on with the enterprise.

The common talk on the Island is, that they will wait for the fleet from *England*, and then attack *New-York*. No encampment, but the men scattered all over the Island—no considerable encampment.

From some difficulties that occur with regard to the craft necessary for the enterprise, I begin to think it will be *Thursday* night before it can be entered upon.

Since writing the above, I am informed that a guard of one hundred men takes post every night on a point of woods nearly opposite to the mouth of *Thompson's Creek*, but not so near but we may possibly pass from hence along the *Sound*, and land lower down than was first intended; only we shall have a greater body of marsh to cross (said to be a mile) before we reach the woods; our craft is also to be taken round from *Elizabethtown Creek* into *Thompson's Creek*.

## GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabethtown, July 16, 1776.

SIR: I have just now received a letter from the honourable Mr. *Hancock*, containing the orders of Congress that I should march the troops which are to compose the Flying-Camp and Militia wherever the service requires, in subordination to your instructions.

When I formerly mentioned *Brunswick* as a proper place for that camp, my idea of the intention of raising and collecting an army here, was for the security of *Philadelphia* only; but as I find the design is equally to secure this Colony and *Pennsylvania*, or assist in the operations on the *New-York* side, I am well satisfied that *Amboy* will in every view best fulfil that intention.

I have to-day from Dr. *William Brown*, late of *Alexandria*, a request to interest your Excellency in his appointment to the charge of the Hospital for the Flying-Camp. Dr. *Brown* has served with reputation as a Regimental Surgeon, with Colonel *Woodford*, ever since regular troops were raised in *Virginia*. He is, I am well satisfied, worthy of any countenance from those in authority, and every way equal to the execution of the trust he desires. He wishes for a line to Congress from your Excellency, in which recommendation, if my being of the same profession could have any weight, I would most readily join.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
HUGH MERCER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. As the command I am honoured with necessarily engages me in writing more than may be consistent with other parts of the service, I beg to know whether the assistance of a Clerk or Secretary will not be allowed. I hope there will be no impropriety in appointing Mr. *Ross* to the post of Brigade-Major.

## COLONEL SEYMOUR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

City of New-York, July 16, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: By the positive laws of the Colony of *Connecticut*, establishing the Troops of Light-Horse, they are expressly exempted from staying in garrison, or doing duty on foot, apart from their horses. This being the case, of which the regiments under our command in this place are fully sensible, we find it impossible for us to detain them any longer under that idea; they, moreover, remonstrate against it, alleging that they came out without the least expectation or preparation for such service. As your Excellency thought it inconsistent to distinguish these from the other troops on the ground, and as it will be impossible for them much longer to sustain their horses here, they humbly ask your Excellency's dismissal in form. Major *Starr* waits upon your Excellency for this purpose, and any commands for his Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

We are, with every sentiment of respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servants,

THOMAS SEYMOUR,  
WILLIAM HART,  
ELISHA SHELDON,  
DANIEL STARR.

To General *Washington*.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL SEYMOUR.

New-York, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In answer to yours of this date, I can only repeat to you what I said last night, and that is, that if your men think themselves exempt from the common duties of a soldier—will not mount guard, do garrison duty, or service separate from their horses—they can be no longer of use here, where Horse cannot be brought to action, and I do not care how soon they are dismissed.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Seymour*, and other Field-Officers of the *Connecticut* Light-Horse.

## GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 16, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Hands* reports the fleet lies much in the same situation as yesterday, three ships at the *Hook*, two tenders

cruising in the Bay. No deserters last night. Nothing material has happened since yesterday. I am in hopes to get the works on *Cobble-Hill* completed in a few days: it has taken much more time than I expected. I have such a number of guards that the fatigue party is much smaller than I could wish, but I cannot safely enlarge it without injuring the health of the people, for they are one day on and one day off duty now. One ship and a sloop have been under sail to-day, but are now come to.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,  
N. GREENE.

## COLONEL JOSEPH REED TO MRS. REED.

New-York, July 16, 1776.

I make no doubt you will be agreeably surprised, as I was yesterday, on receiving a letter from our brother *Dennis*. It was endorsed "Per favour of Lord *Howe*," and sent with the seal untouched. He mentions that he had seen Lord *Howe*, and is well assured that he comes as a mediator, rather than as an enemy, and most earnestly presses me to promote a conference in order to an accommodation. I have not time to copy it now, but will send it to you by the first opportunity. No one can wish more for peace, or would promote it more heartily, if the terms were such as to give us any security for those articles which all agree, both Whig and Tory, are essential to our liberty and safety. These are, exemption from Parliamentary taxation and regulation of our internal government. If security was held of these and other articles still insisted on, I should, with a safe conscience, retire, and would do it. The annihilation of our trade, the difficulty of procuring men and supplies for another campaign, the misery and desolation which must ensue even if we should in the end be victorious, are important considerations. Besides, from some late instances, I very much fear many of our troops will fail in spirit, especially if taken by surprise.

I do not know what prospect there is of foreign alliances. That would certainly turn the scale decisively in our favour, but at present we are playing a very unequal game. Lord *Howe* seems so anxious to negotiate, that I think we may lengthen out the time without intermitting our preparations. Nor, for my own part, do I see any inconvenience or danger in a conference of proper persons, to know his powers and propositions of peace. We can easily judge of them, perhaps, from his declarations, for among the papers sent on shore are letters to every Governour, enclosing declarations. In them you have the whole; and if negotiation would not tend to slacken our preparations, I would wish to know the extent of those powers which he says are so great. I think if only granting pardons is meant, and no concession on the point of taxation, it would unite all to perseverance and resolution, trusting the event to Providence.

## DENNIS DE BERDT TO MR. REED.

London, May 3, 1776.

DEAR REED: I am now set down to write you a letter on the most important subject and of the most difficult nature I ever yet attempted, and I scarcely know how to advance, nor will my mind suffer me to retreat, as my judgment is fully convinced the design is good, and my heart is warm in the cause.

You must know, since my Lord *Howe*'s important appointment as Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's forces in *America*, I have made it my business to learn his character as a nobleman, a statesman, and an officer. As a man, he has urbanity and great goodness of heart to recommend him; as a politician, solid sense and sound principles, with moderation; and as a commander, ability and valor. Such qualifications command esteem and respect, and it is a satisfaction to a feeling mind that so momentous an embassy as his Lordship's is so happily placed. But as I had reason to believe he had expressed the most anxious solicitude to bring about an accommodation without bloodshed, and to draw the sword with the greatest reluctance, and that these expressions were not only the language of his lips, but the dictate of his heart, I had a great desire to be introduced to him, and this day I had the honour of a conference; when his Lordship's conversation not only confirmed the report, but his friendly disposition towards *America*, and assurances of

his inclination to effect a reconciliation without force, far exceeded my expectation; and though the assurances of great men are frequently without meaning or intention, I have the strongest belief in what he said, and the greatest faith in his peaceful intentions.

Do, my dear friend, let me persuade you that Lord *Howe* goes to *America* as a mediator, and not as a destroyer. I firmly believe it, upon my honour. Were it prudent in me to reveal all he said, I would most cheerfully and readily do it. I quote not his Lordship's authority for what I say, but give you my opinion, on a well-grounded belief of what I advance. This he has declared: he had rather meet you, and that immediately on his arrival, in the wide field of argument, than in the chosen ground for battle; and I am confident a parley on the footing of gentlemen and friends is his wish and desire; and it is generally believed, with his disposition to treat, he has power to compromise and adjust. Nor do I think, if a conference should be brought about, anything unbecoming a gentleman will be desired, or unreasonable concessions expected. These things believed, I would not be happy in my own mind without communicating them to you, and Lord *Howe* has promised to take charge of the letter. I beg, therefore, to recommend them to your most serious consideration.

The very thought, my dear friend, of being instrumental in bringing about a peaceful accommodation is better felt than expressed, when I consider the honour lately conferred on me by the Province of *New-Jersey*. It is my duty, my regard for the country and people makes it my inclination, and my affection for you and your family draws me into it with the cords of love.

My Lord *Howe* is not unacquainted with your name. I have so high an opinion of your abilities and honour, and have had such repeated instances of your friendship and affection, that everything has been said by me that you can desire or expect; and I have not a doubt, if a treaty or parley is brought about in which you may be engaged, every degree of respect you can desire, or attention you can wish, will be shown you. If this letter, from the exigency of the times, should be inspected, I hope it will not be suppressed, but receive an immediate despatch to you. Rest assured, my dear friend, my motives are good, whatever may be suspected to the contrary.

My dutiful regards attend my dear mother, and my affection and love are ever with you and my sister.

I am yours, sincerely and affectionately,

DENNIS DE BERDT.

GENERAL SPENCER TO JOHN SLOSS HOBART.

New-York, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: *Henry Little* and *John Lewis* were both confined by my order in the City-Hall, and each of them charged with the crime of drinking a health to King *George* and success to his fleet, and declaring or manifesting their intention of joining the said fleet or army of the enemy against the Continental Army; which charge was delivered to the officer of the guard at that place.

On the morning of the 14th instant I received a line from you, desiring me to direct my evidences in the case of *Lewis* to attend upon you at nine o'clock in the morning, at the same morning. This did not come to my hand until something after the time you set for the attendance of the evidences. On receiving your notice, I immediately sent to Lieutenant *Dunham*, of Colonel *Ward's* regiment, (who was my informer relative to said prisoner,) to appear as soon as possible before you, to give what intelligence in the premises he was able to do. He since says he appeared before you as soon as he could, he thinks about ten o'clock in the same day, and that you then informed him the above-mentioned prisoners were both released the day before. This intelligence of *Dunham* appeared to me so extraordinary, I thought it my duty to acquaint you with it, that you may have an opportunity to show the mistake, if there be any.

I am, gentlemen, with great truth and regard, your most obedient humble servant,

JOSEPH SPENCER.

To *John Sloss Hobart*, Esq., and the rest of the Committee of Provincial Congress, in *New-York*.

PASS FOR MEMBERS OF THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, July 16, 1776.

Permit the following gentlemen: *John Sloss Hobart*, *Leonard Gansevoort*, *Lewis Graham*, Esq., and Colonel *Henry Remsen*, Members of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, and *John McKesson*, Esq., Secretary of the said Convention, to pass from *New-York* to the said Convention at the *White-Plains*, with a box of stamps and plates of the late emission of the paper currency of this State, and some few records, and the fuses, &c., of such of those gentlemen who may choose to carry them.

JOHN RAY, Jun.,

Deputy Chairman of the General Committee.

To all whom it may concern.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, New-York, July 16, 1776.

To the Inhabitants of the City and Colony of *NEW-YORK*:

Whereas the Convention of the State of *New-York* did, on the 9th instant, unanimously resolve, that a Declaration of the Independence of the *United States of America* should be transmitted to the several Committees in the said State of *New-York*, with orders that it should be by them published with all convenient speed in their several districts: Therefore,

Resolved and Ordered, That at twelve o'clock, on *Thursday*, at the City-Hall, in this city, the aforesaid Declaration be published; when and where it is hoped every true friend to the rights and liberties of this country will not fail to attend.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOSEPH WINTER, Secretary.

JOHN BROOME TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

White-Plains, July 16, 1776.

Sloop *Independence*, seventy tons burden, ten carriage-guns, four-pounders: owners, *Philip Bell*, of *Philadelphia*, *Isaac Sears*, *Samuel Broome*, & Co., and *John Broome*, of *New-York*, and *Adam Babcock*, of *New-Haven*; *Thomas Truxton*, Commander; *Smith Richards*, Captain of Marines; number of the crew, sixty; quantity of provisions, fifteen barrels of pork, thirty barrels of beef, five hundred weight of powder, with a proportion of ball, thirty muskets, twenty pistols, cartridges in proportion.

I do hereby request that a commission be made out for the above privateer sloop.

JOHN BROOME.

CERTIFICATE FOR A POWDER-MILL.

Walkill, Ulster County, July 16, 1776.

These are to certify, that Major *Moses Phillips* and *Henry Wisner*, Jun., Esq., has erected a Powder-Mill upon the *Walkill*, in said County, which we look upon to be very well executed, and did, with a large number of other spectators, see it work on the twentieth day of last *May*; since which time, by information of the workmen, (whom we look upon to be men of veracity,) it has manufactured two hundred weight or more of good merchantable gunpowder in one day, and so successively.

DAVID CORWIN, } Members of the  
JONATHAN SMITH, } County Committee.  
WILLIAM DERN,  
JAMES BUTLER, one of the Builders.

JOHN COE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Haverstraw, July 16, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of your Excellency's desire to receive timely information of every manœuvre which the enemy on *Hudson's River* may make to distress the inhabitants at this extremely busy season, we can inform your Excellency that this morning, between the hours of ten and eleven, the whole fleet, consisting of two men-of-war and three tenders, made sail from *Nyack*, and about twelve came into *Haverstraw Bay*, forty miles up the river from *New-York*, where, after the shipping came to anchor, the tenders continued parading the bay for half an hour. They all came to anchor opposite to the house of Captain *Thiers*, when four barges, fully manned, attempted to land, with a view,



as we conjecture, to take off some sheep and cattle which we had previously driven off. Notwithstanding, they brought their tenders so nigh the shore as to cover the landing of the men in the barges, yet (having but a few men) we carried a firm countenance to them, and, with a few shot, (being well levelled,) they thought proper to retreat, without doing any damage with their cannon. If your Excellency can possibly spare a small detachment from the Continental forces for a few days, until the farmers can take in their crops, as it is now in the height of their harvest, you will render us an essential service; and a few days now is of the utmost consequence to them. When the harvest is in, we shall, with the utmost cheerfulness, lend every assistance in our power to promote the common weal of the community. We shall not press this matter upon your Excellency, but doubt not you will see the necessity which urges this request; and with due respect, remain your Excellency's very humble servant.

Per order of Committee:

JOHN COE, *Deputy Chairman.*

To His Excellency *George Washington*, at Head-Quarters.

P. S. We can further inform your Excellency that the enemy have sounded the channel as far up as the mouth of the Highlands.

COLONEL PORTER TO GENERAL FELLOWS.

Salisbury, Connecticut, July 16, 1776.

SIR: This instant have received a letter from the Committee of *Dutchess County*, (the copy of which you will see within,) desiring to have the Militia raised at the western part of *Connecticut*. Hope you will be good enough to join us as soon as possible with what men you can raise.

I am your humble servant, JOSHUA PORTER.

To Brigadier-General *Fellows*, at *Sheffield*.

*Dutchess County, New-York, July 14, 1776.*

GENTLEMEN: I have this instant received an express from General *Washington*, informing that some ships of war and tenders had passed the city of *New-York* and sailed up *Hudson's River*, with design, as is supposed, to take possession of the posts in the Highlands, and directing me to write to you, requesting you to march immediately with what force you can collect to these posts, particularly to where the post-road between *Albany* and *New-York* crosses the mountain, called *Anthony's Nose*. You will please to keep an exact return of the number of men you take with you.

I am your humble servant, EGBERT BENSON,  
*Chairman of the General Committee.*

To the Commanding Officers of the Militia in the Western Towns of *Connecticut*.

GENERAL GATES TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 29, 1776, referred to the Board of War.]

*Ticonderoga, July 16, 1776.*

SIR: Upon my arrival at *Albany* the 27th ultimo, General *Schuyler* assumed the command of the Army in this department, alleging that the resolves of Congress, and General *Washington's* instructions to me, were confined to *Canada*. As this was not to be denied, I submitted, and went with General *Schuyler* and General *Arnold* to *Crown-Point*, where we found the wretched remains of what was once a very respectable body of troops. That pestilential disease, the small-pox, had taken so deep a root, that the camp had more the appearance of a general hospital than an army formed to oppose the invasion of a successful and enterprising enemy. A Council of General Officers was immediately held, wherein it was determined unanimously to retire, and take post on the strong ground opposite to the east point of *Ticonderoga*; to endeavour, by every means in our power, to maintain the naval superiority of *Lake Champlain*, without which it is not possible, in our present circumstances, to hold any ground upon this side the carrying places leading into that lake. In consequence of these resolves, I came immediately, with General *Schuyler*, to *Ticonderoga*. We had the ground for the new encampment thoroughly examined, and commanded the troops, as they arrived from *Crown-Point*, to prepare to clear the ground for their taking post according to the resolution of the council of war. The next thing was, to examine our naval force upon the lake.

The vessels, which should have been constantly armed as vessels of war, have hitherto been solely employed as floating wagons. Of course there was a necessity of immediately sending them from *Crown-Point* hither, to be armed. Carriages for their cannon were even to be made here, out of wood taken from the stump. This is so far effected, that a schooner mounting ten four and six-pounders, will be ready to sail to-morrow; the rest must wait to be fitted; and as the possession of everything here depends upon keeping the command of the water, I shall do everything our scanty means will afford to forward the work. As all the Field-cannon, with their atrain, were lost in *Canada*, it takes a great deal of time to fix our artillery, carriages being to be made from wood cut here; and so must our platforms for the works we have to erect.

The gondolas General *Schuyler* has ordered to be built, as he had no model to direct him, are in nothing but in name like those at *Philadelphia*. The rigging and artillery are all to be fixed here, and when done, they seem to be vessels very unwieldy to move, and very indifferent for the purpose intended. Two are finished, and two more will be finished this week. If the enemy gives us time to do all this, it will be well; if not, this wretched army will probably be yet more unfortunate. I am exerting all my powers to prevent the pestilence getting to *Skenesborough*, for should the Militia ordered there be infected, we shall be distressed beyond example.

General *Waterbury*, who arrived the day before yesterday, is gone to *Skenesborough*, to regulate the Militia when they arrive, and to stop them there. He has this moment sent me an officer infected with the small-pox, to be removed to the General Hospital at the south end of *Lake George*. Colonel *Read's New-Hampshire* regiment is now at the carrying place, going to the General Hospital. They have upwards of three hundred sick, and only just well men enough to row those over the lake. Thus, sir, you see the melancholy situation to which this Army is reduced.

I desire the bearer may not be detained a minute longer than to receive your despatches; and I must request, when any express is forwarded to me from Congress, that he be ordered to come the whole way, and not deliver his despatches to any other person to bring forward.

Mr. *Morgan Lewis*, who presents you this letter, I brought with me from *New-York*, and intended, conformable to the resolves of Congress and General *Washington's* instructions, to have appointed him my Deputy Quartermaster-General; but General *Schuyler* says those resolves and instructions relate only to *Canada*. A son of Governour *Trumbull*, who remains with me, and who I intended for Deputy Adjutant-General, is in the same predicament.

I am, sir, with the greatest esteem and regard, your most obedient humble servant, HORATIO GATES.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

*Ticonderoga, July 16, 1776.*

SIR: Enclosed is a copy of the letter with which I have charged Mr. *Lewis* to the President of the honourable the Continental Congress. It is too disagreeable a tale to dwell on; I shall not therefore enlarge upon it. I beg the favour that Mr. *Lewis* may have your orders not to delay in *New-York*, but proceed immediately to *Philadelphia*. General *Sullivan* has probably, by this time, seen your Excellency; he will, no doubt, make a faithful representation of the wretched state of this Army. General *Schuyler* assures me he has already done it. Since the beginning of *May*, the losses sustained by the enemy, and by death and desertion, amount to more than five thousand men; and to this must be added three thousand that are now sick. Our accounts from the enemy are lame and imperfect. It seems not to be doubted that they have a large camp at *St. John's*, and are labouring to get a naval force upon the lake. I shall do all in my power to procure the best intelligence of their motions. Heaven grant your Excellency a prosperous campaign, such a one as will make ample amends for the losses of the Northern Army. My affectionate compliments wait upon the gentlemen of your family, and particularly to my old friend and acquaintance, Brigadier-General *Mercer*.

I am, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant, HORATIO GATES.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

NATHAN CLARK TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Manchester, July 16, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: We enclose to you the proceedings of the Committees of the several towns in the Counties of *Albany* and *Charlotte*, on the *New-Hampshire Grants*, answerable to the demands of the Council of General Officers, held at *Crown-Point* the 8th of *July* instant, in which you will find commission officers nominated, to raise the *Green-Mountain Boys*, to be stationed on the east side of the *Lake Champlain*, and to the north of the inhabitants.

Likewise, we would recommend to your Honour that Major *Samuel Safford* should be called upon to take the command of the companies when raised, except Colonel *Warner* should be appointed to command said companies, as the men would not choose to be joined to any other corps.

From your very humble servants.

By order: NATHAN CLARK, *Ch. Committee.*

To Major-General *Schuyler*, or the Commanding Officer in the Northern Department.

N. B. A sum of money for advance pay would much forward the raising of men.

A list of gentlemen elected as Commission Officers, to raise the men appointed to be raised by the Council of General Officers held at *Crown-Point*, *July 8*, viz:

1st Captain, *Wait Hopkins*; 1st Lieutenant, *John Fassett*; 2d Lieutenant, *Joseph Safford*.

2d Captain, *Samuel Herrick*; 1st Lieutenant, *John Spafford*; 2d Lieutenant, *James Brookings*.

3d Captain, *Jonathan Fassett*; 1st Lieutenant, *John Smith*; 2d Lieutenant, *Abraham Salisbury*.

4th Captain, *Ira Allen*; 1st Lieutenant, *Jonathan Wright*; 2d Lieutenant, *Enoch Eastman*.

5th Captain, *Lemuel Clerk*; 1st Lieutenant, *Jesse Belknap*; 2d Lieutenant, *Matthew Lyon*.

6th Captain, *Thomas Ransom*; 1st Lieutenant, *Rufus Perry*; 2d Lieutenant, *Moses Veal*.

By order of Committee:

NATHAN CLARK, *Chairman.*

July 16, 1776.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 23, 1776.]

Providence, July 16, 1776.

SIR: I now do myself the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of *June 14th*, *21st*, and *25th*, and of the 6th instant, with their several enclosures.

The resolve of Congress prohibiting the exportation of salted beef and pork, hath been published and strictly attended to in the Colony. The resolutions for providing sufficient clothing for the soldiers of the United Colonies, those declaring that all persons abiding within the United Colonies owe allegiance to the laws, &c., and recommending to the Legislatures to pass laws for punishing Traitors, and the Declaration of Independency, will all be laid before the General Assembly which I have called to meet on *Thursday* next, and which will do everything proper in those matters. The General Assembly has already passed an act declaring it felony to counterfeit the Continental Bills of Credit, or to pass them knowing the same to be counterfeited.

I have appointed Captain *Barnard Eddy*, a very suitable person, the chief carpenter. He hath already inlisted twenty men, who are to be well provided with tools and arms at the same rate at which the Marine Committee have inlisted those in *Philadelphia*. He informs me he shall be able to procure the whole number required of us, and to march with them on *Monday* or *Tuesday* next, at the farthest. He proposes to send off the baggage on *Saturday*.

I daily expect the Treaty of Confederation and Union, and have no doubt but the General Assembly will give their hearty assent to that, and to every measure of the General Congress of the United States of *America*.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esquire.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, July 16, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with your Excellency's letter of the 9th instant, in consequence of which, Mr. *Greene* hath delivered to Colonel *Tillinghast*, to be immediately forwarded to *New-York*, fourteen thousand five hundred flints, twenty muskets, and thirty back-swords, being the whole of those articles that were imported by Captain *Chace*. All the duck is heavy, coarse, and stubborn, being what is called *Holland* and *Russia* duck. Captain *Chace* hath also brought in the brigantine four four-pounders, six three-pounders, and eight swivels, which are very much wanted here for privateers, several of which could be immediately fitted out, if cannon could be procured. If they can be spared from the service, I should be glad to have your Excellency's permission, as soon as possible, that they may be made use of for that purpose, at the full value.

On *Saturday* last I was honoured with the commands of the General Congress, to procure fifty ship-carpenters to build vessels for the defence of the lakes. I appointed a suitable person as Captain, who hath already inlisted twenty men; and I have no doubt they will set off for *Albany* the last of this, or the very beginning of next week.

I have also received from Congress the Declaration of Independency, and daily expect the Treaty of Confederation and Union, which hath induced me to call the General Assembly to meet on *Thursday* next, when, I can safely assure you, they will give to both a hearty assent and concurrence.

I entreat your Excellency's attention to the great probability there is of the enemy's paying a visit to *Rhode-Island*, in case they do not succeed to their wishes at *New-York*; and that we are by no means in a condition to give them a suitable reception.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem and respect, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, July 16, Anno Dom. 1776.

SIR: This will be delivered to you by the Captain of one of our galleys, two of which, the *Whiting* and the *Crane*, are ordered to proceed to *New-York* forthwith, and put themselves under your command. The third is stationed at *Stonington*, which may be exposed to suffer from the attack of a single ship, (several of which are now cruising near it,) if the galley is removed from thence.

The great desire I have to comply with every requisition which concerns the defence of the *American* States, at this critical juncture, has induced me to send you these galleys, although I am sensible they are not furnished with such guns as may be necessary to render them so useful as they might be with heavier metal; the guns intended for them by the Colony are not yet completed at *Salisbury*, from whence we hope for them soon. I have directed the Captains to move your Excellency for some heavier guns, while in your service, or until we can get such as are more suitable from *Salisbury* down the *North River*, if possible.

I am sorry we cannot possibly spare you any heavy cannon, it being wholly out of our power; we have no more than are necessary, and are mounted upon our forts at *New-London* and *Groton*. Should any of them be taken away, those fortresses will become in a great measure useless, and the town and fort, upon an attack, might fall into the possession of the enemy, which could not happen but with the greatest detriment to the United States in general, as well as to this in particular.

I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council, *Monday*, *July 15*, 1776, according to adjournment:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyar*, *Jz. Huntington*, *Wm. Williams*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Benj. Huntington*, *Nath. Wales*, and *Titus Hosmer*, Esquires.

In the forenoon, Captain *Harding* came in, having just arrived with his Brig from *Boston*. Gave an account of his

cruise, taking the Ships and Brigs, &c., and his reasons for leaving the port without orders, &c.; and is excused and justified for so leaving, &c.; and wants directions about cleaning, graving, and refitting, and about the men who are probably infected with the small-pox; and is directed to do the necessities, with the advice, &c., of Mr. *Shaw*, who is Colony Agent for naval supplies, as per 15th. Many things to say to them; and about prizes brought into *Boston*, &c.

Post from *Hartford*, and *Brown* the *Albany* post arrived with many Letters from General *Schuyler*, Mr. *Trumbull*, &c.; read and attended to, &c.

On representation of the Committee of Inspection for *Synsbury* and others, of the dangerous situation of *Newgate* Prison, and especially since a number of Tory prisoners are committed there, and the great uneasiness of the people concerning them, and that the keeper is uneasy with his situation, &c., and requesting liberty of a guard, &c., considered; and

*Voted*, That the Overseers of *Newgate* Prison be advised and directed, and they are hereby advised and directed, to procure and place a guard of two faithful men every night, or more if they shall judge necessary, carefully to watch and guard said Prison, and all the avenues thereof, in order to prevent the escape of any of said prisoners, and any access to them by unknown or suspicious persons; and that said Committee be advised to examine into the true situation and circumstances of said affair, and inform his Honour the Governour as soon as may be, and of the necessity of the case, in order to receive further instructions in the premises.

Many other matters of a publick nature considered, &c.; and adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, July 16, 1776.

At a meeting, &c., adjourned from yesterday.

Present: His Honour the Governour, Honourable Deputy-Governour *Griswold*, *Eliph. Dyar*, *Jz. Huntington*, *Wm. Williams*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Nath. Wales*, *Benj. Huntington*, and *Wm. Hillhouse*, Esquires.

Messrs. *Brown* and *Gardner*, (sons, &c., of Mr. *Brown*, of *Fisher's Island*.) present, applying for pay for the stock lately taken from *Fisher's Island*, &c. It seems the affair is not ripe, &c.; but the matter to be previously settled between him and Mr. *Winthrop*, as to who has a right to receive, &c.; and a Letter written to the Committee at *New-London*.

Captain *Mygatt*, of a provision vessel, stopped by Captain *Niles*, agreeable to order, moving for leave to proceed, &c.; but it seems not safe, the enemy so many about, and could not consent to it, &c.

Engineer *Waters* came in. Moves to have some extra allowance for the Carpenters and Masons, at the works at *New-London*, above the amount of their wages.

*Voted*, That the tradesmen, as Carpenters and Masons, who have been employed about the works at *New-London*, be allowed nine Pence per day, over and above their wages, for the time they have laboured, or shall labour there, under the direction of the Engineer, &c.—a particular account to be kept of the days; and that one Shilling and six Pence per day, above their wages, be allowed to the Master Mason, Master Carpenter, and Master Blower, who have laboured, or shall labour, as aforesaid. Account to be kept as aforesaid.

Said Mr. *Waters* laid in his account for his services as Engineer, from *November 23* to *July 15*:

Amount, deducting for absent days, leaves four months thirteen days, at £12, - - - - -	£53	4	0
Eighteen weeks' board, at 12s., - - - - -	10	16	0
Allowance for sundry small expenses, - - - - -	1	19	3
	£65	19	3

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Committee of Lead Mine at *Middletown*, in favour of *Joseph Webb*, of *Wethersfield*, for one thousand weight of Lead, to replace the same quantity sent by the Selectmen of *Wethersfield*, by request, and delivered to Captain *Wadsworth*, of the Army, at *Cambridge*. Order delivered to Mr. *Hosmer*.

On application of *William Law*, for cash towards his bill

for building Carriages for the armed Vessels and Galleys, &c.,

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table, in favour of *William Law*, for the sum of £80, to be accounted for, on his bill for building Ship-carriages for cannon on board the Galleys, &c., and the cannon brought by Commodore *Hopkins*.

His Excellency General *Washington* having requested the loan of the Row-Galleys belonging to this Colony, to assist in the defence of *New-York*, now attacked by the enemy,

*Resolved and Voted*, Row-Galleys *Whiting* and *Crane* proceed immediately to *New-York*, and there be under the command of his Excellency General *Washington*, until further orders. (Orders sent.)

On application and request of Governour *Franklin*, now residing, on his parole, at *Wallingford*, for liberty to remove to *Middletown*; on consideration,

*Voted and Resolved*, That said Governour *Franklin* be permitted to remove to, and reside at, *Middletown*, until further orders, under the obligation of the same parole he has signed on his being ordered to *Wallingford*.

*Voted and Ordered*, That none of the Prisoners residing at *Hartford* or *Wethersfield* be permitted any longer to go into the Town of *Middletown*, without a special license from his Honour the Governour; and the Committee of Prisoners are to take notice hereof, and see that they be restrained accordingly.

Copy delivered to Mr. *Root*.

The honourable Congress having requested this Colony to furnish our Troops with Tents, Clothing, &c.; on consideration,

*Voted*, A Committee be appointed to purchase and procure all the Tow Cloth and other suitable Cloth or materials for making of Tents, that can be had in the Colony.

Captain *John Deshon* came in. Moves for a supply of Money to enable him to procure further quantities of Provisions, &c., for the Regiment at *New-London*, and moves for £2,000. On consideration,

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurer for the sum of £1,500, to be improved for the purpose of procuring Provisions for the support of the soldiers stationed at *New-London*, and a quantity of Molasses to be distilled and otherwise used for said soldiers, and said sum be accounted for on settlement of his accounts in said service.

Whereas General *Schuyler* has earnestly requested his Honour the Governour to furnish his Army with a number of felling Axes, not exceeding one thousand, &c.:

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table, in favour of his Honour the Governour, for the sum of £150, to be by him put into the hands of proper persons, to purchase felling Axes for General *Schuyler*, according to his request, to be repaid by said General; and that an Order be also drawn on the Pay-Table, in favour of *Titus Hosmer*, Esq., for the same sum of £150, for the same purpose. (The two above sums sent for by Captain *Deshon*.)

On application of the Selectmen of *Lebanon*, that they cannot obtain Firearms sufficient for the Company under Captain *Clark* of said Town,

*Voted*, That they may receive a number, not exceeding fifteen, of the Guns and Bayonets now in the hands of his Honour the Governour, which were fitted up from old barrels received from *Crown-Point*. And they were delivered, and receipt taken to the Governour.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Council Chamber, Watertown, July 16, 1776.

SIR: Messrs. *Jackson*, *Tracy & Tracy*, merchants of *Newburyport*, are very solicitous to procure a release of the officers and men of their late Privateer *Yankee Hero*, which was taken, after a brave and manly resistance, by the *Milford* frigate; they are now in the hands of our enemies. They take leave to recommend their case to your Excellency's consideration, not doubting but you will attend to any application made to you on their behalf, by the gentlemen above named, and afford every reasonable assistance to accomplish their benevolent purpose; and if they should be happy enough to effect it, it will give us a particular pleasure, as those men, by their past conduct, merit our regard, and

should they be obtained, may be greatly serviceable in the *American Army*.

We cannot neglect this opportunity of recommending to your Excellency's particular consideration the case of Mr. *James Lovell*, who suffered a long and severe imprisonment in *Boston*, and was carried off in the fleet to *Halifax*, where he has remained a close prisoner ever since. His enemies have not been able to fix any crime upon him, and when he has repeatedly desired to be brought to a trial, they have always declined it. We are very desirous to procure his liberation; and if there is a possibility of effecting it, should esteem it a favour if your Excellency would give in exchange for him any prisoner you may think proper.

In behalf, and by order of the Council, I am your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

B. GREENLEAF.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the *United States of America*, *New-York*.

MESHECH WEARE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 25, 1776.]

New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, at Exeter, }  
July 16, 1776. }

SIR: This moment the Committee were honoured with the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, enclosing a "Declaration separating the *United States of America* from any connexion with *Great Britain*, and for their being Independent States." It is with pleasure, I can assure you, that, notwithstanding a very few months since many persons in this Colony were greatly averse to anything that looked like independence of *Great Britain*, the late measures planned and executing against us have so altered their opinions that such a Declaration was what they most ardently wished for; and I verily believe it will be received with great satisfaction throughout the Colony, a very few individuals excepted.

The fifteen hundred men of our Militia requested to recruit the Army in *Canada* are mostly raised. One company marched from *Portsmouth* yesterday; more are coming forward, and I believe most of them will march this week. No cloth fit for tents could be procured in this Colony, and the men must remain destitute, unless they can be supplied from the southward.

That He who putteth down potentates and setteth up States may guard and protect the *United States of America*, is the most fervent and sincere desire of your obedient, humble servant,

MESHECH WEARE.

P. S. The General Court and Committee of Safety sit at *Exeter*, where you will please to direct in future. This express went thirty miles out of his way, by being directed to *Portsmouth*.

CAPTAIN BARROW TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Merrimack, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of the orders I received from Major-General *Folsom*, for raising sixteen men out of the company under my command, in this town, for the service in *Canada*, I have raised thirteen good, effective men, who are all well equipped. I am myself chosen to the command, which makes fourteen in the whole. *Caleb Stevens*, an inhabitant of this town, enlisted into said service and passed muster before the date of my orders.

I have called upon Captain *John Chamberlain* and sons, who treated my Lieutenant (the messenger) and myself, with great abuse and ill-language, and refused to assist by man or money. Messrs. *Charity Lund*, *Robert Nesmith*, *Samuel Gibson*, Jun., *Michael Dalton*, and *James Taylor*, have all utterly refused to send any assistance.

I have received orders from the Mustermaster to march my men forthwith; I shall pay strict obedience thereto. I wish it may be in my power to give a good account of the enemy on my return from *Canada*.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM BARROW.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN BOSTON FROM CAPTAIN JACOB DUNNELL, DATED ST. PIERRE, MARTINICO, JULY 17, 1776.

I sailed from *Dartmouth*, in the sloop *Nancy*, on the 9th day of *September*, 1775, bound to the coast of *Africa*. On the 4th of *November*, arrived at *Goree*, at which place I began to make my trade. From thence proceeded down to *Montserado*. On the 10th of *January*, 1776, while lying at anchor at the above-mentioned place, I was taken by the sloop-of-war called the *Atalanta*, *Thomas Underwood* commander; at which time they had taken a schooner called the *Juno*, belonging to the same owners, one *Shockley* master, on a whaling voyage. I had the liberty of remaining on board my own vessel with the prize-master, so long as I behaved well; but if any complaint should be found against me, the Captain told me he would put me in irons. My mate and one of the people were taken on board the ship, and the three others remained on board the sloop. They then proceeded with the prizes down to *Cape Coast*, where they disposed of upwards of six thousand gallons of rum, some rice, and other articles, on their own account, and purchased slaves. These goods were part of said sloop *Nancy's* cargo. From thence they proceeded with the prizes down the coast, in search of the *Americans*, but luckily found none. Then sailed over to *St. Thomas*, where we found the *Pallas* frigate, and the *Weasel* sloop-of-war. They had cruised the coast down, and the *Pallas* had taken one prize, a schooner, registered at *New-York*, one *Seannett* master. The *Weasel* had taken two prizes, a sloop belonging to *New-York*, one *Darbey* master, and a small schooner belonging to *South-Carolina*, which had been a long time on the coast; and when at *St. Thomas*, there was an information given of a brig lying up *Gibboon River*, one *Marshall* master, from *London*, with *American* papers, and belonging to *New-York*, mounting fourteen guns. The *Dartmouth* schooner, one of the prizes mentioned above, was immediately armed, and the *Weasel* sloop-of-war went in search of said brig; but I think she may have got clear, as I believe Captain *Marshall* had information of their coming. On the 1st day of *May*, 1776, the *Pallas*, Captain *Cornwall*, and the *Atalanta*, with their prizes, sailed in company from *St. Thomas*, bound to *Jamaica*; and on the 15th of *May*, in the latitude of 2° south, and longitude of 5° west, we parted with the said vessels. The 8th of *June*, we arrived at *St. Vincent's*. The prize-master being on shore, we all agreed (eleven in number, four men-of-war men and seven prisoners, with myself) to run away with the sloop *Nancy*; and at the time of our making the attempt, two of the prisoners, who belonged to Captain *Shockley's* schooner, which were his mate, by the name of *Beattle*, his brother, and one of the men-of-war's men, failed in said attempt. We then put them all three on shore, with their chests and clothes, and got said vessel under sail, about three miles from the land, when it became quite calm. We tarried on board said sloop until daybreak. We then thought the prize-master might be apprised of our attempt, and therefore left said sloop, took to our boat, and proceeded for *Martinico*, where, thank Almighty God, we are all safe arrived, but with loss of said sloop *Nancy*, and all my papers of every kind. Captain *Shockley* and his people were all put on board the *Atalanta*.

COLONEL JORDAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

St. Mary's County, St. George's River, July 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I arrived down here on the 15th instant, with about one hundred of the Militia, where I found Captain *Beall*, with part of his company, and one company of Colonel *Barnes's* battalion. About daybreak yesterday, we were visited by a row-galley, or row-gondola, carrying five swivels on each side, a six-pounder in her head, and another in her stern. They rowed alongside of our sentinel, and not a man to be seen, and instantly began a very heavy firing, which lasted about one hour, but without doing any execution, although their shot reached the ground on every spot where the men were stationed. In the evening, she returned again, and engaged us again for upwards of two hours; and at the same time the troops landed from the ships on *St. George's Island*, to the amount of about three hundred, pushed down to the point opposite to us, with swivels and musketry, and kept up a heavy fire, from which



Captain *Beall* was dangerously wounded in the shoulder with a ball (as he says) from a rifle, which has rendered him incapable of duty.

I shall endeavour to keep the post we are at present at, if possible; if not, I shall retreat to the woods, about half a mile. From a report we had given us yesterday, they are constructing another vessel like the above, and that they intend attacking us on the *Potomack* side. I think, from all appearances, the fleet will continue some time; if so, some cannon and swivels will be absolutely necessary, to dislodge the men they have landed on the Island.

With what assistance we can give in this quarter, I think five hundred of the Militia of the upper battalion will be full enough to oppose the enemy. We have now, at different posts, about six hundred men.

For further particulars, I refer you to Mr. *Hopewell*, by whom this goes express. He will also inform you of the difficulties we labour under in getting provisions for the men, without money to pay for it immediately. Three hundred pounds, I think, would be sufficient.

Colonel *Barnes*, with his battalion, is on the other side of the river, watching the motions of the enemy there.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JEREMIAH JORDAN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

R. HOOE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Chingoteague, July 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On my way to this place, I heard that two of our flour vessels were at *Annemesstick*. I called to know their situation, and found there was no chance of escaping the enemy, if they attempted to get into the *Potomack*. Under these circumstances there appeared no better method of getting the flour here, than by carting it from *Annemesstick* to *Pocomoke*, bringing it in a craft some distance up the river, landing it again, and carting it over to the inlet. For this purpose, I directly engaged carts on both sides of the river, and a craft in *Pocomoke*; but to this moment I have received no more than seventy-eight barrels. The *Baltimore*, I am told, will be here on *Monday*, but from what I have experienced, I do not expect it so soon.

Mr. *Crocket* informs me that three vessels more have come off with flour. I have inquired, but can get no tidings of them; however, I still hope they are safe in some harbour; but shall not count upon them for part of this cargo. When I shall be able to despatch the brigantine I cannot say, this being the most uncertain and difficult place to do business in that ever I experienced. There is no corn, but such as lies much scattered, at great distances, in small quantities, and at extravagant prices. Tobacco I find very scarce, and lying in much the same manner; indeed, any that I have yet seen is ordinary, and they ask twenty and twenty-five shillings, *Virginia* money, for it. But this article must be our dependance, and I shall, as expeditiously as possible, ship as much of the best as I can find, as will, with the flour, put the brig in a light load, and send her off.

As to the schooner *John*, I decline loading her for account of the Province; and as soon as I can have the pleasure of waiting on the Council of Safety, I will give them satisfactory reasons why it ought not to be done.

The muskets, powder, sulphur, and swivels, still lie in a very dangerous situation, in an old shattered house. I therefore thought it prudent to send an express to the *Worcester* Committee, to hire carts to get it away, and they have accordingly got all the articles to *Snow-Hill*, except a few barrels of sulphur, that will be removed to-morrow.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Honours' most humble servant,

R. HOOE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CAPTAIN BARNES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 17, 1776.

In a letter written to your Honours by Captain *Elliot* and myself, praying a reinforcement to be sent to our assistance, we omitted to mention the want of powder and ball, which we stand in great need of, not having above one quarter of a pound of powder and one pound of lead per man, for the Militia on the Island. And if your Honours

think fit to order any companies to our assistance, I hope you will order ammunition for them, as well as for the company on the Island.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

THOMAS BARNES, JUN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 17, 1776.

SIRS: I have not received the money for the order sent me by Captain *Nicholson*, for £250. I have sent Mr. *George Wells*, Sen., with it. If he should meet with any difficulty, please let Mr. *Cromwell*, your clerk, assist him; and if you have any order for me concerning bread or flour, please write. I have been these two days getting timber for the galleys. Please not to let him come without the cash.

From your humble servant, JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

GORDON AND PATTON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 17, 1776.

We, the subscribers, do propose to make knapsacks, with oil covers, at seven shillings each; country linen knapsacks, at six shillings each; and *Rusisa* duck knapsacks, at six shillings and six pence each, provided we get a quantity.

JOHN GORDON,  
MATTHEW PATTON.

WILLIAM WATERS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Somerset County, July 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Militia is called into action, and have been for some time. The field officers say they cannot supply them, without being supplied with a small sum of money. We have dealt on credit for some time, but find it necessary to have a small sum. If you can supply us with about £300, this Committee will be answerable for it. The bearer, Mr. *Denwood*, will bring the money safely.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
WILLIAM WATERS, Chairman Committee.

To the Honourable Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

WILLIAM WATERS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Somerset County, July 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed is an extract of the Proceedings of our Committee against *James Layfield*. Have sent him up under guard to you.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,  
WILLIAM WATERS, Chairman.

At a meeting of the Committee of *Somerset County*, July 10, 1776:

*David McDonald*, Jun., informed the Committee, on oath, that he was told by his father and wife, that they heard *James Layfield* say that he wanted this deponent to join and take the ammunition from *Lazarus Maddox*, which he was carrying to the Guard; and that his father and wife told him that said *Layfield* told them that he would tie said *Maddox*, and carry him aboard of *Dunmore*.

Ordered, That *James Layfield* appear on *Tuesday* next, before the Committee; also that *David McDonald*, Sen., and *Sarah McDonald*, (wife of *David McDonald*,) appear before said Committee, to testify against said *Layfield*.

Tuesday, July 16, 1776.

The Committee met. Present: *Thomas Bruff*, *Thomas Haywood*, *William Waters*, *George Waters*, *John Jones*, *Daniel Dashiell*, *James Bounds*, and *Peter Waters*.

THOMAS BRUFF, in the Chair.

*James Layfield* appeared before the Committee. *David McDonald* and *Sarah McDonald* also appeared.

The Committee proceeded to examine the witnesses. They depose as follows: *David McDonald*, Sen., of lawful age, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith: That, some time in *June* last, *James Layfield* came to this deponent's house, and said, if he had had help, he would have taken the ammunition that *Lazarus Maddox* had carrying down to the

guard, and that if he (said *Layfield*) had been going down to *Dunmore*, he would have tied the said *Maddox*, and have put him in his canoe, and carried him to *Dunmore*. This deponent saith, that he had several times before this heard *Layfield* say that he would not muster, and that if he could get persons to join him, he would stand in opposition to mustering, and would not muster for any person. And further saith not.

Sworn before

PETER WATERS.

*Sarah McDonald*, of lawful age, being sworn, deposeth and saith: That, some time in *June* last, *James Layfield* came to her father's, (*David McDonald's*), in company with *John Redden* and *Lazarus Maddox*. *Layfield* and *Redden* came into the house; *Maddox* went to tie his horse. *Loyfield* asked this deponent where her husband was, and desired this deponent to tell her husband to come out to him. She answered that he was not at home. This deponent saith that some little time afterwards, *Maddox* went off to the guard, which was at *Jericho*, and *Layfield* and *Redden* came up to the door, and *Layfield* told this deponent what he wanted with her husband; which was, that if he had been at home, and was as willing as he was, he would have tied *Maddox*, put him in a canoe, and carried him and his ammunition on board of *Dunmore*, for it was a bargain they had made, as they came along, to do so. And further saith not.

True copy from the Minutes:

JOHN DASHIELL, Clerk.

THOMAS B. HANDS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Langsford Bay, July 17, 1776.

SIR: My most sincere and grateful acknowledgments are justly due to the honourable the late Convention for their continuance of me as a member of the Council of Safety; and although it gives me great pain, yet I should consider myself highly unworthy of the good opinion they had entertained of me, did I not signify to you that I find my situation such that I think myself bound to decline that honour. You therefore, sir, will be pleased to accept of my resignation of the appointment of me a member of the Council of Safety; and believe me, with due respect to yourself and the other gentlemen of your Board, your most humble servant,

THOMAS B. HANDS.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

STEPHEN STEWART TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Captain *Ewing*, has a ship to dispose of. She is a new vessel, and as well built a one as ever I saw. She is really a complete piece of work, and stout enough to carry eight or ten six-pounders with fifty men. She draws less water than any vessel of her size. She has new anchors, cables, and rigging; her main-sails are new, but not large enough for the revenue service. I would agree with him for her, but am in some doubts of her sailing fast by the wind. There is no doubt of her sailing exceedingly fast from the wind. Captain *Ewing* has agreed to carry her to *Annapolis* to you. I have told him you would get *Gilbert Middleton* to try how she sails by the wind. *Gilbert Middleton* will make proper allowance for her being badly sailed. If she will answer the end of sailing by the wind, she may be made so able that nothing but sloops can hurt her; and then she can run into such shoal water that they could not get at her. I think when she has fifty men, with water and provisions and ten six-pounders, she will not draw more than six-and-a-half feet of water. If Mr. *Middleton* finds she will answer the end of sailing by the wind, she may be bought from Captain *Ewing* for £450 to £475, and he must find you a new mast, boom, and all other spars, for they are all too short.

I am your most obedient humble servant,

STEPHEN STEWART.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

P. S. I have had a good deal of business with Captain *Ewing*, and have always found him very punctual. S. S.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN CRAWFORD.

[No. 47.]

Annapolis, July 17, 1776.

SIR: This is to advise you that we are ordering some ammunition to *St. Mary's* County. You are therefore desired to prepare a wagon, with all expedition, to be ready to receive it as soon as the cart sent from hence may arrive with you, which we think will be this evening or to-morrow morning, and to forward it under a guard of eight men and an officer to *Leonardtown*, in said County. We trust you will use all diligence, and give the greatest despatch to this necessary business. We are, &c.

To Captain *David Crawford*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL DENT.

[No. 48.]

Annapolis, July 17, 1776.

SIR: We received a letter from Colonel *Jordan* last night, advising that some of *Dunmore's* party had landed on *St. George's*, and that the boats were going off to the vessels, it was imagined, for more. As the further orders which we may give must depend in a great measure on the numbers, situation, and movements of the enemy, we request you will communicate to us by the return of the express all the information you can collect relative to them, and be very particular therein. We have countermanded the orders given Captains *Thomas* and *Hindman* to march to *Philadelphia*, and expect them here to-day or to-morrow. Upon receiving intelligence from you, we shall be able to form an opinion whether it will be necessary they should be ordered to your assistance. Powder, lead, and flints, are sent off this morning to *Leonardtown*, and we hope will arrive there to-morrow night or on *Friday* morning. We approve of the Committee detaining Captain *Forrest's* company, and think it would be best, if the Militia will part with their guns, that that company should be armed with them, and immediately be subject to your orders. We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Dent*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THOMAS RINGGOLD AND OTHERS.

[No. 49.]

Annapolis, July 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have sent a barrel of gunpowder and four hundred pounds of lead, addressed to you, for the use of *Kent Island*, and doubt not your care of it. We think ourselves obliged, however, to tell you we have seen the ill effect of distributing ammunition among the Militia, and to desire you will lodge such a proportion of it with the Captains of the companies only as you may think proper, and they upon emergencies will deliver it out to their men.

We are, &c.

To Messrs. *Thomas Ringgold*, *Aquila Brown*, and Dr. *Ringgold*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THOMAS SMYTH.

[No. 50.]

Annapolis, July 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We send you by the bearer £400 currency, for paying off the wagons, and to answer other contingent expenses. We are sorry we cannot comply with other requests you have made of us relative to the two companies raised in *Kent*. Our Province is actually invaded by Lord *Dunmore* with his whole fleet, who are now come into *Potomack*, and are landing on *St. George's Island*. Our own battalion and Independent companies are marched off to the eastward by order of Convention. In this distressed situation, every gun we can muster from Mr. *Winters*, and all other parts, must be first applied to arm the battalion and Independent companies that are to stay in the Province to supply the place of those who are gone to *New-York*. As to tents, we will write you more fully hereafter, when we know certainly what canvass we have at *Chingoteague*. Were we to make the ample provision you wish for two companies in the *Eastern-Shore* battalion, and leave the others bare of everything, we should justly subject ourselves to the charge of partiality. You may depend we will do as much for those two companies as we possibly can, at least equal to others in the same battalion. We are, &c.

To *Thomas Smyth*, Esq.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAINS BARNES AND ELLICOTT.

[No. 51.]

Annapolis, July 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We received your favour of the 16th instant about an hour ago, and are sorry to find the people of *Kent Island* so very uneasy from an opinion *Dunmore* will attack them. We do not apprehend, unless he should receive a considerable reinforcement, that he will attempt anything of that sort, as, from the best information we have of them, his party is unequal to such a measure. However, hearing of the apprehensions which prevailed among you, and that you were not sufficiently provided with ammunition by the Committee of Observation for *Queen Anne's*, who we expected would supply you, and being desirous of guarding against every possibility of danger, we had ordered, before the receipt of your letter, a barrel of powder and four hundred pounds of lead to be lodged with Messrs. *Thomas Ringgold*, *Aquila Brown*, and Dr. *Ringgold*, for the use of the Island, and that Captain *Dean's* company of the Flying-Camp Militia should, as soon as they could be armed, march down for your protection. But as your recommendation of such as would answer the purpose would probably expedite the business, we think you had better make the proper inquiry, and write us. We are, &c.

To Captains *Barnes* and *Ellicott*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL EWING.

[No. 52.]

Annapolis, July 17, 1776.

SIR: The Militia of the Flying-Camp are not to draw pay or rations until they receive orders to march.

We are, &amp;c.

To Colonel *Thomas Ewing*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 17, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 14th instant was duly received, and immediately laid before Congress. In obedience to their commands, I do myself the honour to forward sundry resolves.

The Congress being of opinion that a quantity of powder should be distributed through the several Counties of *New-York* and *New-Jersey*, I am to request you will give directions to have it lodged in the hands of such persons as may be depended upon.

I have delivered Monsieur *Kirmovan* his commission, and directed him to repair immediately to the *Jerseys*, and put himself under the officer who commands the Flying-Camp. You will please to give orders respecting the appointment of a Sergeant-Major, a Quartermaster-General, and Paymaster-General in each regiment; and likewise necessary directions to General *Schuyler* with regard to cleansing the Army of the small-pox.

Mr. *Humpton* and Mr. *Dawson* have been officers in the *British Army*, and I hope will be of service in ours. They will be ordered to Head-Quarters as soon as possible.

Upwards of a thousand troops from *Maryland* are now in this city, on their way to join the Flying-Camp in *New-Jersey*. They are an exceeding fine body of men, and will begin their march this day.

Agreeably to the enclosed resolves of Congress, I have written in the most vehement and pressing manner to the *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Connecticut*, and *New-Jersey*, to forward their Militia, and I have no doubt of their compliance immediately.

With the most fervent and incessant wishes that your head may be covered in the day of battle, and that success may crown your arms, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.To His Excellency General *Washington*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, July 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress, previous to the meeting of the Convention of the State of *Pennsylvania*, have received information of such a nature as induced them to appoint a Committee, who are under an injunction of secrecy, to make the necessary inquiry; but as this State is mostly interested in the subject of the inquiry, Congress have thought proper

that the matter should be made known to a Committee of your body. I have it, therefore, in charge to request that you will be pleased to appoint a Committee from your Convention, to be under an injunction of secrecy, to confer with the Committee of Congress on this important matter. Having the honour to be of the Committee of Congress, I should be glad to be informed of the names of such persons as you shall appoint on the Committee, that a time and place may be fixed on for the conference.

I have the honour to be, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.To the Convention of *Pennsylvania*, now sitting.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL SMALLWOOD.

Philadelphia, July 17, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from Congress to direct that you, as soon as possible, march the troops from *Maryland*, now in this city, to *New-York*, and there put yourself under the command of General *Washington*. The exigency of the service requiring as speedy a junction as possible of your troops with those at *New-York*, I recommend you to use all despatch in your power.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.To Colonel *William Smallwood*, *Philadelphia*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL MERCER.

Philadelphia, July 17, 1776.

SIR: I am reduced to the last minute, and have only time to enclose you sundry resolves of Congress for your direction, to which I beg leave to request your attention.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.To Brigadier-General *Mercer*, *New-Jersey*.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 17, 1776.

It being recommended to this Committee by the Convention to take the necessary steps respecting the Guard directed by Congress to be kept in this City:

*Resolved*, That the four companies of Militia of this City and Liberties, detained by General *Roberdeau* as guards for this City, namely, Captain *Smythers*, of the First Battalion, Captain *Peters*, of the Second, Captain *Wharton*, of the Third, and the company lately commanded by Captain *Burkhard*, of the Fourth, be required to attend their duty regularly and punctually, under the orders and command of Captain *Peters*. And the commanding officers of the said companies are required to enrol into the same all such Associators as, from particular circumstances, cannot march with the Militia now called into service for the Flying-Camp; and all such Associators are earnestly exhorted to enrol themselves in some one of the said companies, for this necessary and important service, in which they are to continue during the absence of the companies to which they respectively belong.

Extract from the Minutes:

WILLIAM GOVETT, *Secretary*.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, July 17, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Hand* having informed me that he means to purchase regimentals for his battalion in *Philadelphia*, I must take the liberty to request you will have the nine thousand dollars, resolved by Congress of the 12th ultimo to be paid him here for that purpose, to be advanced to him or his order there. The state of our chest is extremely low, and many pressing demands against it; besides, as the clothes are to be paid for there, it seems unnecessary to send money from hence. An account of the advance may be transmitted, in order to a stoppage from the men's pay.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 18, 1776, and referred to the Board of War.]

New-York, July 17, 1776.

SIR: I was this morning honoured with yours of the 15th instant, with sundry resolves. I perceive the measures Congress have taken to expedite the raising of the Flying-Camp, and providing it with articles of the greatest use. You will see, by a postscript to my letter of the 14th, that I had written to the commanding officer of the *Pennsylvania* Militia, ordering them to be marched from *Trenton* to *Amboy*, as their remaining there could not answer the least publick good; for, having consulted with many gentlemen, I am informed if the enemy mean to direct their views towards *Pennsylvania*, or penetrate the *Jerseys*, their route will be from near *Amboy*, and either by the way of *Brunswick* or *Boundbrook*, the lower road from *South-Amboy* being through a woody, sandy country; besides, they will be then able to throw in succour here, and to receive it from hence in cases of emergency.

The *Connecticut* Lighthorse, mentioned in my letter of the 11th, notwithstanding their then promise to continue here for the defence of this place, are now discharged, and about to return home, having peremptorily refused all kind of fatigue duty, or even to mount guard, claiming an exemption as Troopers. Though their assistance is much needed, and might be of essential service in case of an attack, yet I judged it advisable, on their application and claim of such indulgences, to discharge them; as granting them would set an example to others, and might produce many ill consequences. The number of men included in the last return, by this, is lessened about five hundred.

I last night received a letter of the 12th instant from General *Schuyler*, with several enclosures, copies of which I have herewith transmitted. They will give Congress every information I have respecting the northern Army, and the situation of our affairs in that quarter, to which I beg leave to refer their attention. I cannot but express my surprise at the scarcity of provision which General *Schuyler* mentions, after what the Commissary assured me, and which formed a part of my letter of the 14th; he still assures me of the same. This is a distressing circumstance, as every article of provision and everything necessary for that department can have no other now than a land conveyance, the water communication from hence to *Albany* being entirely cut off. Congress will please to consider the enclosure No. 6, about raising six companies out of the inhabitants about the lakes, to prevent the incursions of the *Indians*. The General Officers, in their Minutes of Council, have determined it to be a matter of much importance, and their attention to the price of goods furnished the soldiery may be extremely necessary. They have complained much upon this head.

The retreat from *Crown-Point* seems to be considered in opposite views by the General and Field Officers: the former, I am satisfied, have weighed the matter well, and yet the reasons assigned by the latter against it appear strong and forcible. I hope whatever is done will be for the best.

I was apprehensive the appointment of General *Gates* over General *Sullivan* would give the latter disgust. His letter, which I transmitted to Congress, seemed to warrant the suspicion. He is not arrived yet; when he does, I shall try to settle the affair with him, and prevail on him to continue, as I think his resignation will take from the service a useful and good officer.

By a letter from the Committee of *Orange* County, received this morning, the men-of-war and tenders were yesterday at *Haverstraw Bay*, about forty miles above this. A number of men, in four barges from the tenders, attempted to land, with a view, they suppose, of taking some sheep and cattle that had been previously removed. A small number of Militia who were collected obliged them to retreat, without their doing any damage with their cannon. They were sounding the water up towards the Highlands, by which it is probable they will attempt to pass with part of the fleet, if possible.

Yesterday evening a flag came from General *Howe*, with a letter addressed "To George Washington, Esq., &c., &c., &c." It was not received, on the same principle that the one from Lord *Howe* was refused.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, July 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yesterday evening I was favoured with yours of the 12th instant, with its several enclosures.

As to the propriety or impropriety of giving up *Crown-Point*, and vacating that post, it is impossible for me to determine. My ignorance of the country, my unacquaintance with its situation, and a variety of circumstances, will not permit me to pronounce any certain opinion upon the subject, or to declare whether it might or could not be maintained against the enemy. I doubt not the measure was duly weighed by the General Officers in council, and seemed to them best calculated to secure the Colonies and prevent the enemy from penetrating into them. However, I cannot but observe, (though I do not mean to encourage in the smallest degree, or to give the least sanction to inferior officers to set up their opinions against the proceedings and councils of their superiors, knowing the dangerous tendency of such a practice,) that the reasons assigned by the officers in their remonstrance, appear to me forcible and of great weight: they coincide with my own ideas. I have ever understood *Crown-Point* to be an important post, and, from its situation, of the utmost consequence to us, especially if we want to keep the superiority and mastery of the Lake. If it is abandoned by us, it is natural to suppose the enemy will possess it. If they do, and my judgment does not mislead me, any vessels or galleys we employ upon the Lake will certainly be in their rear, and it will not be in our power to bring them down to *Ticonderoga*, or the post opposite to it, or from thence to have the least communication with them, or the means of granting them succours or supplies of any kind. Perhaps it is intended to employ the galleys only on the communication between the two posts, that of *Crown-Point* and the one now to be established. How far they would there answer our views, I cannot tell. As I said before, I have not a sufficient knowledge of the several posts, or the neighbouring country, to form an accurate judgment upon the matter, and of consequence do not design anything I have said by way of direction, trusting that whatever is best to advance the interest of the important struggle we are engaged in will be done.

I am extremely sorry to hear such unfavourable accounts of the condition of the Army. Sickness of itself is sufficiently bad; but when discord and disorder are added, greater misfortunes cannot befall it, except that of a defeat. While they prevail, there is but little hope of things succeeding well. I must entreat your attention to these matters, and your exertions to introduce more discipline, and to do away the unhappy pernicious distinctions and jealousies between the troops of different Governments. Enjoin this upon the officers, and let them inculcate, and press home to the soldiers, the necessity of order and harmony among those who are embarked in one common cause, and mutually contending for all that freemen hold dear. I am persuaded, if the officers will but exert themselves, that these animosities and disorders will in a great measure subside; and nothing being more essential to the service than that they should, I am hopeful nothing on their part will be wanting to effect it.

The scarcity of provisions which you mention surprises me much. I had hoped that an ample and competent supply for a considerable time was now in store; nor can I but believe the most lavish and extravagant waste has been made of it. Not longer than three or four days ago, and just after the two men-of-war and tenders passed by, as mentioned in my last, the situation of the northern Army, in respect to this article, occurred to my mind, and induced an inquiry of the Commissary about it, being certain the water communication with *Albany* would be entirely cut off; and I was happy to find from him, that the supplies he had forwarded would be fully sufficient for ten thousand men for four months. This I informed Congress of as a most fortunate event. To be told now that there is none, or next to none, is so contrary to what I expected, that I am filled with wonder and astonishment. I have informed the Commissary of it, who is equally surprised; and must request, as our navigation is so circumstanced, that you will direct those whose business it is, to use every possible means to provide such supplies as may be necessary; and that proper attention be paid to the expenditure, or it will be impossible ever to subsist that Army.

As to intrenching tools, I have from time to time forwarded all that can possibly be spared. I have directed the Quar-



termaster to send such things contained in your list as can be had and may be transported by land. The greatest part it would be difficult to procure, and if they could be had, would be attended with immense trouble and expense to forward them; I must therefore entreat your utmost diligence and inquiry to get them; and not only them, but every necessary you want, wherever they may be had. The water-course being now at an end, but few supplies can be expected from hence; and I make not the least doubt, if active proper persons are employed, in many instances you will be able to obtain such articles as you stand in need of. I am under the necessity of doing so here, and by much pains and industry have procured many necessities. As for the articles wanted for the gondolas, I should suppose many of them may be purchased of the proprietors of craft about *Albany*, and of persons who have vessels there, by allowing them a good price. The communication by water being now stopped, they cannot employ them, and I presume may be prevailed on to part with most of their tackle for a good consideration.

I transmitted Congress a copy of your letter and of its several enclosures, and recommended to their particular attention the resolution No. 6, for raising six companies to guard the frontiers, and the high price of goods furnished the soldier, and that some measures might be taken thereon.

There is a resolve of Congress against officers holding double commissions, and of long standing. None are allowed it except Adjutants and Quartermasters; and they generally are also First or Second Lieutenants. In this Army there is no instance of double officers but in the cases I mention.

The carpenters from *Philadelphia* unfortunately had not time to get their tools, &c., on board a craft here before the men-of-war got up. They set out by land next day, and I suppose will be at *Albany* in the course of this week, as also two companies from *Connecticut*.

I have inquired of Mr. *Hughes*, and find that the six anchors and cables were on board Captain *Peter Post's* vessel belonging to *Esopus*, who, upon the first appearance of the fleet coming above the *Narrows*, went off without taking the necessities brought by Captain *Donn*. Mr. *Hughes* says Captain *Donn*, who bought you the lead, had orders to get them.

I have enclosed you a list of the naval articles the Quartermaster expects to obtain and send from hence, which will evince the necessity of your exertions to get the rest elsewhere. Many of the articles, I should suppose, may be made at *Albany* and within the neighbourhood of it.

I am in hopes that, in consequence of your application, the different Governments will take some steps for apprehending deserters. It is a growing evil, and I wish it may be remedied. From the Northern Army they have been extremely numerous, from report, and should most certainly be returned if they can be found. How far the mode suggested by you may answer, the event will show; but I am doubtful whether many will return of themselves.

I fancy a part of your letter was omitted to be sent. When you come to speak of deserters, what I learn on the subject begins a new sheet, and seems to suppose something preceding about them. After requesting Mr. *Hughes* to be spoken to about the anchors, &c., the next page begins, "unanimously agreed that I should write," &c.

You will perceive by the enclosed resolve, that Congress mean to raise the garrison for *Presque-Isle*, &c., in the Counties of *Westmoreland* and *Bedford*, in *Pennsylvania*.

I am, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

P. S. *July 18*, 10 o'clock A. M.—I this minute spoke to Mr. *Trumbull* again about provisions, and pressed his most vigorous exertions. I believe he is determined to leave nothing undone on his part, and has already sent off some persons upon the business, of which I suppose he will inform you or Mr. *Livingston*.

G. W.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL JAMES CLINTON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 17, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 13th instant was duly received. The steps you have taken appear to me extremely proper, and that there may be no discouragement in the purchase

of arms, of which we stand in great need, I have, by the bearer, sent you the £300 you request. You will please to keep a particular account of the disbursement, in order that it may be brought into its proper place of statement at a future day.

Before this reaches you, two officers of the Artillery, whom I despatched last *Sunday*, will have arrived, to supply the place of those so unhappily disabled. I trust these accidents will form a lesson of prudence and calmness at such times, and particularly excite care and caution. It is a melancholy consideration, that in these cases we suffer more from our own artillery than the enemy.

As the enemy weighed anchor yesterday, with a seeming intention to pass up the river, I trust everything is in the best readiness and preparation to receive them.

The rafts, if properly constructed, and executed with spirit and intrepidity, are most dangerous and alarming enemies to shipping. Unacquainted with the river, the situation of the ships, and many other circumstances necessary to form a judgment of the probability of success, I can only say, that I agree in opinion with your brother, that expenses ought not to be regarded, if the prospect of success is any way encouraging. You must, with those upon whose opinion you can depend, form the best judgment you can, and act accordingly.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Col. *James Clinton*, *Fort Constitution*, 3d *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 15th instant, covering the resolution of the same date, was duly received, which I beg leave to say was noble, and does honour to your respectable body. It likewise adds a further proof of your determination to afford me all possible assistance in discharging the important duties of my office. It is impossible to say what may be necessary, but I shall conduct as the exigencies of the case may require, and I doubt not your cheerful aid and assistance will be rendered whenever called for.

It has been out of my power to procure more whale boats than are absolutely necessary for the night-guards. Doubt not you will be able to procure the number you want from the western shore of the *Sound*, which may be easily transported by land, or by the way of *King's Bridge*, to the *North River*.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, with respect and esteem, your most humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable the Provincial Convention of the State of *New-York*.

COMMITTEE OF NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

White-Plains, July 17, 1776.

SIR: The Convention have thought it proper to appoint us a Secret Committee, among other things to form and execute any plan which we may conceive necessary for the defence of *Hudson's River*, which unfortunately has been too long neglected. We wish to have your Excellency's advice on this important subject, and shall think ourselves happy to coöperate in any design you may have formed.

The obstructing the navigation at *Mount Washington* we suppose to be an object which your Excellency has particularly in view; we shall therefore direct our attention to such others as we may conceive necessary. Mr. *Duer* is in some measure apprized of our designs, and will give your Excellency every information that you may require.

Your Excellency's commands will reach us if directed to *Poughkeepsie*.

We remain, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most humble servants,

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON,  
ROBERT YATES,  
GILBERT LIVINGSTON,  
CHRISTOPHER TAPPEN,  
WILLIAM PAULDING.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

## COLONEL DUBOIS TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 1, 1776.]

New-York, July 17, 1776.

SIR: On my arrival at *New-York*, I applied to General *Washington* for recruiting orders for the officers of my regiment, according to appointment of the honourable Congress, which he granted me. I thereupon notified the several officers of their appointments; but, to my great surprise, I found many of them offended, and soon after they sent me their resignations, with their reasons, which I now enclose you.

I could hardly have believed that gentlemen would have disputed for rank they all the winter acquiesced in, and performed duty accordingly in the Army before *Quebeck*; especially as the arrangement of the officers of the regiments to be recruited out of the four *New-York* regiments in *Canada* was made on the same principle, to wit: agreeable to the appointment by the late worthy General *Montgomery*.

I also enclose you a certificate of the rank of the officers of the Third Regiment, in which I served in *Canada*, certified by Colonel *Weissenfels*, who then acted as Brigade-Major, by which it will evidently appear that the gentlemen who have resigned assigned false reasons, and that the arrangement of my regiment, as far as it respects the late officers of the Third Regiment, is perfectly agreeable to the rank they bore therein. And should there be any mistakes in respect to any of the officers of the other regiments, it was without any design in me to injure them; nor do I believe there is any, except in the case of Lieutenant *Gano*, which I offered to have corrected, as it might have been done, as the men in whose favour it was unintentionally made, resigned. It is true, there was one Mr. *Gilliland* left out of my regiment, who served last winter in *Canada*; but I hope I shall stand justified in not returning his name in my list of officers made by the Convention of this Colony to Congress last spring, because he is noted as unfit to serve, as is mentioned by that return. If I am rightly informed, the Congress of this Colony decline appointing the remainder of my officers. This will tend so much to delay the filling my regiment, that I would beg to be informed by your honourable House, how they are to be appointed, that I may take the proper steps for that purpose. A number of good men have offered their services, and say they can raise their proportion of men in a few days.

I am, with the profoundest respect, your most obedient servant,

LEWIS DUBOIS, Colonel.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

To LEWIS DUBOIS, Esq.:

We, the subscribers, do hereby resign the appointments we held in the regiment lately ordered to be raised and commanded by *Lewis Dubois*, Esq., for the following reasons:

First: We have been ungenerously superseded, which the old arrangement of officers, made by the Provincial Congress will fully evince; for we assert that the youngest Lieutenant in the Third Regiment, to which Mr. *Dubois* belonged, is appointed a Captain over the heads of the First Lieutenant of the First, and other regiments; likewise, that Sergeants and Corporals, who went out in said Third Regiment, have superseded officers who bore commissions in the last campaign.

AARON AERSON, Lieutenant.

JONATHAN PEASE, Lieutenant.

RICHARD PLATT, Lieutenant.

DANIEL GANO, Lieutenant.

GARRET VAN WAGENEN, Lieutenant.

New-York, July, 1776.

## Arrangement of the Third Battalion of YORKERS.

Returns of the Officers belonging to the Third Battalion of YORKERS, commanded by Colonel CLINTON, in rank, as they served at CANADA, the last campaign, agreeable to General MONTGOMERY's appointment.

Lewis Dubois, Major.

CAPTAINS.—1st, *Jacobus S. Bruyn*.2d, *Robert Johnson*, provided for at *Canada*.3d, *David Dubois*.4th, *Elias Van Bunschoten*.5th, *E. Cooper*, provided for at *Canada*.6th, *Thomas De Witt*.1st LIEUTS.—1st, *Philip Dubois*.2d, *Albert Paulding*.3d, *Cornelius T. Jansen*.4th, *James Gregg*.5th, *William Martain*, provided for at *Canada*.2d LIEUTS.—1st, *Evens Wherry*.2d, *Henry Vandenburg*.3d, *Nathaniel Conklin*.4th, *Henry Docty*.

I can certify that the above gentlemen were appointed by General *Montgomery*, and did duty as such the time I was Brigade-Major to the Army before *Quebeck*.

FRED. WEISSENFELS, Lieutenant-Colonel.

July 17, 1776.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

German-Flats, July 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your Excellency's favour of the 11th instant was delivered me this morning, with the sundry papers mentioned in it. It gives me a very sincere and heartfelt pleasure that I can declare that the difference in opinion between General *Gates* and me has been simply such, unattended with that little jealousy which would have reflected disgrace on both of us. Be assured, sir, that the most perfect harmony subsists between us, and that I shall, by every attention to General *Gates*, strictly cultivate it, as well to increase my own felicity as to promote the publick service.

You have a formidable and well-appointed Army to contend with; but I still hope that when *Americans* see the danger, nay, the ruin with which they are threatened, they will with alacrity support you, and put it in your power to give a good account of the foe. May Heaven aid and direct you, and make you the happy instrument of ensuring freedom to the Western World.

Colonel *Dayton* arrived at *Fort Stanwix* on the 13th. I cannot learn that taking post there gives any umbrage to the *Indians*, of whom we have about one hundred and fifty here, and momentarily expect very large numbers. We have hopes, from what information we have received, that we shall be able to keep them neuter at least.

I am extremely happy to hear that your Excellency has ordered three regiments from *Boston* to the Northern Army. I believe General *Burgoyne* will attempt to penetrate into the Colonies, but I think it will be impossible for him to effect it, even if he should cross the lakes, which I cannot conceive he will be able to do, as our naval strength greatly exceeds his, and as we shall certainly build as fast as he can.

I am very much afraid that Mr. *Livingston* will resign his office, if Mr. *Trumbull* appoints any person to act to the northward independently of him. If so, I shall be under great apprehensions that the service will not at this critical time be carried on so well as I wish. Will you be so good as to communicate this to Mr. *Trumbull*.

I shall immediately transmit the Declaration of Congress to General *Gates*, and desire him to proclaim it throughout the Army.

I am, dear sir, with every affectionate wish for your health and happiness, and with perfect esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 29, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

German-Flats, Wednesday, July 17, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your letter of the 8th instant, covering the resolutions of Congress of the same day.

When gentlemen act with candour to each other, a difference in opinion will seldom be attended with any disagreeable consequences. I am happy, sir, that I can assure you that the most perfect good understanding subsists between General *Gates* and me, insomuch that it gave him pain that I was under the necessity of quitting the Army to repair here at this critical juncture. You will please to assure Congress that I am deeply impressed with the necessity of mutual confidence amongst all its officers, and that I shall never neglect any measure that may have a tendency to so desirable an end.

I have seen with the deepest affliction the unhappy jealousy which reigned in the Northern Army, occasioned by Colonial distinctions—distinctions both injurious to the

cause of *America*, and disgraceful to the authors of them. I have pointed out to the several Colonels and commanding officers of corps, in language as pointedly as I could, the pernicious consequences of such a fatal dissension, and I hope it will soon be eradicated.

I arrived here about ten yesterday morning, in hopes to have found the *Six Nations* here before me; but I fear the whole will not be here until the last of the week. Mr. *Peter Ryckman*, a trader of *Albany*, who has been detained at *Niagara* since last year, on a well-grounded suspicion of his affection to the *American* cause, and from apprehensions that his influence among the *Indians* would be exerted in our favour, has found means to make his escape, and arrived here last night, attended by twenty-one *Seneca* warriors. He left *Niagara* on the 27th ultimo, and tarried ten days in some of the *Seneca* villages. He advises that the garrison consists of about two hundred men; that the fort is well repaired; that they were not under any apprehensions of a visit from us; but that in the beginning of *May* they were in great want of provision, and the soldiers wished for our coming; that Colonel *Butler* had frequently attempted to engage the *Indians* against us; that they constantly refused to comply, greatly commending us for recommending neutrality to them, and severely reprimanding him for some scurrility thrown out against us; that a *Seneca* sachem, named *Cajaghsoda*, from some town towards the *Ohio*, (a man of great influence and much respected by all the nations,) in a long speech inveighed bitterly against *Butler* for attempting to make the *Indians* parties in the war, and concluded with declaring that he would not interfere, but let the father and son (as he expressed himself) settle their difference between them; that this man opened the eyes of the *Indians* to their true interest; that the few *Indians* that went down to *Canada* had been kept drunk for some time before, and went contrary to the inclinations of the sachems of all the *Six Nations*; that the Council at *Onondaga* had sent a sachem of note express to *Niagara* to bring away two sachems, whom *Butler*, by dint of money and liquor, has kept about him all this spring. *Ryckman* understands and speaks the *Indian* language very well, and he assures us that he does not believe that the upper nations of the *Six* can be brought to act against us. If so, the more western nations will not be suffered to harass our frontiers. He advises that we should be liberal at this treaty.

The goods we have brought up are neither such nor so many as we could wish; for although we have about seven hundred pounds' worth, yet as the price of goods is so extravagantly high, they will not be considered by the *Indians* as of more value than half that sum. I have therefore despatched an express this morning to General *Gates* for some *Indian* goods that were brought from *Canada*, and have ordered up fifteen hundred dollars in specie. If our treaty turns out favourable, I shall propose to my colleagues to publish such parts of it as will dispel the fears of the frontier inhabitants, without waiting for the determination of Congress, as the apprehensions of those people are very high. If, however, Congress should not approve of this measure, I believe there will be time sufficient to advise us of it before it can take place.

Mr. *Ryckman* observes, that *Cajaghsoda*, the *Seneca* sachem above mentioned, has been at Congress, and believes he will pay another visit, and wishes that particular attention should be paid him. He lives near *Pittsborough*. Perhaps it might be well to send a message to him, thanking him for his conduct at *Niagara*, and that it was communicated by *Ryckman*, whose *Indian* name is *Queder*.

I am, dear sir, with every wish for your health and happiness, and with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

German-Flats, July 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favours of the 5th and 12th instant, by Captains *Winslow* and *Lester*, were sent me from *Albany*, and received this day. I have written to my Secretary to give those gentlemen the fullest assurances that your wishes with regard to them will be fully complied with, and that they will certainly receive every assistance the Hospital can afford, in case of sickness, in the same manner as the soldiers have;

so that I hope they have already marched, without any difficulty.

I arrived here yesterday, and found very few *Indians*. This day, about one hundred and fifty *Indians* have come in, and we expect a numerous body of them in a few days. Mr. *Ryckman*, a trader from *Albany*, who has been detained at *Niagara* by the *British* officer commanding there, since last year, because he was a friend to our cause, and had influence among the savages, has found means to make his escape, and arrived here last night, accompanied by twenty-one warriors of the *Seneca* nation. The account he brings of the temper of the *Senecas* (the nation who could distress us most) is very favourable; and he assures me that he has reason to believe the *Indians* will not attack our frontiers.

Numerous and formidable as our enemies are, I cannot despair of success against them, provided we are unanimous. I mention this, because of the unhappy dissensions in the Northern Army, where some unfriendly or unthinking people have set up Colonial distinctions. I have always deprecated every attempt to divide us, by that or any other means; and when I was last at *Crown-Point*, I convened the commanding officer of every corps, and pointed out, in the most forcible manner I was capable of, the danger of such distinctions, and how much and how justly the enemy would exult to learn it. The goodness of your heart, my dear sir, and your zeal for our cause, will induce you to give me all the assistance in your power to eradicate this evil. But whilst I entreat you to recommend to the troops from your Colony to cultivate harmony, I would not wish to be understood that they have been the promoters or principal supporters of the unhappy dissensions; on the contrary, I have reason to believe them as little culpable as any.

I am, dear sir, with every friendly wish, and with great esteem and respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

German-Flats, July 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I was in hopes to have found the greater part of the *Six Nations* here, as I did not arrive until yesterday; but a few only, as yet, have repaired to this place. The meeting will, however, from all the information I have received, be a numerous one.

Last evening, Mr. *Peter Ryckman* arrived here. He is a trader of *Albany*, and has been detained at *Niagara* by the commanding officer there, on a well-grounded suspicion that he was a friend to our cause. He left *Niagara* on the 27th ultimo, and remained ten days with the *Senecas* on his way down, and was accompanied to this place by twenty-one warriors of that nation. He advises that the *Senecas* are extremely well pleased with the measure we have adopted, in asking nothing more than a neutrality; and he does not believe that they can be induced to act against us, as the Crown agent, Colonel *Butler*, has several times in vain attempted to make them take the hatchet, and has been as often disappointed and even rebuked by them.

The few goods we have been able to collect at *Albany* are greatly inadequate to our wants. I must therefore entreat you to send all the *Indian* goods which General *Arnold* brought from *Montreal*, to this place, with all the despatch possible; and that they may not be delayed on the way, permit me to beg you to send an active and early-rising officer with them, to accompany them all the way here.

I hope your endeavours to establish good order, and to eradicate the dangerous jealousy which has unhappily arisen amongst the troops, will meet with the desired success.

The five officers, who went off from *Lebanon*, in *Pennsylvania*, were met by Mr. *Ryckman*, on his way from *Niagara*.

I am, dear sir, most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable General *Gates*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WATERBURY.

Tyonderoga, July 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: This will be delivered to you by Dr. *Ely*, sent here by Governour *Trumbull*, and the authority of *Connecticut*, to concert with me the best means to prevent

the infection of the small-pox from spreading amongst the Militia daily expected from that Colony, and the other Eastern Governments: The Doctor highly approves of the method taken here to stop the progress of that pestilential disease, and goes to your post, by my direction, to give you his advice and assistance, to promote the salutary purpose of his journey to the Army. I have no doubt you will give him all the attention and countenance requisite to so important a business, and that you will continue to exert your utmost vigilance and power to make us once more a healthy Army. I send you by this conveyance a large quantity of provisions, five barrels of powder, two hundred and fifty weight of lead, some cartridge-paper and thread, and a set of bullet-moulds. You will employ proper persons, and, as quick as possible, have the ammunition made up into cartridges.

A gentleman, of credit and reputation, brings a report to *Albany*, that a *French* fleet had arrived at *Rhode-Island*, with Mr. *Deane* on board. I am, sir, &c., &c.

HORATIO GATES.

To General *Waterbury*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, July 17, 1776.

SIR: As I am entirely unacquainted with the Lake below *Crown-Point*, I send the Commodore, with the largest and best schooner, to receive his instructions from you in regard to the cruise he ought to make. I think, until the rest of the vessels are fitted, it will not be advisable to send the schooner into the narrow part of the Lake below. I wish you were here to give directions for putting our whole squadron afloat. It seems to me they are very tardy about it; but I am entirely uninformed as to Marine affairs. I like Captain *Mayhew*, whom you sent here; but I think the Commodore seems slow, and wish he may retain all that prowess for which he says he was so famous last war. It is of the greatest consequence to our affairs to have the armed vessels commanded by men of firmness and approved courage.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Brigadier-General *Arnold*.

GENERAL GATES TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER AT FORT GEORGE.

Head-Quarters, at *Ticonderoga*, July 17, 1776.

SIR: I understand that there is a wanton waste of powder at your post, in firing a morning and evening gun, and in unnecessary salutes. It is my positive order that this practice be immediately discontinued, and no ammunition expended on any account whatever, except in opposition to the attacks of the enemy. I am, sir, your humble servant,

HORATIO GATES, Major-General.

To the Commanding Officer at *Fort George*.

GENERAL GATES TO LIEUTENANT-COLONEL GANSEVOORT.

Tyonderoga, July 17, 1776.

SIR: On the receipt of this, you will send any spare oars you may have to Mr. *Donn*, at the Landing on this side the Lake. The oars will be wanted here, therefore beg you'll forward them as soon as possible.

You will be very careful, sir, to prevent any desertion of those who are sent to the General Hospital: some villains may perhaps feign themselves sick, merely with the design of gaining an opportunity of deserting. The utmost care will be necessary to guard against this evil.

Many complaints, sir, are made by the officers here, that their letters, both going and coming, are interrupted, and sometimes broke open. I beg, sir, if anything of this kind has happened at your post, it may for the future be prevented. If any person can be discovered either to open or retard any letters going to or from the Army, he must be immediately apprehended and tried, for a crime of this kind cannot be too severely punished.

In fine, sir, you will in everything be very careful for the publick good and the security of your post.

I am, sir, your very obedient servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Lieut. Col. *Gansevoort*, commanding at *Fort George*.

CAPTAIN BROWNSON TO GENERAL GATES.

Pittsford, July 17, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I sent an express to *Crown-Point*, respecting *Brice Dunlap*, whom I confined on the 13th instant, a second time, for the murder of Corporal *Colley*, of the *Pennsylvania* forces. Your Honour being at *Ticonderoga*, I received orders from General *Arnold* to send the prisoner to you there. I have sent Lieutenant *Samuel Tubs*, with eight men, to convey the said prisoner to *Ticonderoga*.

These from your Honour's very humble servant,

GIDEON BROWNSON, Captain.

His Honour Major General *Gates*, Commander at *Ticonderoga*.

PETITION OF THE OFFICERS OF COL. BEDEL'S REGIMENT.

To Major-General GATES:

The petition of the Officers, &c., belonging to Colonel *Bedel's* Regiment, inhabitants on the frontier towns of *New-Hampshire*, and the interior parts of some other Provinces, of *New-York*, &c., humbly sheweth: That your petitioners, from a true sense of liberty and an utter abhorrence of slavery, engaged in the honourable cause of liberty under the command of Colonel *Timothy Bedel*, under whose command we have cheerfully encountered many difficulties and sustained many losses without the least reluctance. Beg leave to lay before your Honour, that it is not through any dislike to the cause, or any part concerned therein, that we do now petition for liberty to take post in the frontier towns, but from the first principle of nature, self-preservation itself; as, at this time, by information and letters received from the families of chief of us, we find that their case is truly deplorable, being under the disagreeable necessity of abandoning their farms, leaving their grain and the whole of their substance behind them, for fear of the savages coming upon them, and obliged to crowd into some of the lower towns for safety, where it is but meanly fortified, through want of men, as that part of the country was left bare, most part of the regiment being raised in those parts; and at this time it is obvious to view, from the behaviour of the savages, that the first incursion will be on the frontiers, and those parts are entirely exposed since abandoning *Canada*. There has, upon computation, for these several years past, been raised, in only two of the towns, upwards of ten thousand bushels of wheat for sale, more than what the families stood in need of, besides corn, &c., and great quantities of hay cut on said farms. The inhabitants have moved above one hundred miles below us, into the towns further down, so that they are one hundred miles from all assistance, which has been the means of a great number of good and brave men leaving the service.

Your petitioners beg leave to inform your Honour that since they were taken prisoners at the *Cedars*, (as also those at the retreat of *Quebeck*, which was made so sudden,) lost chiefly all they had—the officers in said regiment being stripped of every part of their clothing that was either comfortable or valuable, and have not had, since the 19th day of *May*, a shirt to make a change, but are obliged to put on their outside garments when they get their shirts washed; and are not in any capacity to appear among gentlemen, or even to do their proper tour of duty, and nothing can be purchased here to make us comfortable.

Your Honour's petitioners do not desire the liberty to take post in the frontier towns in any other view than that of taking care of their poor, distressed families, and also providing themselves with clothing. We are confident the men who have left the service would heartily and freely join the regiment again. Those whose families are most exposed would be glad to go upon furlough to take care of and remove them to some place of defence, if it is not your Honour's pleasure for the whole to go. Your petitioners are and shall always be most cheerfully disposed to stand firm, at the expense of our lives and property, to defend the cause we are engaged in, could we but ease the distressed situation of our poor families.

Your petitioners humbly hope your Honour will take the matter into your consideration, (as we are sensible your Honour is endowed with compassion and humanity for the distressed,) and grant such relief as in your Honour's wisdom



shall seem most meet; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

James Osgood, *Captain*,  
Jason Wait, *Captain*,  
Edward Everett, *Captain*,  
Samuel Fowler, *Lieutenant*,  
Ephraim Stone, *Lieutenant*,  
Ebenezer Chamberlain, *Lieut.*  
Joseph Thurbe, *Lieutenant*,  
John Webster, *Lieutenant*,  
William Campbell, *Lieutenant*,

William Bradford, *Ensign*,  
John Greggs, *Ensign*,  
Benj'n Chamberlain, *Ensign*,  
Charles Hill, *Ensign*,  
Amos Webster, *Ensign*,  
Frye Bayley, *Ensign*,  
Abner Barker, *Surgeon*,  
Thomas Hibbard, *Adjutant*.

TICONDEROGA, July 17, 1776.

DANIEL TILLINGHAST TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, July 17, 1776.

By yesterday's post I wrote your Excellency, and therein enclosed copy of an invoice of S A, No. 1 to 3, three cases *Scotch* arms. With this you will receive, via *New-London*, to the care of *Nathaniel Shaw, Esq.*, Nos. 8 and 9, two cases more *Scotch* arms, as per invoice herewith; and likewise Nos. 4 and 5, a chest and barrel, containing arms and flints, from *Thomas Greene, Esq.*, being Continental property in his hands, as per invoice herewith; all of which wish safe to your hands; and am, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

DANIEL TILLINGHAST, *Continental Agent*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief of the *American Army*, at *New-York*.

Providence, July 17, 1776.

Invoice of one case and one barrel containing twenty small-arms, thirty cutlasses, and fourteen thousand five hundred gun-flints, sent by *Joseph Bradford*, from *Thomas Greene*, of *Providence*, to *Nathaniel Shaw, Esq.*, at *New-London*, and by him to be forwarded his Excellency General *Washington*, at *New-York*, viz:

No. 4, a chest containing twenty small-arms and seventeen cutlasses; No. 5, a chest containing fourteen thousand five hundred flints, in the chest and in the barrel; thirteen cutlasses packed in S A No 9, a case.

Errors excepted: Per THOMAS GREENE.

I have examined and received the contents of the within.

EZEKIEL CHEEVER, *Com. Artillery*.

New-York, July 27, 1776.

Providence, July 17, 1776.

Invoice of two cases containing seventy-five *Scotch* arms, &c., sent by *Joseph Bradford*, from *Daniel Tillinghast*, of *Providence*, to *Nathaniel Shaw, Esq.*, at *New-London*, and by him to be forwarded to his Excellency General *Washington*, at *New-York*, viz:

S A Nos. 8 and 9, cases of *Scotch* arms, viz: No. 8, a case containing thirty-nine arms, thirty-nine bayonets, and eleven broadswords; No. 9, a case containing thirty-six arms and thirty-six bayonets.

N.B. Packed in No. 9, thirteen brass-mounted hangers, belonging to Mr. *Greene's* invoice.

Errors excepted. Per DANIEL TILLINGHAST, *Continental Agent*.

I have examined and received the within mentioned arms.

EZEKIEL CHEEVER, *Com. Artillery*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, July 17, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to your request in your letter of the 12th instant, which I had the honour to receive by the return of our post, I have employed suitable persons to procure the felling-axes you mention, and have furnished them with £300 to defray the expense, and make no doubt I shall soon be able to send them forward. In the mean time, should be glad to be advised whether you would have them with helves and ground, or whether it will answer to send them forward without either.

I have also issued a proclamation promising pardon to such deserters from the Northern Army as shall return to their Colonies by the 12th day of *August* next, and enjoining all officers, civil and military, to apprehend all such deserters found in this Colony after said 12th *August*, and confine them in some prison, giving notice, that they may be returned to the respective corps to which they belong.

The scarcity of materials renders it extremely difficult, if not impracticable, to supply the troops now raising in this Colony with tents. May not temporary barracks be erected at a moderate expense to supply the want of them?

I took the liberty in a former letter to inquire whether a considerable number of the old gun-barrels and locks taken at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point*, were not yet on hand, and to propose that they might be sent and fitted for use here. One hundred and eighty were formerly sent me, out of which one hundred and seventy good arms fit for service have been made; which encourages me to repeat my inquiry and request respecting other arms under like circumstances, and to hope for like success with them; and the teams returning that carry the axes may bring them.

I have advanced out of the Colony Treasury £50 to each of the head carpenters sent forward from this Colony to join you agreeable to your request, which it is expected will in proper time be replaced.

I hope the design of Dr. *Ely's* journey to the northward may not be mistaken. The infection of the small-pox in the Northern Army, accounts of which were spread by every traveller from thence, and represented in such a light as induced a belief that it was inevitable by any who should join that Army, greatly retarded the levies for that service, as scarcely one in twenty of our people have had that distemper. To prevent the bad effects of this terror, almost universal, it was judged expedient to send a person of known skill in that distemper, who might examine the true state of the matter upon the spot, in confidence that his report would lessen the apprehensions of danger, and facilitate the raising of men to join and support that Army. We meant not to invade your province or the business of the physicians in the Army, nor did we entertain the shadow of a doubt that you would use every prudent and practicable expedient to stop the progress of the infection and provide for the safety of the Army. To obviate the ill effects of exaggerated reports from weak or designing men, by which the levies for that service in this Colony were obstructed, was our only motive to send Dr. *Ely* to that quarter. His great skill and experience in that distemper generally known here, as well as his character for candour and probity, will naturally gain the fullest credit to the favourable report expected from him, and enable us speedily to fill up the battalion destined for that service. It is with great satisfaction that I receive your information of the measures concerted for preventing the further progress of the infection, and hope the same may be effectual for that purpose.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, July 17, 1776.

SIR: Your favours of the 7th and 9th instant were duly received. It gives me pleasure to meet your approbation of the measure of sending our regiments of Horse to join you. I make no doubt they will cheerfully acquiesce in whatever you shall direct respecting their horses, as the general good of the service ought to be, and I believe is, their governing principle. I find our battalions are filling up fast, and moving to your assistance.

The stock of horned cattle and sheep are removed from *Fisher's Island*. *Block Island* lies in the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, and the *Elizabeth Islands* and *Martha's Vineyard* are in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*: I cannot, therefore, with propriety, give any orders for the removal of the fresh provisions from them.

I am sorry it is not in my power to comply with your requisition for heavy cannon, without leaving our port and harbour of *New-London* in too defenceless a state. By a return from the overseer of our cannon-foundry at *Salisbury*, I find they have cast fourteen six, eighteen nine, and eight twelve-pounders, and are proceeding to bore them out and fit them for use. He has my orders, when the twelve-pounders are finished, to deliver them to your Excellency's order, to be used where they may be most wanted, without waiting for further orders from me. Ball for twelve-pounders are also to be had there. Should you have occasion, you will please to give orders accordingly. I expect eighteen-

pounders will be soon cast there, which is the largest size we can hope for from that furnace.

I have ordered two of our row-galleys to proceed to *New-York*, and trust they will be with you at the receipt of this; they have no guns larger than nine-pounders. I wish it may be in your power to make them more useful, by placing heavier metal upon them, whilst they continue in your service.

The Continental regiment raising in this Colony is now in some measure filled up, mustered, equipped, and ready to march; but as there seems to be much danger from the prevalence of the small-pox in *Boston*, should they march there, and as the whole force of the enemy on this side seems to be directed against you at *New-York*, I have thought it best they should suspend their march towards *Boston* till your pleasure might be known whether they should join the Army at *New-York* or proceed for *Boston*.

Since the arrival of the fleet and army at the *Hook*, several frigates and ships have been stationed between *Montauk Point* and *Block-Island*, to intercept the trade from the *Sound*, in which they have been so successful that they have derived great advantage from the provision vessels they have taken; and by frequent advices from the Captains of our armed vessels, and others, it appeared highly improbable that any vessel going out or coming in by that passage could avoid falling into their hands; and as several vessels were prepared and preparing in sundry places to proceed to sea with cargoes of provision, the owners of which must be presumed to be ignorant of the hazard they ran in getting out; and sensible of how great importance it is that all supplies of provision should be kept back from the enemy; and having good grounds to believe that some evil-minded persons had designedly carried provisions to the enemy, or thrown themselves in their way, as your Excellency will see by the enclosed copies of depositions taken and sent to Congress,—I have given orders to the Captains of the armed vessels in the service of this Colony to stop and detain all provision vessels coming out of any port in this Colony, or through the *Sound*, and bound to sea, for the present, and until the Continental Congress and the Congresses or Conventions of the Colonies or States to which they respectively belong, may be apprized of the hazards attending their proceeding in their voyages, and, on consideration, shall give such orders as they may think fit respecting the same. The apparent necessity of this measure will, I flatter myself, justify me in taking it, where it is known and properly explained. To prevent or obviate any misrepresentation, is my motive for troubling your Excellency with this account.

I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

19th.—Received your favour of the 15th instant, which induced me to send orders immediately to *Theo. Stanton*, Captain of our other row-galley, the *Shark*, to proceed with her forthwith to *New-York*, and subject himself to your command. Wish him safe, and serviceable to your designs.

20th.—Colonel *Ward*, of the Continental battalion lately ordered to be raised here, and mentioned above, informs that his regiment is not much beyond half filled, occasioned by their being raised for a longer time and receiving less bounty than others. Since many are ordered from *Boston*, and this may be stationed on the works below or in the environs, at places out of danger of the infection from the small-pox, will it not be best this battalion should be ordered to march to that place, first mentioned for their destination? They are principally men who have not seen service. Please to give the earliest notice of your pleasure therein.

*Nathan Spicer*, (late a hand on board the sloop *Macaroni*), of *New-London*, of lawful age, testifies and says: That on the 22d of *May* last he was made a prisoner, carried to *Halifax*, and there detained on board the Ministerial fleet until they sailed for *New-York*, when he was put on board a transport, and removed near to *Staten-Island*, and from thence escaped on the 14th instant; that while this deponent was on board said transport, viz: on the 5th instant, there arrived and sailed up and near to the fleet a ship of about two hundred tons burden, marked and called the *Charming Polly*; that she was conducted near to the Admiral's ship, where she lay several days, during which this deponent's duty was often to row near to and by said ship;

that on *Sunday*, about the 7th instant, this deponent, when passing said ship, saw the people on board selling fowls, &c., to the people of the fleet; that this deponent often heard the officers, and others belonging to the fleet, say that said ship belonged to *New-York*; that she was loaded with flour, live stock, &c., and that she came on purpose to supply the fleet. And this deponent further adds, that had not the fleet been successful in making prizes of *American* vessels when on their passage to *New-York*, they must have been much distressed for provisions, their allowance being very short before they had made prizes of nine vessels, chiefly loaded with flour. And further saith not.

NATHAN SPICER.

July 17, 1776.—Copy of an affidavit taken before civil authority.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

*Samuel Smedley*, Second Lieutenant of the brig *Defence*, of lawful age, testifieth and saith, That on the passage from *New-London* to *Boston*, in said brig, by order of Captain *Harding*, commander of the said brig, having boarded sundry of the *Block-Island* boats on his way thither, and in conversation with the people belonging to said boats, this deponent formed in his mind the judgment that they were not so friendly as they ought to be to the *American* cause; and further saith not.

SAMUEL SMEDLEY.

July 17, 1776.—Copy of an affidavit taken before civil authority.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

*Robert Niles*, of lawful age, and Captain of the schooner *Spy*, testifies and says: That in the beginning of the present month, a ship, to appearance of about one hundred and sixty or seventy tons burden, loaded with flour, lay at anchor in *Fisher's Island Sound*, for the term of about one week; that during said term this deponent spoke with said ship, and advised and ordered her to make *New-London* harbour, assigning for reasons, that her situation was unsafe, being exposed continually to the ships of the enemy; and also that her remaining there was very disagreeable to the people of *New-London*, fearing that her cargo would fall into the hands of the enemy. However, the commander refused to comply with said advice and order, but remained in that situation until a number of small vessels came up and joined her, when she sailed, without waiting or attending to any signal of safety, as has been practised by other vessels. This deponent further says, that when cruising on his station he very frequently has seen the *Block-Island* boats passing to and from; that he has good and sufficient reason to believe that they are much employed in furnishing the enemy's ships and vessels with intelligence, supplies, and every comfort in their power to afford; and that the people of *New-London*, *Groton*, and *Stonington*, are generally of the same opinion, appear to have no doubt of the truth of that fact, and are much dissatisfied with that circumstance. This deponent further says, that at the time of the Commodore's fleet lying in the harbour of *New-London*, after his return from *New-Providence*, one *Littlefield*, of *Block-Island*, came over to *Stonington*, and there, or near there, purchased a hogshead of *Jamaica* spirits, and paid therefor about one hundred and twenty dollars in milled money, as it was then and ever since has been universally said and believed, and returned with it to said Island, at which time there lay watering at said Island one of the King's ships; and further saith not.

ROBERT NILES.

The above is a true copy of the deposition, attested 17th July, 1776.

WINT. SALTONSTALL, J. P.

The above is a true copy, extracted from an attested copy of the original. Examined by

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

*Ebenezer Colefax*, late mate of the schooner *Macaroni*, of lawful age, testifies and says: That on the 22d of *May* last he was made a prisoner by a *British* ship, carried to *Halifax*, and there detained until the *British* fleet sailed for *New-York*, when he was put on board one of the transports, and removed near to *Staten-Island*, and from thence escaped on the 8th of *July* instant; that while this deponent was on board said transport, viz: on the 5th instant, there arrived within the *Hook*, below *New-York*, a ship of near two hun-

dred tons burden, loaded with flour; that she continued her course up until not far distant from the fleet, when the Admiral sent out a boat, which met and conducted her up near to the stern of the Admiral's ship, soon after which this deponent heard Captain *Knowles*, commander of said transport, say to the people on board, that the ship then arrived was not a prize, but that she came from *New-York* on purpose to supply them, and that she was loaded with flour; and further saith not.

EBENEZER COLEFOX.

New-London, July 17, 1776.

Copy of an affidavit taken before civil authority:

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

The testimony of *Matthew Thompson*, of *London*, in the kingdom of *Great Britain*, late of the armed brigantine *Diligence*, *Dodd*, commander, mounting twelve carriage guns, belonging to the King of *Great Britain*, of lawful age, is as follows, viz: The deponent, some time in the month of *April*, deserted from said brig, when sent on shore on *Block-Island* to assist in watering said brig, when the deponent remained on said Island six days; the deponent applied to several of the boatmen for assistance to get to the main, who refused; and finally this deponent, together with one *Thomas Nixon*, a fellow-deserter, obtained their passage from said Island in a canoe. The deponent further says that the livers on the Island, except as above said, treated him very kindly, excepting also one *John Wright*, a taverner on said Island, and his brother-in-law, who used their endeavours to prevail on this deponent and *Thomas Nixon* to return on board said brig. And the deponent further says, that he observed a number of cattle, sheep, and horses, on said Island, and that the brig *Diligent* and the ship *Cerberus* were supplied from said Island with calves, hogs, ducks, geese, and fowls, which articles this deponent assisted in transporting on board said vessels. And further this deponent saith, that *John Littlefield*, of said Island, was very kind in using his endeavours to get this deponent off said Island; and further saith not.

July 17, 1776.—Copy of an affidavit taken before civil authority.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

*Thomas Kanady*, master of the ship *Mary*, of lawful age, testifies and says, That some time in the beginning of the present month, he discovered lying at anchor at *Fisher's Island* a ship of about one hundred and eighty tons burden; that this deponent, when on board said ship, found her to be partly loaded with provisions, &c., some valuable house furniture in the cabin, &c., and on board Mr. *Damune*, of *New-York*, part owner, and two youths, sons of the Captain, *John Hilton*; that this deponent observed to the Captain, that he admired at his lying in that situation, as he must be exposed to be taken by the enemy's ships, &c.; to which Captain *Hilton* replied, that he was not in the least afraid of being taken; and if they did take him, he was not in the least afraid that they would take from him any of his cabin furniture; and further saith not.

THOMAS KANADY.

July 17, 1776.—Copy of an affidavit taken before civil authority.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

MAJOR HAWLEY TO ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Northampton, July 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have often said that I supposed a Declaration of Independence would be accompanied with a declaration of high treason. Most certainly it must immediately, and without the least delay, follow it. Can we subsist—did any State ever subsist, without exterminating traitors? I never desire to see high treason extended here further than it is now extended in *Britain*. But an act of high treason we must have instantly. The Colonies have long suffered inexpressibly for want of it. No one thing made the Declaration of Independence indispensably necessary more than cutting off traitors. It is amazingly wonderful, that having no capital punishment for our intestine enemies, we have not been utterly ruined before now. For *God's* sake, let us not run such risks a day longer. It appears to me, sir, that high treason ought to be the same in all the *United States*, saving to the Legislature of each Colony or State the right of attainting individuals by act or bill of attainder. The present times show most clearly the wisdom and sound policy of the

common law in that doctrine, or part thereof, which consists in attainting by an act of the whole Legislature. Our Tories (be sure the learned of them) knew very well the absurdity of punishing as high treason any acts or deeds in favour of the Government of the King of *Great Britain*, so long as we all allowed him to be King of the Colonies. Dear sir, this matter admits of no delay; and when the act declaratory of high treason is passed, the strongest recommendation for a strict execution of it, I humbly conceive, ought to accompany it. Our whole cause is every moment in amazing danger for want of it. The common understanding of the people, like unerring instinct, has long declared this; and from the clear discerning which they have had of it, they have been long in agonies about it. They expect that effectual care will now be taken for the general safety, and that all those who shall be convicted of endeavouring, by overt act, to destroy the State, shall be cut off from the earth.

The levying an army for the war, after the 1st of *January* next, lies heavy upon me. The present levies for reinforcing the armies, are, by order of Congress, only till the 1st of *December* next. It appears to me high time to set seriously and in the greatest earnest about it. I observe, sir, that you charge the miscarriages in *Canada* partly to the short time for which the troops were raised. You know that nothing will detain our people after the expiration of the term for which they were engaged. It will be in vain to attempt to enlist *New-England* people for a longer term than two years. No bounties will induce them to engage for a longer time—I fear for no longer time than one year.

I have not time to add a word more. Too early or earnest care cannot be taken for the providing good barracks and covering for our Northern Army, or Armies, against the cold season of the year. They suffered much last campaign, when about *Boston*, for want of seasonable covering and firing. We are apt to delay. Let us strain every nerve. Don't let us hesitate a moment at any necessary expense. We will conquer or die. Amen.

If you judge anything in this confused epistle worth communicating to your brethren of this Colony, to whom I present my sincerest respects, you are at liberty to communicate it.

And I am, dear sir, your true friend, and faithful humble servant,

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To Mr. Gerry.

GENERAL LINCOLN TO THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Boston, July 17, 1776.

How to remedy the inconveniences that may arise to this State from the removal of the Continental troops, and how we shall supply forces sufficient to garrison the works already thrown up, complete and garrison those that are begun, is a question truly important—a question that has or will call for the attention of the honourable Board. And as it is necessary to know the state of the several fortifications in and near *Boston*, previous to a determination what number of men will be necessary for the purpose aforesaid, the Committee, under whose eye the fortifications have been erected, thought it their duty to lay before your Honours the following state of the forts, and their idea of the number of men necessary to garrison them: The fort in *Boston*, that in *Charlestown*, one on *Noddle's Island*, and one on *Governour's Island*, are nearly finished. Properly to man the lines of the fort in *Boston*, it will require seven hundred men, and an equal number, considering the unarmed state of the inhabitants of *Boston*, as guards in the different parts of the town. As *Charlestown* and *Noddle's Island* can be reinforced by the Militia, if at any time a reinforcement should be necessary, it is therefore proposed that one company only be placed in *Charlestown* and two on *Noddle's Island*; and that one company be placed on the small redoubt on *Governour's Island*, of seventy-five men each.

The works on *Castle Island* are quite incomplete. How much the security of the town of *Boston* depends on our maintaining that post is too evident to need a comment. It hath been thought that five hundred men at least, were necessary to complete the works there, and to defend them when completed. The two forts on *Dorchester Heights* are in the same unfinished state as are the works on *Castle Island*. Such hath been the idea of the importance of those

posts and the post on *Dorchester Point*, that seven hundred men have been assigned as absolutely necessary to complete and garrison them. The Committee are of opinion, as these posts are justly considered as a key of the town of *Boston*, that the number was not extravagant, and, indeed, far short of what they ought to be, was there not the highest probability that they could be reinforced by the Militia from the neighbouring towns in case of an alarm.

Orders have been issued to us from the Court, that works should be erected on *Long Island*. Very little hath been done there, as we had no cover for the men. Barracks are now ready to receive them. Four hundred men are proposed for that post.

The next is *Nantasket*. To maintain that ground, which commands the road, is too important to be neglected. The post is about half finished. It is in a state that it may be defended by musketry. The cannon for it are not yet stocked, nor are the works ready to receive them. From the many convenient places there are in town for an enemy to land, and from the situation and height of the neighbouring hills, the possession of which, if possible, must be secured, and from the extent of the works, it will be found that a large number of men will be necessary—one thousand, at least. We cannot promise ourselves a reinforcement from the Militia.

As a further security to the several posts, the Committee beg leave to suggest whether it will not be necessary to have a small camp formed in the vicinity of *Boston* of one thousand men, to act in any part where they may be wanted in an emergency.

When we mention garrisons, we suppose that a suitable number of the Train are to be in addition to them. We are also of opinion, as the Continental Train is to be removed, and as our number was insufficient before, that it will be necessary to add three companies more to Colonel *Crafts's* regiment. The number for the several garrisons, without the Train, amounts, as estimated, to five thousand three hundred. In Colonel *Whitney's* and Colonel *Marshall's* regiments, and in the four Independent companies from *Weymouth*, *Hingham*, and *Braintree*, if full, there are seventeen hundred and forty; which leaves three thousand five hundred and sixty, upon our estimate, to be raised. From a view of the services in which they must be employed, it is, in the opinion of the Committee, very evident that draughts from the Militia will by no means answer the purpose; as in that case, perhaps, men will be drawn out who have good estates and large families. To content these for any considerable time from their homes, hath, by experience, been found impossible; and the present busy season of the year will make it very difficult to keep them even for a short time.

The Committee beg leave to ask whether it is possible to garrison properly our fortifications, &c., but by inlisting the men to serve a certain term; and to wish, as the circumstances of this State are so materially altered since the Court was prorogued, and it being so evidently necessary for them to be together, that the House might be summoned to attend on this matter, for in a few days we shall not have men in the pay of this Colony, near its capital, for a proper garrison thereof.

BENJ. LINCOLN, *per order*.

To the Honourable Council of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

CAPTAIN FISK TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Salem, July 17, 1776.

This may serve to acquaint your Honours that in the latitude 40° 26' north, longitude 65° 50' west, I fell in with the armed schooner *Despatch* from *Halifax*, bound to *New-York*; and after an engagement of one-and-a-half hour, she struck to the *American* arms. I boarded her, and found on board eight carriage guns and twelve swivel guns, twenty small-arms, sixteen pistols, twenty cutlasses, some cartridge-boxes, and belts for bayonets, nine half-barrels powder, all the accoutrements for said cannon. The commander and one man were killed, seven others wounded. The crew consisted of thirty men and one boy. I lost one man killed and two wounded, and my vessel was much shattered, which obliged me to return with the prize, which I have at anchor in *Salem Harbour*, and wait your Honours' orders how to

proceed with the prisoners. All the Captain's papers and orders were thrown overboard.

I am your Honours' humble servant, JOHN FISK.

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, now sitting at *Water-town*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COL. WINGATE.

In Committee of Safety, July 17, 1776.

You are directed to repair to *Charlestown*, on *Connecticut River*, and there take charge of such companies as you may find there, whose officers are commissioned under you; and take all necessary care, with the persons appointed at that place to supply the troops, to have the soldiers fixed off, taking their route for *Crown-Point*, or *Ticonderoga*, or the place where the Continental Army may be; and when you have done what appears necessary to you to do at *Charlestown*, you will proceed forward and join the Continental Army as aforesaid, putting yourself and regiment under the command of the General and Commander-in-Chief of said Army. If no Continental officer has made provision at *Charlestown* for the soldiers, you will apply to *Benjamin Giles, Esq.*, appointed by the Colony, to deliver six days' provision at marching, to last the troops to *Crown-Point*.

By order of the Committee:

MESHECH WEARE.

To Colonel *Joshua Wingate*.

FRANCIS SALVADOR TO WILLIAM H. DRAYTON.

Camp near Dewett's Corner, July 18, 1776.

DEAR SIR: You would have been surprised to have seen the change in this country two days after you left me. On *Monday* morning one of Captain *Smith's* sons came to my house with two of his fingers shot off, and gave an account of the shocking catastrophe at his father's. I immediately galloped to Major *Williamson's* to inform him, but found another of *Smith's* sons there, who had made his escape and alarmed the settlement.

The whole country was flying; some to make forts, others as low as *Orangeburgh*. *Williamson* was employed, night and day, sending expresses to raise the Militia; but the panick was so great, that the *Wednesday* following, the Major and myself marched to the late Captain *Smith's* with only forty men. The next day we were joined by forty more, and have been gradually increasing ever since; though all the men in the country were loath to turn out till they had procured some kind of fancied security for their families. However, we had last night five hundred men, but have not been joined by any from the other side of the river.\* I rode there last *Saturday*, and found Colonels *Williams* and *Liles*, and two companies from Colonel *Richardson's* regiment, amounting to four hundred and thirty men. They were attacked on *Monday* morning, *July 15th*, by *Indians* and *Scophelites*,† but repulsed them, taking thirteen white men prisoners; the *Indians* fled the moment day appeared. I will not trouble you with more particulars, as Major *Williamson* will send a circumstantial account to his Excellency.

I am afraid the burden of the war will fall on this regiment, and that the people over the river will do nothing. They grumble at being commanded by a Major; and I fear, if they join us at all, (which I doubt,) they will be very apt to prejudice the service by altercations about command. I cannot help saying, that if *Williamson* is fit to conduct such an expedition, he certainly ought to have a much higher rank than any of these chaps, who don't object to his person but his rank. I likewise think it an omission that the Colonels on the other side the river have no written orders to put themselves or their men under his command.

On the last accounts from town, that *Cunningham* and his companions were set at liberty, we were very near having a mutiny in camp; and it is really a measure which, though certainly intended for the best, is very alarming to all ranks of people. The ignorant look upon it as turning their enemies loose on their backs in the day of their distress; and the sensible part consider it as a dangerous exercise of a dispensing power, assumed contrary to the express deter-

\* *Saluda River* is intended when the word *River* is mentioned in the above Letter.

† *Scophelites*, alluded to those who had joined the Royal cause, being named so after one *Scophel*, of infamous character, who had done so.



mination of Congress, and a corroborating resolve of the succeeding House of Assembly.

*Pearis's* house having been a rendezvous for the *Indians* and *Scophelites*, Colonel *Thomas* intended to attack it on *Monday*. We are not yet informed if he did or not; but one of our spies was there on *Tuesday*, and saw many of our spies about the place, and all the buildings in ashes. Whether they were burnt by friends or foes is still uncertain; if by the first, I fear *Pearis* will injure us much. Our men seem spirited, and very much exasperated against our enemies. They are all displeased with the people over the river for granting quarter to their prisoners, and declare they will grant none, either to *Indians* or white men who join them. We have just received an account that two of the *Cherokee* head warriors were killed in the late skirmish at *Lindley's Fort*.

*July 19.*—*Cunningham* and *Pearis* came here last night, and by the conversation of the former, I imagine he was much caressed in town. Here he was treated politely, but with reserve; the Major and myself having advised him to go home and mind his private business, at which he seemed chagrined. I am clear he had not yet given up the idea of being a man of consequence; but the friends of liberty in this part of the world are determined to have no connexion with him, and to consider him for the future merely as an individual, and not as head of any party. We have just heard from over the river, that the white people in general had quitted the *Indians* after the repulse at *Lindley's*, and were delivering themselves up to Colonel *Liles*. He has sent all those to *Ninety-six Jail* against whom there is proof of having been in the action.

I hope you will pardon the freedom with which I express my sentiments, but I look upon it as an advantage to men in power to be truly informed of the people's situation and disposition. This must plead my excuse; and believe me to be, with great respect, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

FRANCIS SALVADOR.

To the Hon. Mr. Chief Justice *Drayton*, *Charlestown*.

#### NORFOLK (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of *Norfolk County*, *July 18, 1776*:

It having been made appear to the Committee for this County, held on the 20th of *June* last, that *Bennet Armstrong* had violated the ninth article of the Continental Association, which was then ordered to be published in the *Gazette*, and the said *Armstrong* this day appearing, and presenting a recantation, promising in future to give no just cause of complaint:

*Resolved*, That the said *Bennet Armstrong*, on publishing his apology in the *Gazette*, be recommended to the publick as a proper object of clemency.

LATIMER HOLSTEAD, *Clerk pro tempore*.

Whereas I have been so imprudent as to act contrary to the 9th article of the Continental Association, as well as of a Resolution of the Committee of *Norfolk County*, in the sale of a parcel of corn; I do now declare my sincere sorrow for the said offence, which proceeded entirely from my misunderstanding the matter; and I promise so to conduct myself in future as to give no just cause of complaint, and humbly hope the publick will accept of this acknowledgment, by again receiving me into their favour and protection.

BENNET ARMSTRONG.

Norfolk, *July 18, 1776*.

#### JOHN WEST TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Alexandria, *July 18, 1776*.

SIR: At a meeting of the Committee for this County and District, a resolution was entered into to write to your Council of Safety, and the Committee appointed me for that purpose,

I am informed that your commanding officer or officers in each County have it not in their power to raise the Militia (on any occasion) under his or their command, without application to your Council of Safety, and instructions from them for that purpose.

Permit me to say, I apprehend many dangers may be

avoided, many good consequences (in case of a sudden attack from the enemies of *America*) are obvious, had the commanding officers in each County on *Potomack* river full power to raise the Militia, and order them to march where there was a real occasion, either in your own Province or to the assistance of a sister Colony. We have been frequently alarmed with *Dunmore* and his banditti, with the vessels of war, paying us a visit; and when he lately made his appearance in our river, it was presumed his intention was to make this place an object worth his attention. His well known enmity to liberty, his untoward disposition towards this Commonwealth in particular, and his corrupt principles, capable of committing the most atrocious villainies, give cause to suspect his intention might be to distress this place, and the inhabitants of each side the river, by which your Province would experience the dire effects of the marauders.

Should you be attacked, and our assistance necessary, we would cheerfully obey the summons of liberty, humanity, and neighbourly affection, and fly to your assistance; we should be wanting in duty if we did not, because we are not bound up by any ordinance, nor command, but are at full liberty to exert ourselves in behalf of ourselves and in that of a sister Colony.

I hope that you and the gentlemen of your Council of Safety, will excuse this remonstrance to you, and that you will see the necessity in the same light that we do of empowering at least your commanding officers on the river to raise the Militia under their respective commands, in case of danger, and to march them where there may be a call for them. I am convinced the gentlemen and soldiers would cheerfully do it, from a principle of humanity and friendship, though the danger was more remote from them, was this request put in execution.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN WEST, *Chairman pro tem*.

To the Honourable the President of the Council of Safety at *Annapolis*.

#### COLONEL DORSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Elkridge, *July 18, 1776*.

SIR: When the *Elkridge* Militia went from this place for *Annapolis*, I promised to send down an equal number on *Sunday*, the 21st, to relieve them; but as Captain *Daniel Dorsey's* company, of the Flying-Camp, will certainly be down on that day, and Captain *Edward Norwood's* the day following, I am at a loss to know whether you will stand in need of the Militia. Please to inform me by Mr. *Larkin Dorsey*, that I may take measures accordingly.

I am, with respect, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS DORSEY.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., President of the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

N. B. Captain *Norwood* and *Dorsey's* companies will have few or no fire-arms.

#### CAPTAIN NICHOLSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, *July 18, 1776*.

GENTLEMEN: I was favoured with your orders of the 16th. I shall finish heaving down the ship this evening, and expect to sail from this on *Sunday* or *Monday* at farthest. I have been detained in caulking the ship all round. This I have sent by the small tender to wait your further orders until the ship comes down. The large tender sails this morning with the ten nineteen-pounders, shot, wads, &c.

I am, gentlemen, your most obliged humble servant to command,

JAMES NICHOLSON.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER AT ST. MARY'S.

[No. 53.]

Annapolis, *July 18, 1776*.

SIR: We have received your favour of yesterday, and observe the contents. Some powder and ball we despatched to you yesterday, and shall immediately send you four field-pieces, &c. You will receive by Mr. *Hopewell* £300, according to your desire. You will judge what additional number of the upper Militia may be necessary, and order

them down. It gives us concern to hear that Captain *Beall* is wounded, but hope it is not dangerous; and as we understand you have several Surgeons with you, trust he will soon do well. We are, &c.

To the Commanding Officer, *St. Mary's*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL SOMERVILLE.  
[No. 54.] Annapolis, July 18, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of yesterday we have received, and approve of the disposition you are making. By Mr. *Hope-well* we send you £50. We are, &c.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Alexander Somerville*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CHARLES RIDGELY, SEN.  
[No. 55.] Annapolis, July 18, 1776.

SIR: We are in immediate want of a number of round shot, of the different sizes, particularly eighteen, nine, six, and three; also, some grape, and request you will immediately send them down to *Baltimore*, and write to your correspondent there, as soon as he receives them, to apprise Captain *Nathaniel Smyth* of it, that he may forward them to *Annapolis*. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Charles Ridgely, Sen.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN SMYTH.  
[No. 56.] Annapolis, July 18, 1776.

SIR: We have written to Captain *Ridgely*, with whom we have contracted to supply us with cannon-shot, immediately to send down a quantity to *Baltimore*; and as we are in immediate want of them, we desire as soon as they arrive there, that you will forward them to *Annapolis*.

We are, &c.

To Captain *Nathaniel Smyth*.

#### BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a special meeting of the Committee, *July 18, 1776*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman; James Calhoun, William Buchanan, Edward Talbot, Isaac Griest, Thomas Sollers, William Aisquith, John Cockey, Darby Lux, and Benjamin Griffith.

The gentlemen appointed by the Committee at the last meeting, to examine a situation near *Armstrong's* to build a Magazine, report several places which they examined suitable for the purpose. On consideration of which, it was agreed, that Messrs. *Benjamin Griffith, James Calhoun, John Cockey, and Edward Talbot*, be directed to bargain with Captain *Charles Ridgely & Co.*, for one acre of Land, which was thought most convenient, near to the spring at *Armstrong's*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Darby Lux*, with the gentlemen above mentioned, be a Committee to agree with the Workmen for constructing the Magazine for the publick use, and that they make a report of their proceedings at the next meeting of this Committee.

It is agreed that the dimensions of said Magazine shall be forty feet long, and eleven feet wide, in the clear, and arched over with brick or stone, and covered with a shingled roof.

GEO. LUX, Secretary.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 18, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Griffin* delivered me your letter of the 15th, with the packets, which I have laid before Congress. No resolution is taken in consequence thereof, nor has anything new occurred since my last, except the enclosed resolves.

I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, July 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have it in charge from Congress to inform you, that they have come to a resolution of raising a battalion in the Counties of *Westmoreland* and *Bedford*, in *Pennsylvania*, for the defence of the western parts of that State.

I am, therefore, to request you will immediately recommend proper persons to Congress for Field-Officers of said battalion.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Convention of *Pennsylvania*, now sitting.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, July 18, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of the resolve of Congress respecting the petition of Captain *Benedict*, I am most earnestly to recommend to you to give attention to the subject-matter of it, and to desire that the proper payments may be made, so far as they appear just and well supported, or that the objections to the adjustment of the accounts, as set forth by the petitioner, may be explicitly stated to Congress, to prevent any prejudice arising to the general service.

I am, with respect, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General *Schuyler*.

#### WILLIAM ALLIBONE'S REPORT ON FLINT QUARRIES.

Memoranda.

*Tuesday, July 16, 1776.*—Left *Philadelphia*; arrived at *Wright's Park*.

*Wednesday, July 17.*—In search of flint-stone near the *Delaware*, in *Upper Makefield, Bucks County*, on the plantation of *John Knowls*, in a gully made by former inundations of the *Delaware*, I find the black flint-stone, but not in an entire bed, as I supposed, but mixed with other stone and sand, the best of which, that had lain near the surface, carried away for domestic use; but find the low lands near the river, for two or three miles, (which is, in general, stony,) to be mixed with the same kind of black flint-stone, but nowhere in separate quantities. I went as far up as *Pitcock's Creek*, in the lower part of *Salisbury township*.

*Thursday, July 18.*—Like for rain. Made what inquiries I could in the neighbourhood.

*Friday, July 19.*—At *John Lacey's*, in the lower part of *Buckingham township*, about three miles from *Wright's Town Meeting-house*, from former digging in a bank, find the earth and other stone mixed with black and bluish flint, as per samples. The same day find the white and the gray, as per sample. In a ridge of land about three-quarters of a mile, on the *Bristol road*, from a place known by the name of the *Four Lane Ends*, great quantity of the white, and a little gray. Find one single small piece of yellow flint, which I think much superior to any other in this County, and has been much used formerly by the natives to head their arrows, the heads being frequently found in the fields to this day; also some black and white ones. I have no doubt but some quantity of the yellow lies in the neighbourhood of the *Delaware*; but cannot as yet discover where, and hope some more successful hand has been employed.

*Saturday, July 20.*—Find the dark flint in scattered stones on land of Mr. *Denormandie*, *Bristol road*, eighteen miles from *Philadelphia*; and, fifteen miles from *Philadelphia*, on the post road, great quantities of the white; and, at sides of *Perryfork Creek*, one hundred and seven miles from *Philadelphia*, considerable quantities of light gray flint mixed with other stone.

A sample.

W. ALLIBONE.

SAMUEL CHASE TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, July 18, 1776.

DEAR GATES: I wrote to you from this city immediately on my arrival. I was obliged to return to *Maryland* on account of Mrs. *Chase's* illness. Every moment of my stay there was engrossed by my attendance on my lady and our Convention. On yesterday, I came to Congress with Mr. *Carroll*.

I am extremely concerned for the very disagreeable situation of our affairs with you. I am apprehensive, unless some effectual and speedy measures are taken, we shall lose the command of the lakes. While we are masters of *Lake Champlain*, the enemy cannot penetrate into the Colonies.

If they become superior, I cannot conceive the propriety of erecting fortifications at *Crown-Point*. How can a garrison there be relieved, if the enemy can prevent supplies by water? I took the liberty of communicating my opinion on these subjects to General *Arnold*, by a letter from *Saratoga*, and if you think the sentiments of a gentleman not of the military, worthy of perusal, General *Arnold* will show it to you.

I am very anxious to know the real state of your Army, and to know what you think proper to be done by the Congress.

I am compelled to return to *Maryland* on the 8th of *August*. Farewell.

Your affectionate and obedient servant,

SAMUEL CHASE.

To General *Gates*.

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee, Lancaster, July 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: At the time the officers absconded from *Lebanon*, they were indebted to sundry persons there, particularly to one *Matthew McHugh*, for their diet, &c., about £100. After the confinement of Lieutenant *Barrington* in this jail, *McHugh* applied to him for payment of his quota of the debt, and obtained an order from this Committee for Mr. *Barrington's* baggage to be brought from *Lebanon* to this place, to be delivered to him on payment of his debts. Upon his baggage being brought here, Mr. *Barrington* proposed to *McHugh* to pay him his whole demand against all the officers, if the Committee would order all their baggage to this place, and give it into his custody, as his security for what he should advance for his brother officers. The Committee thought it best to have all their baggage secured in this place; therefore sent for it, and have it now deposited in a part of the new jail here, packed up in upwards of twenty trunks and boxes, besides some bales and portmantaus. The keys to the trunks we likewise have; but have not yet opened them to examine their contents, neither have we delivered them to Mr. *Barrington*, choosing to have the sentiments of the Committee of Safety, or Congress, on the propriety of that measure. The members of the Committee of *Lebanon* have sent us an account of their expenses in advertising, pursuing, and endeavouring to retake those gentlemen, amounting to above £30, besides carriage of the goods.

Perhaps by selling a part of the goods at vendue, the whole moneys might be raised. The Committee of *Lebanon* are desirous to have their moneys refunded. Mr. *McHugh* mentions that he has gone to join the camp in the *Jerseys*, and wants his money to leave with his merchants in *Philadelphia*. We therefore beg the sentiments of the Committee of Safety, and their directions how to proceed in this matter; but should the Committee think the instructions ought more properly to issue from Congress, as those officers were Continental prisoners, we hope the Committee will not charge us with presumption in requesting the favour of them to obtain the directions of Congress for our government.

We also beg leave to mention to you, gentlemen, that we have now about seven hundred men, women, and children, prisoners in the Barracks here, over whom, agreeable to order of Congress of the 10th instant, we keep a strong guard, and are erecting a stockade fort round the Barracks. The number confined there we conceive full enough, and rather too many, for the building to contain at this warm season. It is rumoured here that a large number more of prisoners are intended for this place. Should any more arrive, it will be necessary to make some additional buildings to the Barracks, that these poor people may not suffer by being crowded; and that work might be best done at this time, when we have a number of tradesmen of different kinds employed at the place, and the whole work might be superintended at the same time. We beg the advice of the Committee of Safety therein. In placing the stockades, we shall place them at such a distance from the Barracks that there may be a free circulation of air, to keep them as healthy as possible, and that there may be room for additional barracks, and are digging wells within the stockade to supply them with water.

Lieutenant *Barrington* now asks to be released from con-

finement, on his parole. We beg to know if his parole may be taken, and he sent to the place of residence of the other officers of his corps; and are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

W. ATLEE, *Chairman*.

COLONEL BURD TO LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

Middletown, July 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I herewith send you, by the worthy Captain *John Reed*, who commands the first draught of my battalion, the returns of eight companies. The ninth company has not yet come to my hand, owing to the resignation of Captain *Robert Elder*, but it shall be sent to you as soon as it comes to my hand. I also send you a certain *John White*, prisoner, with what information is come to my hand from the County of *Northumberland*; and I think he is guilty of the allegation, but this I leave to your better judgment; and I am, with much esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,

SAMUEL BURD.

To the Chairman of the Committee of the County of *Lancaster*.

[Endorsed: Letter and examinations relating to *John White*, a prisoner, charged with assisting the officers to escape from *Lebanon*. Read July 20, 1776.]

NEW-JERSEY ORDINANCE FOR PUNISHING TRAITORS AND COUNTERFEITERS.

In Convention of the State of New-Jersey, }  
Trenton, July 18, 1776. }

Whereas it is necessary, in these times of danger, that crimes should receive their due punishment, and the safety of the people more especially requires that all persons who shall be found so wicked as to devise the destruction of good Government, or to aid or assist the avowed enemies of the State, be punished with death:

Therefore be it Resolved and Ordained by the Convention, and it is Resolved and Ordained by the authority of the same, That all persons abiding within this State of *New-Jersey*, and deriving protection from the laws thereof, do owe allegiance to the Government of this State, as of late established on the authority of the people, and are to be deemed as members of this State; and that all persons passing through, visiting, or making a temporary stay in this State, being entitled to the protection of the law during such passage, visitation, or temporary stay, during the same time owe allegiance to this Government.

And be it further Resolved and Ordained, That all and every person or persons, members of, or owing allegiance to this Government, as before described, who, from and after the date hereof, shall levy war against this State within the same, or be adherent to the King of *Great Britain*, or others, the enemies of this State, within the same, or to the enemies of the *United States of North America*, giving to him or them aid or comfort, shall be adjudged guilty of high treason, and suffer the pains or penalties thereof, in like manner as by the ancient laws of this State he or they should have suffered in cases of high treason.

And be it further Resolved and Ordained, That all and every person or persons, who, from and after the date hereof, shall be found guilty of reviling the Government of this State, as by this Convention established, or of other seditious speeches or practices, shall be punished in like manner as by the former laws of this State such person or persons might or ought to have been punished, for such seditious speeches and practices against the Government then in being.

And be it further Resolved and Ordained, That all and every person or persons, who, from and after the date hereof, shall be found guilty of counterfeiting or altering the Continental Bills of Credit, the Bills of Credit issued by the late Provincial Congress of this State, or the Assemblies, Conventions, or Congresses of any of the *United States of North America*, or uttering the same knowing them to be counterfeited or altered, shall be adjudged felons, and be punished with death, in like manner as persons found guilty of counterfeiting or knowingly uttering the former Bills of Credit of this State might or should have been: Provided always, That no person or persons shall suffer death, or other pain or penalty, for any of the offences aforesaid, until he or they shall have

been first found guilty of the same offence or offences whereof he or they shall be charged and accused, in a due course of law, and by the verdict of a jury. *Provided also*, That nothing in this Ordinance contained shall be construed to divest any Committee of the power they now possess of examining and committing any offenders, so that they do not proceed to the infliction of punishments for any of the offences in this Ordinance contained, but leave the same to be determined in due course of law, in manner aforesaid.

By order of Convention:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabethtown, July 18, 1776.

SIR: If nothing unlooked for intervenes, I intend to prosecute the plan mentioned in my letter by Major Putnam, to-night. We hope to defer the attack till break of day, but if discovered before that time our operations will commence sooner. From our being able to discover no unusual movements in the enemy's quarter, it is presumable they have no hint of being surprised. Our men are drawing together near this place. Some guides are provided, on whom I hope we may depend, and doubt not but our officers and soldiers will with alacrity execute this service.

Your Excellency's most obedient,

HUGH MERCER.

GENERAL MERCER TO MAJOR KNOWLTON.

Elizabethtown, July 18, 1776.

SIR: You are to march your party of three hundred men to attack the enemy's post at *New Blazing-Star*. If possible, have your men near the enemy before break of day. While you attempt to surprise the enemy, be careful that you are not discovered. Have a small guard advanced, and if they come unexpectedly on a sentinel, endeavour to seize his arms and prevent giving an alarm by firing, unless the enemy is prepared and formidable. Let a profound silence be observed during the march, and keep your men in *Indian* file, about one pace asunder. If obliged to appear openly against the enemy, have some of your best Riflemen on your flanks, with orders to gain, if possible, the flanks of the enemy. If they have artillery, a sudden push is necessary to gain possession of them. Should you be successful enough to take any of the *British* troops prisoners, secure them well and treat them with humanity. Use the people on the Island with civility, unless they appear in arms. As soon as it is light, send out flanking parties to secure you from surprise.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To Major Knowlton.

SAMUEL B. WEBB TO GENERAL WARD.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 18, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency General Washington, having occasion to ride out early this morning, has dictated and ordered me to acknowledge and answer your two letters of the 11th instant, which came safe to hand by yesterday's post. He is not a little displeased at the Agent's taking the liberty of removing, or rather disposing of the cargoes of, the prizes, without your knowledge, and begs you immediately to forbid anything of the kind again. He is surprised that, out of upwards of four hundred prisoners, only seventy-three arms have been sent on, as he supposed every man must have had his arms with him. He begs your attention in collecting, from the Agents and others, all the arms that have been taken, and forward them immediately to this place, where they are much wanted. Enclosed is a list of articles he has taken from the invoices, and would have you send on as soon as may be.

By express, yesterday, we learn of the arrival of the northern Army at *Crown-Point*, where those infected with the small-pox will be immediately sent to a distant Hospital, so that the troops from your State bound that way need not be under any apprehension of danger from that disorder. The enemy on *Staten-Island* remain as when I last wrote.

I have the honour to be, with respect and esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL B. WEBB, *A. D. C.*

To General Ward.

List of articles, taken in the Transports, which his Excellency General Washington requests General Ward to forward from *Boston* to *New-York* as soon as possible:

*From ship GEORGE*: All the fuses, small-arms, and bayonets, shoulder-straps, gun-straps, leather bullet-pouches, hair knapsacks, canvass knapsacks, belts, flints, markees, and soldiers' tents, common tent poles, tin canteens, camp-kettles, blankets, watch-coats, soldiers' clothing, stockings, black plumes.

*From ship ANNE*: All the checked and striped Hollands, check shirts, writing paper, thread stockings, check trowsers, men's shoes, ticking trowsers, men's hats.

*From ship LORD HOWE*: All the small-arms, bayonets, and cartouch-boxes, part of canteens and kettles, soldiers blankets, cutlasses, canvass knapsacks, markees.

*From brig ANNABELLA*: All the small-arms, shoes, soldiers' tents, sheet lead, pack-saddles, cartouch-boxes, leather bullet-pouches, shoulder-straps, gun-straps, cutlasses, bayonets, and belts.

By order of His Excellency General Washington:

SAMUEL B. WEBB, *A. D. C.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 18, 1776.

SIR: The General has rode out this morning, and directed me to acquaint your Honour, that on the arrival of the Light-horse, under the command of Colonel Seymour, he acquainted them that they could not be of use as horsemen; on which they concluded to stay and do duty as foot, till the arrival of the new levies. The latter part of the time they grew uneasy, and refused their duty as soldiers, though their services were much wanted, pleading, in excuse, that there was an express law of the Colony which exempts them from doing duty separate from their horses. It was only requested that they should mount guard, which they refused; on which the General was obliged to discharge them yesterday, although but a small proportion of the new levies had arrived.

I have the honour to be, yours, &c.,

S. B. WEBB, *A. D. C.*

To Governour Trumbull, Connecticut.

TO MALCOM MCEWEN AND DANIEL GREEN.—INSTRUCTIONS TO SUPERINTEND EAST-RIVER FERRIES.

It is General Washington's orders, that Malcom McEwen and Daniel Green do daily attend, from sunrise to dark in the evening, at the *East-River Ferry to Long-Island*, and *Peck's Slip*, at which, or between which places, all boats coming to the east of the town are to land, where they, in the first place, are to examine all passengers going from town, and to see that they have genuine passes from the Committee, or one of the General Officers.

In the next place, they are to be particularly attentive to the passengers who arrive in town. If they are travellers, such as they can have no suspicion of, they are only to require their names, and the places where they intend to lodge, and report them to the General at noon, and in the evening. If they are, in any manner, of suspicious characters, they are to detain them at some convenient house, to be appointed for that purpose in the neighbourhood, until they can send their report, which is to be done immediately, to Head-Quarters, and the General's determination be had thereon.

They are also to examine the passengers of all other boats, besides the ferry-boats, which may arrive, and report in like manner.

And, in order the better to enable Malcom McEwen and Daniel Green to carry these instructions into execution, the commanding officer of the *East-River Guard* is to give them every necessary aid in his power.

The said McEwen and Green are to communicate these instructions to the Committee appointed to give passes.

By the General's orders, at Head-Quarters:

STIRLING, *Brigadier-General*.

July 18, 1776.

If officers or soldiers of the corps posted on *Long-Island* should come to town with passes from their commanding officer, the same are to be sufficient to pass them out of



town again. Artillerymen are to pass by Colonel *Knox's* order; and those in the Quartermaster-General's department by Colonel *Moylan's*, or Mr. *Hughes's*, Deputy Quartermaster-General.

Mr. *McEwen* is, by the General's order, to be allowed one dollar a day, after deducting his pay in Colonel *Lasher's* regiment. Mr. *Green* is to be allowed one dollar per day, he having no employ in the Continental service.

By the General's orders:

STIRLING, *Brigadier-General*.

July 18, 1776.

TO CAPTAIN JOHN JOHNSON AND LIEUTENANT ABM. MESIER.  
INSTRUCTIONS TO SUPERINTEND NORTH-RIVER FERRIES.

Similar to the above, with directions to attend the ferries to *Powles Hook* and *Hooghbook*, and all the boats on that side. Each to have half a dollar per day, in addition to their regimental pay.

COLONEL JOSEPH REED TO ROBERT MORRIS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 18, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received this letter by Lord *Howe*, from a gentleman of character in *England*. You will observe it has the appearance of a mere private letter; but from the contents, and some corresponding circumstances, I have reason to believe it was not intended merely as such. In this view, I communicated it to the General, and now forward it, to be made use of as your good judgment may direct. If it can be improved, in any respect, for the publick advantage, either to give time to discover the true powers these Commissioners have, or in any other way, I shall most cheerfully take such a post as my situation and abilities will admit, and as may be directed. Or if you think no advantage or benefit can arise from taking notice of it, you will please to suppress it.

I fear the die is irrevocably cast, and that we must play out the game, however doubtful or desperate. My principles have been much misunderstood, if they were supposed to militate against reconciliation. I had one dogma of political faith, to which I constantly adhered, that as united councils and united strength alone could enable us to support this contest, private opinions and those of mere local authority should be subservient to the supreme decision of Congress. From the purity and extent of its intelligence, and the abilities of its members, I derived my hopes of political safety, and therefore beheld with concern every attempt to control the judgment and bind down the opinions of any of its members by instructions or other devices, formed, as they must be, on the partial intelligence of some, and the interested or timid views of others. My private judgment led me to think, that if the two great cardinal points, of exemption from *British* taxation, and charge of internal Government, could have been secured, our happiness and prosperity would have been best promoted by preserving the dependence. The Declaration of Independence is a new and very strong objection to entering into any negotiation inconsistent with that idea. But I fancy there are numbers, and some of them firm in the interests of *America*, who would think an overture ought not to be rejected; and if it could be improved into a negotiation which could secure the two points I have mentioned above, would think the blood and treasure expended well spent. I have no idea, from anything I have seen or can learn, that if we should give the General and Admiral a full and fair hearing, the proposition would amount to anything short of unconditional submission; but it may be worth considering whether, that once known, and all prospect of securing *American* liberty in that way being closed, it would not have a happy effect to unite us into one chosen band, resolved to be free, or perish in the attempt. There was a time when one sentiment pervaded the whole country. Whig and Tory, however differing in other things, agreed that the claims of taxation by a *British* Parliament could never be admitted. If these Commissioners have no concessions to make on this point, it must be evident to the whole world that resistance cannot be called our choice. It is the only alternation left to slavery and wretchedness.

What will become of our affairs in *Canada*, or rather in this Province, in the Northern Department? Our General has more trouble and concern with that department than his own; and yet, after every step taken, and supply sent,

we are told of great necessities and wants, arising from incredible waste. If Mr. *Schuyler* is so good a Quartermaster and Commissary, why is there such incredible waste? In short, my dear sir, if some speedy measure is not taken in this matter, in my opinion that Army will waste and disperse, leaving the enemy an easy passage into the heart of these Colonies. I trust and hope, amidst the changes which have been made in our Province, and in most of which I could not agree, the publick will not lose your services in Congress. I know many things must be very repugnant to your temper and judgment; but so it has proved in the struggles of all free States and countries. The time and place will come when publick virtue will meet its reward—

"The firm patriot there,  
Who made the welfare of mankind his care,  
Though vex'd with envy, and by faction cross'd,  
Shall find his gen'rous labour was not lost."

Be pleased to present my respects to Mr. *Willig*; and believe me, with much truth and esteem, &c., &c.

To *Robert Morris*, Esq., one of the Delegates of the Province of *Pennsylvania* in the honourable Continental Congress.

DR. MORGAN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, July 18, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having come into a number of resolves respecting the General Hospital, &c., I find that one of them, as it now stands, gives great uneasiness to the regimental Surgeons. It is that which prohibits them from drawing upon the Hospital of their department for any stores, except medicines and instruments; and orders, that when any sick person shall require other stores, they shall be received into the General Hospital, and the rations of the said sick persons be stopped so long as they are in the said Hospital.

The regimental Surgeons seem to think, that if this resolve should remain as it now stands, without any palliative construction in favour of supplying the sick under their care with necessary articles of diet, &c., (for no provision is made by any of these resolves for changing the diet of the sick, and their rations would be very improper diet,) they have nothing left but immediately to order the whole of their sick into the General Hospital. What would be the consequence? Instead of about three hundred, which is the present number of the sick in the General Hospital, it would immediately amount to two thousand or upwards, and the number would increase every day. But where we shall get room for them, is the difficulty; and in case of an action, and many persons being wounded, that difficulty would increase. The General Hospital would be crowded, and the regimental Surgeons, who profess their ardent desire of being usefully employed, would complain of having nothing to do. But what is the worst part of it, as the dysentery and fevers of a putrid kind now prevail, the crowding so many together into the General Hospital would certainly engender a malignant, pestilential fever, that would threaten the ruin of the Army.

These difficulties, in my opinion, might, for the present, be got over in one of these two ways, the choice of which is left to your Excellency:

The first, is by adopting a set of regulations, drawn up and agreed upon betwixt the regimental Surgeons and myself, (if it met with your Excellency's approbation,) and which I laid before your Excellency a fortnight ago for your consideration.

Otherwise, let the regimental Surgeons be suffered to keep such men in their own Regimental Hospitals, under their own care, whose cases would endanger the spreading of putrid and infectious distempers. Let them be reported to, and borne on the list of patients admitted into the General Hospital, but remain with the regimental Surgeons under their care. Then their rations will be stopped, discounted with the Commissary-General, and in lieu thereof, they will receive supplies of such articles as the General Hospital can furnish them with, of wine, vinegar, molasses, meal, &c., which, I believe, would not far exceed the amount of those rations.

This would answer to a plan I proposed to your Excellency last winter, and which was approved. Your Excellency only wished then, that some method might be taken to prevent the rations of the sick being twice drawn. I pre-

hend that matter is fully guarded against by the method pointed out by the sixth resolve of Congress, of *July 17*, on the subject of the General Hospital. The first method would give the greatest satisfaction, not only to the regimental Surgeons, but to the officers and to the men; and an experiment would be made of the real expense attending Regimental Hospitals, and every cause, or even shadow of complaint, vanish. It would encourage the soldier in his duty; and if it is found, on trial, subject to any abuse, I imagine that abuse could be easily remedied by future regulations, or a stoppage in the men's pay at the time of a new enlistment.

The present increase of the sick is a serious matter, and requires a speedy remedy. I regret the calling for your Excellency's attention (for ever so short a time) to my department; but I flatter myself the importance of the subject, and the advantages which may accrue to the service from it, will evince the necessity, and be a sufficient apology for it.

I remain, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN MORGAN.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL WADSWORTH TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, July 18, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: As I have the honour to command a brigade of Militia from the Colony of *Connecticut*, I think it my duty to give such information from time to time as may relate to the interest or honour of the Colony. I am therefore to inform your Honour, that on the 8th instant Colonel *Seymour* arrived here, and informed the General that a body of about five hundred of the Troop of Horse from *Connecticut* had arrived near this city, and also showed him his instructions. The evening following, at a meeting of the General Officers, the matter was under consideration, when it was unanimously agreed that the men were much wanted here; but, as Troopers, could be of no service in case of an attack, and that those men who were not armed with carbines, or good fire-arms, should return to *Connecticut* with the horses, as forage for them could not be had here, and that the detachment whilst here should do duty in the brigade under my command. And thereupon I received the General's command to acquaint Colonel *Seymour* with said resolution next morning, which I accordingly did; when he informed me he thought it would be disagreeable to his party to leave their horses, but said he would return to them and sound their minds; when a plan of sending their horses, at their own expense, (or trust the Colony to reimburse them,) so far back as not to prejudice the foraging of the Army, was proposed, and, as I understood by Colonel *Seymour*, was approved by the General; and thereupon, upon the 10th instant, they marched into the city, were barracked, drew provision, ammunition, &c. Yet many of the officers objected to their being subjected to fatigue duty, on account of their clothing; but were answered, that a partial treatment of the several parts of the Army would create jealousy, animosity and strife, and would produce great mischief in the Army. Little duty was required of them till the 16th instant, when a number were warned out to mount guard, who complied; a number of others being ordered on fatigue duty did not go. The same day I received a writing, addressed to me, signed by Colonel *Seymour* and some of the principal officers of the Troop, representing, that by the laws of the Colony of *Connecticut*, the Troop were not obliged to do garrison duty, or on foot, yet were willing to mount guard, but could not consent to do fatigue duty, and unless exempted therefrom, should presume they were at liberty to return home. Which writing, by reason of the General's absence and my tour of duty that day, was not communicated to the General till done by Colonel *Seymour* in the evening, when the General, as Colonel *Seymour* informed me, said he could make no distinction in favour of any one part of the Army on this ground, but offered Colonel *Seymour's* regiment liberty of going to *Bergen Point* in the *Jerseys*, to relieve Colonel *Bradley's* regiment, which is there at present. To this it was objected many of them had no blankets. The General replied, if they had not blankets, they could not go; and further added, if they would not submit to the duty in camp, in common with others in the Army, he did not care how soon they returned home. Being advised of what had passed, I suggested every argument I was able, to Colonel

*Seymour* and those of his officers I saw, to induce them to tarry; but if they were determined to return, not to do it without the General's permission in writing. In consequence of which, application was made to the General, who wrote a letter to Colonel *Seymour*, which I have not seen, but have it from the Colonel that it contained in substance the declaration made to him the night before, and that he had used his utmost endeavours to persuade his men to stay; notwithstanding which they have almost all left this city.

The troops are almost daily arriving from *Connecticut* in small parties, which makes it difficult to ascertain the number every day. I hope they will soon be completed—an event much to be wished, under our present circumstances.

Last *Friday* two ships passed all our batteries, up the *North River*, under a heavy fire from our guns, which they returned without any loss on our side, except six men by an accident in firing one of our cannon. What damage the ships sustained I cannot learn, or how far they are gone up the river.

Two flags have come from the fleet, but the letters not being properly addressed, were not received. The officers in one of them were very polite, and one of them said Lord *Howe* was very unhappy that he did not arrive a few days sooner.

I am, with great truth and respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES WADSWORTH.

To the Hon. Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 18, 1776.

SIR: I received a line from Colonel *Webb* last evening, directing me to inquire how many ships had passed the *Narrows*. Colonel *Hand* reported one yesterday morning, which I thought was reported in my morning's report, and if it is not reported there, it was an omission of mine. I beg your Excellency to examine it. Colonel *Hand* reported at four o'clock in the afternoon that a brigantine had gone down towards the *Hook*; and that the ship that went through the *Narrows* in the morning, had come to, off *New-Utrecht* shore. At seven in the evening, he reported that the ship had gone down to the *Hook*, and that the enemy were intrenching on the heights of *Staten-Island*.

The two last reports I did not come to the knowledge of until within night. I went over to the city at five, and did not return until eight. I thought it would be too late to get them to Head-Quarters seasonably, therefore concluded to report them in the morning.

I have not received Colonel *Hand's* morning report yet. I was down at *Red-Hook* about sunrise, and saw a sloop stretching down towards the *Narrows*. Nothing extraordinary has happened the last twenty-four hours. Our outguards suspect that there are spies about the camp. The sentries have fired half-a-dozen times a night the three preceding nights.

Colonel *Hand's* morning report is this moment come in; he mentioned everything continues in the same situation as last evening, except the sloop going through the *Narrows*, that I observed from *Red-Hook*.

I wrote to your Excellency yesterday morning that I thought it would be an advisable measure to have *Cobble-Hill* fixed upon to give notice by the fire of one, two, or three guns, that the enemy had landed on this Island. Colonel *Cary* wrote me an answer to that proposition, and said your Excellency had no objection. If it is to alarm the camp on your side, it should be mentioned in general orders, that the guards may govern themselves accordingly. We don't want it to alarm this camp; what I proposed it for was, to give your Excellency earlier intelligence than could be done by express, and the express to follow with the particulars. I submit it to your Excellency's further consideration.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

N. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

New-York, Thursday, July 25, 1776.

On *Thursday* last, pursuant to a resolve of the Representatives of the Colony of *New-York*, sitting in Congress,

the Proclamation issued at *Philadelphia* the 4th instant, by the Continental Congress, declaring the Thirteen United Colonies to be free and independent States, was read and published at the City-Hall, when a number of true friends to the rights and liberties of *America* attended, and signified their approbation by loud acclamations. After which, the *British* arms from over the seat of justice in the Court-House was taken down, exposed, torn to pieces, and burnt. Another *British* arms, wrought in stone, in the front of the pediment without, was thrown to the ground and broken to pieces, and the picture of King *George III*, which had been placed in the Council-Chamber, was thrown out, broken, torn to pieces, and burnt, of all which the people testified their approbation by repeated huzzas. The same day, we hear, the *British* arms from all the Churches in the city were ordered to be removed and destroyed.

New-York, July 18, 1776.

Under a tyrannical Government it generally happens that the officers in Administration, from the highest to the lowest, are a set of villains, who countenance and support each other in every species of oppression, injury, and abuse of the unhappy people who fall into their clutches. The laws, even those that were well intended, in the hands of such officers, are only instruments of oppression, but afford no protection from it. Of this, the following Narrative of Captain *Robert Campbell* affords a remarkable instance, and is a slight specimen of what every *American* might expect, if ever these Colonies should again fall under subjection to the tyrannical power of *Great Britain* or any other State or person.

*Narrative of the case of Captain ROBERT CAMPBELL, of NEW-YORK.*

On the 24th of *October*, 1775, Captain *Robert Campbell*, master of the sloop *America*, having on board sixty-five hogsheads of sugar, a mare, and a chariot, shipped by and belonging to inhabitants of *St. Croix*, sailed from that place, bound to *New-York*, where he intended to pay the duties, having refused other freight offered, on condition of his attempting to run it at *New-York*. Meeting with bad weather soon after he sailed, his vessel and rigging received some damage. On the 24th *November*, latitude 35°, longitude 68°, he was brought to by the *Viper* sloop-of-war, Captain *Graves*, who sent for and examined him, looked over his papers, and returned them, saying he would put an officer on board to keep the sloop by him, as he was going to *New-York*; but soon after took the papers again, saying he would enclose and send them to *Boston*, where sugars bore a better price than at *New-York*. However, he assured Captain *Campbell* that if his vessel had no powder on board she should not be condemned. Some time after Captain *Campbell* was returned to his sloop, the man-of-war's boat came again, with a message from Captain *Graves*, demanding Captain *Campbell's* sword and pistols, which the officer having received, took of his own accord a small box, containing six bottles of castor oil and a small cup of jelly; meanwhile the men were not idle, but, like their officer, took many little things that lay in their way, and broke open a cask of sugar, from which they stole as much as they could conveniently hide from their superior thief. Captain *Graves*, as he proceeded in villany, growing more callous, now demanded and took away Captain *Campbell's* mate and people, putting five of his own men on board in their stead, with orders to steer N.N.E. for *Boston*. Soon after setting sail, Captain *Campbell* perceived that neither of *Graves's* men understood working the vessel nor taking an observation, and told them that as they proceeded they would never reach *Boston*. On the 30th of *November*, all the provisions the *Viper's* men had brought being expended, and having only ninety pounds of bread on board the sloop, which he observed the men used very lavishly, he proposed dividing it among them, which was done, and amounted to about ten pounds each man. The sun not having appeared for five days, they now stood south, and continued so three days, to latitude 35° 11'; then put it to vote whether to go on the coast or to the nearest port. The bad condition of the vessel and shortness of bread and water induced Captain *Campbell* to vote for the nearest port; which being agreed to, they sailed for *Bermuda* three days, but not being able to reach it, the officer ordered his second to sail for *Antigua*, where,

with Captain *Campbell's* best assistance, they arrived in *St. John's* harbour the 21st day of *December* last. On the day of his arrival, the vessel was seized by a custom-house officer, on suspicion of having on board foreign rum and sugar. Captain *Campbell* then entered his protest against *Graves* and the custom-house for all losses, &c., occasioned by the detention, seizure, &c. Captain *Campbell* perceiving his vessel detained, and no likelihood of any redress, applied for advice to a lawyer, one *Philip Hicks*, who, on his behalf, drew up and presented a petition to the Honourable *Robert Christian*, Esq., Judge of the Court of Vice Admiralty for the Island of *Antigua*, reciting the foregoing particulars, and setting forth the great injury he had sustained in his property, and the many personal insults he had suffered by opprobrious language, &c.; that though Captain *Graves* was arrived, and pretended the sloop *America* and her cargo were lawful prize, yet he had instituted no process, nor taken any step towards her condemnation; the petition, therefore, prayed that the Judge would issue a monition against him and all other persons concerned in the seizure and detention, &c., citing them to appear at a certain day, and answer to the complaint against their conduct respecting the said sloop. The Judge granted the petition, and appointed the 26th day of *January* for holding a Court of Admiralty, for the purposes mentioned in the petition. After this monition, *Graves* found it necessary to bestir himself, in order to secure the plunder (which, by an act of piracy, he had violently taken from an innocent man, and the right owner,) from being wrested out of his rapacious hands. He therefore applies first to the officers of the custom-house, who had, as well as himself, seized the vessel, and as they no doubt agreed to share the plunder between them, they jointly concurred in a letter to the Attorney-General, who was also a Justice of the Peace and the King's Proctor, of which Letter the following is the substance, viz:

"To *Thomas Warner*, Esq.:

"What can or shall we do with the vessel we have taken, brought into port, and seized? Though her papers are good, and she has not broken any of the acts of trade, neither is there anything on board that will confiscate her, but her owners are in a state of rebellion against the King and his Parliament."

The Attorney had as yet come upon no terms with them, and therefore it was necessary he should let them know his importance, in order to enhance his share in the plunder. The following is a copy of his Answer:

"Though you have the vessel in port, and you actually know that her owners are in a state of rebellion against the King and Parliament and his troops, yet their goods and effects cannot be forfeited nor confiscated before they are convicted or fled."

What secret measures were taken after this to induce the Attorney-General to become an accomplice in the villany, we know not; but that he did become an accomplice, appears from the part he afterwards acted in the business. In order to embarrass Captain *Campbell*, and put it out of his power to prosecute his suit, two of his sailors, *Thomas Pacey* and *John Lawrence*, were tampered with, treated, and intoxicated, when they were suborned to swear, on the 23d *January* last, before the same most conscientious Attorney, Proctor, Justice, &c., *Thomas Warner*, Esq., (at least so he certifies,) that Captain *Campbell* had to each of them acknowledged, that since the rebellion in *North America* he had served as an artillery soldier in the Rebel Army, and that when he was at *New-York* and *St. Croix* he wore a cockade in his hat. Therefore, he (the illustrious *Thomas Warner*, Esq.) issued a warrant to *John Jackson*, Constable, requiring him to take up and keep in safe custody the said Captain *Campbell*, till he should be dealt with as the law directs. After this warrant was served on Captain *Campbell*, he was not immediately put under close confinement, as might have been expected from the tenour of the warrant, but suffered to go at large for several days, no doubt to give him an opportunity to go off, if he chose to do so, because, in that case, by the new act, the vessel and cargo becomes forfeited. But Captain *Campbell*, aware of the snare, made no effort to go off, but, on the contrary, urged on his suit. Finding this plan ineffectual, it was dropped, and recourse had to another. He was now taken up, and closely confined in a jail with felons, at a short allowance of raw provisions,

which were to be dressed by the common negro hangman; and under this rigorous and ignominious confinement and treatment he continued for eight weeks and three days, during which time, and afterwards, till his departure, he was treated with continual insults and the utmost contempt, being shunned by the men with whom he had been acquainted, who would scarcely deign to speak to him; some, indeed, told him that they should give offence to their superiors if they showed him any countenance; and one considerable merchant, with whom he had often done business, told him that he feared his coming to his house would expose him to censure, and be a disadvantage to him; after which Captain *Campbell* never went near him. During this time, (on a combination of all the villains concerned,) there was exhibited (on the 9th of *March*, 1776) against the vessel and cargo a libel, which was designedly made a false one; that upon its being proved false another might immediately take place, upon another act, which was not in force till after the commencement of the first process. In the libel, the seizure of the vessel by the *Viper*, which was on the 24th *November*, (when no act by which it could be seized was in force,) was set forth to be on the 6th of *January*, when the act for seizing *American* vessels was in force. After the (allegation or) libel above mentioned was issued, (signed by *George William Jackson*, Register in Admiralty,) Mr. *Hicks*, (before mentioned,) Captain *Campbell's* attorney, acquainted him by note that he (Mr. *Hicks*) was employed to prosecute the claim of Mrs. *Alletta Heyliger*, for twenty-eight hogsheads of sugar, her property, (part of the sixty-five,) on board the *America*; that he was clear the vessel could not be condemned, and advises Captain *Campbell* to put in his claim, and give security as the law directs. It appears by a note of *Isaac Harvey*, that he had provided security for the vessel, and Captain *Campbell* was at liberty to take every advantage on that account that the law would afford him. On the 3d of *May* came on the trial; when, after a full examination and hearing, the judgment sets forth "the claim of Mrs. *Heyliger*, that it was allowed, and her property ordered to be restored; but that, no other claim being made, the Court, as their definitive sentence, declared the sloop *America*, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the lading on board, (except Mrs. *Heyliger's* twenty-eight hogsheads of sugar,) to be condemned as lawful prize, for the use of the captors." The night before the trial, Mr. *Hicks*, the lawyer, who appeared to be very intimate with Mr. *Christian*, the Judge, was a long time in close conversation with him. Mr. *Hicks* told Captain *Campbell* that he had said, if a claim for the vessel and remainder of the cargo should be made by Captain *Campbell*, it would have been allowed in Court, and the whole restored; but if it should be done, preparations were made to exhibit another libel immediately on the new act, which would certainly have produced a condemnation of the vessel and cargo, at fifty or one hundred pounds more expense; so that, by Mr. *Hicks's* advice, Captain *Campbell* thought proper to waive his claim, and acquiesce in the judgment. The custom-house officer had thought proper to quit his claim on the seizure he had made of the vessel, which being at that time in custody of the man-of-war, was of no real damage to Captain *Campbell*, and therefore he could recover no damage on that account; and of the Captain of the man-of-war none could be recovered, because, by the act, no damage shall be recovered of any persons seizing vessels, though it should appear on trial that the seizure had been illegally made, and the vessel should be cleared. Thus every way was Captain *Campbell* cut off from any redress; and after suffering a long and cruel imprisonment and innumerable insults, was obliged to acquiesce in the loss of vessel and cargo, without the breach of any law, even those oppressive and tyrannical laws of our enemies themselves.

The following Accounts were for charges on the imprisonment of his person:

Captain Robert Campbell	
1776.	To the Hon. Robert Christian, Esq., Dr.
March 28.	My fee for calling and attending a special Court to admit you to bail - - - £5 0 0
March 28.	For summoning three Judges and the Attorney-General, at 3s. 6d. each - - 0 14 0
March 28.	A writ of habeas corpus to produce your person in Court - - - - - 0 3 9

Fee per docket - - - - -	£2 4 3½
Writing four notes to the Judges and Attorney-General, at 3s. 4d. each - - - - -	0 13 4
Writ of habeas corpus - - - - -	0 6 8
Constable's ( <i>Jackson</i> ) trouble for apprehending you for treasonable practices, and bringing you before Mr. <i>Warner</i> - - - - -	1 10 4
	£10 12 6½

A Note sent with the Constable's account:

"Mr. *WARNER* sends his compliments to Captain *Campbell*, and if he will not pay Mr. *Jackson's* account, Mr. *Warner* may issue his warrant to compel him to do it."

N. WOODHULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
White-Plains, July 18, 1776. }

SIR: I have the honour to enclose your Excellency a copy of a letter this moment received from Colonel *Van Cortlandt* and Captain *Zephaniah Platt*, who were sent from this Convention for the purpose of providing for and stationing the Militia that might come down from the country to guard the river, and assist the other Militia at the forts in the Highlands.

I am, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

By order: NATHANIEL WOODHULL, President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at Head-Quarters, New-York.

P. VAN CORTLANDT AND Z. PLATT TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Peekskill, July 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We proceeded, in consequence of your orders, up the river. When we came to *Croton*, found the ships anchored in *Haverstraw Bay*. We posted Colonel *Hammond*, with one hundred and forty men, on the banks of the river to the best advantage, and proceeded to *Peekskill*, rallying, as we went along, the people near the river, to keep out proper sentries along the river to watch the motions of the enemy. As soon as we came here, we despatched an express to *Dutchess* County to call in half of the Militia, and forwarded your letter to Captain *Van Zandt*, &c.; at the same time sent out for half of the Militia of *Cortlandt's* Manor to march immediately to this place. *Wednesday* morning went over to *Fort Montgomery*, to confer with General *Clinton*, where, to our great joy, we found six hundred of the Militia of *Orange* and *Ulster* Counties, and great numbers had been sent back, all in high spirits. We then returned back, in order to go up to *Fort Constitution*, but, on our return, being informed that a number of troops were within six or eight miles of this from *Connecticut*, we thought prudent to stay until they came, in order to provide for them and fix their stations. About this period, one of the tenders hove in sight, beating up into *Peekskill Bay*. She beat up within about two miles of *Fort Montgomery*, and then bore away and stood down the river, when our people at the fort fired one gun at her. She ran round the point of the *Dunderbergh*, sent her barge ashore and plundered a poor man's house and garden, stole a hog, and put off. As she went down between *Verplanck's Point* and the west shore, our men galled them much with their musketry. The tender, in her turn, returned a heavy fire with her cannon, but did no damage that we have heard of. About three o'clock Major *Gay*, of *Sharon*, came in with two hundred and sixty men. Soon after, General *Ten Broeck*, from *Dutchess*, and General *Fellows*, from *Massachusetts*, arrived, with part of their brigades, and many more are on their march. We sent an express last evening to General *Clinton*, to send for Colonel *Clinton* to meet us at *Fort Montgomery* at ten o'clock this morning, to confer with us and Generals *Ten Broeck* and *Fellows*, in order to form a general plan of operation. The returns are not properly made out as yet, but conclude there are about six hundred men now here, and expect there will be, by night, twelve hundred.

From, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT,  
ZEPH. PLATT.

To the Hon. the Representatives for the State of New-York



## COMMITTEE OF NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Montgomery, July 18, 1776.

SIR: We informed your Excellency of our appointment, in consequence of which we took a survey of the fortresses in the Highlands. We are extremely sorry to say that, notwithstanding their importance and advantageous situation, they are by no means in a proper posture of defence. Part of the few cannon at *Fort Constitution* were sent away, and the whole number now there, and at *Fort Montgomery*, are not sufficient; this want, we suppose, your Excellency will be unable to supply; we have, therefore, sent for those that were designed for the ships that are building at *Poughkeepsie*; but if we should obtain them, they will be of little use unless some Matrosses can be spared from *New-York*, since there are only fourteen at both forts. If your Excellency could spare a few howitzers, they might be of singular use at this place. A skilful engineer could be at no place more serviceable than here, as many small posts which command this ought to be fortified. We cannot think the garrison by any means proportioned to the extent of the works or the importance of the place. We know the difficulty that your Excellency will find in supplying these wants; yet we cannot but suggest them, since we are satisfied that even if the enemy should be defeated at *New-York*, they might take such posts here as we should find it impossible to dispossess them of.

We remain, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servants,

ROBERT YATES,  
JOHN JAY,  
ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON,  
CHRISTOPHER TAPPEN,  
GILBERT LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., at *New-York*.

P. S. Since writing the above, we have been informed that the *Salisbury* furnace, at which place the cannon are cast, is under the direction of the Government of *Connecticut*; so that we have some doubt whether we can procure those for which we wrote, unless your Excellency will be pleased to lend us your assistance, by writing to Governor *Trumbull* on the subject.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

German-Flats, July 18, 1776.

DEAR SIR: General *Washington* has enclosed me the Declaration of Congress of the 4th instant, declaring the *American* Colonies free and independent States; and directed that it should be proclaimed throughout the Northern Army; for which purpose I do myself the honour to enclose it to you.

Fifty carpenters from *Connecticut* I hope have reached *Skenesborough* by this time, and a like number from *Philadelphia* are, I hope, on the point of arriving. Fifty more are to come from the *Massachusetts*, and as many from *Rhode Island*. To employ all these to advantage will require great exertions. I wish, therefore, that General *Arnold* should pay a visit to *Skenesborough*, and arrange matters there.

General *Washington* has ordered three of the fullest regiments from *Boston* to join you; these, with the Militia, will, I hope, give us a superiority, and enable us to prevent the enemy from doing anything decisive in that quarter.

I have ordered all the lead at *Albany* to be cast into balls of various sizes, and into buckshot.

General *Washington* writes me that Congress "have determined the matter between Mr. *Trumbull* and Mr. *Livingston*, and decided the right of supplying the Northern Army, and appointing persons for that purpose, to be in the former." I mention this that you may conduct yourself accordingly upon any application in the Commissary-General's branch.

I have assured Congress and General *Washington* that the difference in opinion between you and me had not caused the least ill will, or interrupted that harmony which is so essentially necessary to subsist between their officers; and I have entreated them not to entertain an uneasy thought on that account, for that a good understanding will be carefully cultivated between us.

Adieu, my dear sir; and believe me, with unfeigned regard, most sincerely yours, &c., &c., &c., PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable General *Gates*.

## GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 18, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received your favour of the 16th, and your Honour may be assured I shall execute your orders as far as lies in my power. I would inform your Honour there are no troops arrived yet. I have had intelligence of their being on their march to this place, and hope they will soon arrive. I have a small party now clearing out *Wood Creek*, and a small party building a place proper to keep a guard on the hill east of the mill, and the rest are employed in getting timber for the carpenters, and mills, and on guard. I have not men sufficient to begin the fortification on the west side of the mills. Your Honour will see by the return, that there are but few men here; but what there are I shall endeavour to keep well employed; and as soon as others come in, I shall do the same by them. I have picked up all the axes, and the blacksmiths have overhauled them. But there are but very few here in the whole. I shall stand in great need of tools at the arrival of the troops.

Sir, I shall with pleasure receive your orders as you see cause to send them, and hope I shall be able to put them into execution, agreeable to your Honour's expectation; and am, with the greatest esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

P. S. Would acquaint your Honour there were thirteen carpenters at work at the galley, separate from Colonel *Schuyler's* company, who were not included in the return, by not knowing of the same when the return was made out.

The saw-mill is not yet got at work on account of a mistake in the irons, and I was obliged to send them here to get them done. They are now altered and returned. It is expected the mill will soon get at work, as I have used my utmost endeavours to forward the thing. I have this moment received your favour, per Doctor *Ely*, and everything shall be complied with, so far as lies in my power.

Still remain yours, &c.

## RESOLUTIONS FOR ARREST OF SUSPECTED PERSONS IN CONNECTICUT.

At a meeting of the Governour and Committee of Safety of the Colony of *Connecticut*, held at *Lebanon*, on the 18th day of *July*, A. D. 1776:

Whereas many persons inimical to the *United States of America*, do wander from place to place, with intent to spy out the state of the Colonies, and give intelligence to their enemies, whereby confederacies may be formed and strengthened, and other great inconveniences may ensue therefrom: Which to prevent,

*Resolved*, That no person or persons unknown or suspected, whether they appear in the character of gentlemen, expresses, travellers, or common beggars, be permitted to travel or pass from town to town in this Colony, unless he or they can and do produce a certificate from some Congress, Committee of Safety or Inspection, some Magistrate, Justice of the Peace, or General, or Field-Officer in the Army, therein mentioning from whence and to what place the person producing the same is travelling, and that he is friendly to the liberties of the *American* States, unless he be a person well known, and friendly as aforesaid.

And all officers, civil and military, Selectmen, Committees of Inspection, Sheriffs, Grand Jurors, and Tythingmen in this Colony, are directed to require every person travelling as aforesaid, to produce such certificate, and to stop and examine such persons travelling without such certificate as aforesaid; and unless he or they can give full satisfaction that he or they are pursuing their lawful business, and are friendly to the liberties and interests of the *United American States*, and has no design to hurt or injure them in his or their journey, that they apprehend such person or persons, and him or them carry before the civil authority, Selectmen, or Committee of Inspection of the town in which he or they shall be found, to be further examined and dealt with as the nature of the case, in his or their opinion, may require.

And it is further recommended to the civil authority and Selectmen of the larger towns in this Colony, that proper watches and wards be kept in suitable places in said towns, by night, to apprehend any such persons as aforesaid, that may travel from place to place, and practise mischief against this or the rest of the *United Colonies*, and bring them

before proper authority, that they may be dealt with in such manner as the nature of their several cases may require.

A true copy,

Attest:

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Clerk.

TIMOTHY PARKER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, July 18, 1776.

SIR: I received your Honour's favour of the 11th instant, wherein I am made acquainted with my appointment to the First Lieutenantcy of the Colony ship, to be commanded by Captain *William Coit*, a gentleman I much esteem for his patriotick principles, as well as the bravery and valour he hath so often manifested in the cause of this our much injured and oppressed country.

I have to thank your Honour and his Council for the good opinion they must entertain of my skill and ability in naval affairs, as being worthy the appointment.

Sir, I am diffident of my own ability in the performance of so great a trust; and am sorry I am under the necessity of declining so honourable an appointment, for reasons (to me of weight) already communicated to *Benjamin Huntington*, Esq., one of your Honour's Council.

I am, with the greatest esteem, your Honour's and Council's most obedient and humble servant,

TIMOTHY PARKER.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., *Lebanon*.

JEHIEL TINKER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, July 18, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I received yours of the 16th instant, ordering me to *New-York*.

I shall be ready by to-morrow night, if the small-arms are ready, that I am to apply to Colonel *Huntington* for. I have applied for them, but Colonel *Huntington* was not at home. I could not get them. There is a postscript on the back of the letter your Honour sent me, informing me there is a letter at *Lebanon* to General *Washington*, which I shall wait for. I have got on board three cannon, (nine-pounders,) of the five that were here, which is all that will answer; and two three-pounders out of the old fort. I should be glad if your Honour would give me an order on Captain *Dickerson*, at *Saybrook*, for part of a hogshead of rum that is there, as cider is very scarce and dear, and it is likely rum will be dear at *New-York*.

From your most humble servant, JEHIEL TINKER.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

Boston, Thursday, July 18, 1776.

This day, pursuant to the orders of the honourable Council, was proclaimed, from the balcony of the State-House in this town, the Declaration of the *American Congress*, absolving the United Colonies from their allegiance to the *British Crown*, and declaring them free and independent States.

There were present on the occasion, in the Council Chamber, the Committee of Council, a number of the Honourable House of Representatives, the Magistrates, Ministers, Selectmen, and other gentlemen of *Boston* and the neighbouring towns; also, the Commission Officers of the Continental Regiments stationed here, and other officers. Two of those regiments were under arms in *King Street*, formed into three lines, on the north side of the street, and into thirteen divisions; and a detachment from the *Massachusetts* regiment of Artillery, with two pieces of cannon, was on their right wing. At one o'clock the Declaration was proclaimed by Colonel *Thomas Crofts*, the Sheriff of the County of *Suffolk*, which was received with great joy, expressed by three huzzas from a great concourse of people assembled on the occasion; after which, on a signal given, thirteen pieces of cannon were fired from the fort on *Fort-Hill*; the forts at *Dorchester-Neck*, the Castle, *Nantasket*, and *Point-Alderton*, likewise discharged their cannon; then the detachment of Artillery fired their cannon thirteen times, which was followed by the two regiments giving their fire from the thirteen divisions in succession. These firings corresponded to the number of the *American States* united. The ceremony was closed with a proper collation to the gentlemen in the Council Chamber; during which, the following Toasts were given

by the President of the Council, and heartily pledged by the company, viz:

Prosperity and perpetuity to the *United States of America*.

The *American Congress*.

The General Court of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*. General *Washington*, and success to the arms of the *United States*.

The downfall of tyrants and tyranny.

The universal prevalence of civil and religious liberty.

The friends of the *United States* in all quarters of the globe.

The bells of the town were rung on the occasion, and undissembled festivity cheered and brightened every face.

On the same evening, the King's arms, and every sign with any resemblance of it, whether Lion and Crown, Pestle and Mortar and Crown, Heart and Crown, &c., together with every sign that belonged to a Tory, was taken down, and made a general conflagration of in *King Street*.

Watertown, Monday, July 22, 1776.

Last Thursday, a number of the Members of the Council, (who were prevented attending the ceremony of proclaiming the Declaration of Independence at *Boston*, on account of the small-pox there,) together with those of the honourable House of Representatives who were in town, and a number of other gentlemen, assembled at the Council Chamber, in this town, where the said Declaration was also proclaimed by the Secretary from one of the windows; after which, the gentlemen present partook of a decent collation prepared on the occasion, and drank a number of constitutional toasts, and then retired.

On the same day, the *Tyrannicide* privateer, in the service of this State, commanded by *John Fisk*, carried into *Salem* an armed schooner of eight carriage and twelve swivel guns, and thirty men, which he took off *George's Banks*, about three weeks ago, after an obstinate engagement of three glasses. The schooner belonged to and sailed with the fleet which is arrived at *New-York*, and was one of those which belonged to the rear division. The *Tyrannicide* had one man killed, and one wounded, and was much shattered; but is now refitting, and will soon be ready for another cruise. The Captain of the schooner and one man were killed; the master lost one arm, and about ten were wounded, several mortally.

The King's arms in this town were, on Saturday last, defaced.

The post for *Crown-Point* sets out this day (and every Monday) at ten o'clock, from the house of Mr. *Stephen Harris* in this town, where letters are to be sent, in order to be forwarded gratis. He returns on Saturdays.

TIMOTHY PICKERING, JUN., TO RICHARD DERBY.

Salem, July 18, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Selectmen and Committee of Safety of this town to inform you, that the inhabitants are very uneasy, and urge the erecting a gate at the entrance of the town to secure them against the small-pox, of which they think themselves in danger, by means of persons coming from *Boston* unexamined and uncleansed, which they do to this day, and it is feared will continue to do, unless the honourable Council take some effective order to prevent it. Captain *Peele* tells us that he came out of *Boston* yesterday, without seeing any guard, or being asked a question. If there be a continuance of such carelessness in *Boston*, the infection may be spread far and near, and a great many towns put to a very great expense in erecting gates and providing guards. The Selectmen and Committee pray you to use your endeavours in Council that effectual measures be taken to prevent such extensive mischief. The Selectmen and Committee are also desirous that the poor of *Boston* may be removed from our Hospital. Their continuance there any longer will be attended with many disadvantages to the town. We have two patients already with the natural small-pox, and we expect many more. It is no longer expedient to remove them to the *Neck*, because, in case of an alarm in that quarter, the whole country would be in danger, if they ventured on to the *Neck*, and perhaps they would refuse to go. The Court of Sessions may also order

it to be used as a County Hospital. There are other reasons; but the bearer is waiting with impatience. You are requested to urge this point also in Council. In haste.

I am, yours,

TIM. PICKERING, JUN.

To the Honourable *Richard Derby*, Esq.

SELECTMEN OF NORTHFIELD TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Northfield, July 18, 1776.

HONOURED GENTLEMEN: These are to inform you, that five of the prisoners from *Northampton* came to us on the ninth day of *July* last, and are in want of some supply of money for their present subsistence. Some of them are in want of some clothes. Having an opportunity now to send to your Honours of their need, we beg the favour that you would be pleased to send some here by the bearer, Captain *Hopkins King*, or give order on the Town Treasurer of *Northfield*, as there is some money ordered there, to be paid to the Treasurer of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, which we hope will be sent in soon. Doctor *Samuel Mattson* is now Town Treasurer.

We would also inform your Honours that many people are very uneasy. The prisoners are sent so near our frontiers, that they may easily make their escape, and inform our enemy of our poor situation to defend ourselves. They can also, with the liberty the Congress gives, have an opportunity of converse with Tories every day, which has been observed from time to time. If your Honours, in your wisdom, shall think proper to remove them to some more interior part of the country, it would be greatly pleasing to your very humble servants,

ELIJAH HUNT,  
EBENEZER JANES,  
EDWARD WRIGHT,  
*Selectmen of Northfield.*

To the Hon. Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COLONEL JACOB BAYLEY.

In Committee of Safety, July 18, 1776.

The Committee are in expectation that you will accomplish your desire of keeping in Continental pay, per order of General *Washington*, the sixty men employed by you to clear a road to *Canada*; and as you have thought fit to desist working on said road, that you now employ them as scouting parties to guard the country. But if you should be directed to disband them, you are hereby empowered to enlist fifty men, to be under the pay of this Colony, until the first of *December* next, unless sooner discharged, and see that the men fairly choose a Captain-Lieutenant and Ensign to command them. Said company, if raised, to take orders, from time to time, from yourself, Colonel *John Hurd*, and Colonel *Charles Johnson*, to direct their conduct. Said men to receive 30s. bounty, and 40s. per month wages.

By order of the Committee.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

M. WEARE, *Chairman.*

To Colonel *Jacob Bayley*.

ORDER ON SAMUEL DYER.

In Committee of Safety, July 18, 1776.

*Samuel Dyer*, an inhabitant of *Berwick*, in the County of *York*, and Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, being brought before the Committee, charged with being unfriendly to the liberties of this country; and, after hearing his defence, and considering the matters objected against him, the Committee do determine that the said *Samuel Dyer* ought to confine himself to the aforesaid town of *Berwick*, and in no case to come within the limits of this Colony, under pain of imprisonment, unless Captain *John Langdon* should see fit to receive him aboard the Continental frigate under his care at *Portsmouth*; in which case, he may enlist and continue in that service.

By order of the Committee.

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, July 20, 1776.

The day before yesterday, pursuant to an order from the Great and General Court of this State, the Independent

Company under Colonel *Sherburne*, and the Light-Infantry Company under Colonel *Langdon*, were drawn up on the parade, in their uniforms, when the Declaration of Independence from the Grand Continental Congress was read, in the hearing of a numerous and respectable audience. The pleasing countenances of the many patriots present spoke a hearty concurrence in the interesting measure, which was confirmed by three huzzas, and all was conducted in peace and good order.

An express passed through this town last *Thursday*, who brought an account that Captain *Mowat*, in the *Canceaux*, had taken all the fishing-boats that lay within his reach, to the number of twenty sail, at the eastward of *Casco-Bay*, and is supposed to have carried them into *Halifax*.

Last *Wednesday* set out on their march for our Northern Army, the first company of the first battalion of *New-Hampshire* forces, commanded by Captain *James Arnold*, late of *Boston*, consisting of about one hundred stout, active, enterprising volunteers, who have all engaged in the service, and marched off with great spirit and good order, within the short space of ten days. Such is the ardour, such the resolution of freemen to support a cause in which their all is interested.

GENERAL LEE TO A MEMBER OF CONGRESS.

Charlestown, South-Carolina, July 19, 1776.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I have received yours of the 28th of *May*, and did not think it possible that anything could come from your hand to give me so disagreeable sensations. You tell me a dark, mysterious story of a certain great General, of whom Prince *Ferdinand* has declared, *si l'on vent un officier*, &c. This great General in the clouds will, it seems, graciously condescend to serve *America*, on condition that Congress will give him assurances of stepping over the heads of every officer but one, and this he submits to, only on consideration of the confidence due to an *American*. You ask my opinion on this subject; but the palpable meaning of your letter is, to prepare me for a cession of my rank in favour of some impudent adventurer. *Buckwith* is the man, as you conjecture, from his known political principles and military abilities, which are so transcendent that I ought, for the public interest, to make a second sacrifice. I am not, I believe, naturally proud; I do not think myself conceited of my talents; but to be put in competition, much more to be spurned aside, to make room for so despicable a character as *Buckwith*, a generally reputed coward, and a b——d sycophant,—I say, to be kicked out of my station for such a creature as this, would swell a man more humble than myself into a trumpeter of his own merits. Great God! is it come to this? I am not, it seems, an *American*; but am I not (if I may so express myself) *Americanior ipsis Americanis*? Have I not, such has been my zeal for your cause, once already waived my military claims in deference to the whim and partiality of some of your members? Did I not consent to serve under an old Churchwarden, of whom you had conceived a most extravagant and ridiculous opinion? Your eyes were at length opened, and Deacon *Ward* returned to his proper occupation; and would you now, a second time, (do you think it consistent with decency, I may say gratitude or common honesty,) load me with a similar disgrace? Have I betrayed any ignorance in my profession? Have I shown a deficiency in courage? Am I slackened in my zeal or industry? What have I done to merit such an indignity? What part of my conduct can justify your harbouring such an idea? Have not I staked my fortune, life, and reputation, in your cause? Is there a service in *Europe*, to speak proudly, (your injurious proposal forces me to it,) is there a service in *Europe*, where, with some small reputation and my powerful friends, I might not expect the same rank I now hold? Have I not made myself a voluntary slave for the insurances of *American* freedom? Have I, sleeping or waking, employed a single thought but for her welfare, glory, or advantage?

But enough of this. You ask my opinion, and I will freely, explicitly, and concisely give it to you. If the Congress supersede me, I will, I must obey; but I hope, in common justice, and for their own honour, that they will reëstablish me, at least in part, in the easy fortune which I have forfeited, so as to enable me to retire from a service to which I am no longer thought adequate.

Before I conclude, let me once more repeat confidentially to you, that if *Buckwith* is the man in whose favour you meditate so gross a piece of injustice, you will make a very bad bargain, as he is certainly, unless fame belies him, neither possessed of courage, abilities, or integrity. In *God's* name, if a real genius, or acknowledged hero, favoured by Heaven with a more than common portion of ethereal spirit, should present himself, (*a la Lippe*, or *Braganza*,) receive him with open arms, as an immediate present from *God*, and invest him with the command of the whole. No man loves, respects, and reverences another, more than I do General *Washington*. I esteem his virtues, private and public; I know him to be a man of sense, courage, and firmness; but if a hero should start up, endowed with the attributes which, according to my persuasion, reside in the two I have mentioned, and who would charge himself with the mighty task of your political salvation, General *Washington* ought, and, I am convinced, would resign the truncheon. But that a little, paltry, impudent adventurer should sneakily stipulate for the second rank, when, if his motives were pure, he could be equally serviceable in the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth, it is not to be endured, it is a gross imposition on common understanding, and a grosser attempt to rob an individual. I must beg and conjure you, my dear friend, for such I am sure you are, to consider the delicate, perhaps you will say false, notions in which soldiers are bred; and that you will be careful of putting to so severe a trial the sensibility of one, who is, most sincerely, devotedly, and affectionately, yours,

CHARLES LEE.

To \* \* \*

P. S. I am extremely shocked with the pallid complexion of your public councils. Is it possible that such a despicable group as the *Maryland* Convention should lay an embargo on the great vessel of the Commonwealth! Can you be so weak as to hunt for the chimera Absolute Unanimity! Why do you not advise the aggregate of the people to enfranchise themselves? Your idea of quitting *Canada* from want of specie is to me inconceivable, when you can or ought to command plate sufficient to purchase ten *Canadas*.

Williamsburgh, July 19, 1776.

From *Hampton* we learn, that advice was brought there, from the *Eastern-Shore*, of a tender, mounting two carriage and twelve swivel guns, being driven ashore in a squall of wind, five or six days ago, with eighteen pirates on board, (among them Mr. *James Parker*, late of *Norfolk*, merchant,) who immediately surrendered themselves to a party of our troops, and begged for quarters. A boat from another tender, her consort, attempted to cut her out from the creek where she was secured, but our people, perceiving their design, laid in ambush for them, and, when nigh enough, rushed into the water and fired upon them, killing five of the crew, it was supposed, as three were seen to fall overboard, and two to drop down in the boat; upon which the pirates tacked about, and rowed faster than they came to their tender.

*Benjamin Woodward*, against whom an information was lodged for attempting to counterfeit the paper currency of the *American* States, was brought to town last *Wednesday*, with four other persons, suspected to be accomplices, and lodged in the publick jail. They were taken in *Pittsylvania* County, with types and other implements to carry on their wicked and destructive schemes.

COLONEL A. SOMERVILLE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You will be informed by Mr. *Hopewell* that the enemy hath landed on *St. George's Island*; that Captain *Beall* is wounded; that they want men in *St. Mary's*. I shall proceed down to their assistance with about fifty of the best men that I can get, now stationed at *Drum Point*, and shall leave orders for as many more to follow, unless ordered otherwise by you, and shall leave a guard at *Drum Point*. I shall want cash to victual the men who go to *St. Mary's*. Please send us such sum by bearer as you may think sufficient, which shall be accounted for. You will also send orders. Major *Wilkinson* commands in *Calvert* until Colonel *Marshall's* return.

Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

ALEX. SOMERVILLE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

GEORGE SCOTT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, July 19, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Some time past I purchased a parcel of country linen, about four hundred and twenty yards, in order to send into the lower Counties to get a quantity of wool for our factory, but on inquiry found it could not be had, there being a great scarcity of that necessary article. It is very well calculated for the troops, and I have been told that the Council of Safety wanted a quantity for that purpose. Should you incline to take it, please give me an answer by Mr. *John Ross Key*, the bearer of this, who will return in a few days.

I am, honoured sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE SCOTT.

THOMAS BOURK TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, July 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have to acquaint you that we have not met with the wished-for success in raising the company you ordered us to raise in this County. The Militia having been discharged till after harvest, we have not had an opportunity of recruiting the men; add to this, that on my returning from *Annapolis*, the *Cambridge Blues* were ordered to march to the straits, where the enemy was said to have landed; unwilling to desert them at a time of danger, I commanded them on that occasion, so that it has not been in my power to exert myself as yet. Mr. *Lynch* has made up his complement; they are here, and are a likely set of men. We have about forty or fifty men engaged; in *Somerset* there were none willing to engage. I expect some next week from *Worcester*, I wait to know how many, which, when informed of, shall proceed to *Annapolis*, to receive your orders whether I shall continue to enlist or not. Our Militia companies will meet next week, when we shall have a better opportunity of completing our number. Could I have engaged to take the men into immediate pay, the company would have been nearly completed. Mr. *Lynch* carries our warrants.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,

THOMAS BOURK.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, *Annapolis*.

GENERAL HOOPER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Dorchester County, July 19, 1776.

SIR: On receipt of yours of the 15th instant, I immediately ordered a draught of fifteen privates and proper officers to be made from each company of Militia of this brigade, and those draughted in *Dorchester* and *Caroline* Counties to be stationed in *Dorchester*, and the draughted Militia of *Somerset* and *Worcester* Counties to be stationed in *Somerset* County. The men so draughted are ordered to be at the several places of rendezvous on *Wednesday*, the 24th instant.

If your Board should not approve of this disposition of the Militia, you will please to let me know it, and I shall make such alterations therein as you may direct. Although I have ordered out the Militia, to be in readiness to repel any attempt of the enemy to land in this district, agreeably to your directions, yet I think it will be difficult to keep them together without some money. The country people here who have provisions to sell show a great unwillingness to part with it, unless paid for at the same time. I would therefore wish that your Board would take some order about subsisting the Militia of this district, when called out in defence of the Province, by directing that the Treasurer of the *Eastern Shore* should pay to the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester* County such a sum of money as you may think necessary, to be applied for the purpose of victualling and subsisting the Militia of the lower district when in actual service, as the commanding officer of said brigade shall direct. I have applied to General *Chamberlain* for four hundred pounds of gunpowder and sixteen pounds of lead. If you should have received any further intelligence of *Dummore* and his fleet, I should be glad to know it.

I am, respectfully, sir, your very humble servant,

HENRY HOOPER.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety.



## COLONEL WILLIAM HARRISON TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles County, July 19, 1776.

SIR: Under cover hereof you will please receive enrolments of two Militia Companies, viz: *John Thomas's* and *Richard Bennett Mitchel's*, the former in the Twelfth and the latter in the Twentieth-Sixth Battalion. They have been properly examined; and as I am in momentary expectation that the whole or part of the Militia here may be called to the aid of *St. Mary's*, must request your Board to issue commissions thereon, and have them transmitted me by the earliest opportunity.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,  
WILL. HARRISON.

## GENERAL DENT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles River, Head-Quarters, July 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On my arrival at this place on the 16th instant, I found there had been an engagement with the enemy, with no other loss but the misfortune of Captain *Rezin Beall* being badly wounded, though it is hoped not mortally.

By four deserters who came over to us yesterday, we are informed the mate or Midshipman of the *Roebuck* was killed in the action. By the best information, the enemy have not more than fifty regulars of the Fourteenth Regiment, about one hundred and fifty Tories, and one hundred negroes, that bear arms; all of whom are landed every morning and embarked in the evening, under cover of the fleet, which continues in the mouth of the *St. Mary's* river, opposite to the lower end of *St. George's Island*. Our strength at present is about four hundred Militia, exclusive of the Independent and Captain *Forrest's* company. I made bold, immediately on my arrival (the strength of the enemy being much magnified) to order to our assistance three full companies of Militia from Colonel *Hawkins's* battalion, to be selected from the interior part of the County, which I expect will arrive about to-morrow evening, when I shall discharge an equal number of the most necessitous of those now on duty. The fleet (which at first consisted of eighty sail) is now reduced to little more than half that number, many of the tenders and square-rigged vessels having gone to *Virginia*, opposite the mouth of *Potomack*, where a pretty constant cannonade has been kept up ever since I have been here.

We are told by the deserters (two more of which have come over since I began to write) that the fleet intend only to wood and water on the Island, burn all or most of their small craft, and proceed to sea.

Had we a few great guns at a place called *Cherry Fields Point*, well planted and served, we might annoy the fleet so as to oblige them to quit their station. Captain *Forrest's* company has relieved an equal number of the Militia, who readily parted with their arms, such as they were.

I shall, as often as anything of consequence happens, communicate it to you with the utmost despatch; till when, I am your most obedient servant,

JNO. DENT.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

## CUNNINGHAM'S EXAMINATION.

Q. In what occupation did you act in *Virginia*? A. I was a book-keeper there to Messrs. *Jameson & Co.*

Q. What became of Mr. *Jameson*? A. In the fleet.

Q. What vessel were you on board? A. The *Dolphin* brig.

Q. Did you continue in the same vessel, or did you land at *Gwin's Island*? A. No. I never landed.

Q. What time did you leave *Gwin's Island*, and what was the cause? A. We were obliged to leave it by batteries being erected on shore.

Q. Was any damage done to the shipping? A. To *Dunmore's* vessel: the boatswain was killed; a man lost his arm.

Q. None killed on the Island? A. None.

Q. What condition were the people in on board? A. Sickly—the small pox; the negroes had the jail fever.

Q. What number were there? A. Not above three hundred in arms.

Q. Who commands them? A. Col. *Bird's* son commands.

Q. How many died and were buried at *G. Island*? A. I think there must have been five hundred.

Q. How were you provided with provisions? A. Salt beef enough for troops.

Q. How many families on board the fleet? A. I suppose one thousand souls.

Q. How many did the ships bring from the *Eastern Shore*? A. One hundred and fifty; fifty belonging to the Fourteenth Regiment. They did not exceed three hundred in all.

Q. How many did land upon *St. George's Island*? A. I don't know. None but soldiers.

Q. How many marines on board? A. *Roebuck* 75, *Fowey* 25, *Otter* 15.

Q. Did you know where they were going? A. No.

Q. Did you come up, or did you drift ashore? A. I came up voluntarily.

Q. Whose property was that in the vessel? A. It was sold at vendue.

Q. Were the people inoculated on board? A. Yes.

Q. Whose property was the molasses? A. I bought part.

Q. Was Governour *Eden* on board the *Fowey*? A. Yes, I have seen him walking the deck.

Q. Did you know the *Fowey* was upon the *Eastern Shore*? A. Yes. The Governour was not on board.

Q. Did they consent you should come off? A. No.

Q. Was it in the night that you left the fleet? A. In the night; the fleet was after wood and water.

Q. Have you plenty of bread? A. Yes.

Q. Were there any troops armed at *G. Island*? A. No. No troops, but part of the Fourteenth Regiment.

Q. Do the tenders ply out in the bay? A. Yes. They were cruising.

Q. Do you know when Governour *Eden* goes home? A. Yes; he goes in a store-ship.

Q. How much stock was got upon *Eastern Shore*? A. The private families get no share of it. I saw cattle on decks.

Q. Do the tenders go out in the bay a cruising? A. Yes; I have seen them out in the bay.

Q. How long were they inoculated, and was it done to communicate it to the people on shore? A. By no means; every one in the fleet inoculated that had it not.

Q. How many men in the gondolas? A. Ten men on each side. As to the fleet, Captain *Hammond* and Lord *Dunmore* at variance. I don't think Governour *Eden* has anything to do with the fleet. The *Lively* frigate at the Capes. Molasses at a bit; good *West-India* rum at 2s. 2d. Marines and sailors would desert, but no others. Not the 14th.

Q. What distance *Fowey* from the shore? A. Musket-shot.

Q. What number of vessels in the fleet? A. Seventy-two. Many small boats.

Q. Did you not say that the fleet was going to sea? A. Yes; a signal given from *Dunmore* for masters of ships to come on board to receive orders, that they were going to *St. Augustine*.

Q. Did you leave any vessels? A. Two tenders in the straits. Two four-pounders, two two-pounders. *Dunmore* three six-pounders fired, &c. Slipt her cables. The *Otter* upon careen with her guns out.

Q. How long was it after the cannonade commenced before you left it? A. Immediately upon the first discharge of cannon.

Q. Where did you get beef? A. From *Antigua*: a brig with five hundred barrels; a store-ship with five hundred barrels.

Q. What execution was done to your tenders on the *Eastern Shore*? A. One man killed, and eight or nine wounded.

Q. Money plenty? A. Yes. Commodore *Hammond* the best man in the Navy. Captain *Hammond* will convey them all out safe to sea.

Q. Has not Lord *Dunmore* sent people about to communicate the information? A. Not to my knowledge. Captain *Hammond* not to continue on the *Eastern Shore*—to go to *New-York*.

Q. How many guns has the *Lively*? A. Thirty or thirty-six. Eleven shot. The *Dunmore*, eighteen.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL DORSEY.

[No. 57.]

Annapolis, July 19, 1776.

SIR: At present we do not desire you to send in any more of your Militia. Should it be necessary hereafter, we will inform you; and from their readiness, which we have hitherto experienced, doubt not their being here in proper time.

We are, &c.

To Colonel Dorsey.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF VIRGINIA.

[No. 58.]

Annapolis, July 19, 1776.

SIR: Your favour communicating the intelligence that the enemy's fleet had been driven from their station, and their forces obliged to abandon *Guin's Island*, came safe to hand, and demands our acknowledgments.

They have since arrived in *Potomack*, and landed some men on *St. George's Island*, at the mouth of *St. Mary's River*, where they have thrown up intrenchments. We are making preparations to dislodge them as soon as possible.

In return, we congratulate you on our success in the southern quarter; and we are, &c.

To the Hon. John Page, Esq., President of the Council of Virginia.

P. S. We have ordered Mr. *Hughes* to send immediately to *Georgetown* two eighteen-pounders, for the use of your Colony, to be delivered to Messrs. *Mayson* and *Dalton's* orders.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DOCTOR WEISENTHALL.

[No. 59.]

Annapolis, July 19, 1776.

SIR: Doctor *Tootle* has been with us. Since his journey to *Baltimore*, he is uncertain how far you intend to act as physician to the Matross company now at *Baltimore* town, or any of the Militia of the Flying-Camp that may be stationed there, in lieu of those companies of the battalion who are marched to *New-York*. We should be obliged to you for a line given in answer to these doubts of his, that we may know how to conduct ourselves in the nomination of an assistant to act in that department. We are, &c.

To Doctor Charles Frederick Weisenthall.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN WEST.

[No. 60.]

Annapolis, July 19, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of yesterday I received, and laid it before our Council, who have directed me to assure you, that every friendly assistance in their power shall be cheerfully afforded our neighbours, upon every emergency that may require it. We derive great comfort from the competence of your powers and the promise you have been pleased to make, of flying to our assistance whenever it should be necessary. We can order our regular forces out of the Province; the Militia we cannot; but the Colonels in each County are authorized to call out the Militia to act in the Province, whenever they see occasion to do it. I am, &c.

To John West, Esq., President of the Committee of Alexandria.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO STEPHEN STEWART.

[No. 61.]

Annapolis, July 19, 1776.

SIR: *James Cray* attends you, with a vessel that he is offering for sale to the Council of Safety; but as we are by no means judges of the value, or whether or not she will answer our purpose, we have referred him to you for examination, and shall be very glad to hear from you upon that head. We are, &c.

To Mr. Stephen Stewart.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE CHARLES COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 62.]

Annapolis, July 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have sent you £200 by *Charles Lansdale*, which we request the favour of you to apply to the account of subsistence of that part of Captain *Beall's* company stationed at *Port-Tobacco*. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation of Charles County.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 63.]

Annapolis, July 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed we send you copies of some letters we have received from Colonel *Barnes* and Colonel *Jordan*, giving us an account of Lord *Dunmore's* squadron having appeared near the mouth of *St. Mary's River*, in a hostile manner, and that some of them had landed on *St. George's Island*. In consequence of these advices, we have countermanded the orders to Captain *Thomas* and Captain *Hindman*, whom we wish to keep in the Province, to assist in repelling the invasion. We do not expect *Dunmore* will stay long at *St. George's Island*. Expect he will move up *Potomack*, or to the *Eastern-Shore*; perhaps up the Bay to *Annapolis*, or *Baltimore* town. We shall send you further intelligence as soon as we receive it.

Our Flying-Camp are coming in almost every day. But many a question has arisen as to their subsistence. Neither Congress nor Convention have made any provision for rations during the time the men are drawing together, nor whilst they remain unarmed, and unprovided with necessaries, which will amount to something considerable. We intend finding rations for the battalion that is to supply the place of our own regulars. We wish you to apply to the Congress, and let us know what is to be done about subsistence for the other battalions. They are all coming to us to be supplied with almost every necessary, and you may judge our situation is very disagreeable, not having it in our power to answer their demands. Our Militia, in a general way, during this time of invasion, cannot be persuaded to lend their arms. Most of those who enlist have none of their own. We take it for granted, it would answer very little purpose to send you a number of men unarmed, and unprovided with necessaries, and therefore do not order them forward.

We congratulate you on the victory that hath been obtained in *South-Carolina* by the *Americans* over the *British* fleet. Some of Commodore *Parker's* squadron have met with a severe drubbing, according to the particulars we have heard, of which we doubt not you have more perfect information before this time. We send you the *Maryland Gazette*, in which are inserted some particulars of the damage sustained by Commodore *Parker*.

We have information from below, that Lord *Dunmore* hath been beat off at *Gwin's Island*; and we have too much reason to believe, by intelligence from a deserter, who was examined before us yesterday, that Governour *Eden* is still on board the *Fowey*. They have seventy-two sail of vessels—divers of them small sharp-rigged sloops or boats.

We have received Mr. *Stone's* letter of the 12th; but know not what answer to give as to supplying tents, until we can see how our canvass holds out. Do not believe it will be in our power to furnish any in time.

We are, &c.

To the Deputies for Maryland, in Congress.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 19, 1776.

SIR: My earnestness to convey to you, as soon as possible, the intelligence this moment received from *South-Carolina*, on which I most sincerely congratulate you, I am confident, will apologize for my not adding more than to tell you, that enclosed you will find the copy of General *Lee's* letter, and the account from the deserters who escaped after the action. I am loath to hinder the express one moment. He is ready; and I will only say, that the enclosed resolves of Congress were this day passed, and to which I beg leave to refer you. I will write General *Schuyler* to-morrow.

You will please not to print the letter, &c., received from General *Lee*, as by to-morrow's post I shall write you again, and forward the account printed for the publick information.

I have the honour to be, with great regard, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To His Excellency General Washington.

N. B. I cannot detain the express to give you the particulars of Governour *Rutledge's* letter; but will print it, with the other parts submitted to me by Congress, and forward you by to-morrow's post.

God bless you, my dear sir. May you ever be under the Divine protection, and see a happy issue to your noble exertions! Yours,

J. H.

Charlestown, July 2, 1776.

SIR: I should have done myself the honour sooner of informing the Congress of the attack made by the enemy's squadron on *Sullivan's Island*, and their repulse, but conjectured that by waiting a day or two I might probably be furnished with the means of sending a more minute, full, and satisfactory account. My conjecture was right; for yesterday five seamen made their escape, one of whom is a more intelligent fellow than is commonly found amongst men of his level. Enclosed is a copy of their narrative: some parts of it are perhaps too whimsical and trivial to merit the attention of Congress; but I think it my duty to present it as it is, without adding or curtailng a circumstance. I think, sir, I may venture to congratulate the Congress on the event: not only the advantages must be considerable, but the affair reflects no small credit on the *American* arms.

On *Friday*, about eleven o'clock, the Commodore, with his whole squadron, consisting of two line-of-battle ships and six frigates, the rates of which are marked in the enclosed narrative, anchored at less than half musket-shot from the Fort, and commenced one of the most furious and incessant fires I ever saw or heard of. It was manifestly their plan to land at the same time their whole Regulars at the east end of the Island, and of course invest the Fort by land and sea. As the garrison was composed entirely of raw troops, both men and officers, as I knew their ammunition was short, and as the bridge by which we could reinforce or call off the troops from the Island was unfinished, you may easily conceive my anxiety. It was so great that I was in suspense whether I should evacuate it or not. Fortunately, whilst I was in this state of suspense, some ammunition arrived from the town, and my aid-de-camp, Mr. *Byrd*, returning from the Island with a flattering report of the garrison's spirit, I determined to support it at all hazards. On this principle, I thought it my duty to cross over to the Island, to encourage the garrison by my presence; but I might have saved myself that trouble, for I found on my arrival they had no occasion for any sort of encouragement—I found them determined and cool to the last degree; their behaviour would in fact have done honour to the oldest troops. I beg leave, sir, therefore, to recommend, in the strongest terms, to the Congress, the commanding officer Colonel *Moultrie*, and his whole garrison, as brave soldiers and excellent citizens. Nor must I omit at the same time mentioning Colonel *Thompson*, who, with the *South-Carolina* Rangers and a detachment of the *North-Carolina* Regulars, repulsed the enemy in two several attempts to make a lodgment at the other extremity of the Island.

Our loss, considering the heat and duration of the fire, was inconsiderable. We had only ten men killed on the spot, and twenty-two wounded, seven of whom lost their limbs; but with their limbs they did not lose their spirits, for they enthusiastically encouraged their commander never to abandon the standard of liberty and their country. This I do assure you, sir, is not in the style of gasconading romance, usual after every successful action; but literally a fact. I with great pleasure mention the circumstance, as it augurs well to the cause of freedom. At eleven the fire ceased, having continued just twelve hours without the least intermission.

What the enemy's intentions are now, it is impossible to divine. I am inclined to think they will (if they can repossess the bar) bend their course to *Chesapeake* or *Hampton Bay*. Perhaps shame and rage may prompt their land forces to some attempt before their departure. On my part, I shall spare no pains to discover their intentions and baffle their schemes.

As *Georgia* is a district of the command with which you have honoured me, I thought it prudent to request some of their Members to a conference with the President of this Province and myself; they accepted the invitation, and gave us great satisfaction, from their intelligence and good sense. Enclosed is their deliberation.

That Province is certainly of the last importance to the common cause, and the mode of protecting it pointed out by these gentlemen is, in my opinion, in all its parts, wise and necessary. They had conceived a notion that I had powers to augment their establishment. I assured them that I had no such powers; but both Mr. *Rutledge* and myself gave it as our opinion, that any expenses manifestly beyond their faculties, which they might incur in the common cause, would

be repaid by the Congress; and in this persuasion we ventured to encourage them to augment their Cavalry without loss of time, and make the proposed present of cattle to the *Indians*. Indeed, sir, without a strong corps of Cavalry, I do not see how it is possible to protect these southern Colonies; and with one thousand good Cavalry I think I could insure their protection. From the want of this species of troops, *Charleston* and its dependencies had certainly been lost, if the enemy had acted with the vigour and expedition we had reason to expect; but a most unaccountable languor and inertness on their part saved us. If the scheme I proposed in *Virginia* had been approved and adopted, it would have been not only a security, but considerable economy; the forage was to have been the only expense. Now I am upon this subject, I cannot help mentioning that I have been informed that this project has been considered by some gentlemen as a sort of presumption in me arrogating such a power; but I fancy the affair was not properly understood: I saw the immediate necessity of such a corps; I knew they could be raised immediately by these means; and at the same time I was given to understand by several gentlemen of the *Virginia* Convention, that, should the Continental Congress disapprove of the expense, (trifling as it was,) there was little doubt of their Convention defraying it. But in fact, sir, the measure seemed necessary for the salvation of the Provinces, and not a day was to be lost, which I hope will fully justify my conduct. And I must beg leave to repeat my assertion, that without Cavalry these Provinces cannot be easily defended.

I wish some means could be devised of reducing *East Florida* to an *American* Province. Had I force sufficient, I should, with your permission, certainly attempt it. The advantages would be great and manifold. The augmentation of the *Georgia* Cavalry, I sincerely hope may be approved of by the Congress. Enclosed is the establishment and pay proposed for them. I think the terms not high.

I shall now, sir, conclude, with expressing the high satisfaction I have received from the zeal, activity, and publick spirit, of the gentlemen and inhabitants of this city and Province, from the President of Council down to the lowest order of the people; and assuring you that I have not in my military capacity met with the least obstruction or difficulty, but that we have all worked in concert and harmony for the common good.

I most earnestly request you will pay my respects to the Congress; and be persuaded, sir, that I am, most entirely and devotedly, your most obedient servant, CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

P. S. As *Georgia* has been particularly unfortunate in their adventures for powder, and as my command is so extensive, I must conjure Congress to send an ample supply.

*Circumstantial account of the proceedings of the BRITISH Fleet and Army, both before and after their defeat at SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, on the 28th of JUNE, 1776.*

On the 1st of *June*, his Excellency the President received advices of a fleet of forty or fifty sail being at anchor about six leagues to the northward of *Sullivan's Island*. Accounts of the arrival of Sir *Peter Parker's* fleet in *North-Carolina*, and that it was destined either for *Virginia* or this Province, having been received about three weeks before, put it beyond a doubt that this was his fleet. Next morning the alarm was fired, expresses having been sent, ordering the country Militia to town. The fortifications were all visited by his Excellency and General *Armstrong*, and preparations for the most vigorous defence ordered. In the evening a man-of-war, thought to be a twenty-gun ship, beat up to windward, and anchored off the bar; next day she was joined by a frigate; and on the day following, (*June 4*), by upwards of fifty sail of men-of-war, transports, tenders, &c. We have since learned that the men-of-war were the *Bristol*, of fifty guns, on board of which the Commodore had his flag; the *Solebay*, Captain *Symonds*, twenty-eight; *Syren*, Captain *Furneaux*, twenty-eight; *Active*, Captain *Williams*, twenty-eight; *Acteon*, Captain *Atkins*, twenty-eight; *Sphinx*, Captain *Hunt*, twenty; *Ranger* sloop of eight; *Thunder* (bomb) of six guns and two mortars, one of them thirteen inches, and the other eleven; an armed ship, called the *Friendship*,

of eighteen guns, with some smaller armed vessels. The same day Captain *Mowat* arrived from *North-Carolina*, with an express from General *Lee*, informing that the fleet had left *North-Carolina*, and that he would be here as speedily as possible, with several Continental regiments, to our assistance.

A few days after the arrival of the fleet, several transports and small armed vessels went to *Long-Island*, (situated to the eastward of *Sullivan's Island*; from which it is separated by a small creek called the *Breach*;) where they landed a large body of troops, who encamped there. The wind and tide being favourable for the four following days, about thirty-six vessels came over the bar, and anchored at about three miles distance from *Sullivan's Island*. Two of their transports got aground in coming over; one got off, but the other went to pieces. On the 10th the *Bristol* came over, her guns being previously taken out.

On the 7th, a boat, with a flag of truce from the enemy, came towards the Island, but was fired on by an ignorant sentinel. The boat thereupon immediately put about, and would not return, notwithstanding the officer who was sent to receive the flag waved his handkerchief, and desired them to come ashore. Next day Colonel *Moultrie* sent an officer to the fleet to acquaint them of the sentinel's having fired without orders, and that he was ready to receive anything they had to send. General *Clinton* was satisfied with the apology, and said the intention of the flag's being sent was only to deliver the following Proclamation, which the officer brought ashore:

By Major-General CLINTON, Commander of His Majesty's Forces in the Southern Provinces of NORTH AMERICA:

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas a most unprovoked and wicked rebellion hath for some time past prevailed, and doth now exist within his Majesty's Province of *North-Carolina*, and the inhabitants (forgetting their allegiance to their Sovereign, and denying the authority of the laws and statutes of the Realm) have, in a succession of crimes, proceeded to the total subversion of all lawful authority, usurping the powers of Government, and erecting a tyranny in the hands of Congresses and Committees of various denominations, utterly unknown and repugnant to the spirit of the *British Constitution*; and divers people, in defiance to all legal authority, are now actually in arms, waging unnatural war against their King; and whereas all attempts to reclaim the infatuated and misguided multitude to a sense of their error have unhappily proved ineffectual,—I have it in command to proceed forthwith against all such men, or bodies of men in arms, and against all such Congresses and Committees thus unlawfully established, as against open enemies to the State. But, considering it a duty inseparable from the principle of humanity, first of all to forewarn the deluded people of the miseries ever attendant upon civil war, I do most earnestly entreat and exhort them, as they tender their own happiness and that of their posterity, to appease the vengeance of an injured and justly incensed nation by a return to their duty to our common Sovereign, and to the blessings of a free Government, as established by law, hereby offering, in his Majesty's name, free pardon to all such as shall lay down their arms and submit to the laws, excepting only from the benefit of such pardon *Cornelius Harnett* and *Robert Howe*. And I do hereby require that the Provincial Congress, and all Committees of Safety, and other unlawful associations, be dissolved, and the Judges allowed to hold their Courts according to the laws and Constitution of this Province, of which all persons are required to take notice, as they will answer the contrary at their utmost peril.

Given on board the *Pallas* transport, in *Cape-Fear River*, in the Province of *North-Carolina*, the 5th day of *May*, 1776, and in the sixteenth year of his Majesty's reign.

H. CLINTON.

By command of General Clinton:

R. REAVE, Secretary.

Major-General *Lee*, Brigadier-General *Howe*, Colonel *Bullitt*, Colonel *Jenifer*, *Otway Byrd*, and *Lewis Morris*, Esqs., Aids-de-camp to General *Lee*, with some other gentlemen, arrived at *Haddrell's Point* in the morning of the 9th. After having viewed the fortifications there and on *Sullivan's* and *James's Islands*, they came to town. Orders being given on the 10th for a number of buildings on the wharves to be pulled down, intrenchments to be thrown up all around the town, and barricadoes to be made in the principal streets, every person, without distinction, were employed on those works.

On the 12th there blew a violent storm, in which an hospital ship and the *Friendship*, which were at anchor on the other side of the bar, were obliged to put out to sea, but returned in a few days after. A schooner having on board some provisions and coals, drifting a little way from the fleet, was taken by one of our pilot-boats, and brought to town. Her crew took to their boat on observing the pilot-boat's approach.

His Excellency the President on the 14th proposed to the Militia under arms an oath of fidelity, which was voluntarily and readily taken by every one present excepting three. The next morning it was proposed to the country Militia doing duty in town, and to the Artillery companies, when it met with their unanimous assent.

A sloop from the *West-Indies* for this port, with a cargo of gunpowder, arms, rum, &c., having, in the afternoon of the 16th, descried the fleet, attempted to make her escape; but, through the ignorance of her pilot, run aground and bilged. Next day she was discovered by the men-of-war; and a tender, with several boats full of armed men, came towards her. The crew, being only twenty-two men, unable to cope with such a force in the situation the vessel was in, quitted her. She was soon after boarded, set on fire, and blew up with great explosion.

By some sailors who deserted from the *Ranger* sloop, lying near *Long-Island*, we were informed that the land forces were about two thousand eight hundred (some say three thousand three hundred) men, under the command of Major-General *Clinton*, who had under him Major-General *Lord Cornwallis* and Brigadier-General *Vaughan*.

On the 21st, our advanced party at the northeast end of *Sullivan's Island* fired several shot at the armed schooner *Lady William*, an armed sloop, and a pilot-boat, lying in the creek, between *Long-Island* and the main; several of which hulled them. For several mornings and evenings the enemy threw shells, and fired from some field-pieces on our advanced post, but without any effect.

A large ship hove in sight on the 25th, in the morning. She was thought to be the *Roebuck*, but we have since learned she was the *Experiment*, Captain *Scott*, of fifty guns. Next day she came over, having her guns out. On the day following, the 27th, between nine and ten in the forenoon, as soon as the *Experiment* had her guns all in, the Commodore hoisted his topsails, fired a gun, and got under way. His example was followed by several others of the men-of-war; but a squall coming on, and the wind shifting from southeast to the opposite quarter, prevented their coming much nearer at that time. In the afternoon, the Commodore again got under way, and came about a mile nearer *Sullivan's Island*.

Next morning, *June* 28th, the following was the disposition of the ships-of-war: The *Friendship*, at the distance of about a mile and a half from *Sullivan's Island*, covering the *Thunder* (bomb); the *Solebay*, *Sphinx*, *Bristol*, *Active*, *Experiment*, *Acteon*, and *Syren*. About half an hour past ten o'clock in the forenoon, the *Thunder* began throwing shells on *Fort Sullivan*, and the *Active*, *Bristol*, *Experiment*, and *Solebay*, came boldly up to the attack, in the order their names are put down. A little before eleven o'clock the garrison fired four or five shot at the *Active*, while under sail, some of which struck her; these she did not seem to regard till within about three hundred and fifty yards of the fort, when she dropped anchor and poured in a broadside. Her example was in a few minutes followed by the other three vessels, when there ensued one of the most heavy and incessant cannonades perhaps ever known. The bomb vessel was at the same time throwing shells; a firing was heard from the advanced post at the northeast end of the Island, and more vessels were seen coming up. Our brave garrison, (consisting of the Second Regiment of Provincials, a detachment of Artillery, and some Volunteers,) under all these difficulties, which to the far greater part were entirely new, encouraged by the example of their gallant commander, Colonel *William Moultrie*, and the rest of the officers, behaved with the cool intrepidity of veterans. Our cannon were well served, and did dreadful execution. About twelve o'clock the *Sphinx*, *Acteon*, and *Syren*, got entangled with a shoal, called the *Middle Ground*. The two first ran foul of each other; the *Sphinx* got off with the loss of her bowsprit, but the *Acteon* stuck fast. The *Syren* also got off. Much about the same time, the bomb vessel ceased firing, after having thrown upwards of sixty shells. We have since learned that her beds got damaged, and that it will require much repairing before she is fit for service again. In the afternoon the enemy's fire was increased by that of the *Syren* and *Friendship*, which came within five hundred yards of the fort.

Till near seven o'clock was the enemy's fire kept up without intermission. It slackened considerably after that, and they only returned the garrison's fire, but generally twentyfold. At half after nine, the firing on both sides ceased, and at eleven, the ships slipped their cables.

About the time the ships came up, an armed schooner and sloop came nearer our advanced post, in order to cover the landing of their troops, and every other preparation for



that purpose was made. The soldiers even got into their boats, and a number of shells were thrown into our intrenchment, but did no other damage than wounding one soldier. Notwithstanding which they never once attempted to land. At the advanced post were stationed Colonel *Thompson*, with his Rangers, some companies of Militia, and a detachment of Artillery. They had one eighteen-pounder and two field-pieces, from which they returned the enemy's fire. They were reinforced in the afternoon with Colonel *Muhlenberg's* Virginia battalion.

Next morning, all the men-of-war, except the *Acteon*, were retired about two miles from the Island, which they had quietly effected under cloud of night. The garrison fired several shot at the *Acteon*, which she returned. But soon after, her crew set her on fire and abandoned her, leaving her colours flying, guns loaded, with all her ammunition, provisions, and stores on board. They had not been long gone before several boats from the Island went to her. Lieutenant *Jacob Milligan*, with some others, went on board, and brought off her jack, bell, some sails, and stores. While the flames were bursting out on all sides, he fired three of her guns at the Commodore. In less than half an hour after they quitted her, she blew up.

The *Bristol*, against which the fire was chiefly directed, is very much damaged. It is said that not less than seventy balls went through her. Her mizenmast was so much hurt, that they have since replaced it with another. The mainmast is cut away about fifteen feet below the hounds, and instead of her broad pendant soaring on a lofty mast, it is now hardly to be seen on a jury-mainmast, considerably lower than the foremast. The *Experiment* had her mizen gaff shot away; the other vessels sustained little damage in their rigging.

The loss in the fleet, according to the report of the deserters, is about one hundred and eighty killed and wounded; among the former, is Captain *Morrison*, of the *Bristol*. Sir *Peter Parker* had the hind part of his breeches shot away, which laid his posteriors bare: his kneecap was hurt by a splinter. There have been several funerals in the fleet since the engagement, and from the parade of some, it is conjectured they were of officers of rank. Some of the deserters say that Captain *Scott*, of the *Experiment*, is among the killed.

The loss of the garrison was as follows:

Artillery: Killed, one Matross; wounded, two Matrosses. Second Regiment: killed, one Sergeant, nine rank and file; wounded, Lieutenants *Gray* and *Hall*, the Fife-major, one Sergeant, nineteen rank and file.

An officer's mulatto waiting-boy was killed.

Total killed, twelve; wounded, twenty-three.

Both the officers were but slightly wounded, and are now well. Five of the wounded privates are since dead.

The works are very little damaged; but hardly a hut or tree on the Island escaped the shot entirely. Many thousands of the enemy's shot have been picked up on the Island.

General *Lee* was at *Haddrell's Point* at the beginning of the action, and went in a boat, through a thick fire, to the fort, where he staid some time. He says, in the whole course of his military service, he never knew men behave better; and cannot sufficiently praise both officers and soldiers for their coolness and intrepidity. The behaviour of two Sergeants deserves to be remembered. In the beginning of the action, the flag-staff was shot away; which being observed by Sergeant *Jasper*, of the Grenadiers, he immediately jumped from one of the embrasures upon the beach, took up the flag, and fixed it on a sponge-staff; with it in his hand, he mounted the merlon, and, notwithstanding the shot flew as thick as hail around him, he leisurely fixed it. Sergeant *McDonald*, of Captain *Huger's* company, while exerting himself in a very distinguished manner, was cruelly shattered by a cannon-ball; in a few minutes, he expired, after having uttered these remarkable words: "My friends, I am dying; but don't let the cause of liberty expire with me." His comrades felt for him; the gallant *Jasper* immediately removed his mangled corps from their sight, and called aloud, "Let us revenge that brave man's death!" The day after the action, his Excellency the President presented Sergeant *Jasper* with a sword, as a mark of esteem for his distinguished valour.

We hear that the fort on *Sullivan's Island* will be in

future called *Fort Moultrie*, in honour of the gallant officer who commanded there on the memorable 28th of June, 1776.

The men-of-war dropped down several miles further from the Island a few days after. The carpenters in the fleet had sufficient employment in repairing the vessels. Several deserters came from both fleet and army, who all agreed we need not expect another visit at present; that it was talked, that the two large ships would go to *English* harbour, in *Antigua*, to get refitted; the transports, with the troops, to proceed to *New-York*, under convoy of some men-of-war, to join the grand Army; and that two frigates would be left to cruise between *North-Carolina* and *Georgia*.

On the 2d of July, General *Lee* sent a flag to the enemy, with a proposal to exchange a prisoner for Colonel *Ethan Allen*, who, it was said, was in the fleet; a present of some meat and vegetables was sent at the same time. General *Clinton* being at *Long-Island*, an answer was not received till two days afterwards, when he informed General *Lee* that Colonel *Allen* was not on board; and in return for his present, sent some porter, cheese, &c. Two engineers came in the boat; but as they were received at some distance from the Fort, they were deprived of an opportunity of seeing what they were probably sent to observe.

A sloop from the *West-Indies*, with gunpowder, &c., ran aground on the 5th, in coming into *Stono Inlet*. She, a few days afterwards, went to pieces, the cargo having been previously taken out.

A number of the enemy's transports went to *Long-Island*, about ten days after the repulse, and took on board all the troops on it and *Goat-Island*. About the same time, some of their frigates and armed vessels went over the bar; and on the 14th, the *Bristol* made an attempt to go out, in which she failed, having struck on the bar. She succeeded in another attempt four days after, and came to an anchor off the harbour.

The transports, with the *Solebay*, *Thunder*, *Friendship*, and some of the small armed vessels, sailed on the 20th, steering a southward course. They were afterwards seen standing to the eastward. On the same day, a brigantine, having on board fifty soldiers and six sailors, got aground near *Dewees's Inlet*. She was left unobserved by the rest, and on the day afterwards was taken by an armed flat or floating battery, commanded by Lieutenant *Pickering*. The brigantine could not be got off, and was therefore burnt. She was mounted with six four-pounders. The soldiers threw their small-arms overboard, on seeing the approach of the flat. Four of the crew escaped in their boat.

On the 25th, the *Experiment* went over the bar, her lower tier of guns being taken out. She came to anchor near the Commodore, *Syren*, and three transports, lying off the harbour. A frigate, which had not been here before, came to the Commodore in the afternoon of the 25th. Next morning, she sailed for the southward, and two days after, the *Syren* followed her.

On the 2d of August, the *Active*, *Sphinx*, and a large transport, being all of the enemy's vessels within the bar, went out, and with the *Bristol*, *Experiment*, three transports, and a tender, stood out to sea, steering an E.N.E. course.

#### PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-JERSEY CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, July 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress being informed that there is a large quantity of stock on the sea-coast of your Colony, which are much exposed to the incursions of the enemy, and that many of the proprietors of them, actuated by motives of interest, or disaffected to the cause of their country, would be glad to dispose of them to the enemy, I am ordered to forward to you the enclosed resolution, and earnestly recommend it to you to cause the stock to be removed back into the country to a place of safety.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Honourable Convention of *New-Jersey*.

#### PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-JERSEY CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, July 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have only time to acquaint you, that a letter from your agent to Mr. *Kinsey* was read in Congress;

in consequence of which, I am desired to forward you the enclosed resolve; and enclose you copies of Lord Howe's letter and declaration, which require no comment. I am to inform you that Congress wish to know by what means that letter to Mr. Kinsey reached his hands, and am to desire you will take every method to prevent any communication with the enemy from your Colony. This I have in charge most earnestly to recommend to you, and beg your immediate attention to it.

I most sincerely congratulate you on the agreeable intelligence just received from *South-Carolina*, by express. Have not time to be particular; can only say the enemy twice attempted to land, and were repulsed; their capital ships disabled, one blown up, and, in short, a total stop put to the business of the fleet for a long time; the Commodore wounded, one Captain killed, one Captain lost an arm, and many officers and men killed on board the several ships. General Lee writes, the officers and men on our side behaved as well as any old troops could. Our loss very trifling, not one officer killed, and not more than ten men killed, and twenty-two wounded. General Lee writes, he never saw such a fierce, incessant fire in all his life. I hope He who controls all events will still espouse our cause, and give such success to our arms in other quarters, as, from the righteousness of our cause, and our real reliance on Him, He shall judge fit.

I am, with real regard, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Convention of *New-Jersey*.

N. B. I am vastly hurried. Excuse me, I have not time to have it copied.

WILLIAM GODDARD TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

Philadelphia, July 19, 1776.

RESPECTED GENTLEMEN: Your complaisant reception of my application to be taken into the service of my country, and your attention to the meritorious officers of the Army, in which I am desirous of serving, do equal honour to the benevolence and justice of your Board, and call for my warmest acknowledgments. As I presume the cause of my not being hitherto provided for arises from a want of information how it might be done with propriety, I beg leave to lay before you the following particulars, collected from several officers of distinction. At the same time, permit me to assure your honourable Board, that I do not wish to be gratified at the hazard of disobliging any worthy officer; neither, indeed, should I incline to serve in any corps in which I was not perfectly agreeable.

In the Army under the immediate command of his Excellency General Washington, there are two regiments whose Colonels are removed, viz: the Fourth, late *Larned's*, and the Twentieth, *Arnold's*. Lieutenant-Colonel Tyler, of Colonel Parsons's regiment, is the first Lieutenant-Colonel in rank in the lines; and Lieutenant-Colonel Shepherd, of the Fourth Regiment, is the second in rank. These two gentlemen served all the last war, and distinguished themselves as brave and gallant officers, and during the present struggle for "peace, liberty, and safety," have been highly esteemed. It appears, therefore, to be their right to take the command of those regiments. *Arnold's* was raised in *Connecticut*, and Lieutenant-Colonel Tyler would, I am persuaded, be as acceptable to them as any man out of the regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel Shepherd, if preferred, will command the regiment he now belongs to. Major Prentis, of Colonel Parsons's regiment, is the first Major in rank in the lines, and has always approved himself an able commander. Lieutenant-Colonel Putnam, of Colonel Wyllis's regiment, is chief Engineer, and does no duty in battalion; and as he cannot act in both capacities, and he is very skilful in that important profession, the good of the country, it is thought, might be better promoted by making an establishment for Engineers, and confirming Mr. Putnam in that office, with the rank of Colonel. If this should take place, and Major Prentis should be preferred in Colonel Wyllis's regiment, there would then be a vacancy in Colonel Parsons's regiment, in which I am assured there would be no objection to my appointment to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Captain Chapman, of the same regiment, an officer of real worth, would then of course be appointed to

the rank of Major, he being the oldest Captain in the regiment.

In addition to what I have here recited, I am further informed that there is a Lieutenant-Colonelcy vacant in a new battalion of Artificers, commanded by Colonel Parke.

I have mentioned these several particulars with great deference to your honourable Board, as well as to his Excellency the General, and hope I shall not be considered as in the remotest degree dictating to either. If I have gone further than I ought, I beg it may be imputed to my anxious desire of stepping forth, at this very interesting crisis, in defence of my country.

I am, gentlemen, with the highest esteem, your most obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM GODDARD.

To the Honourable the Board of War, &c., for the *United States of America*.

To the Honourable Commissioners, or Delegates, from the several AMERICAN States, now sitting in General Congress in the City of PHILADELPHIA:

The Memorial of WILLIAM GODDARD, most respectfully sheweth:

That the intolerable severity of Ministerial oppression having exposed to innumerable hardships your memorialist, and other printers who manifested their zeal in defence of the invaded rights of *America*; and the iron hand of tyranny having, by means of the Parliamentary Post-Office, pressed upon him more heavily, perhaps, than upon any other; his own sufferings, and an ardent desire of serving his country, prompted him to devise a plan for the total abolition of that engine of Ministerial extortion, fraud, and revenge, by substituting to it a Post-Office on constitutional principles.

His undertaking was countenanced by all the friends of *American* freedom, several of whom contributed largely towards raising a fund sufficient to prosecute his plan, which the artifices used by the tools of despotism to discourage it rendered more expensive than it might otherwise have been. He was, however, very near reaping the fruits of his labour, and reimbursing his friends, when your most honourable House appointed one of your colleagues to superintend that important department, under your direction; but the worthy officer intrusted with it, not having been authorized to indemnify your memorialist or his friends for the expense incurred by establishing Postmasters, hiring riders, and bringing the temporary establishment, in all its parts, to that state where your officer found it when it was resigned with all those advantages, a great loss is sustained by your memorialist, as well as the persons who were more intimately connected with him in that voluntary service of the publick.

The Secretary and Comptrollership (the two principal places which the Congress instituted under the Postmaster General) having been disposed of, it was judged that, as your memorialist has repeatedly travelled through most of the Colonies, for the purpose of carrying on his own projected plan, he was more capable than many others to make a proper choice of inferior officers, and knew many local circumstances that would be essentially useful in the regulation of that department, should he be invested with the Surveyorship, on the present establishment.

To serve this country, he accepted it, insufficient as the salary was to afford him a decent maintenance, and though he well knew that the greater his exertions should be, the sooner his office must be discontinued, all sinecures being inglorious to the incumbents, and burdensome to the State.

Having brought the Surveyorship to that period, for one year at least, he entreats your honourable House to favour him with an opportunity to serve his country in the Army, wherever the scene of action may be, if he be permitted to share in the glorious struggle in which his country is now engaged, and be rendered as serviceable as may be reasonably presumed from his known principles and character.

He is informed, by officers of distinction, that there are three vacancies, one of which, the Mustermaster-General's, being more lucrative, might indemnify him for a part of the pecuniary losses already mentioned; but as it is less liable to those personal dangers which his natural disposition impels him to encounter, he would think himself more happy should you honour him with a commission amongst the gen-

tle men who shall be appointed Field-Officers, to supply the consequential vacancies occasioned by the alterations expected to happen in two regiments, which have no Colonel.

Your Memorialist would not presume to solicit employment to the prejudice of the officers in any regiment; but he is assured that it will give no disgust to the worthy gentlemen of two corps on this station, who, having honourably served in them, might with propriety claim such preferments.

Now that this country is threatened with a most formidable invasion, to assist in defending, at the risk of his life, those sacred rights which, as a citizen, he has asserted on every opportunity that his humble station offered him, is the most fervent wish of your memorialist, who will strive to render himself worthy of the confidence that may be reposed in him by your honourable House, and to demonstrate that he is ever ready to sacrifice his own advantage to the publick good.

WILLIAM GODDARD.

New-York, June 21, 1776.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabethtown, July 19, 1776.

SIR: After making such preparations as our circumstances would admit of, I marched, about eight o'clock yesterday evening, to the mouth of *Thompson's Creek*, with the Continental troops under the command of Major *Knowlton*; the Rifle battalions were to follow. The wind and tide being against them, the boats could not be so soon brought to us as we expected. In the mean time the weather became too tempestuous to venture over the *Sound* in scows. We remained on the shore, in hopes of calmer weather, till near eleven o'clock, but finding no probability of getting over in time to reach the enemy's quarters before day, were under the necessity of relinquishing the enterprise. It cannot be renewed till we have more forces here; nor would it be prudent to attempt any surprise for some days, as our motions are probably communicated to the enemy.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

A PLAN FOR ATTACKING STATEN-ISLAND.

First. A party to attack the southeast part of the Island, at a landing called *Pullion's*, about two miles westward from the *Narrows*, where are several scattered farm-houses, where it is said troops are quartered; this party to consist of four hundred, and to go from *Long-Island*.

Second. A party to embark at *Piscataway Landing*, on *Raritan River*, about six miles above *Amboy*, to make their descent on the southwest side of the Island, about two miles east of *Billop's Point*; to consist of five hundred men, to endeavour to surprise the rear of the camp, opposite to *Amboy*.

Third. A party to embark from the *Old Blazing-Star*, near *Woodbridge*, and to make their descent on the best landing opposite, and to endeavour to surprise the town of *Richmond*, or *Cuckold's Town*; to consist of five hundred men.

Fourth. A party to embark at a place about three miles south from *Elizabethtown Point*, where there is a wood that will cover them to the place of embarkation; to make their descent on the Island on the opposite shore, where there is a good landing on the upland, covered with woods not far off. The object here is uncertain, but there are a number of good, large farm-houses in the neighbourhood, where it is probable troops are lodged without much caution; to consist of four hundred men.

Fifth. A party to embark in *Newark Bay*, from a place about a mile below *Brown's Ferry*, to make the descent at a place opposite the east end of *Shutter's Island*, marked *Mushereau*; this party to consist of eight hundred men, two hundred of which are immediately to march westward, in order to cut off the guard opposite to *Elizabethtown-Point*; the remaining six hundred to march slowly, firmly, and carefully, eastward, towards the church at *Decker's*, with small parties ahead to surprise and break up the parties lodged in the houses along the shore.

Sixth. A party to attempt to surprise the enemy's guard on *Buskirk's Point*, which is the southeast corner of *Bergen Point*; this party, or guard, does not seem to be large, but it is said they are possessed of two six-pounders. The party

that makes the attack must not attempt to go over the causeway or road over the meadow, the cannon being in all probability pointed to command that pass, but should be provided with some boards, and proceed in two or three columns over the meadow, where they will meet with no other obstruction than a small creek or ditch, which they will easily pass with the help of the boards. If this place is carried, a cannonade and bombardment should, as soon as possible, commence on the ships, a great number of which now lie within reach of the place. A cannonade should also commence on *Bergen Point*, opposite the church and *Decker's*, where it is said about six hundred men are posted; this cannonade, with round and grape shot, would confuse the troops in forming, and prevent their succouring the guard at *Elizabethtown-Point* or opposing our party who make their descent near *Shutter's Island*. The cannonade should also be kept up on such parts of the shore of *Staten-Island* where any boats are collected or may assemble. The party for these several matters on *Bergen-Neck* should be about seven hundred men, besides the Riflemen.

About the time the troops make the descent, which should be at the beginning of the ebb, as great a number of fire-rafts and fire-ships as can be provided, should be towed down, so as to fall in with the head of the fleet.

The commanding officer of each party to reconnoitre the ground where he is to embark, and where he is to make his descent, in the best manner he can, by the help of glasses or otherwise; and also to get the best information he can of the roads and country in general in the way to the place of his destination; they should also be provided with faithful, good guides: plenty of them are to be had in *New-Jersey*.

All the boats in *New-Jersey*, from *Raritan River* to *Powles Hook*, should immediately be collected and secured under proper guards, as well to prevent intelligence going to the enemy as to serve for these embarkations. The commanding officer, before he sets out, to determine whether the boats are to remain at the place of descent, or to meet him at some other place, and to direct the guards of boats accordingly. A number of spare boats should be collected in *Elizabethtown-Creek*, *Newark-Bay*, and towards *Blazing-Star*, to be ready to serve on any emergency.

As the success of the attempt will depend on a proper timing of the different attacks, the commanding officers of all the parties should regulate their watches by one standard, and be punctually at the place of their destination at the time agreed on.

Suspected persons on *Bergen* should be immediately removed: there are several gone from *New-York*.

As the safety of the troops in these enterprises will entirely depend on securing a safe retreat, the utmost caution and attention must be paid to the having the boats ready at the proper places, to take off the respective parties.

Instead of the fourth article, it is proposed to adopt a plan of Major *Knowlton's*, which is, to march a body of about one thousand men to the point X, and there to embark and proceed to the place A, and to march up the *Neck* into the country by the prickled line to the place B, and there to send off a party toward C, to fall upon the rear of the troops posted in the houses along the north side of the Island; the rest to proceed to D, and there to divide and proceed to the several places E, F, G, and in their way to sweep the whole country before them, and then to embark again at the two last mentioned places, where the boats must be ready to receive them; but the guard of the boats should be cautious of going to those places before they are sure of our people being in possession of them.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 20, and referred to the Board of War.]

New-York, July 19, 1776.

SIR: I have been duly honoured with your favours of the 16th and 17th, with the several resolves they contained, to the execution of which, so far as shall be in my power, I will pay proper attention.

In my letter of the 17th instant, I transmitted you a copy of one from General *Schuyler*, and of its several enclosures. I confess the determination of the council of General Officers on the 7th, to retreat from *Crown-Point*, surprised me much; and the more I consider it the more striking does the impro-

priety appear. The reasons assigned against it by the Field-Officers in their remonstrance, coincide greatly with my own ideas and those of the other General Officers I have had an opportunity of consulting with, and seem to be of considerable weight—I may add, conclusive.

I am not so fully acquainted with the geography of that country and the situation of the posts as to pronounce a peremptory judgment upon the matter; but if any of my ideas are right, the possession of *Crown-Point* is essential to give us every superiority and mastery upon the Lake. That the enemy will possess it as soon as abandoned by us there can be no doubt; and if they do, whatever galleys or force we keep on the Lake will be unquestionably in their rear. How they are to be supported there, or what succour can be drawn from them then, is beyond my comprehension. Perhaps it is only meant that they shall be employed on the communication between that and *Ticonderoga*. If this is the case, I fear the views of Congress will not be answered, nor the salutary effects derived from them that were intended. I have mentioned my surprise to General *Schuyler*, and would, by the advice of the Generals here, have directed that the posts should be maintained, had it not been for two causes: an apprehension that the works have been destroyed, and that if the Army should be ordered from *Ticonderoga* to the post opposite to it (where I presume they are) to repossess it, they would have neither one place or another secure and in a defensible state. The other, lest it might increase the jealousy and diversity of opinions which seem already too prevalent in that Army, and establish a precedent for the inferior officers to set up their judgment whenever they would in opposition to those of their superiors, a matter of great delicacy, and that might lead to fatal consequences, if countenanced; though in the present instance I could wish their reasoning had prevailed. If the Army has not moved, what I have said to General *Schuyler* may, perhaps, bring on a reconsideration of the matter, and it may not be too late to take measures for maintaining that post; but of this I have no hope.

In consequence of the resolve of Congress for three of the Eastern regiments to reinforce the Northern Army, I wrote General *Ward*, and, by advice of my General Officers, directed them to march to *Norwich*, and there to embark for *Albany*, conceiving that two valuable purposes might result therefrom: first, that they would sooner join the Army by pursuing this route, and be saved from the distress and fatigue that must attend every long march through the country at this hot and uncomfortable season; and, secondly, that they might give succour here in case the enemy should make an attack about the time of their passing. But the enemy having now, with their ships-of-war and tenders, cut off the water communication from hence to *Albany*, I have written this day, and directed them to proceed by land across the country. If Congress disapprove the route, or wish to give any orders about them, you will please to certify me thereof, that I may take measures accordingly.

Enclosed I have the honour to transmit you copies of a letter and sundry resolutions, which I received yesterday from the Convention of this State. By them you will perceive they have been acting upon matters of great importance, and are exerting themselves in the most vigorous manner to defeat the wicked designs of the enemy, and such disaffected persons as may incline to assist and facilitate their views. In compliance with their request, and on account of the scarcity of money for carrying their salutary views into execution, I have agreed to lend them, out of the small stock now in hand, (not more than sixty thousand dollars,) twenty thousand dollars, in part of what they want, which they promise speedily to replace. Had there been money sufficient for paying the whole of our troops, and not more, I could not have done it; but as it was otherwise, and by no means proper to pay a part and not the whole, I could not foresee any inconveniences that would attend the loan; on the contrary, that might contribute in some degree to forward their schemes. I hope my conduct in this instance will not be disapproved.

I enclosed to Governour *Trumbull* a copy of their letter, and of their several resolves, to-day, by Colonel *Broome* and Mr. *Duer*, two members of the Convention, who are going to wait on him; but I did not think myself at liberty to urge or request his interest in forming the camp of six thousand men,

as the levies, directed by Congress on the 3d of *June* to be furnished for the defence of this place by that Government, are but a little more than one-third come in; at the same time, the proposition I think a good one, if it could be carried into execution. In case the enemy should attempt to effect a landing above *King's Bridge*, and to cut off the communication between this city and the country, an army to hang on their rear would distress them exceedingly.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. The enclosed paper should have been sent before, but was omitted through hurry.

P. S. After I had enclosed my letter I received one from General *Ward*, a copy of which is herewith transmitted. I have written to him to forward the two regiments now at *Boston* by the most direct road to *Ticonderoga*, as soon as they are well, with the utmost expedition. I consider their having had the small-pox as a fortunate circumstance. When the three arrive which had marched for *Norwich*, I shall immediately send one of them on, if Congress shall judge it expedient, of which you will please to inform me.

[No. 1.] In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 16, 1776. }

SIR: We cannot but express our satisfaction at the unre-mitted attention which your Excellency manifests to the interests of this State. We see the force of your observations, and have taken, and shall continue to take, every measure which we conceive most conducive to defeat the designs of our enemy. This will in part appear from the enclosed resolution.

We are extremely sorry that the state of our finances reduces us to the necessity of applying to your Excellency for a loan, which it may perhaps be inconvenient for you to make, but we shall take the earliest care to replace what nothing but urgent necessity would have induced us to borrow.

As our troops are but ill supplied with ammunition, we hope that your Excellency will order them an immediate supply, as part of them are already in motion, as well as direct the Commissary-General to take the necessary steps for their subsistence. New levies, who have never seen service, will, without doubt, require a commander of some experience. Such an one, we trust, your Excellency will supply as soon as possible.

Our apprehensions of an attempt on the part of our enemies to cut off the communication between the city and country, by landing above *King's Bridge*, makes us wish to have some force ready to hang on their rear in case such a step should be taken: for which reason we have not only called out all the force we could possibly collect, (exclusive of that which may probably be wanted in the frontier Counties,) but would take the liberty, if it should meet your Excellency's approbation, to suggest the same idea to Governour *Trumbull*, who, by forming a camp on *Byram River* of six thousand men, might render any design which the enemy may have to land above *King's Bridge* extremely hazardous.

We have been just informed that the ships which sailed this morning have anchored about ten or twelve miles below *Fort Montgomerie*. We have great reason to believe that their design is to pass it, and burn our shipping at *Poughkeepsie*.

We shall be happy to coöperate with your Excellency in every measure which may tend to secure the liberty of *America*, which we conceive to be nearly connected with the preservation of this State.

We have this moment heard that the *Phoenix* is aground in *Haverstraw Bay*, and have some reason to believe it.

We remain your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servants,

By order: NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *President*.

[No. 2.] In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 16, 1776. }

*Resolved, unanimously*, That all persons abiding within the State of *New-York*, and deriving protection from the laws of the same, owe allegiance to said laws, and are members of the State; and that all persons passing through, visiting, or making a temporary stay in the said State, being



entitled to the protection of the laws during the time of such passage, visitation, or temporary stay, owe during the same time allegiance thereto. That all persons members of, or owing allegiance to, this State, as before described, who shall levy war against the said State within the same, or be adherent to the King of *Great Britain*, or others the enemies of the said State within the same, giving to him or them aid and comfort, are guilty of treason against the State, and being thereof convicted, shall suffer the pains and penalties of death.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBT. BENSON, *Secretary*.

[No. 3.] In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 16, 1776. }

Whereas this Convention have the strongest reason to believe that the *British Armies* in *New-York* and *Canada* will endeavour, by means of *Hudson's River*, to effect a junction, and thereby cut off all intercourse between the Eastern and Southern States: And whereas the Counties contiguous to the *Sound* and *Hudson's River* will be greatly exposed to the ravages and incursions of a cruel and unnatural enemy, which, if not prevented, will render them a scene of ruin and desolation: And whereas, from the situation of said country, intersected with defiles and narrow passes, it will be extremely practicable to repel the hostile attempts of the enemy, provided the inhabitants exert themselves in its defence with the union, spirit, and alacrity, of men determined to defend their rights, and transmit the blessings of freedom to posterity: And whereas it is the indispensable duty of this Convention, by every means in their power, to provide for the happiness and security of their constituents, reposing the highest confidence in their virtue and publick spirit: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That one-fourth part of the Militia of the Counties of *Westchester*, *Dutchess*, *Ulster*, and *Orange*, be forthwith drawn out for the defence of the liberties, property, wives and children, of the good people of this State.

And as at this busy season of the year the service may be inconvenient to many of them,

*Resolved*, That each man be allowed twenty dollars as a bounty, with Continental pay and subsistence, and be continued in the service until the last day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to such of the inhabitants who remain at home, to give all possible assistance to the families of those spirited persons who stepped forth in defence of the rights and liberties of this invaded country; and that the Sub-Committees in the several Districts in those Counties pay particular attention to see this recommendation be complied with.

*Resolved*, That the Brigadier-General, and the Field-Officers of the Militia of each County, be directed to adopt the most equitable and expeditious mode of raising these levies, and of furnishing with arms those who are not supplied, (the price of the arms to be deducted out of each man's pay;) and that they be authorized to call on the Committee of each County for their assistance.

*Resolved*, That the levies be formed into Companies, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, three Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and fifty Privates; and that the Captain and Subalterns be appointed by the Field-Officers of each Regiment of Militia from which the quotas were to be raised, and the Non-Commissioned Officers by the Captains of each Company.

*Resolved*, That each man furnish himself with a Blanket and Knapsack, and every six men with a Pot or Camp-Kettle.

*Resolved*, That two Deputy-Commissaries be appointed to provide four months' Provision for six thousand men, to be deposited in two Magazines, one on each side of the river, at such places as his Excellency General *Washington* shall think proper to appoint.

*Resolved*, That all the men now raised in the Counties of *Ulster* and *Orange* be stationed in the Highlands, on the west side of the river, to guard those defiles the possession of which Brigadier-General *Clinton* shall think most conducive to the safety of the State.

*Resolved*, That the men raised in the Counties of *Westchester* and *Dutchess* repair immediately to *Peek's Kill*; and that General *Washington* be requested to appoint an Officer

to take the command of all the levies on both sides of the river, to fix upon what station they shall occupy, and to nominate the two Deputy-Commissaries for the Troops on each side the river.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be informed of the measures which this Convention have taken for the safety of the State; and that he be requested to advance the sum of £20,000 in order to expedite the raising these levies.

*Resolved*, That all the Troops raised in the above Counties shall be subject to the Articles of War established by the Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That his Excellency General *Washington* be requested to write to Governour *Trumbull*, desiring him to devise and carry into execution the most expeditious and effectual measures for keeping up the intercourse betwixt the Army now at *New-York* and the State of *Connecticut*; and that two of the members of this Convention wait on Governour *Trumbull*, to enforce, by such arguments as they shall think of most weight, the purport of General *Washington's* letter.

*Resolved*, That the Brigadier-Generals and Committees of the respective Counties be immediately furnished with copies of these Resolutions.

Extract from the Minutes: ROBT. BENSON, *Secretary*.

[No. 4.]

Boston, July 15, 1776.

SIR: I am this moment favoured with your Excellency's letter of the 11th instant. I have also received yours of the 7th and 9th. I have paid, and shall pay, the utmost attention to all your directions. Two regiments will march on *Thursday* morning, one on *Friday*, and the other two as soon as they are well, which I trust will be in ten days.

As the small-pox prevailed so much in *Boston*, the Legislature of this Government gave permission for the inhabitants to inoculate; and as so many of the troops in town had taken the disorder, I thought it might be most for the general good to permit the remainder of the two regiments in town to be inoculated.

I have made a return to the Board of War and Ordnance of the stores in this division of the Continental Army.

I am, sir, your Excellency's obedient humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I enclose you a copy of a resolution of the Provincial Convention of the State of *New-York*, dated the 16th instant, recommending it to all the General and Sub-Committees, to apprehend and secure all such persons whose going at large, at this critical time, they may deem dangerous to the safety of the State.

As this city is hourly threatened with an attack from a powerful enemy, and as there is too much reason to apprehend, from their vicinity to this city, and from the number of suspicious characters still in it, that they may receive intelligence which may counteract all my operations for its defence, I strongly recommend it to you to remove for some time all equivocal and suspicious characters. This appears to me to be the spirit of the resolution of the Provincial Convention; and the propriety of it is founded on the law of self-preservation, and confirmed by the practice of all nations in a state of war.

I esteem it my duty to add my recommendation to that of the Provincial Convention, that if, through an ill-timed lenity, my attempts to secure this Province should be baffled, the blame of it may not be imputed to my want of vigilance.

I have enclosed a list of persons represented as dangerous. As I can only speak from information, I must rely upon your taking proper steps with them; unless, from your better knowledge, you determine them to be of a different character than represented.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Committee of the City of *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO ROBERT LIVINGSTON AND OTHERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am favoured with yours of the 17th instant. My unacquaintedness with *Hudson's River*, and with every

other circumstance necessary to form a judgment of the mode of defending it, will incapacitate me from giving you the assistance and advice you politely ask. I must entirely refer it to your own judgment and skill, only assuring you that it will give me great pleasure if anything effectual can be done, and that I will most readily give all the assistance in my power. I had some intentions of throwing obstructions in the passage at *Mount Washington*, but so many difficulties and obstacles have retarded it, that I much fear my being able to complete it. However, it is a matter so purely confidential, if it can be effected, that I must desire the most profound secrecy may be observed on the subject. I heartily wish you success in the measures you may adopt; and am, with much truth and esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To *Robert Livingston*, Esquire, and others, Members of the Secret Committee of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By Messrs. *Broome* and *Duer* I was yesterday favoured with your several resolves of the 16th instant. The spirit and decision in which they are formed will, I doubt not, appear in their execution; and, as far as I can coöperate, I shall most cheerfully contribute all my aid and assistance. The state of this Army would make it improper for me to send up any General Officer in the Continental service to take the command of the levies proposed to be raised; and, from the nature of the service, I should apprehend a knowledge of the country and its inhabitants would be very necessary. General *Clinton*, on all accounts, appears to me the most suitable person; and as the appointment is made dependant on me, I shall nominate him, unless some objection should be made or difficulty arise, which I do not now know of. The Deputy-Commissaries I will take advice upon, and have them appointed as soon as possible.

The state of the pay office here did not admit a full compliance with your request of the loan of £20,000, there not being so much in the Paymaster's hands at this time; however, that so good a work might not be delayed, I immediately gave a warrant for \$20,000, and as fast as circumstances will admit, shall make up the remainder.

I have enclosed your resolution to Governour *Trumbull*, on the subject of forming a camp at *Byram River*, for the security of the communication with *New-York*, but at the same time I very much doubt his ability to carry it into execution. The quota of troops to be furnished by *Connecticut* for the assistance of this Army is not half completed, notwithstanding the most urgent and pressing instances on the subject; which affords a very dull prospect of fixing a new camp adequate to the intended design; and I very much fear the attempt would obstruct the raising the levies now ordered, and in the end prove ineffectual. At the same time I most heartily approve the measure, and should rejoice to see it carried into execution in the completest manner.

Since writing the above, your favour of the 18th instant, enclosing Colonel *Cortlandt's* and Captain *Platt's* report, is come to hand. The spirit and alacrity of the Militia in so readily turning out at this busy season is a very encouraging circumstance, and does them great honour.

I observe Colonel *Fellows*, of *Massachusetts-Bay*, mentioned as having marched in. If his troops compose a part of those destined for this Army, it is my intention that all under that circumstance should come immediately down and properly arranged; and I observe there will be the less inconvenience, as Messrs. *Van Cortlandt* and *Platt* observe that they had such a surplus of men as to enable them to discharge a number.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect and esteem, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

P. S. With respect to ammunition, I had flattered myself that the Provincial stock would not only have been sufficient for the purposes of its immediate defence, but, in case of necessity, to have assisted us. I shall endeavour, under a late direction of Congress, to procure what is to be had from the adjoining mills.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, July 19, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed extract from the proceedings of Congress, which I have the honour to transmit you, will discover their anxiety respecting our Army here, and their wishes to have it reinforced. I shall only add, that the situation of our affairs demands the most speedy succour, and my request that you will use your good offices for expediting the new levies as fast as possible. I have also enclosed you a copy of a letter, and sundry resolutions, which I received yesterday from the Convention of this State. You will perceive thereby that they have been deliberating on sundry important measures, and are exerting themselves, in the most vigorous manner, to defeat the wicked designs of our common enemy and such disaffected persons as may attempt to favour their views. They also contain a request that I should solicit you to devise some mode for keeping up a communication and intercourse between your State and this, and suggest the expediency of your forming a camp of six thousand men about *Byram River*, to coöperate with those they are collecting, in order to hang on the rear of the enemy in case they land above *King's Bridge*, and attempt to cut off the communication between the country and this city. As the quota of men requested by Congress for the defence of this place is not yet arrived, I could not conceive myself at liberty to ask of you to furnish such an additional number, although I cannot but observe that the scheme seems well calculated for the purposes they have in view, and might be productive of the most salutary consequences in case of an attempt of that sort. Colonel *Broome* and Mr. *Duer*, two members of the Convention, wait on you upon the subject, and will fully point out the object they have in view, and their ideas of the importance and expediency of the plan, and to them I beg leave to refer you.

I am, sir, with great regard and esteem, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL GATES.

New-York, July 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I expected ere this to have heard from you; and I will open the correspondence, by expressing my exceeding great concern on account of the determination of your Board of General Officers to retreat from *Crown-Point* to *Ticonderoga*, assigning (contrary to the opinion of all your Field-Officers) for reason, that the former place is not tenable with your present force, or the force expected.

My concern arises from information, and a firm belief, that your relinquishing *Crown-Point* is, in its consequences, a relinquishment of the Lakes, and all the advantages to be derived therefrom; for it does not admit of a doubt but that the enemy will possess themselves, if possible, of that pass, (which is a key to all these Colonies,) the moment you leave it, and thereby confine your vessels to the narrow part of the Lake in front of that post; or, by having them in the rear of it, cut off all kind of supplies from, and intercourse between, your camp and them, securing, by this means, a free and uninterrupted passage into the three *New-England* Governments for invasion thereof.

Nothing but a belief that you have actually removed the Army from *Crown-Point* to *Ticonderoga*, and demolished the works at the former, and the fear of creating dissensions, and encouraging a spirit of remonstrating against the conduct of superior officers by inferiors, have prevented me, by advice of the General Officers, from directing the post at *Crown-Point* to be held till Congress should decide upon the propriety of its evacuation. As the case stands, I can give no order in the matter, lest, between two opinions, neither of the places should be put into such a posture of defence as to resist an advancing enemy. I must, however, express my sorrow at the resolution of your council, and wish that it had never happened, as everybody who speaks of it also does, and that the measure could yet be changed with propriety.

We have the enemy full in view of us; but their operations are to be suspended till the reinforcement, (hourly expected,) arrives, when I suppose there will soon be pretty warm work.

Lord *Howe* is arrived. He and the General, his bro-

ther, are appointed Commissioners to dispense pardons to repenting sinners.

My compliments to the gentlemen with you of my acquaintance. I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Gates, Ticonderoga.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL WARD.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: In my letter of the 7th instant, I mentioned the propriety of forwarding a quantity of powder, and lodging it between this and *Boston*. I am now more fully convinced of the necessity of such a measure, and would wish you to forward, with all convenient speed, five hundred barrels, to be stored at *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*, till further orders. In a postscript to my letter of the 9th of *June*, I was of opinion it would be much easier for the troops bound from *Boston* to the northward, to proceed this way, for the benefit of water-carriage; but this being entirely cut off by the ships up *Hudson's River*, you will speed their march by the nearest and most convenient route. The several articles wrote for in my letter of yesterday, you will please to forward to *Norwich*, with orders for them to be sent on by water, provided the enemy's ships should not stop the communication, in which case land-carriages must be procured.

I am, sir, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Ward, Boston.*

P. S. In speaking of the troops marching to the northward, I have reference to the three regiments bound to *Ticonderoga*. The other two I hope will be on their way for this place before this reaches you.

G. W.

P. S. Since writing the above, your letter of the 15th instant came to hand. If the three regiments you mention have marched, they may proceed to this city; if not, one of them to march for *Ticonderoga*, the two remaining (sick) to follow to the last-mentioned place, by divisions, as fast as a Field-Officer's proportion is well enough, as they will be much the properest (having had the small-pox) for that department.

G. W.

EPHRAIM ANDERSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, July 19, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I have the honour now to inform you that I am preparing for the destruction of the *British* fleet in this harbour, and hope in a few days to be able to give a good account of the greatest part of them.

I should be extremely thankful if the Congress will honour me with the appointment of Deputy Adjutant-General to the Flying-Camp. It is a department in which I am sure I can be of infinite service to the cause, by disciplining young troops, both officers and men. I will leave myself upon the Congress for the above, or any other appointment they may honour me with, &c.

I am, honoured sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

EPHRAIM ANDERSON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock, Esq.*, President of Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL (COMMISSARY-GENERAL) TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, July 19, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: *Walter Livingston, Esquire*, Deputy Commissary-General at *Albany*, writes of the 15th instant, as he has done several times before, that large supplies of fresh beef, &c., are wanting in the Northern Army; that he has no money to procure them with; and that the chest there is empty. That the chest is empty, is confirmed to me by my brother's letter of the same date. Mr. *Livingston* writes me that he is in debt already more than \$30,000; and my brother, that the whole \$500,000 ordered some time ago, \$200,000 of which went by General *Gates*, would not pay their old debts.

For fear my department should suffer for want of cash, I am sending an express this afternoon to Mr. *Livingston*, with \$18,000, which can but illy be spared from here; but as eating cannot go on without cash, and they are worse off for it than we are at present, I thought it my duty to do it,

and at the same time to write Congress, and beg that my department to the northward may not suffer for the want of so necessary an article as cash.

I am, honourable sir, your most humble servant,

JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Hancock, Esq.*, President of the Congress of the *United States of America*, at *Philadelphia*.

P. S. Mr. *Gerry* is here—better than when he left *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 19, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports that the ship that went down the day before yesterday morning, still continues there at the *Hook*. An armed sloop came up last night. All the rest of the fleet continue as they were. Nothing extraordinary has happened since yesterday in this camp.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

COLONEL HAY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Haverstraw, July 19, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of yours, directed to the County Committee of this County. The enemy now lie in *Haverstraw Bay*, and are using every effort to land and destroy the property of the inhabitants. The great extent of shore I have to guard obliges me to keep the greatest part of my regiment on duty, in order to prevent their depredations. I have received a reinforcement from General *Clinton*, at *Fort Montgomery*, of about eighty men, and hope when he receives your Excellency's letter he will send me further relief, as the enemy seem to direct their operations against the west shore. We are in want of powder and ball—a supply will be absolutely necessary. If I had had two or three small cannon, I should have been able to have destroyed one of the cutters that grounded near *Stony-Point*, and lay there six hours.

The enclosed examination of a deserter from Captain *Wallace*, will give your Excellency all the information I am able to communicate at present.

I am, with esteem, your most obedient servant,

A. HAWKES HAY.

To His Excellency General *Washington, New-York*.

P. S. The bearer can bring up in his saddle-bags twenty weight of powder.

The Examination of *Richard Turpin*, a native of the town of *Boston*, in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, who saith: That in his passage from *Bedefort*, in *New-Hampshire*, to the *West-Indies*, he was taken in a schooner called the *Hannah*, commanded by Captain *Peurly*, on the 17th of *May* last, by the ship *Rose*, Captain *Wallace*, on board of which ship he has been ever since; that he sailed from *Halifax* with the fleet, which consisted of about one hundred and fifty sail; that from the best information he was able to procure, the troops consisted of about ten thousand men fit for service; that the ships that came from *Halifax* were, the *Chatham* and , each of fifty guns, the *Rose*, *Greyhound*, *Swan*, and the *Tamar*, each twenty guns; that when they arrived at *Staten-Island*, a man came off and informed Captain *Wallace* that there were five hundred men ready to join their troops, and the next morning about one hundred and fifty men came down and joined them, and the next day the rest joined them—in all about five hundred; that the inhabitants appeared very ready to afford them every necessary; that they got a number of cattle on the Island. That they lost no men on board the *Rose*, but three men were wounded on board the *Phoenix*, in passing *New-York*; that the *Rose* received three shot in her hull, and her rigging was damaged; that the *Phoenix* was also damaged in her hull and rigging; that the intention of the ships in coming up the river was, to procure stock, receive Tories, burn the ships building up the river, and destroy the buildings on the shore; that a few people (not exceeding twenty) had come on board in the river; that they had received no provisions since they

came up; that they have but two months' provisions on board, and their water is very bad; that it is the general talk on board, that they will not attempt to pass the forts in the Highlands till they hear from Governour *Carleton*. That there were two transports from *Greenock*, that had joined General *Howe*, with three hundred men; that these were all that were with General *Howe* when the examinant left the fleet; that it was expected that the *Hessians* were to join them at *New-York*. That yesterday Captain *Wallace* went up to the Highlands, with the tender, and went on shore and set fire to a house, and then went off with six poor hogs and pigs; that he heard before he left the ship last night, that they intended to land at Mr. *Kiers's* house and burn the buildings; that on *Wednesday* the tender went up the river, and one gun was fired from the fort, which struck the tender's stern; that there are not above four hundred men on board the ships and tenders in all; *Wallace* has about thirty negroes, which he brought from the eastward, who are entered, and receive pay. That a man left the ship on *Monday* last, with letters to Governour *Carleton*, who undertook to go by land; he appeared to be about twenty-eight years old; had on a short light cloth coat and vest, about five feet eight inches, has a blemish in his right eye, sandy hair, and says he is a native of *Old England*: he came on board on *Sunday* last from *Haverstraw*; he gave information that there was pork, rum and molasses in Mr. *Kiers's* store. That when the fleet came into the *Hook*, a considerable number of men joined them from *Long-Island* and *Amboy*, and a party of about seventeen Lighthouse from *New-Jersey*; that the man who first came from *Staten-Island* on board Captain *Wallace*, he understood had the command of the Continental colours on the Island; he is a tall well-made man, with black hair and brown complexion, and is now employed as a Colonel of the *Staten-Island* men in the Ministerial service.

RICHARD <sup>his</sup> X TURPIN.  
mark.

Haverstraw, July 19, 1776.

#### GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

German-Flats, Friday, July 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have this moment received the enclosed, from General *Washington*, with an order to forward it to General *Burgoyne*. You will please to appoint an officer to carry it to him, after having sealed it.

The *Indians* come on so tardily, that I am afraid of being detained much longer than I expected. A scout just now returned from *Oswego* advises that all is well there, and no signs of an enemy approaching.

The Honourable President *Hancock* informs me that Colonel *Greaton*, and he believes some other Colonels, before they left *Boston*, took some *French* horns, bassoons, and other instruments of musick, which he had imported for the use of a corps under his command, and requested that I would order Colonel *Greaton*, and such others in whose possession they may be, to deliver them to me, to be sent to *Philadelphia*. Will you be so good, my dear sir, as to order one of your Aids-de-Camp to make inquiry, and to cause the instruments to be collected, safely packed up, and sent directly to me at *Albany*.

I am, dear sir, most sincerely, your most obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, German-Flats, July 19, 1776.

First Lieutenant *Robert Hagan* and Second Lieutenant *Samuel Hazelet*, both of the Third *New-Jersey* Regiment, commanded by Colonel *Elias Dayton*, being by sickness rendered incapable of doing duty in the regiment, and having requested leave to resign their commissions, the General has accepted their resignations, which causing a vacancy and promotion in the regiment, the General has been pleased to promote Second Lieutenant *William Gordon* to the rank of First Lieutenant, Ensign *Joseph Anderson* and *Cornelius Kenion* to the rank of Second Lieutenants, in the said regiment; he has also been pleased to appoint Messrs. *Edmund Disney Thomas* and *John Kinney*, volunteers in said regiment, to be Ensigns therein.

By order of the General:

JAMES VAN RENSSLAER, Aid-de-Camp.

#### GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, July 19, 1776.

SIR: I have this morning received a letter from General *Waterbury*, at *Skenesborough*. He says the Militia are not any of them arrived from the eastward, but that he has heard of their being upon the march, and hopes they will soon arrive at that post. The General has employed a party in clearing *Wood-Creek*, and another to erect a small work upon the hill to the eastward of the saw-mill. He complains for the want of tools, and particularly felling-axes. Not one gondola is arrived since that which came with us, (the 4th instant,) from *Skenesborough*, and I am assured by the officer who came from thence yesterday, that we cannot expect more than two by this day se'night. So you must be much deceived in expecting that Mr. *Schuyler* would get five finished every week.

Sixty carpenters are now employed at *Skenesborough*: they must be very ill-attended to, or very ignorant of their business, not to do more work. At this rate our superiority upon the Lake will be of short continuance; and I hope you will not deceive yourself, or the Congress, by fancying otherwise. General *Waterbury* tells me the saw-mill at *Cheshire's* is not yet got to work, on account of a mistake in the irons. They were obliged to send the irons to *Skenesborough* to be altered. That is now done, and the mill expected to get soon to work.

Your letter of the 17th, is just come to hand, from the *German-Flats*. I shall immediately send you all the *Indian* goods here. General *Arnold* will get them collected to-day, and send them without delay by the best person we can find to make despatch, to *Herkimer's*. He must take his directions in regard to the route from *Lake George* to the *Flats*, from the commanding officer at *Fort George*, as I know nothing of that road.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To General *Schuyler*.

#### WALTER LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, July 19, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The King of *Britain's* ships having cut off the communications between this and *New-York* by water, and the pork which the Commissary-General promised to send me not being arrived, I have written to him to send some from the magazine which lies above the ships, if any is left. My stores are entirely empty, except a few barrels I want here. I have sent out ten hands different ways to purchase cattle, and have ordered five hundred head to be sent up immediately, many of which I hope are arrived. I have ordered two hundred head to be delivered every week. I know not who acts as Commissary to your Army at present, therefore take the liberty to request that you will order nothing but fresh meat to be delivered out while there is any on the ground. I cannot get a barrel of pork, neither do I expect that the Commissary-General will be able to send me any. When, upon emergencies, pork is issued to the troops, I must entreat you to order the Commissary to issue only twelve ounces to a man per day. This is the allowance of Congress; and pork is become so exceeding scarce that more cannot be given them, unless the Commissary-General can furnish me with an additional supply.

The three kegs of sturgeon will be ready on *Monday*, when they shall be forwarded, and all other your orders complied with by, dear sir, your most humble servant,

WALTER LIVINGSTON.

To Major-General *Gates*.

#### NICHOLAS MARSELIS TO WILLIAM COBB.

Bennington, July 19, 1776.

SIR: I send you by the bearer, *William Ferrin*, thirty fat cattle, marked with the left ear cut off and the end of tail, which I have purchased by order of *Walter Livingston*, Esq., at *Albany*. You will please to receive them, and send your receipt for them.

I am, sir, your humble servant.

By order of *Walter Livingston*, Esquire:

NICHOLAS MARSELIS.

To *William Cobb*, or Commanding Officer at *Ticonderoga*.



PETITION OF THE INHABITANTS OF SHELBURNE, ON LAKE-CHAMPLAIN.

To His Excellency General GATES, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Forces at TICONDEROGA and CROWN-POINT:  
The Petition of the Inhabitants of SHELBURNE, on LAKE-CHAMPLAIN, humbly sheweth:

That we live twenty-six miles from Crown-Point, and twelve from Onion River. Being well attached to the American cause, were much alarmed when we heard of the retreat of our Army out of Canada to Crown-Point, and thought we must be forced to leave here. But when the Army came down, Colonel Winds not having had the small-pox, halted here with fourteen men, and obtained leave of General Sullivan to stay here some time; upon which the inhabitants got together, and, in conjunction with Colonel Winds, built a stockade fort, and have continued here since. We beg leave to inform your Excellency that the place where the fort stands is a very good harbour; and as the Lake is often ruffled with sudden gusts in the summer, the boats that pass are often wind-bound here, and sometimes out of provision, as hath been the case with two boats coming from Onion River since Colonel Winds hath been here, and were supplied with provision at this place. We, the inhabitants, being but few in number, and having considerable large crops of wheat and other grain on the ground, besides stocks of cattle, we humbly beseech that his Excellency would be graciously pleased, if he thinks it consistent with the good of the service, to let some of the men who were there go back again, or some others as a small guard. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

MOSES PIERSON, REUBEN ROWLEE,  
JAS. LOGAN, RUFUS COLE,  
SAMUEL TEILER, LODWICK POTER.  
JOHN —,

To General Gates.  
Shelburne, July 19, 1776.

SAMUEL SQUIER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Fairfield, July 19, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: By yours of the 10th instant I observe you want to know how much pork I have procured for the Colony's use, where it is stored, and the price. I have purchased three hundred barrels of pork, chiefly from the farmers. There is yet about two hundred barrels of pork more at Newtown. The owners don't care to part with it, and for excuse have told me it is engaged to the Commissary-General, which I am since informed is not so. I expect to know the truth of the matter very soon, and shall act accordingly. The reason why I have not procured more pork is, that Mr. Wadsworth, of Hartford, and Mr. Coult, of New-Haven, had been into this County and engaged it before I got home from the Assembly. As to the hunting-shirts, I have no other voucher than Daniel Gray's receipt for them, who went with Colonel Webb last summer to Cambridge to carry his baggage. By him I sent those shirts. Said Gray has taken a receipt in his own name of the Quartermaster-General's clerk for them, a copy of which I sent before, and now you have herein enclosed the original. I made those shirts out of cloth which I had before purchased and charged the Colony with for tents. I therefore took an account of how much cloth it took for the shirts, which was three yards apiece. I also charged the making to the Colony, not then knowing there should be a separate account kept of the price of the tow-cloth, which, upon an average, was nearest 16½d. I therefore formed my former account that I sent you, from my common account with the Colony, and kept no other copy, as also I have done this account, and expected to give the Colony credit if ever the shirt-account should be paid separate from the other. I have made out this account at 6s. per shirt, which will be very near the cost, as the cloth and making will be 4s. 10½d. per shirt. The one-and-a-half per cent. commissions, carting, &c., will make up the rest.

I am, sir, your Honour's obedient servant,  
SAMUEL SQUIER.

N. B. The thirty-five barrels of pork I left in the farmer's cellar, judging that to be as safe a store as I could get. I find there is more pork among the farmers, which I trust I shall be able to procure.  
S. S.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, by adjournment, July 17, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy-Governour, Eliphalet Dyar, Jz. Huntington, Wm. Williams, Titus Hosmer, Jedh. Elderkin, Nathl. Wales, Benj. Huntington, William Hillhouse, Esquires.

Voted, That the Paymaster of Colonel Ward's Regiment be, and he is hereby, directed to pay as a premium to the Soldiers who shall provide themselves with Fire-Arms, &c., the sum of 6s. for each Gun so provided, and the sum of 4s. for each Bayonet, Belt, and Cartouch-Box, and Knapsack.

Colonel Mott came in with sundry motions, &c., respecting his Regiment, &c., and many matters to consider.

This Board do appoint Messrs. Andrew Huntington, Joshua Elderkin, Chancey Whittlesey, of Middletown, Jonathan Fitch, Samuel Squier, and Lynde Lord, a Committee to purchase all the suitable Tow-Cloth, and other suitable Cloth for Tents, to be obtained in their respective Counties, and cause the same to be made up into proper Tents, for the use of the Troops of this Colony, in the most expeditious manner they can, and report to his Honour of what they shall respectively do in the premises.

The Continental Congress having recommended to the Assemblies of the United Colonies to procure a quantity of Clothing for the Continental Army,

Voted and Resolved, That a quantity of home-made Cloth, or other if that can't be obtained, as far as may be, of a brown or cloth colour, sufficient for three thousand Coats, and the same number of Waistcoats, and as many Blankets as can be obtained in the Colony; three thousand Felt Hats; cloth of check Flannel, or some Linen if that can't be obtained, sufficient for six thousand Shirts, and also six thousand pair of Shoes, to be collected as soon as may be, and deposited in the proper stores in the several Counties; and the same above-named Committee are appointed to procure the same; and the said articles are proportioned to the several Counties as follows, viz:

	Coats and waistcoats.	Felt hats.	Shirts.	Shoes.
Hartford County.....	1,000	800	1,600	1,600
New-Haven County.....	400	450	1,000	900
New-London County.....	700	850	1,400	1,300
Fairfield County.....	300	300	600	1,000
Windham County.....	400	400	1,000	800
Litchfield County.....	200	200	400	400
	3,000	3,000	6,000	6,000

And Letters to be prepared to each of said Commissaries, directing them accordingly; and is done.

On motion, &c., considered, and this Board do appoint, Timothy Larabee, Paymaster of Colonel Mott's Regiment.

On application by Colonel Mott that it is expedient his men should be furnished with a small quantity of Ammunition on their march, &c.,

Resolved, That his Soldiers, supplying themselves with four Bullets each, Colonel William Pitkin be desired and directed to deliver Colonel Mott, or his order, at the rate of one pound of Powder to every eight men of his Regiment, and the same quantity to Colonel Swift, or his order, for the use of his Regiment.

Being informed by Colonel Porter that eighteen nine-pound and other Cannon are cast at the Furnace in Salisbury, which are greatly wanted, &c., on consideration, this Board do appoint Colonel Jonathan Pettibone a Committee to procure proper Teams and Carriages for transporting twenty nine-pound Cannon from Salisbury Furnace to Hartford; and he, said Colonel Pettibone, is authorized and appointed to take care of and procure the same, to be brought and transported in the cheapest and most proper manner he shall be able, and the same deliver to Captain William Tuley, at Hartford, with all convenient speed, and make report to his Honour the Governour.

N. B. Ordered eight hundred pounds of Powder from Colonel Pitkin's Mill, to be sent to Colonel Porter, for use at Salisbury Furnace.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Thursday, July 18, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Present: His Honour the Governour, Hon. Deputy-Governour *Griswold*, *Elipht. Dyer, Jz. Huntington, William Williams, Titus Hosmer, Jedr. Elderkin, Nathl. Wales, Benj. Huntington, Wm. Hillhouse*, Esquires.

Letters prepared for General *Schuyler*, &c., and sent by *Brown*, the *Albany Post*, and for Colonel *Porter*, about the Cannon, and Colonel *Pettibone's* appointment to procure Cannon to be brought to *Hartford*; and copies of the appointment of the Commissaries to procure Clothing, &c., as mentioned page 456.

Mr. *Root* came in, and moves in the name of the Committee of Prisoners and the County Court, to have a yard erected around the Jail at *Hartford*, to secure the Prisoners, &c.; and is considered and largely discoursed, &c.; and it being represented to this Board by a Resolve of the honourable County Court of the County of *Hartford* that it is absolutely necessary that a good yard be forthwith built around the Jail in said County, which they judge will be particularly useful to secure the Prisoners of War that are or may be taken in, or sent into, this Colony; and, on consideration,

*Voted and Resolved*, That it be recommended to the County Court for the County of *Hartford*, forthwith to make and construct a good and sufficient yard for said Jail, with pickets or plank, in the best and most prudent manner they can.

*And it is further Resolved*, That one-half the expense of constructing said yard be borne and paid out of the public Treasury of this Colony, the residue by the County of *Hartford* aforesaid.

Whereas the Regiment raised in this Colony for Continental service, under the command of Colonel *Andrew Ward*, is now in great measure raised, mustered, equipped, and ready to march, and his Honour the Governour hath given orders for their march to *Boston*: And whereas intelligence is received that Lord *Howe*, with a very large body of troops, hath joined General *Howe* at *New-York*, and the whole force of the enemy seems ready to fall upon the city of *New-York* and parts adjacent, and the small-pox now greatly prevailing in and about *Boston*, and would probably spread in said Regiment and disable it from service should they march there:

*Resolved*, That it will be most advisable and best, that the Colonel of said Regiment be ordered to suspend their march for the present, until further orders from the Congress or General *Washington* may be had, which, from the state of publick affairs, may be expected.

The matter of publishing the Independency taken up again, and largely discoursed; and the manner of choosing the Delegates, &c., a good deal considered, &c.; and finally thought best to let the matter of publishing the Independency remain for the determination of the General Assembly at their next stated session.

Whereas many persons inimical to the *United States of America* do wander from place to place, with intent to spy out the state of the Colonies, and give intelligence to their enemies, whereby confederacies may be formed and strengthened, and other great inconveniences may ensue: Thereupon, which to prevent,

*Resolved*, That no person or persons, unknown or suspected, whether they appear in the character of Gentlemen, Expresses, Travellers, or common Beggars, be permitted to pass from Town to Town, in this Colony, unless he or they can and do produce a certificate from some Congress, Committee of Safety or of Inspection, some Magistrate, Justice of the Peace, General or Field-Officer of the Army, therein mentioning from whence, and to what place, the person producing the same is travelling, and that he is friendly to the liberties of the *American States*, unless he be a person well known and friendly as aforesaid; and all Officers, civil and military, Selectmen, Committees of Inspection, Sheriffs, Constables, Grand Jurors, and Tithingmen, in this Colony, are directed to require every person travelling as aforesaid to produce such certificate, and to stop and examine such persons travelling without certificate as aforesaid; and unless he or they can give full satisfaction that he or they are pursuing their lawful business, and are friendly to the liberties and interests of the *United American States*, and hath no

design to hurt or injure them in his or their journey, that they apprehend such person or persons, and him or them carry before the civil authority, Selectmen, or Committee of Inspection of the Town in which he or they shall be found, to be further examined and dealt with as the nature of the case, in his or their opinion, may require. And it is further recommended to the civil authority and Selectmen of the larger Towns in this Colony, that proper watches and wards be kept in suitable places in said Towns by night, to apprehend any such persons as aforesaid that may travel by night from place to place, and practise mischief against this or the rest of the *United American Colonies*, and bring them before proper authority, that they may be dealt with in such manner as the nature of their several cases may require.

An attested copy delivered Mr. *Root*, to be printed in handbills.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, July 19, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Present: His Honour the Governour, Honourable Deputy-Governour, *Elipht. Dyer, Jz. Huntington, Wm. Williams, Titus Hosmer, Jed. Elderkin, Benj. Huntington, Nathl. Wales*, and *William Hillhouse*, Esquires.

Letters preparing for General *Washington*, &c., for Congress, &c. Copies made of a number; about six Depositions taken at *New-London*, of the conduct of some *New-York* Provision vessels throwing themselves into the enemy's hands, &c.—in order to send General *Washington*. Originals for the Congress.

On representation of Messrs. *Elderkin* and *Wales*, of the necessity of a Magazine to store the Powder wrought or to be wrought at their Mill,

*Voted*, That Colonels *Elderkin* and *Wales* be directed to build a good and sufficient Magazine of stone, of the dimensions of eight feet by ten, at least; to be arched, covered with earth, and situated in a good dry side hill, near their Mill and Works; and that they receive out of the publick Treasury a sum not exceeding £14, to enable them to perform said service, for which they engage to erect such Magazine, so as to well and thoroughly answer the end proposed, and to be, and belong to the Colony, and they to supply the deficiency, if any there be.

On pressing application from Mr. *Brooks*, one of the Selectmen of *Stratford*, for a supply of Powder for the Town,

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on Messrs. *Doolittle & Co.'s* Powder-Mill, at *New-Haven*, for eight hundred pounds in favour of the Selectmen of *Stratford*—they to account for to the General Assembly, or to this Board, at the rate of 5s. 4d. per pound, or in such manner as shall be further considered and ordered. (Order given; sent in letter by the Deputy-Governour.)

On repeated application from General *Washington*, &c.,

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stanton*, of the Row-Galley *Shark*, shall, in addition to the order before, immediately repair to General *Washington*, at *New-York*, and subject himself to the command of said General, until further orders.

*Voted and Ordered*, That Captain *Harding*, of the Brig *Defence*, immediately cause said Brig to be fitted and repaired with necessary repairs, and that he cruise in the Sound, and in proper places and grounds, for the best advantage and interest of the Colony.

*Voted*, That his Honour the Governour be, and he hereby is, desired to give proper Commissions to such Officers as shall be duly chosen and returned as Commission Officers, in all such Companies of men not obliged by law to bear arms in the Militia in this Colony, as shall associate into military order, and stand ready to serve the publick, under the command of the Captain-General.

Adjourned till *Tuesday* next, unless sooner called.

#### MEETING OF COMMITTEE FOR SYMSBURY, CONNECTICUT.

At a meeting of the Civil Authority, Selectmen, and Committee of Inspection for the Town of *Symsbury*, on the 19th day of *July*, A. D. 1776:

Colonel *JONATHAN PETTIBONE*, Chairman.

Whereas, by frequent complaints, it appears to this meeting that there is great grounds of suspicion, that inimical

combinations and correspondence are formed and carrying on with the enemies of the United American States, by means of persons travelling from one town and part of the country to another, under pretence of selling Indigo, Feathers, Wooden Dishes, Teas, and many other goods and wares of various kinds: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That no person or persons belonging to said Town of *Symsbury*, on any pretence whatsoever, shall carry, vend, or offer for sale, any of the aforesaid goods, wares, or merchandise, or any other goods or merchandise whatsoever, from house to house, or from one Town or part of the County to another, or purchase any such goods, wares, or merchandise, or any other merchandise whatsoever, from any such strolling petit chapmen, in like manner, without leave or license first had and obtained from some one of the Civil Authority or Selectmen of this Town, on penalty of being treated as enemies to the interest of the *United States of North-America*, and dealt with accordingly.

Published by order of said meeting.

Certified from the Minutes.

Test:

JOHN OWEN, Clerk.

At a Court of Inquiry held in *Symsbury*, in the County of *Hartford*, upon the 19th day of *July*, 1776:

Present: The Civil Authority, Selectmen, and Committee of Inspection for said Town.

Pursuant to a complaint of the Grand Jurors of said *Symsbury*, *John Moses* and *Jesse Cosset*, of said *Symsbury*, appeared upon an arrest; and upon examination, and hearing the witnesses, and considering their cases, each of them were found guilty of inimical conduct towards the interest of the *United States of North-America*; and judgment was rendered that each of them should be immediately disarmed, and also each of them were bound to their peace and good behaviour, and to answer to said complaints before the next Superior Court of this Colony, to be held at *Hartford*, on the first *Tuesday* of *September* next, and be further treated agreeable to the statute of this Colony in such cases made and provided.

Likewise, *Ordered*, That these proceedings be published in the *Connecticut Courant*.

Certified from the Minutes.

Test:

JOHN OWEN, Clerk of said Court.

BENJAMIN GREENLEAF TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 30, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

Watertown, July 19, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 25th of *June*, enclosing a resolution of Congress earnestly recommending it to this State to send immediately two regiments of their Militia to augment the troops destined for the Northern or *Canada* Department, has been communicated to the General Assembly; and considering the disagreeable complexion of our affairs in that quarter, and the absolute necessity of the measure, they have ordered such a proportion of the Militia of this Government forthwith to be draughted for that purpose as will be sufficient to make up the regiments requested. Since which, General *Washington*, agreeable to the power vested in him by the Congress on the 4th and 8th of *July*, has ordered the whole of the five regiments stationed in *Massachusetts-Bay* to the southward; so that our lines and fortifications in and near *Boston* are left entirely destitute of Continental troops; for the General Court have been so closely engaged in taking effectual measures for furnishing the troops they were desired to send to *New-York* and *Canada*, that they have not had opportunity to raise the two regiments they were permitted to raise upon the Continental establishment for the defence of this Government, and as the General Court is now prorogued, it cannot at present be done. Under these circumstances, the Council have thought it absolutely necessary for the security and protection of this State to order such a proportion of the Militia of this Government to be forthwith draughted out, and to march to the lines and fortifications in and near *Boston*, to supply the place of the Continental troops ordered from thence to the southward; and for their encouragement, have assured them that they will have the same pay and establishment as is allowed to the troops of the United Colonies. They are to tarry until the first of *December* next, and to be under the same regulations as the Continental troops, and their service is confined

to the limits of this Government. We request, therefore, that the honourable Congress would give orders to their Commissary-General to furnish these men with their rations, and to the Paymaster-General to furnish them with their pay as it may become due.

Before we conclude, we beg leave to observe, that besides the six thousand five hundred men lately ordered to *New-York* and *Canada*, agreeable to the requisition of the honourable Congress, nineteen regiments raised within this Government have been all ordered out of it, a great number of men have been taken from our sea-coast to serve on board the Continental Navy, and over and above these, we have been obliged to keep a great number of companies in pay for the defence of our sea-coast. All these calls have so greatly thinned us of men, that it has become extremely difficult, if not impracticable, to raise any more, or even to carry on our necessary husbandry business. The Courts have been obliged already to give a bounty of seven pounds lawful money, in addition to which many of our towns have been obliged to give thirteen pounds more, in order to raise their several quotas, and the price of labour is at least double to what it used to be. However, we are engaged in a good and righteous cause, and, heavy as our burdens are, we are determined to exert ourselves to the utmost; but cannot refrain from representing our circumstances to the honourable Congress, and praying their consideration of the same, that so they may, as soon as the general safety will permit it, order a number of the Continental regiments to return to the lines and fortifications in and about *Boston*, for the security and protection of this Government.

In the name and by order of the Council, I am, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

B. GREENLEAF.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.  
(To be communicated.)

BENJAMIN AUSTIN TO THOMAS CUSHING.

Boston, July 19, 1776.

SIR: I have looked over the Court and Council files for *October* last, and can find nothing of the order of Court for presents to the *Penobscot Indians*; I am therefore at a loss what to do in procuring the presents for the *St. John's* and *Mickmacks*. I beg the favour you would desire the Secretary to examine the files preceding *October*, and those that follow. I was told they were all in *Boston*; but it's not so. If these articles are not to be found, I beg the favour that the honourable Board would let me know what articles I am to procure, as I shall wait in town this day for the same. The gorget and heart I have two men at work upon, and hope to have them by *Tuesday*.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

B. AUSTIN.

To the Hon. *Thomas Cushing*, Esq.

GENERAL LINCOLN TO THOMAS CUSHING.

Boston, July 19, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: It is not necessary that the Council should give orders immediately that the Militia in the neighbourhood of *Point Shirley*, *Noddle's Island*, *Charlestown*, *Dorchester-Heights*, and *Nantasket*, be detached, and ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march on an alarm to those posts; and that alarm posts be assigned to such Militia; that signals for an alarm should be ordered; and that publick notice be given what they are; and, at the same time, notice be given that, on a certain day, the signals will be made. This will call up the attention of the neighbourhood; the people will make such remarks with regard to them as will probably prevent their being deceived when a real alarm is designed. Also, if the signals agreed on will not sound the alarm so generally as we could wish, further measures may be taken in the matter before it be too late.

Give me leave to propose that one beacon be erected at *Cape Ann*, one at *Marblehead*, one at *Malden*, one at *Boston*, one at the *Blue-Hills*, and one at *Nantasket*; that a sentry be constantly kept at each beacon, whose duty it should be to observe and report when the beacon in the neighbourhood is fired—(the expense of this will be small, as troops are stationed at each of the places, excepting *Malden* and the *Blue-Hills*); that an old cannon be carried to the *Blue-Hills*—such an one there is at *Dorchester*,

near the mills, with an old carriage; and one be carried to *Malden*; and that upon the approach of a fleet of more than sail, an alarm be made by firing the beacons, and by a discharge of three cannon at each place successively, at one minute's distance between each discharge between the rising and setting of the sun, and two in the night. And that on an alarm being made, the detached Militia aforesaid immediately repair to their alarm-posts, and there wait further orders.

In order that people may generally know what signals will be given on the approach of an enemy, &c., and when the same signals will be given for an experiment, would it not be well to have it published by the Clergy in the same manner as the Declaration of Independency is to be made known? It appears to me necessary that some order should be taken for a general spread of an alarm through this State.

I am, with esteem and regard, your most humble servant,  
BENJAMIN LINCOLN.

To the Hon. *Thomas Cushing*.

TRISTRAM DALTON TO ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Newburyport, July 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I wish you joy on the late full Declaration—an event so ardently desired by your good self and the people you particularly represent. We are no longer to be amused with delusive prospects. The die is cast. All is at stake. The way is made plain. No one can now doubt on which side it is his duty to act. We have everything to hope from the goodness of our cause. The God of justice is omnipotent. We are not to fear what man or a multitude can do. We have put on the harness, and I trust it will not be put off until we see our land a land of security and freedom—the wonder of the other hemisphere—the asylum of all who pant for deliverance from bondage.

Wishing every blessing to attend you, I am, dear sir, with great regard, your obedient servant,

TRISTRAM DALTON.

H. WENTWORTH TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Portsmouth, July 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mrs. *Levins* having informed this Committee that she was about to apply to you for leave to depart this place, in order to proceed to her husband at *Quebeck*, we beg leave to acquaint you that the situation of her family is such as that, if she can go with safety, we should think it expedient. Major *Meigs* and Captain *Dearborn* inform us that Mr. *Levins* interested himself with General *Carleton* to obtain leave for them to revisit their families; and that in return for his kindness, they promised him to use their utmost endeavours to have his family sent him. If this measure meets with your approbation, we can see no reasonable objection to Mrs. *Levins's* going with her family as soon as she can get away.

I am, by order of the Committee of Safety, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

H. WENTWORTH, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety at *Exeter*.

H. WENTWORTH TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Portsmouth, July 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Roach*, in the schooner *Polly*, having cleared from this port to the eastward, with a cargo consisting of two hogsheads of salt, twenty bushels of corn, three hundred pounds of tobacco, three barrels of rum, and three barrels of cider, sundry of the inhabitants of this town have made application to us to forbid his departure, supposing the risk too great at this time. We have had Captain *Roach* before us, and he acquaints us that he intends to go to *St. Peter's*, and to carry with him, exclusive of the above articles, cash sufficient to purchase a cargo there of such commodities as he supposes will be suitable for this market. We think it our duty to inform you of this matter, and have desired Captain *Roach* to wait on you, and request your opinion thereon.

I am, by order of the Committee of Safety, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

H. WENTWORTH, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety, at *Exeter*.

JOSEPH WENTWORTH TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Portsmouth, July 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Pursuant to an order from Major-General *Sullivan* of the 3d instant, to me directed, to raise one hundred and fifteen men out of the First Regiment, I now have the pleasure to enclose the return of that number, who have voluntarily engaged in the service of their country.

Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH WENTWORTH.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

CAPTAIN RICHARDS, OF THE LISBON PACKET, TO THE POSTMASTERS-GENERAL.

Falmouth, England, July 20, 1776.

MY LORDS: *Saturday, June 15*, received two mails from Mr. *Bell*, for the Duke of York packet, and sailed for *Lisbon*, in company with the *Anna Theresa* and *Eagle* packets. *Tuesday, June 25*, arrived at *Lisbon* with the *Eagle* packet in company, and off the Bar saw a fleet of French men-of-war, consisting of six sail of the line, two frigates, two sloops, a brig, and two cutters. The 29th arrived six sail of Spanish men-of-war in the *Tagus*. On *Monday, the 8th of July* afterwards, we sailed in company with the Spanish fleet, which consisted of three sail of the line, one frigate, and two sloops. In the evening saw four sail more of Spanish ships-of-war going in—three sail of the line, and one frigate. The French fleet sailed to the northward.

On the 4th of *July*, his most faithful Majesty of *Portugal* issued a decree prohibiting all ships and vessels belonging to *British-America* entering into any ports of the dominions of *Portugal*; and in case they should arrive, prohibiting any of his subjects from giving them any succour, but immediately turning them out of the ports; and for those in the ports, immediately after eight days from the above date; and, in case of disobedience, all such ships or vessels are to be confiscated to the use and benefit of the publick works; and in case of departure, a strict charge is given to the outward Consulado to search them, that they do not carry with them any implements of war.

I am, my Lords, your Lordships' obedient, humble servant,  
JOHN RICHARDS.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED LONDON, JULY 20, 1776.

The Ministry seem so confident of reducing the Colonies with the formidable force which they have sent for that purpose, that they are already employed in devising means for keeping them in subjection after they have subdued them. Lately, there was presented to the King a project for that purpose, which his Majesty approved of. The proposal is, to keep up ten thousand troops, of which two shall be battalions of Artillery, and two of Light-Dragoons; and to establish on the Continent two Bishopricks, the titles of which shall be, the Protectors of the *English Church*. Such are the brilliant chimeras which are spread by the Ministerial party, and which the opposite party are labouring to destroy, by publishing to the world that the Colonies combatting for liberty will not yield but to force; that the force already sent out by the mother country, which at present appears irresistible, will soon be reduced to nothing, if the first consequences of it should not equal the expectations of Administration. Dissatisfaction will soon succeed, and diffuse itself through all ranks of people, already much fatigued with civil intestine war; that in this case the consequences must necessarily be very fatal to *England*, especially if strangers, taking advantage of these dissensions, and in support of *America*, should attack the most remote *English* settlements, and occasion a diversion which will greatly weaken the power of *Great Britain*.

It appears plainly already that the formidable armaments which they are fitting out in the ports of *France* and *Spain*, have no other object but war; that we may be convinced of this by the evasive answers given to our Ambassadors at the Courts of *Versailles* and *Madrid*, as we have them from their representations on that subject; that the distinguished marks of respect with which they have received the Deputies of Congress in these two Courts, does not leave



the least doubt that a treaty has been already formed between them and the *Americans*, the effects of which, in all probability, will be felt as soon as Independence shall be declared, a period which cannot be at a great distance, since the resolutions sent to the General Congress by every of the *United States* to that effect are already publick. It is by these means that Opposition seeks to weaken the specious reasonings which Government employs, to warn the people of the melancholy consequences of the war, information which already begins to alarm the nation.

LIST OF BRITISH ARMED VESSELS ON THE NORTH AMERICAN STATION.

*Third rates.*

	Guns.
Asia, Captain George Vandeput.....	64
Boyne, Brod. Hantwell.....	70
Eagle, Vice Admiral Howe, H. Duncan.....	64
Somerset, G. Ourry.....	64

*Fourth rates.*

Bristol, Com. Sir Peter Parker, John Morris.....	50
Centurion, Richard Braithwait.....	50
Chatham, Vice Admiral Shulldham, J. Rayner.....	50
Experiment, Robert Keeler.....	50
Jersey, (Hospital ship,) W. A. Halsted.....	60
Isis, C. Douglass.....	50
Preston, J. Robinson.....	50
Renown, F. Banks.....	50

*Fifth rates.*

Blonde, P. Pownal.....	32
Brune.....	32
Emerald, B. Caldwell.....	32
Niger, G. Talbot.....	32
Orpheus, C. Hudson.....	32
Pearl, J. O'Hara.....	32
Phoenix, H. Parker, Jun.....	44
Roebuck, Andrew Shape Hammond.....	44
Thetis.....	32

*Sixth rates.*

Acteon, C. Atkins.....	28
Active, W. Williams.....	28
Boreas, C. Thomson.....	28
Carrysfort, ——— Fanshaw.....	28
Cerberus.....	28
Deal Castle, Worth.....	24
Fowey, G. Montagu.....	24
Fox, Fotheringham.....	28
Greyhound.....	24
Glasgow, T. Howe.....	24
Lively, T. Bishop.....	20
Lizard.....	28
Mercury.....	24
Millford, J. Burr.....	28
Rose, J. Wallace.....	20
Scarborough, Andrew Barclay.....	20
Seaford, J. Colpoy.....	20
Solebay, T. Symons.....	28
Sphinx, A. Hunt.....	20
Syren, T. Furneaux.....	28
Tartar.....	28
Triton, Keff. Lutwidge.....	28

*Sloops.*

Atalanta, T. Underwood.....	16
Carcass, R. Dring.....	8
Cruiser, F. Parry.....	8
Falcon, J. Lindsey.....	16
Ferret, J. Codney.....	18
Hawke, R. Cooper.....	10
Kingfisher.....	16
Martin, W. Parker.....	14
Merlin, C. Burnaby.....	18
Nautilus, J. Collins.....	16
Otter, M. Squire.....	10
Savage, H. Bromedge.....	8
Scorpion, J. Tolemache.....	16
Senegal, W. Duddington.....	16
Swan, J. Ayscough.....	14
Tamar, E. Thornborough.....	16
Viper, D. Price.....	10

*Armed Vessels.*—Canceaux, Cherokee, Lieutenant Ferguson; Dilligence, Labrador, Magdalen, Lieutenant John Nunn; Sultana; Bomb-ketch Thunder, J. Reid.

SAMUEL CURSON TO COMFORT SANDS.

St. Eustatia, July 20, 1776.

SIR: My last respects were of the 30th May. I then forwarded you duplicate of sales of Captain *Pullar's* cargo, with bill of lading and invoice of what I shipped in return; also the honourable Congress's account current: balance due me £620 7s. 2d. If you find it right, I shall be much obliged to you to pay it to Messrs. *Curson & Seton*, as I owe them a large sum.

Powder continues in great plenty. It has lately been sold as low as 30 piastres. Won't you be in want of blankets next winter? they may be had here at 2 and 3 ps. apiece.

Provisions are likely to be very much wanted soon. There's but little good in these Islands. If we have not larger supplies than heretofore, we may suffer much. The *English* Islands already feel the effect of *America* withdrawing their trade from them, and some begin to think with us, *Great Britain* will lose her object.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,  
SAMUEL CURSON.

To Mr. *Comfort Sands*, Merchant, *New-York*.

P. S. Superfine flour, 16½ ps.; corn, 13a14 ps.; bread, 16½ ps.; pork, 22a24 ps.; corn, 14 ps.

VIRGINIA COUNCIL.

In Council, Williamsburgh, July 20, 1776.

*Ordered*, That the Printers publish in their respective Gazettes the Declaration of Independence made by the honourable the Continental Congress, and that the Sheriff of each County in this Commonwealth proclaim the same at the door of his Court-House the first Court day after he shall have received the same.

ARCHIBALD BLAIR, Clerk.

BATTLE NEAR THE GREAT ISLAND OF HOLSTEIN.

Williamsburgh, August 2, 1776.

Last *Wednesday* an express arrived with the following account of a battle fought between the Militia of *Fincastle*, and some of the *Cherokee* and *Creek Indians* near the great Island of *Holstein*, on the 20th of *July* last.

On the 19th our scouts returned, and informed us that they had discovered where a great number of *Indians* were making into the settlement; upon which alarm, the few men that were stationed at *Eaton's* completed a breastwork sufficiently strong, with the assistance of what men were there, to have repelled a considerable number, sent expresses to the different stations, and collected all the forces in one body; and the morning after, about one hundred and seventy turned out in search of the enemy. We marched in two divisions, with flankers on each side, and scouts before. Our scouts discovered upwards of twenty meeting us, and fired on them. They returned the fire, but our men rushed on them with such violence that they were obliged to make a precipitate retreat. We took ten bundles, and a good deal of plunder, and had great reason to think some of them were wounded. This small skirmish happened on ground very disadvantageous for our men to pursue, though it was with the greatest difficulty our officers could restrain their men. A council was held, and it was thought advisable to return, as we imagined there was a large party not far off. We accordingly returned, and had not marched more than a mile when a number, not inferior to ours, attacked us in the rear. Our men sustained the attack with great bravery and intrepidity, immediately formed a line. The *Indians* endeavoured to surround us, but were prevented by the uncommon fortitude and vigilance of Captain *James Shelby*, who took possession of an eminence that prevented their design. Our line of battle extended about a quarter of a mile. We killed thirteen on the spot, whom we found, and have the greatest reason to believe that we could have found a great many more, had we had time to search for them. There were streams of blood every way; and it was generally thought there never was so much execution done in so short a time on the frontiers. Never did troops fight with greater calmness than ours did. The *Indians* attacked us with the greatest fury imaginable, and made the most vigorous efforts to surround us. Our spies really deserve the greatest applause. We took a great deal of plunder and many guns, and had only four men greatly wounded. The rest of the troops are in high spirits, and eager for another engagement. We have the greatest reason to believe they are pouring in great numbers on us, and beg the assistance of our friends.

JAMES THOMPSON,  
JAMES SHELBY,  
WILLIAM BUCHANAN,  
JOHN CAMPBELL,  
WILLIAM COCKS,  
THOMAS MADISON.

To Major *Anthony Bledsoe*; from him to be immediately sent to Colonel *Preston*.

## PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Council, Williamsburgh, July 20, 1776.

SIR: We had the honour to receive your letter of the 8th instant, enclosing the Declaration of Independence, and the resolve of Congress respecting the augmentation of the Rifle corps at *New-York*. We shall take care to have the Declaration immediately published, so as that the people may be universally informed of it, who, we have the pleasure to inform you, have been impatiently expecting it, and will receive it with joy.

We are perfectly satisfied of the utility of riflemen, and wish it was in our power to assist in raising the number in our County voted by Congress for the support of *New-York*, but the Convention has adjourned, and we are vested with no powers which can in any manner enforce or carry into execution that vote. If commissions could be sent to proper persons, they might raise companies which would have a right to march to *New-York*, but we could not oblige them to do so.

It is with pleasure, sir, we observe that you say, in consequence of the Declaration, you are fully convinced that our affairs may take a more favourable turn; and we firmly rely on the protection and continuance of the powerful interposition of that Being whose power no creature is able to resist.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN PAGE, *President*.To Hon. *John Hancock*, President of Congress, *Philadelphia*.

## ELISHA WINTERS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Chestertown, July 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having been absent on business to *Philadelphia*, did not receive your much esteemed favour of the 12th instant till this day. I am willing to undertake the repairing the arms which may be borrowed or purchased on the *Eastern-Shore* for the Flying-Camp, with all convenient speed, though I am sorry to inform you there is no probability that Colonel *Hollingsworth* can answer your order in my favour for four hundred bayonets time enough to despatch the business equal to your wishes. I will use the utmost industry to procure them elsewhere, the Province to be chargeable with the extraordinary expense I may incur, unless you have any other means to furnish me with them. Ramrods and swivels fitted I can and would choose to furnish.

Holding in view my contract, and assuring you I will exert every effort for your interest, I remain, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

ELISHA WINTERS.

## CAPTAIN MARTIN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: *Oxford* being a place much exposed to danger, and from which a guard has been lately removed, should you think proper to place a small body of men there, my company is very convenient, and will engage to raise thirty for that purpose, under such officers as you may think proper, that are already officers in my company.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

NICHOLAS MARTIN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## GENERAL DENT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

St. George's, Head-Quarters, July 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: From the accounts given me by several deserters, that the fleet entered up *Potomack River* to water, and from the motions of the *Roebuck*, five other ships and a sloop, I have the greatest reason to believe they are now on their way for that purpose. *Nanjemoy* we suppose to be the place of their destination. I have, by letter, informed the Committee of Correspondence of the motions of the above ships, and shall endeavour to watch their motions, and prevent their depredations, with all my might. There was a brisk and severe cannonade from two or three tenders and a row-galley off *Smith's Creek* about six o'clock this morning, the consequence of which I have not yet heard.

I am, gentlemen, with much esteem, your most obedient servant,

JOHN DENT.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MAJOR SHRYOCK.

[No. 64.]

Annapolis, July 20, 1776.

SIR: We received yours of the 1st of *July*, by Captain *Reynolds*, and have no particular orders to give at present, more than to request you would forward the Militia of the Flying-Camp. Use your endeavours to have the men well armed, furnished with blankets and all necessaries. Colonel *Williams*, we are told, has declined. You stand in the way of promotion; therefore exert yourself to the utmost, and may you be crowned with success. We wish you health, and are yours, &c.

To Major *Henry Shryock*.

## BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a special meeting of the Committee, *July 20, 1776*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jr., *Chairman*; W. Lux, *Vice Chairman*; J. Calhoun, B. Griffith, J. Gricst, T. Rutter, W. Aisquith, J. Boyd.

A Letter from *John Andrews*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of *Caroline County*, was received by express, informing that they had apprehended *John Amos*, who lately went away from *Baltimore* town; and, upon examining him, found a certificate from *George Woolsey*, of his having paid his fine of £10, as a Non-Associate, which had induced them to confine him till the further order of this Committee. An answer was accordingly returned, signifying that (the Convention having, at their last meeting, resolved that the Committee should not hereafter take any further cognizance of Non-Associators or Non-Enrollers, and the Committee having no other charge against Mr. *Amos*,) he might be discharged.

Attested:

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Congress Chamber, 3 o'clock, A. M., July 20, 1776.

SIR: I have only time to inform you that this moment your favour of the 19th is come to hand. Enclosed is this morning's paper, to which beg to refer you.

My best wishes attend you; and am, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JOHN ADAMS, DATED PHILADELPHIA, JULY 20, 1776.

We had yesterday an express from General *Lee*, in *Charleston*, *South-Carolina*, with an account of a brilliant little action between the armament under *Clinton* and *Cornwallis*, and a battery on *Sullivan's Island*, which terminated very fortunately for *America*. I will endeavour to enclose, with this, a printed account of it. It has given us good spirits here, and will have a happy effect upon our armies at *New-York* and *Ticonderoga*. Surely our northern soldiers will not suffer themselves to be outdone by their brethren so nearly under the sun. I don't yet hear of any *Massachusetts* men at *New-York*. Our people must not flinch at this critical moment, when their country is in more danger than it ever will be again, perhaps. What will they say if the *Houes* prevail against our forces at so important a post as *New-York*, for want of a few thousand men from the *Massachusetts*?

I will likewise send you, by this post, Lord *Howe's* letter and Proclamation, which has let the cat out of the bag. These tricks deceive no longer. Gentlemen here, who either were, or pretended to be, deceived heretofore, now see or pretend to see through such artifices. I apprehend his Lordship is afraid of being attacked upon *Staten-Island*, and is throwing out his barrels to amuse Leviathan until his reinforcements shall arrive.

## MONSIEUR PELISSIER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 20, 1776, and referred to the Board of War.]

Philadelphia, July 20, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: Anxious as I am to avoid giving trouble to this honourable House, I am, nevertheless, obliged to lay before you the following particulars of my situation. At the time the first address from Congress to the *Canadians* appeared in that country, I was among the foremost who sought to give it support; and, impressed with a strong desire to free this Western world from *European* tyranny, I

hesitated not to furnish petards for the Continental Army, iron, stores, and every other material in my power, on the credit of the officers' notes, which money has since been paid me at *Albany*. I have been studious and attentive to the success of the cause, by giving every useful information in my power; which circumstance, I presume, some of this honourable House can testify to. I have accepted a commission of Colonel, for the District of *Three Rivers*, from General *Arnold*; by which act I have put the finishing character to what Mr. *Carleton* will call rebellion, which renders it impossible for me to appear in that country again with safety.

In consequence of an order from General *Arnold*, I prepared works for casting and supplying the Army with four thousand shells and twenty-two thousand cannon-balls, and such other supplies as the Army might require of that kind; in doing which, I was at a very great expense; which works, on the retreat of the Army, I was obliged to abandon, together with all my property, and an estate in land which cost fifteen thousand pounds, being six miles long and twenty acres broad. In consequence of these misfortunes, I am likely to suffer great inconveniences; I therefore request that this honourable House will take the matter into their consideration, and enable me to support myself in some decent character under them, until such time as affairs will permit me to put myself in possession of my *Canadian* property; and, in the mean time, I beg that Congress will dispose of my service in any way in which I can be most useful.

I am, honourable sirs, with great respect, your most humble servant,

PELISSIER.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

#### PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation for the }  
County of Philadelphia, July 20, 1776. }

*Resolved, unanimously,* That this Committee most earnestly exhort the Captains of the Militia of this County to use their utmost abilities to complete their Companies, and march them, under the orders of their Commanding Officer, to *Trenton*; and that the Associators would, with becoming alertness, join their respective Companies, as they value the reputation of freemen, and wish to hold the foremost place in the esteem of their countrymen.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN BULL, *Chairman*.

#### ROBERT MORRIS TO COLONEL JOSEPH REED.

From the Hills on Schuylkill, July 20, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received your obliging letter of the 13th, yesterday, in Congress, and should have been tempted to have laid the enclosure immediately before Congress, had not a letter from the same person, on the same subject, and in a similar style, addressed to Mr. *Kinsey*, of *New-Jersey*, been read in Congress the day before. The temper of the House was plain; and you may judge what it was, when I tell you that the only inquiry the letter produced was, how it got into Mr. *Kinsey's* hands. I am sorry to say there are some amongst us that cannot bear the thought of reconciliation on any terms. To these men, all propositions of the kind sound like high-treason against the State; and I really believe they would sooner punish a man for this crime than for bearing arms against us. I cannot help condemning this disposition, as it must be founded in keen resentment, or on interested views; whereas we ought to have the interest of our country and the good of mankind to act as the main-spring in all our publick conduct. I think with you, that if the Commissioners have any propositions to make, they ought to be heard; should they disclose powers different from what we imagine them to be vested with, and an inclination to employ those powers favourably for *America*, it is our duty to attend to such offers, weigh well the consequences of every determination we come to, and, in short, to lay aside all prejudices, resentments, and sanguine notions of our own strength, in order that reason may influence and wisdom guide our councils.

If the Admiral and General are really desirous of a conference, I think and hope they will address our General properly; this may be expected, if they have powers beyond granting pardons; if they have not, it is idle for them to

solicit any intercourse, as no good can possibly arise to them or their cause from it; but, on our part, I think that good policy requires that we should hear all they have to say. I am not for making any sacrifice of dignity; but still I would hear them, if possible; because, if they can offer peace on admissible terms, I believe the great majority of *America* would still be for accepting it. If they can only offer pardons, and that is fully ascertained, it will firmly unite all *America* in their exertions to support the independence they have declared; and it must be obvious to everybody, that our united efforts will be absolutely necessary. This being the case, why should we fear to treat of peace, or to hear the Commissioners on that subject? If they can offer terms that are advantageous and honourable for this country, let us meet them; if they cannot, we are not in a situation or temper to ask or receive pardons; and all who do not mean to stoop to this ignominious submission will consequently take up their arms with a determination to conquer or to die. If they offer or desire a conference, and we reject it, those who are already dissatisfied will become more so, others will follow their example, and we may expect daily greater disunion and disaffection in every part of these States; at least such are my apprehensions on this subject.

I have uniformly voted against and opposed the Declaration of Independence, because, in my poor opinion, it was an improper time, and will neither promote the interest nor redound to the honour of *America*; for it has caused division when we wanted union, and will be ascribed to very different principles than those which ought to give rise to such an important measure. I did expect my conduct in this great question would have procured my dismissal from the great Council, but find myself disappointed, for the Convention has thought proper to return me in the new delegation; and although my interest and inclination prompt me to decline the service, yet I cannot depart from one point which first induced me to enter the publick line: I mean an opinion, that it is the duty of every individual to act his part in whatever station his country may call him to in times of difficulty, danger, and distress. Whilst I think this a duty, I must submit, although the councils of *America* have taken a different course from my judgment and wishes. I think that the individual who declines the service of his country because its councils are not conformable to his ideas, makes but a bad subject; a good one will follow, if he cannot lead. Until the good news from *Carolina* raised our spirits, they were constantly depressed by every account we received from the Northern Army. Such scenes of mismanagement, misconduct, and ill success, as have been exhibited in that quarter, ever since the loss of the brave *Montgomery*, have no parallel.

I hope you are, or will be, properly strengthened and supported at *New-York*. For my own part, I don't like your situation there, but think you had better give up that city to the enemy than let them get behind and pen you in there, as they were cooped in *Boston* last year. However, I don't pretend to any judgment in this matter, nor to have considered the subject. My confidence in the abilities of General *Washington* is entire. His life is the most valuable in *America*; and whenever an engagement happens, I sincerely hope he will think how much depends on it, and guard it accordingly.

The publick papers will announce to you the new appointments and changes here; and as I have not much unemployed time, I am always ready to spare the use of my pen. This being *Sunday* morning, and in the country, I have spun out this letter to a length not common with me now-a-days. I beg my compliments to the General. I dined in company with Mrs. *Washington* yesterday, at Colonel *Harrison's*, and expect her here at dinner to-day. Remember me to General *Mifflin*, Colonels *Shea* and *Moylan*, and believe me to be, very sincerely, yours,

ROBERT MORRIS.

P. S. I will lay the *London* letter before Congress to-morrow.

#### SAMUEL TUCKER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Convention of New-Jersey, Trenton, }  
July 20, 1776. }

SIR: Before the arrival of your packet this morning we had received the letter from Mr. *Kinsey*, of which the

enclosed is a copy. We had thought the step necessary, which Congress have been pleased to intimate, of inquiring through what channel a letter had been conveyed from Lord *Howe*. You are now possessed of the letter, which will speak for itself.

The very agreeable and important news from the southward, for which we had felt the anxiety of brethren for brothers in danger, gives us a joy we cannot name. We hope it is a happy presage of our own success. It will at least animate our people, and thus greatly contribute to our exertions.

We shall do everything in our power respecting the cattle. We have such an extent of shore, (more than three hundred miles,) all of which is more or less exposed, and a great part of it in such a situation that the owners have no places to which they can remove their cattle, that the task is not a little difficult. The Tory cattle of all kinds we shall lay our hands upon at every opportunity.

We are, sir, your most humble servants,

By order of Congress:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

July 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The letter you mention is marked on the back, "Favoured by Lord *Howe*," and came to Mrs. *Reed* enclosed in a packet from her brother. While my clerk was copying it, my barber came in, and he told *Hewlings*. *Hewlings* desired a sight, which, as it was expressly desired to be communicated to the Assembly, I did not think myself (though really inclinable to do it) at liberty to deny. He then desired he might take a copy, which copy was immediately (I have reason to think) carried and shown to *Odell*; since which I have shown it to such as have applied to me. I have sent, or rather written a copy to send, to our Delegates, which I intend to forward by the first opportunity. This is all the information you request.

I am, with esteem, your obedient servant,

J. KINSEY.

To *Samuel Tucker*, Esq.

Bridgetown, Cumberland County, May 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As our situation on the *Delaware* exposes us to the frequent depredations of our enemies—we having already had two alarms, and this day a number of our cattle killed and taken away, and we not having a sufficient quantity of powder and ball in store to protect our shore, and hourly expecting more visits from the ships that lie in the bay—I am directed to apply to you to solicit the Congress for a further supply of two hundred pounds of powder and one thousand pounds of lead. Your compliance will oblige your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

THOMAS HARRIS, *Chairman*.

To the Delegates of *New-Jersey* in the Continental Congress.

GENERAL MERCER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Referred to Board of War.]

Head-Quarters, Elizabethtown, July 20, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 17th instant, with the resolves of Congress of the 16th, which I had the honour to receive yesterday, I shall pay all possible attention to.

Some days ago I came to this place with a view to execute a plan to surprise some of the enemy's posts on *Staten-Island*, formed by consent of General *Washington*. From what we could observe, and the intelligence we received, there were three stations, including the *New Blazing-Star*, which, together with some few houses off from the *Sound*, contained from five to six hundred men. Two creeks enclosed these stations all but a narrow neck of land, so as to prevent an easy access of reinforcements.

It was intended to pass the *Sound* from the mouth of *Thompson's Creek*, a little below this town, to *Staten-Island*, at a proper time of night, so as to be on the back of the enemy's quarters before daylight appeared. We were first to have secured, by a strong party, the neck of land between the two creeks, and then to have divided our force in such a manner as to have attacked all the posts at once as soon as it was light, then to have retired, if successful, by the ferry

at the *New Blazing-Star*. The night before last was fixed for this enterprise. The first division, consisting of Continental troops under Major *Knoultton*, marched with me to the mouth of *Thompson's Creek* by nine o'clock, with design to pass the *Sound*. Immediately the two battalions of the *Pennsylvania* Riflemen, together with the first battalion of the *Pennsylvania* Militia, were to follow. The whole force would then have consisted of about thirteen hundred. Some of these troops were rendered unfit for service by having had a very fatiguing march from *Brunswick*. This obliged us to think of contracting our plan; but very tempestuous weather coming on, obliged us to desist altogether from the enterprise, some gentlemen, being well acquainted with the passage there, being of opinion that we should endanger the loss of our whole party in attempting to cross in such boats as we were provided with.

I have troubled you with this narrative, partly with design to point out the necessity of having boats of a proper construction built for the service of this Army, either to afford a safe and speedy passage to the troops for the attack of the enemy on *Staten-Island*, or to move our men with expedition to *New-York* or *Philadelphia*, should the service require their assistance at either place.

I have relieved with the troops sent from *Pennsylvania* all the Militia of *New-Jersey*, who occupied sundry posts from *South-Amboy* to *Paulus Hook*, to enable them to secure their harvest. When that is effected, they will again cheerfully give their assistance.

The command of the Flying-Camp, which the Congress have been pleased to honour me with, will render the assistance of an Adjutant-General and a Secretary very necessary. Mr. *David Ross*, a young gentleman of *Maryland*, had joined me in hopes of having the appointment of Brigade-Major. I beg leave to represent him to the honourable Congress as fit to perform the duty of Deputy Adjutant-General, or of Brigade-Major, as may be thought most expedient.

Give me leave to add my most hearty congratulations on the happy success of our arms in *South-Carolina*, this moment communicated to me by yours of the 19th instant.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

(Copy to be forwarded to General *Washington*.)

PHILIP B. BRADLEY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Bergen, July 20, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have made strict inquiry, pursuant to your orders, into the conduct of Captain *Ephraim Burr*; and, upon examination, find that, by order of General *Putnam* and Colonel *Moylan*, he was authorized and empowered to secure the property and effects of all the Tory refugees which he could come at, and am of opinion that he no more than fulfilled his orders. I believe that some of his men, without his knowledge or approbation, did take some things which were the property of persons whose principles were not inimical; but these, together with those secured by himself, are safely deposited in the hands of a gentleman in the *Jerseys*, by orders which he produced from under the hand of Colonel *Moylan*. Captain *Burr* has fully satisfied the owners of the last mentioned effects as to his conduct, and the principles by which he was actuated. Upon the whole, am of opinion that Captain *Burr's* conduct, upon the strictest scrutiny, will appear unexceptionable.

Nothing worthy of observation hath transpired since I reported last to your Excellency, except that our men discovered this morning, on an eminence near the Ministerial shipping, that the enemy were erecting a fortification.

I have the honour to be, with every possible mark of esteem and respect, your Excellency's most humble servant,

PHILIP B. BRADLEY.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.

GENERAL WADSWORTH TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, July 20, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Mine of the 18th instant not going by the conveyance I expected, gives me an opportunity of enclosing a return of my brigade, mentioned yesterday, by



which you will see that little more than half are arrived, an event very disagreeable under the present circumstances of our Army. Though I cannot undertake to ascertain its number with precision, having never seen a return of the whole, or been advised thereof minutely by the General, yet I have reason to believe that he most earnestly wishes our battalions complete, and on this ground. If the enemy should attack us, hope, by the blessings of Heaven, to be able to defend ourselves, and defeat the cruel designs of the enemies of the independent States of America.

I am, with great truth and regard, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES WADSWORTH.

To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull*.

New-York, July 22, 1776.

On *Sunday* afternoon, the 14th, a barge from the fleet appeared in our Bay with a white flag, which was there met by the General's barge, with several gentlemen of the Army on board. The flag was sent from Lord *Howe*, with a letter to his Excellency General *Washington*. But as the letter was improperly directed, it was not received, though much solicited by the officer, who, we hear, said it contained nothing of a hostile nature; that Lord *Howe* came over possessed of unlimited power, and was much concerned he had not arrived a few days sooner, which would have effected a reconciliation, &c. However, it seems his unlimited power did not extend even to the necessary preliminaries of a negotiation—an acknowledgment of the right of the persons to whom he came to treat with him.

Indeed, the idea of coming over to propose a plan of reconciliation is, in every view, absurd and ridiculous; for as the Colonies never invaded the rights of *Britain*, and only defended their own, there was no occasion at all for negotiation. The moment *Great Britain* receded from her unjust claims, the war was at an end. The very proposition, therefore, of a negotiation, was a proof that *Great Britain* persisted in her encroachments on the rights of the Colonies, and was, in itself, an act of a hostile nature.

On *Tuesday*, another flag from the fleet appeared, and was met as above; when a letter from General *Howe* was again offered, but, for the same reason as the former, was rejected.

On *Friday*, a third flag from the fleet appeared, which, we hear, brought only an open letter, directed to Miss *Margaret Moncrieffe*.\*

*Saturday* forenoon, our people discovered a fourth flag of truce, whereupon the Mechanick's barge was sent to meet it, and conducted the officer (said to be Adjutant-General of the forces under the command of Lord *Howe*) to the dwelling of Colonel *Knox*, in this city, where his Excellency General *Washington*, attended by his Body-Guards, waited his arrival, which was a little past one o'clock. The interview was short, and the particulars, we believe, are, as yet, not made known. We can therefore only say, that, at parting, much courtesy was seen to pass between the gentleman who bore the flag and those of the Continental forces who had the honour to be present.

\* LETTER FROM GENERAL PUTNAM TO MISS MONCRIEFFE.

New-York, July 26, 1776.

I should have answered your letter sooner, but had it not in my power to write you anything satisfactory.

The omission of my title in Major *Moncrieffe's* letter, is a matter I regard not in the least; nor does it, in any way, influence my conduct in this affair, as you seem to imagine. Any political difference alters him not to me in a private capacity. As an officer, he is my enemy, and obliged to act as such, he his private sentiments what they will. As a man, I owe him no enmity; but, far from it, will, with pleasure, do any kind office in my power for him or any of his connexions.

I have, agreeably to your desire, waited on his Excellency, to endeavour to obtain permission for you to go to *Staten-Island*. He informs me that Lieutenant-Colonel *Patterson*, who came with the last flag, said he was empowered to offer the exchange of \_\_\_\_\_ for Governour *Skene*. As the Congress have reserved to themselves the right of exchanging prisoners, the General has sent to know their pleasure, and doubts not they will give their consent. I am desired to inform you, that if this exchange is made, you will have liberty to pass out with Governour *Skene*; but that no flag will be sent solely for that purpose.

Major *William Livingston* was lately here, and informed me that you had an inclination to live in this city; and that all the ladies of your acquaintance having left town, and Mrs. *Putnam* and two daughters being here, proposed your staying with them. If agreeable to you, be assured, Miss, you shall be sincerely welcome. You will here, I think, be in a more probable way of accomplishing the end you wish, that of seeing your father; and may depend upon every civility from, Miss, your obedient servant,

ISRAEL PUTNAM.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN THE ARMY AT NEW-YORK, DATED JULY 22, 1776.

On *Saturday*, the 20th instant, came up from Lord *Howe* a flag of truce, Adjutant-General of the *British* Army. He was met by Colonel *Reed*, our Adjutant-General, about two miles from the town, who took him into the General's barge. He landed near our Battery, and passed through the Life-Guards of General *Washington*. He was introduced to the General by Colonel *Reed*, and had a private conference with him at Colonel *Knox's*, for near half an hour, the particulars of which I am just informed by a person of distinction. The main point was, with great politeness and complaisance, to induce the General to receive a letter he had brought from Lord and General *Howe*, saying it was the customary mode of address even to foreign Ambassadors. He apologized much for General *Howe's* sending a letter with such an address, and said that nothing was further from his thoughts than any failure in respect to his Excellency; that Lord and General *Howe* both lamented exceedingly that any misunderstanding should interrupt that frequent intercourse between both armies, which the course of the service might require. He said Lord *Howe* had come out with exceeding great powers. The General replied, he had heard that his Lordship had come with great powers to pardon, but he could not apply that great power to the *Americans*, who had never offended, for where there is no offence, a pardon cannot be necessary. Colonel *Patterson* seemed confused, and made no reply. After many compliments and polite expressions, he departed, with saying: "Has your Excellency no commands to my Lord, or General *Howe*?" "None, sir," replied the General, "but my particular compliments to both of them."

DUTCHESS COUNTY COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Dutchess County, in Committee of Safety, }  
July 20, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: With pleasure we acknowledge the receipt of the resolution of the Convention, directing the raising of two regiments in the County; and be assured we shall enter upon the business with the utmost alacrity. However, we conceive the levies will be completed with infinitely greater despatch if we can be furnished with money in order to pay the bounty immediately upon inlisting. Indeed, we conceive it will be impossible to procure a sufficient number of volunteers without it. We must, therefore, earnestly entreat that a sum necessary for that purpose may be transmitted to us immediately. We have authorized Mr. *Paul Schenck*, of *Poughkeepsie*, to receive it, and we will pledge ourselves that the utmost care and attention will be observed in the disposition of it.

Brigadier *Ten Broeck* has appointed next *Tuesday* for the officers and the Committee to meet to fix the quotas of the several regiments. The business would be greatly expedited if we could have the money on that day, to distribute it, and give to each regiment its respective proportion.

I remain (by order of the Committee) your most obedient servant,

EGBERT BENSON, *Chairman*.

To the Deputies of the County of *Dutchess* in the Convention of the State of *New-York*, *White-Plains*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 1, 1776.]

German-Flats, July 20, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your favour of the 13th instant, covering the resolutions of Congress of the 6th and 11th instant. I shall take the earliest opportunity of collecting and auditing the publick accounts of the late General *Montgomery*, and include his pay and table allowance, agreeable to the resolve.

It is with infinite pain that I see no prospect of erecting a fort at *Oswego*, or building galleys on *Ontario*, during this campaign. With all the assistance that his Excellency General *Washington* has been able to afford us, with all the exertions we have been able to make to procure a sufficiency of intrenching tools for the Army to the northward, we still are greatly deficient of what is absolutely necessary. Nails, carpenters' tools, whipsaws, and a variety of articles that do not now occur to me, and which are indispensably necessary, are not to be procured, at least not in time.

Such of these articles as are to the northward will be wanted there, and even considerably more. Besides these, the great scarcity of pork, which cannot now be got from *New-York*, will be an insuperable obstacle; but nevertheless, as it is probable that a very few weeks will determine whether troops can be spared from *New-York* or the northward, I shall make what preparations I can to carry into execution the wishes of Congress.

My long stay here must necessarily greatly retard our affairs to the northward, and distress General *Gates*; and I had proposed to return, if the *Indians* did not arrive in a day or two hence, and to leave the business to Messrs. *Douw* and *Edwards*. The *Indians* have prevented me, by sending a message and belt, importing that they were informed of my intentions to go down the country, and insisting that I should remain. The necessity of humouring these people, and a deference to the opinion of my colleagues, put it out of my power to comply with my wishes.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient and very humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

German-Flats, July 20, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Both of your Excellency's favours of the 15th instant were delivered to me yesterday.

The letter for General *Burgoyne*, and the resolution of Congress to accompany it, were immediately despatched to General *Gates*, with a request to forward it without delay.

To carry into execution the resolution of Congress of the 21st of *June*, respecting the mal-conduct of some of our officers in *Canada*, will be, as your Excellency very justly observes, "a work of difficulty and delicacy." Congress was doubtless furnished with a detail of some of the offences, and, most probably, with the names of the offenders, previous to their entering into the resolution. If these, however few they might be, were pointed out and brought to trial, others in the course of the examination might be impeached, and probably most of the offenders be discovered. Perhaps your Excellency may think proper to desire Congress to mention some particulars. I shall, however, as soon as I return to the Army, confer with Generals *Gates* and *Arnold*, and try to adopt such measures as will best answer the wishes of Congress.

Colonel *Nicolson's* case, agreeable to your orders, shall claim my earliest attention, and I will order a trial immediately on my return.

It would give me great pleasure if the situation of our affairs would admit of my doing what Congress has recommended to me, in the resolution of the 11th instant; but unless a considerable body of troops and carpenters are moved from *Ticonderoga*, and the variety of articles necessary for erecting fortifications at *Oswego*, and building galleys on *Ontario*, can be procured, it will not be possible to carry that resolution into execution; and I doubt much whether such a movement would be prudent at this juncture, even if intrenching tools, materials for building, and the various other necessary articles, could be spared from the northward, or elsewhere procured. A few weeks will probably bring about events that will enable us to determine with more certainty what can be done. If these should be favourable to us, I will not lose a moment thereafter, but immediately possess ourselves of *Oswego*, and shall therefore take measures accordingly, and make what preparations I can.

The *Indians* have not yet arrived; the more remote ones have sent to apologize for their tardiness on account of the death of one, and the extreme illness of another sachem; but that they propose to be here on *Thursday* next. Mr. *Ryckman*, on his return from *Niagara*, passed through most of the *Six Nations*, and he and his party were at every one of their villages entertained with the accounts brought by those that have lately returned from *New-York* and *Philadelphia*; and such is the idea they have conceived of our power and resources, that the opinion that we shall be an overmatch for our enemies, begins pretty generally to prevail. If this be true, (and I have no reason to doubt it,) we shall meet with no trouble from the savages.

The account of the two men-of-war and three tenders passing *New-York*, as transmitted by your Aid-de-camp, reached *Albany* on *Sunday* last, and Colonel *Van Schaick* informs me that he has given the necessary directions to prevent any of our vessels falling into the enemy's hands.

I am greatly apprehensive that the service will suffer in this quarter for the want of money; very little, if any, is left in the military chest, and our debts are very considerable.

The five officers, prisoners who deserted from some part of *Pennsylvania*, were met by Mr. *Ryckman* on his way from *Niagara*. Would it not be proper to request General *Burgoyne* to deliver these and all other prisoners in *Canada* who have slighted their parole and joined him?

General *Arnold* writes me that two or three hundred swivels will be wanted, with a number of hand-grenades. Be so good as to order up all (of both) you can spare.

I am, dear sir, with every affectionate wish, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 20, 1776.

SIR: I received yours by Doctor *Ely*, with the provision and ammunition, which came safe to hand, except the bullet-moulds and thread. The former is not wanted, as there was no bar lead sent, and there were several boxes of ball; but the latter is much wanted, and would be glad your Honour would send some by the first boat. I have sent a boat to *Cheshire's* for boards, and it has returned empty by reason of there being none sawed; but the mill is now got at work, and hope we shall soon be furnished.

This moment there is part of a company of carpenters from *Connecticut* arrived. The remainder is at *Cheshire's*, and I shall send a boat for them to-morrow morning. The rain has flowed so, that they cannot pass by land. I shall do everything that lies in my power to forward business for the publick good here and at *Cheshire's*.

I am, dear sir, your Honour's most obedient servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To Major-General *Gates*.

P.S. Some cordage is very much wanted here.

GENERAL GATES TO NATHAN CLARKE.

Tyonderoga, July 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received your favour by the bearer, and have sent you by him the eighteen commissions filled up as you request. I have no authority to appoint any Field-Officer to command the six companies, nor do I see the necessity of it, as they are to act separately for the protection of the inhabitants in the several districts where they are posted. You will please to observe that the officers are to rank in the order you recommended. As to advancing money, I have no power or authority to do it; nor has it been done for any troops raised for the protection of the places they inhabit. When they are raised, and have served a month, they may receive a month's pay.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

HORATIO GATES, Major-General.

To *Nathan Clarke*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee at *Manchester*.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HARTLEY, GOING UPON COMMAND TO CROWN-POINT.

Upon your arrival at *Crown-Point*, you will post the detachment under your command in the most secure manner, taking care to preserve a communication with your batteaus and the vessels stationed at the Point.

You will constantly report all extraordinaries, and by every means in your power procure intelligence of the motions of the enemy. Such as you think of consequence must, without delay, be sent by an express-boat to *Ticonderoga*.

As the *Indians*, especially those of the *Six Nations*, seem strongly disposed to a neutrality, I would by no means commence hostilities against them. If they begin to act offensively against us, there is no doubt but we must repel force by force.

As the detachment under your command is meant more as an advance guard than a post to be defended to the last extremity, you are carefully to keep your retreat open to your batteaus; and when the enemy appear with a force to

which, from all circumstances, you are convinced you and your detachment are unequal, and with whom it would be rashness to contend, you are then to make as secure a retreat as possible to *Tyonderoga*.

Given at *Tyonderoga*, this twentieth day of *July*, 1776.  
HORATIO GATES.

BARON DE WOEDTKE TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort George, July 20, 1776.

SIR: I have to inform you that I still remain in a very weak and low situation. I find the *Canadians* are gone on to *Albany*. I beg leave to advise the General to recall them to this place, with the person who has assumed to himself the title of Major, one Mr. *Hare*, who, when he arrives here, I pray may be put under an arrest, and deprived of that commission he has assumed to himself, which, I assure you, I never authorized him to take.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

BARON DE WOEDTKE.

To Major-General *Gates*.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Newport, July 20, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with your Excellency's letter of the 15th instant, which I have communicated to the General Assembly now sitting here. Agreeable to your request, the Captains of the row-galleys are ordered to proceed immediately to *New-York*, there to receive your orders, and to govern themselves accordingly.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief of the *United States of America*, *New-York*.

RHODE-ISLAND ASSEMBLY.

State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, }  
In General Assembly, July Session, 1776. }

Whereas the General Congress of the *United States of America*, by their Resolution of the 4th instant, after enumerating many of the various acts by which *George the Third*, King of *Great Britain*, hath demonstrated his intention to establish an absolute tyranny over the said States, have declared that "a Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people;" and have further declared, that the said States "are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the *British Crown*; and that all political connexion between them and the State of *Great Britain* is, and ought to be, totally dissolved:" which said Resolution hath been approved and solemnly published by order, and in presence of this General Assembly:

It is therefore Voted and Resolved, That if any person within this State shall, under pretence of preaching or praying, or in any other way and manner whatever, acknowledge or declare the said King to be our rightful Lord and Sovereign, or shall pray for the success of his arms, or that he may vanquish and overcome all his enemies, shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanour, and shall therefor be presented by the Grand Jury of the County where the offence shall be committed, to the Superior Court of the same County; and upon conviction thereof shall forfeit and pay, as a fine, to and for the use of this State, the sum of £100 lawful money, and pay all costs of prosecution, and shall stand committed to Jail until the same be satisfied. And that a copy of this Act be inserted in the *Newport* and *Providence* newspapers.

A true copy. Witness: HENRY WARD, Secretary.

Newport, July 22, 1776.

Last *Saturday*, the honourable the General Assembly of this State being then sitting at the State-House in this Town, at twelve o'clock, the Brigade stationed here, under the command of the Colonels *William Richmond* and *Christopher Lippitt*, Esquires, marched from Head-Quarters, and

drew up in two columns on each side the parade, before the State-House door; his Honour the Governour and Members of Assembly then marched through and received the compliments of the Brigade; after which the Secretary read, at the head of the Brigade, a Resolve of the Assembly, concurring with the Congress in the Declaration of Independence; the Declaration itself was then read; next, thirteen cannon were discharged at *Fort Liberty*; the Brigade then drew up and fired in thirteen divisions, from east to west, agreeable to the number and situation of the *United States*. The Declaration was received with joy and applause by all ranks. The whole was conducted with great solemnity and decorum.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 29, 1776.]

Lebanon, July 20, 1776.

SIR: This Colony has been so unfortunate as to employ two brigs, one after another, both of which have proved bad sailers. The last of the two, being well recommended, was purchased by this State and fitted in the best manner; this, indeed, by divine favour, was successful in taking one ship and brig in *Nantasket Roads*, near *Boston*, and afterwards assisted in taking another ship in the bay, of which you have received information. Captain *Harding*, the gallant commander of her, complains that she is a dull sailer, and not fit for the service.

There is a sloop of one hundred and fifty tons, *Bermudas*-built, brought from *New-Providence* by Commodore *Hopkins*, which the Captain informs might do well to be turned into a brig. The clothing and military stores on board our brig *Defence* may be put on the sloop, and she fitted out in a very short time to proceed on a cruise against our enemies. Our request is, that this State may have the sloop at appraisal, or on such terms as the honourable Congress may judge reasonable, that so she may be fitted and employed accordingly.

Colonel *Williams*, who brings this, and comes to take his seat in Congress, agreeable to the appointment of our General Assembly, will inform fully on the subject, which renders it unnecessary to add, only my hope for a favourable and a speedy answer.

22d.—Your letter of the 16th instant, with its enclosure, is received. Our General Assembly finished its sessions on the 7th *June*. On the 10th, the resolution of Congress of the 3d of *June* came to hand, and forthwith warrants were sent to convene the Assembly on the 14th of same *June*.

They complied with your requisition. The battalions of Militia were ordered to be raised, armed, and equipped for the service mentioned. Great diligence hath been used to promote the same; and lest they should fail arriving seasonably, three regiments of Lighthouse were ordered forthwith to *New-York*, to put themselves under the command of General *Washington*, till our Militia could be raised and come in; also to afford further aid if needed. I gave orders to the commanding officers of five regiments lying next towards *New-York*, to march forthwith on the requisition of the General to strengthen our Army. Our proceedings are well known to, and can be fully communicated by Colonel *Williams*, to whom take leave to refer you. The good people of our Government do not hesitate to do all in their power to be freemen while they live, and to leave their posterity the heirs of freedom and its blessings.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. President *Hancock*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN.

Lebanon, July 20, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 17th instant per Captain *Harding*. I am very sorry we have been so unfortunate in getting two brigs, one after another, that do not answer our designs. Am rejoiced to hear that there is a sloop that may probably be had that will answer our purpose. Colonel *Williams* sets out for Congress to take a seat therein. I shall send by him to obtain the sloop you mention. I think it highly probable shall have success to obtain the sloop on some reasonable terms. She may be soon altered and fitted for a cruise. In mean time think that the brig *Defence* be

used for such purpose, as she may answer without laying out further cost upon her. Have ordered Captain *Harding* to do only what may be barely needful, and to secure the navigation of the Sound as far as in his power.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir, your humble servant,  
JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., Esq.

WILLIAM LOUD TO JOHN TAYLOR.

Muscowgus Island, near Bristol, July 20, 1776.

SIR: I saw a letter from Colonel *William Jones*, of *Bristol*, to Captain *James Hilton*, of said place, informing him of the capture of General *Thompson*, and many officers, as also the retreat of General *Sullivan* to *St. John's*, and the doubt of his ability to support that post; as also that fifteen hundred *Canadians* and five hundred *Indians* were employed by General *Burgoyne* to attack our back settlements; also, orders for said *Hilton* to have his company of Militia in order for defence. Captain *Hilton* sent intelligence eastward, to the settlements; but, sir, in my opinion, intelligence without ammunition would be of little service; and I do not think one-tenth part of the inhabitants have any, neither do I think it possible for them to be supplied except by the Congress, and are therefore at present in a woful condition if attacked. I doubt not, sir, that you remember Mr. *Waterman Thomas*, of *Waldoborough*, who was up to the Congress the year past, on account of supply for many settlements, but could not obtain it. Now, if no speedy supply, and the enemy approach, you may expect dismal news from this quarter.

As the inhabitants have been driven to great straits on account of not having a market for their lumber the year past, and the supports of life having been so dear to them, I cannot see how it is possible at present for them to raise cash for ammunition; and if some way cannot be proposed as to furnish for a hereafter-pay, then farewell to defence.

I imagine it will be some time before the many settlements will be notified of the danger, and be able to meet and consult measures for safety; and as there are many settlements and Islands that have no representatives or acquaintances in the Congress, I desire that you would be so good as to use your endeavours to have a supply for them on such terms as you may think proper, which will be ever esteemed as a favour done to your humble servant,

WILLIAM LOUD.

N. B. I believe the Islands and non-incorporated places are not omitted in the Province tax; and as for my part, I am, and ever have been, ready to pay such, and have done it many years.

Sir, the favour of a line from you, to inform me what dependance may be had on account of ammunition, directed to myself or *Waterman Thomas*, Esq., of *Waldoborough*, will greatly oblige yours, &c.,  
W. L.

N. B. I have four that bear arms.

COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO SELECTMEN OF BOSTON.

Council-Chamber, Watertown, July 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: It appears that there is a great uneasiness in the minds of the people, in various parts of the State, that no greater care has been taken to prevent the spreading of the small-pox; and unless such care should now be taken as may be reasonable and satisfactory, great mischief must certainly ensue, and still greater if the distemper should further prevail in the country towns. To prevent which, and in order that the town of *Boston* may not in a special manner be subjected to inconveniences, which they are certainly liable to, we request you to use every means in your power for getting clear of the infection of that distemper as soon as possible, and, in the mean time, that you use every precaution to prevent the communication thereof to other towns, and particularly that you employ trusty and proper guards at the ferry places, and at the Neck, to prevent any persons from going into the country, until they are entirely cleansed from the infection, so as to be beyond the possibility of communicating it to others; otherwise the country towns will think themselves under a necessity of setting guards and preparing smoke-houses, &c., the great expense and trouble of which may be saved, if they can be ascertained that you do not fail of doing what is thought to be your duty to do.

To the Selectmen of *Boston*.

JONATHAN GLOVER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Marblehead, July 20, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I am extremely sorry to take up one moment of your attention, engaged as it is in concerns of the highest import to the *United American States*; but seeing, without your kind interposition, that I may be materially injured, I hope you will excuse me.

Your Excellency was pleased to appoint me one of the Agents for the Continental armed vessels; which office I have endeavoured to discharge with diligence and fidelity, and conducted, I would fain suppose, to your satisfaction. Among other things, when the ship *Hope*, laden with powder, was taken, I hastened to *Pulling-Point Gut*, through which they attempted to carry the ship to *Boston*; but she got aground; so I procured small craft, and, before night, got out twelve hundred barrels of powder. I procured a guard of one hundred and fifty men from General *Ward*, lest the enemy should take the ship by their boats in the night. I engaged the best pilot in *Boston* to carry up the ship; but he despaired of doing it in the night, because he could not see the marks, as the channel was crooked. I told him I did not choose to trust her there that night, and that she must be got up. He said it was impossible. I then proposed placing at anchor a number of the small vessels, with lanterns on board them, at the shallow places and bends of the channel; and after they were thus stationed, the ship fluting and the wind being fair, we made sail, and got her up to *Boston* safe at anchor off the wharf before daylight; and I ceased not till, with vast labour and fatigue, the whole cargo was secured. On account of this business, for four days and three nights I did not pull off my clothes, and scarcely slept at all. Afterwards I labelled the ship and cargo, and attended the trial and condemnation. In one word, I have taken the whole care of them; and nothing now remains to be done but making sale of the ship, and a few articles that are not military stores—the work of a day. In this stage of the business, Mr. *John Bradford*, of *Boston*, steps in and desires to sell this ship *Hope* and her cargo, and claims a commission on some others, against which I have either finished or commenced prosecutions.

I will take the liberty to fairly state his pretensions: He received a private letter, about six weeks since, from Mr. *Hancock*, informing him that, through his friendship, he was appointed Agent for all prizes brought into this Colony, and that his commission should be forwarded as soon as might be, and advising him, when he should receive it, to make known his appointment in the publick newspapers. This letter Mr. *Bradford* communicated to me. As I have received no intimation of this from your Excellency, who appointed me an Agent, nor from any person under the authority of Congress, and as Mr. *Bradford's* commission has not arrived, and perhaps never may, I thought it my duty, not only to myself, but to your Excellency and the Continent, to continue acting in that capacity as far as respected those vessels that had come into my hands; those that have been since brought in, to avoid any colour of dispute, I have not meddled with. Under these circumstances, I flatter myself my conduct will receive the approbation of your Excellency and the Congress. And if your Excellency shall judge it expedient, a line from the Marine Committee of Congress may settle this matter, as in justice it ought to be, which is all I wish. Mr. *Bradford* has lately received a letter from the Marine Committee, which considers him as Agent respecting some matters yet to be done. This, with Mr. *Hancock's* letter, is all that give him any authority.

I hope I shall be excused for thus troubling you. I was afraid the publick service would suffer by an altercation between us and the captors. I shall esteem it a favour if your Excellency will give directions to have the military stores taken in the ship *Hope* appraised, in order that the captors may have their shares, as they are greatly in want of it, many of them.

I am, with the utmost respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,  
JONATHAN GLOVER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Esq., Commander-in-Chief, in *New-York*.

Exeter, New-Hampshire, July 20, 1776.

Tuesday last Mr. *Blunt*, who went to the Northern Army, with a number of letters, returned to this town. He left



*Crown-Point* the 10th instant, to which place the *American* Army had retreated, with all their artillery, baggage, sick, &c., and proposed to make a stand at *Ticonderoga*, fifteen miles this side; that the Ministerial Army had got down to *St. John's*, (one hundred and twenty miles from *Crown-Point*.) which consists, as is said, of only five or six thousand Regulars, but how many *Canadians* and *Indians* is very uncertain. From this body they lately sent a few *Indians*, and took the miller at *Crown-Point*, and carried him to *St. John's*, who has not since returned. This is the first visit they have dared to make since the retreat of the *American* Army.

An express passed through *Portsmouth* last *Thursday*, who brought an account that Captain *Mowat*, in the *Canacea*, had taken all the fishing-boats which lay within his reach, to the number of twenty sail, at the eastward of *Casco-Bay*. It is supposed he has carried them to *Halifax*.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE COMMITTEE OF POPLIN RESPECTING ZACCHEUS CLOUGH.

Colony of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }  
July 20, 1776. }

Upon considering the complaint of *Zaccheus Clough*, Esquire, of *Poplin*, representing that he hath been much injured in his character by designing persons, who (he says) have falsely insinuated to the publick that he converted to his own use a Donation with which he was intrusted by the Parish of said *Poplin* to deliver persons properly appointed to receive the same, for the use of the Poor of *Boston*, suffering by the Port Bill:

The Committee recommend that the Committee of said *Poplin* would call in to their aid the Committees of two of the nearest Towns or Parishes to them, jointly to sit and hear all accusations against said *Clough*, on the aforesaid affair, and also his defence thereon, giving notice of the time and place of meeting, sufficient for his accusers to be present; and, after impartially hearing the matter, to declare their opinion thereon, that all concerned may be satisfied of the truth of the premises. M. WEARE, Chairman.

JOHN BELLOWES TO MESHECH WEARE.

Walpole, July 20, 1776.

SIR: Lieutenant *Sargents* hath returned from *Crown-Point*, in order to collect some soldiers who deserted at the time when Major *Butterfield* resigned himself and men to our foes, and also to obtain a copy of the muster-rolls for the four companies which I mustered. As the soldiers can draw no pay until the rolls are exhibited to the Paymaster, I desire you would send the copies by Mr. *Trott*, because *Sargents* must return as soon as possible.

I am, your humble servant,

JOHN BELLOWES.

COLONEL WAIT TO COLONEL HURD.

Onion River, July 20, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 14th instant. I am at present at this place with two hundred men; and when ordered here, I expected to have been stationed here till fall of the year, and to have built some stockades from this to *Cohos*; but it seems it is otherwise ordered. I am ordered to join the Army again, which I expect to do in five or six days, but Colonel *Warner*, of the *Green-Mountains*, is ordered to raise three hundred men immediately, to proceed to these frontiers and to guard the same, but the particulars of his orders I know not. Have sent a man from hence to know whether he is to relieve me or not.

I applied to General *Sullivan* for this station, as soon as the Army retreated, that I might be a safeguard to our frontiers, which was readily granted; but he is now superseded by General *Gates*, and the scene is now changed; and what will be done next, I know not; but it seems this must be our unhappy fate, the change of command so often, that it keeps our Army in continual confusion.

You must spare a little by way of complaint. This Northern Army has been treated with most cruel neglect, or we might have been in possession of *Quebeck*. Sir, when I arrived there, I found Generals without men, and a small Artillery without supplies, and Commissaries without provisions, Paymasters without money, and Quartermasters without stores, and Physicians without medicines, and the

small-pox very brief in our Army: which has been our destruction. But must beg you will excuse me, and subscribe myself your humble servant,

JOSEPH WAIT.

To John Hurd, Esq.

BENJAMIN GILES TO MESHECH WEARE.

Charlestown, No. IV., July 20, 1776.

HONoured SIR: Would inform you I pursued, agreeable to instructions to be in readiness to give the troops a quick pass from *Charlestown*, arriving here last *Sabbath*, &c. I need not write the particulars of my conduct, or the cause of purchasing stores. Mr. *Trott* can inform, as he is particularly knowing to my conduct, both before and after Captain *Farnsworth* came to No. 4, whose orders are to purchase beef, and that only for the troops. A difficulty I am afraid will arise: his orders are to give provisions to a complete company only; and as I suppose it is next to impossible for complete companies to march without being notified, I thought it my duty to advertise you, sir, that, if possible, the Captains of each company may have notice thereof. Billeting, mileage, and some other allowances, are all to be paid at *Ticonderoga*, the money being sent forward. Captain *Farnsworth* came here last *Thursday*, and is gone off this morning. According to direction, I have dismissed the business, but have some pork on hand, can't say how much; Mr. *Trott* will inform you of the circumstance. I sent him to *Hadley*, to purchase pork. I paid his expenses, being 17s. 9d., and have charged it. Would be glad of further directions respecting what I have taken in.

I rest, sir, your real friend and very humble servant,

BENJ. GILES.

To the Hon. Meshech Weare, Esq.

P. S. I should have written in a different manner, but Mr. *Trott* can inform you of every particular.

P. S. I borrowed forty-four dollars, which I have paid for wheat and pork. Would be glad if it can be sent by Mr. *Trott*. I promised to pay it directly. In hurry, Mr. *Trott* is waiting.

BENJ. GILES.

Providence, July 20, 1776.

A gentleman from No. 4 informs, that a Missionary arrived there a few days since from the *Indian* country, and brought advices that the Chiefs of the *Six Nations*, in a grand council, had determined to call in their young men immediately, and to remain neuter during the present conflict between *Great Britain* and the *American* States.

COLONEL HURD TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Haverhill, July 20, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday afternoon came in here to *Cohos*, a *Frenchman* from the river *St. François*, with whom and the Committees of *Haverhill* and *Newbury*, I spent the evening till late, to obtain what intelligence we could. He tells us that he has been out from thence nineteen days, and undergone great hardship on his journey, having mistook his path from the head of *St. François* to this river; that there were seventy-two ships arrived at *Quebeck*, and the Ministerial Army made up ten thousand *British* and *Canadians*, under General *Carleton*. He knows nothing of *Burgoyne*; the *Indians* of *St. François* and *Caughnawaga* remain neuter, and refuse to take up arms on either side. He does not think there are any *Indians* out upon the scout on this quarter. He fled, as he says, for fear of his life, having been a Captain in the Continental service, at the Parish of *Three Rivers*, and advanced considerable effects for our Army. He is desirous of being conveyed to the General and to the Continental Congress. His appearance to me is open and honest, though some of our people are jealous of him. Keep a guard to watch the house where he lodges, and intend to send him over to *Crown-Point* to the commanding officer there.

We are anxious for Colonel *Bayley's* return, to know in what manner the men designed for our protection are to be raised; and we shall look for him this evening, so that I hope I shall have the pleasure of some advices.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your most humble servant,

J. HURD.

To the Hon. Colonel Weare.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH-CAROLINA, DATED JULY 21, 1776.

You are undoubtedly informed before this, that that detestable villain, *Steuart*, has prevailed upon the *Cherokees* to take up the hatchet against our countrymen. This, however, does not in the least intimidate us. Our people march forth against the Savages with all the alacrity and cheerfulness you can conceive; and with a full determined resolution to extirpate the whole tribe. The damage done to us by them is yet trifling. A number of the heads of the Tories in this Province, when they heard of the breaking out of the *Indians*, wrote to our Governour, and told him that they never dreamt the King would descend to such low and diabolical designs; that they were now willing to do everything in their power to assist their brethren in *America*. These are men of influence on the frontiers, and will be very useful against the *Indians*.

In a little brush with the *Indians* the other day, our people were successful; killed, wounded, and took prisoners, a considerable number. Colonel *McIntosh*, of *Georgia*, with a party of his regiment, went out a few days ago to reconnoitre the situation of the two young *Wrights*, who are posted on *St. Mary's River*, which separates *Florida* from *Georgia*. When he came within two miles of their fort, he was fired on from an outpost of theirs; our Colonel returned the fire, killed one, and took nine prisoners; upon which the fort fired an alarm gun. The man-of-war below hearing this, immediately detached a barge with a Lieutenant and nine men; all these the Colonel thought proper to seize upon. In the brig lately taken here with *Highlanders*, on board was found about £600 sterling worth of goods.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, August 10, 1776.

A correspondent has favoured us with extracts of letters from officers of rank in *Fincastle*, from which we learn, that on *Sunday*, the 21st of *July*, a large party of *Indians* attacked the *Watauga Fort*, in which were one hundred and fifty men. They fired on a great number of women, who went out at daybreak to milk their cows, and chased them into the fort, but providentially did not kill one of them. They fired briskly on the fort till eight o'clock, but without effect, and then retired, with considerable loss, as was supposed from the quantity of blood found; but they returned to the attack, and were besieging the fort six days after, as a messenger, who was slipped out, informed our men on *Holstein*. A detachment was sent to relieve the fort, and it was expected they would do so on *Monday*, the 29th. A party of one hundred men of the Militia fell in with a party of forty *Cherokees*, who were fifty miles on this side the Island, at one of the deserted plantations, and killed five, took one prisoner, and twenty guns. It is worthy of our observation, that in these several skirmishes with the *Indians*, in all of which we did more execution than in some of the principal actions of the last war, we lost not a man. No one can reflect on this, and many other circumstances which have attended the present war with the *British* tyrant, without acknowledging that he sees evident proofs of the Divine interposition in our favour.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL DENT.

[No. 65.]

Annapolis, July 21, 1776.

SIR: Your favours of the 19th and 20th instant are before us. We approve of your ordering an additional number of Militia from Colonel *Hawkins's* battalion, and don't doubt your doing everything necessary to repel the invaders.

We have ordered Major *Price* down, with three field-pieces and one nine-pounder, with Captain *Thomas's* Independent company, which we rest satisfied are arrived with you by this time. These will enable the Major and you to speak more properly with the row-galley than you hitherto could do.

You apprehend the enemy are moving up the river: it is not improbable but they may be. You will (as you have done) continue to watch their motions, and, from time to time, inform us. We wish to be acquainted how many and what sort of deserters have come over—whether they be soldiers, sailors, Tories, or prisoners taken by them.

Wishing you all success, we are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Dent*.

P. S. Please to say in your next how Captain *Beall* may be.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

## JAMES TILGHMAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Sunday morning, July 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Thomas*, who was to have delivered you the enclosed, is now with me. The company is very anxious to be furnished with the arms which arrived at *Chingoteague*, but I have informed Mr. *Thomas* of the resolution of the Council as to them. It will be very difficult, if not impossible, to procure a sufficient quantity of guns here, the Militia having but few, and will not part with them, unless to the company which is to defend *Kent-Island*. They, I believe, will soon be supplied, from what I can learn. I cannot, however, speak with certainty.

I shall meet the Committee next *Thursday*, and shall then have an opportunity of forming some judgment myself of the practicability of arming them. Pray write me if anything extraordinary.

I am your obedient humble servant, JA. TILGHMAN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## B. JOHNSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, July 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yesterday I received part of Captain *Good's* company. Lieutenant *Ghislen* now waits on you for commissions and orders. Captain *Good* informed me that it will be out of his power to procure arms unless you will be pleased to furnish him with money, and then he can get both arms and blankets. I submit it to your consideration whether it would not be best. I believe Captain *Good* to be a man of honour. I know him to be a man of property, and will, I dare say, lay the money out to the advantage of the publick.

Some villain or other has propagated through this County that Colonel *Beatty* and myself have destroyed the recommendation of Field-Officers by the Committee, and the several petitions of the people for a further representation. I hope you will not think me troublesome, when I request the favour of you to inform me by letter, that they are in your possession, by Mr. *Ghislen*. I hope to receive your answer.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your obedient servant,

B. JOHNSON.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL HASLETT.

Philadelphia, Sunday morning, July 21, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of a resolution of Congress passed yesterday evening, I am to direct you, immediately and without loss of time after the receipt of this, to march with the troops under your command to *Philadelphia*, there to do duty until the further orders of Congress. If the company ordered to *Lewistown* be still there, you are not to include that company in your marching orders for *Philadelphia*. On your arrival here, you will station your troops in the barracks.

I am, with respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To Colonel *Haslett*, or Officer commanding the Battalion of Continental Troops in the *Delaware* Government.

## DR. FRANKLIN TO LORD HOWE.

Philadelphia, July 21, 1776.

MY LORD: I received safe the letters your Lordship so kindly forwarded to me, and beg you to accept my thanks.

The official despatches to which you refer me contain nothing more than what we had seen in the act of Parliament, viz: "offers of pardon upon submission;" which I was sorry to find, as it must give your Lordship pain to be sent so far on so hopeless a business.

Directing pardons to be offered to the Colonies, who are the very parties injured, expresses, indeed, that opinion of our ignorance, baseness, and insensibility, which your uninformed and proud nation has long been pleased to entertain of us; but it can have no other effect than that of increasing our resentments. It is impossible we should think of submission to a Government that has, with the most wanton barbarity and cruelty, burned our defenceless towns in the midst of winter, excited the savages to massacre our peaceful farmers, instigated our slaves to murder their masters, and is even now bringing foreign mercenaries to deluge our set-

lements with blood. These atrocious injuries have extinguished every spark of affection for that parent country we once held so dear. But were it possible for us to forget and forgive them, it is not possible for you (I mean the *British* nation) to forgive the people you have so heavily injured. You can never confide again in those as fellow-subjects, and permit them to enjoy equal freedom, to whom you know you have given such just causes of lasting enmity; and this must impel you, were we again under your Government, to endeavour the breaking our spirit by the severest tyranny, and obstructing, by every means in your power, our growing strength and prosperity.

But your Lordship mentions "the King's paternal solicitude for promoting the establishment of lasting peace and union with the Colonies." If by peace is here meant a peace to be entered into by distinct States now at war, and his Majesty has given your Lordship powers to treat with us of such a peace, I may venture to say, though without authority, that I think a treaty for that purpose not quite impracticable before we enter into foreign alliances. But I am persuaded you have no such powers. Your nation, though, by punishing those *American* Governours who have fomented the discord, rebuilding our burnt towns, and repairing, as far as possible, the mischiefs done us, might recover a great share of our regard, and the greatest share of our growing commerce, with all the advantages of that additional strength to be derived from a friendship with us; yet I know too well her abounding pride and deficient wisdom to believe she will ever take such salutary measures. Her fondness for conquest as a warlike nation; her lust of dominion as an ambitious one; and her thirst for a gainful monopoly as a commercial one, (none of them legitimate causes of war,) will join to hide from her eyes every view of her true interest, and continually goad her on in these ruinous distant expeditions, so destructive both of lives and of treasure, that they must prove as pernicious to her in the end as the *Croisades* formerly were to most of the nations of *Europe*.

I have not the vanity, my Lord, to think of intimidating, by thus predicting the effects of this war; for I know it will in *England* have the fate of all my former predictions—not to be believed till the event shall verify it.

Long did I endeavour, with unfeigned and unwearied zeal, to preserve from breaking that fine and noble porcelain vase—the *British* empire; for I knew, that being once broken, the separate parts could not retain even their share of the strength and value that existed in the whole, and that a perfect reunion of those parts could scarce ever be hoped for. Your Lordship may possibly remember the tears of joy that wetted my cheek, when, at your good sister's in *London*, you once gave me expectations that a reconciliation might soon take place. I had the misfortune to find these expectations disappointed, and to be treated as the cause of the mischief I was labouring to prevent. My consolation under that groundless and malevolent treatment was, that I retained the friendship of many wise and good men in that country, and, among the rest, some share in the regard of Lord *Howe*.

The well-founded esteem and, permit me to say, affection which I shall always have for your Lordship, make it painful to me to see you engaged in conducting a war, the great ground of which (as described in your letter) is "the necessity of preventing the *American* trade from passing into foreign channels." To me it seems that neither the obtaining or retaining any trade, how valuable soever, is an object for which men may justly spill each other's blood; that the true and sure means of extending and securing commerce are the goodness and cheapness of commodities; and that the profits of no trade can ever be equal to the expense of compelling it, and holding it by fleets and armies. I consider this war against us, therefore, as both unjust and unwise; and I am persuaded that cool and dispassionate posterity will condemn to infamy those who advised it.

I know your great motive in coming hither was the hope of being instrumental in a reconciliation; and I believe, when you find that to be impossible, on any terms given you to propose, you will then relinquish so odious a command, and return to a more honourable private station.

With the greatest and most sincere respect, I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

B. FRANKLIN.

To the Right Honourable Lord Viscount *Howe*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 23, 1776, and referred to the Board of War.]

New-York, July 21, 1776.

SIR: I have just time to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 19th. The interesting intelligence of the success of our arms in the Southern Department gives me the highest satisfaction. Permit me to join my joy in the congratulation of Congress upon the event. To-morrow, I will write more fully.

Two o'clock, p. m.—I this moment had report made me, that ten ships were seen in the offing coming in—I suppose part of Admiral *Howe's* fleet.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO SAMUEL TUCKER.

New-York, July 21, 1776.

SIR: As we have the strongest reason to believe the period is just at hand, or will soon be, when we shall have the most pressing occasions for troops successfully to oppose and defeat the formidable army we expect against us, I confess I feel myself not a little concerned for the slow manner in which the levies come in that were required by Congress, and which will be essential to counteract the efforts of our enemies.

Not many more than twelve hundred of the quota to be furnished by your State are yet arrived; and I am apt to conclude that it will be a long time before the whole can be made up by voluntary enlistments. As the succour they are meant to afford, by the delay that may attend that mode of raising them, may be too late, and after an important stroke has been given us, I submit it to your consideration whether it may not be prudent to devise some other way by which they may be raised, and their aid immediately had.

Voluntary enlistments, without doubt, are preferable to any other mode, if they could be effected in time, and what I would wish for. But as there is too much reason to fear they cannot, from the small progress already made, the critical situation of our affairs requires that other means should be used; and in full confidence that nothing will be omitted on the part of your honourable body to forward the quota required of them by Congress, I am, with great respect, your and their most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To *Samuel Tucker*, Esq.

P. S. Ten sail of ships are just discovered in the offing, below *Sandy Hook*. What they are I know not, as yet.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO ROBERT YATES AND OTHERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 18th instant I duly received, and note the contents, and am very sorry to hear the forts in the Highlands are in so defenceless a situation. Through such variety of business, which calls my closest attention, it has been, and still is, impossible for me personally to reconnoitre all the different posts under my command; but was so sensible of the importance of the fortresses in the Highlands, that I ordered Lord *Stirling* to visit them, which he did early in the summer, and reported to me their situation at that time; and through his representations I continued two gentlemen in Continental pay, who were acting as Engineers, under orders from the authority of this State. I have repeatedly pressed Colonel *Clinton* to spare no pains to put them on the best footing possible; and, indeed, I had reason to suppose they were in tolerable order to receive the enemy. By the returns there appear to be six thirty-two-pounders, besides some nine, six, four, and three-pounders; and enclosed is a letter for Governour *Trumbull*, begging him to assist you all in his power. We were so short of Matrosses that I was necessitated to draught six hundred from the different battalions to join the Artillery in this place. The fourteen with Colonel *Clinton*, are of the old regiment, and experienced; to these he may add, by draughting a sufficient number of stout, active men, from the other corps under his command, and put them immediately to exercising the artillery. It is not in my power to reinforce those gar-

risons with more men, as but about five thousand of the new levies have yet arrived in camp, out of fifteen thousand ordered. I will this day send up Mr. *Machin*, a Lieutenant of the Train, who has just returned from overseeing the works at *Boston*. He is as proper a person as any I can send, being an ingenious, faithful hand, and one that has had considerable experience as an Engineer. I shall enjoin on him to attend closely to the business he is going to execute. Rest assured, gentlemen, that every assistance in my power shall be most cheerfully granted; and that I am, with esteem, yours, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Messrs. *Yates*, *Jay*, *Livingston*, *Tappan*, and *Livingston*, the Secret Committee of the *New-York* Convention, at *Fort Montgomery*.

[To the above was added the account of the battle of *Sullivan's Island*, *Charlestown*, *South-Carolina*.]

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL JAMES CLINTON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 21, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Lieutenant *Machin*, I have sent to act as an Engineer in the posts under your command, and at such other places as may be thought necessary. He is an ingenious man, and has given great satisfaction as an Engineer at *Boston*, from which he has just returned.

I have received from the Secret Committee a representation of your want of Matrosses, which can be supplied in no other way but by draughting those that are proper from other corps, and exercising them to the artillery; it is what we have been obliged to do here. The men thus draughted may be considered as remaining with their own regiments, and only doing duty with the Train on the present occasion.

I am, sir, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Clinton*, 3d N. Y., *Fort Montgomery*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO LIEUTENANT MACHIN.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 21, 1776.

SIR: You are, without delay, to proceed for *Fort Montgomery* or *Constitution*, in the Highlands, on *Hudson's River*, and there put yourself under the command of Colonel *James Clinton*, or the Commanding Officer there, to act as Engineer in completing such works as are or may be laid out for the defence of the river and adjacent defiles on each side of the river. Your being steady and giving close attention to this business is necessary. It is, therefore, expected and required of you that you personally attend where you may be most wanted to forward the works. In case of an attack from the enemy, or in any engagement with them, you are to join the Train of Artillery on that station, and act according to your office.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant *Machin*, of Artillery.

COMMISSARY TRUMBULL TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

New-York, July 21, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Your favour of the 19th instant, signed in the name and behalf of the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*, is this day delivered me. I received that referred to from Mr. President *Powell*, and answered it per post the next day. A person is now at No. 4, and everything in readiness to receive and forward the troops from *New-England*, going to *Crown-Point*, as fast as they arrive there, agreeable to your expectations and my engagements.

I most sincerely congratulate you on the success of General *Lee* and his troops in *South-Carolina*, the particulars of which will undoubtedly be transmitted to you by General *Washington*, by your express. It appears they are disabled from further action this season.

I am, with the greatest esteem and respect, your Honours' and the Council's most obedient and humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *James Bowdoin*, Esq., President of the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 21, 1776, two o'clock.

SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports seven large ships are coming up from the *Hook* to the *Narrows*.

A negro belonging to one *Strickler*, at *Gravesend*, was taken prisoner (as he says) last *Sunday* at *Coney-Island*. Yesterday he made his escape, and was taken prisoner by the rifle-guard. He reports eight hundred negroes collected on *Staten-Island*, this day to be formed into a regiment.

I am your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,  
N. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

ROBERT YATES TO GENERAL GATES.

Poughkeepsie, July 21, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed copy of some late resolutions of the Convention of the State of *New-York* will inform you that we are a Committee of that body, and charged with the execution of the business mentioned in them. As the chain intended to obstruct the navigation of the river *Sorel* cannot now be applied to that use, and will serve to prevent the enemy's ships from going beyond the forts on *Hudson's River*, we must beg the favour of you to send the whole, or such parts of it as may expeditiously be had, to *Poughkeepsie*, and consign it to Messrs. *Van Zandt*, *Lawrence*, and *Tudor*, with the utmost despatch. Be pleased to inform those gentlemen of the length of such part of the chain you can send, in order that they may direct the deficiency to be supplied.

We shall by this opportunity request of the Committee of *Albany* immediately to furnish us with one hundred and fifty sawed logs of the largest size, to support the chain, and we flatter ourselves that your attention and influence will be extended to both these objects.

We have the honour to be, sir, with the greatest esteem and respect, your most obedient and humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

ROBERT YATES, *Chairman*.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, July 16, 1776. }

*Resolved, unanimously*, That a Secret Committee be appointed to devise and carry into execution such measures as to them shall appear most effectual for obstructing the Channel of *Hudson's River*, or annoying the enemy's Ships in their navigation up the said River, and that this Convention pledge themselves for defraying the charges incident thereon.

And *Resolved and Ordered*, That Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, Major *Tappen*, Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, and Mr. *Paulding*, be the said Committee.

A true extract from the Minutes:

ROBERT YATES,  
*Chairman to the Secret Committee*.

WILLIAM GILLILAND TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 21, 1776.

SIR: I am very sorry to be a complainant against one of my own, one of my first settlers on *Lake Champlain*; but his threatenings have been so frequent and so severe against the Continental Officers, and against me, for the part I have taken on their side, that it has been thought proper to confine him. I have just now heard, with much astonishment, that he is gone from hence to *Ticonderoga*, under the patronage of Major *Udney Hay*. Should he be released without inquiry, adieu to *American* or to political virtue. I shall stand forth as his prosecutor, and think I have sufficient evidence to support me; and am, with the most profound respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

WILLIAM GILLILAND.

N. B. The prisoner's name is *George Belton*.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 21, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: As soon as I arrived here yesterday evening, I sent off the goods, &c., wanted for the *Indians*. I presume they arrived at *Ticonderoga* last night. I also



yesterday evening sent an officer and seven men after *Brown*, but he is gone. Unless he is at *Ticonderoga*, he is fled to the enemy. However, I have sent in search of him this morning again; but have no prospect of success.

There is no news yet from down the Lake. I wish I could get a couple of canoes from Head-Quarters, as we have not one here. We want also some cordage for ropes to the sails of the batteaus.

I have laid out my encampment near the Grenadier-Re-doubt. The sick I will keep in the long store-house. From the numerous detachments and sickness, I have not two hundred men now here fit for duty. Part of these are daily employed in the boats.

Mr. *Hops*, a young gentleman from *York*, in *Pennsylvania*, was wounded in the action at *Trois Rivières*, where he behaved with the utmost bravery. He stood far back in point of seniority in the regiment, so that I could have no prospect of advancing him soon, without giving disgust. He was recommended to General *Arnold*, and was commissioned as a Lieutenant of Marines on board the large schooner. He was to have twenty-five men. We would willingly furnish the whole number from our regiment, were it not for the losses and distresses we have suffered. At present, from our low state, it would be almost impracticable. There is not one day of intermission scarcely between one day and another. I would propose that good men should be draughted from the Army as marines, when we shall cheerfully afford our proportion.

The vessel will be ready to sail in a few days. I would wish that you would be pleased to take such steps as to have him the complement of twenty-five marines. He is a gentleman of the greatest worth, and will prove himself deserving of his office.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,

THOMAS HARTLEY.

P. S. *Brown* is taken just now. I send him with Lieutenant *Hops*. I send also all the oars that are now ready. I imagine it must have been a bad place for timber where the oar-makers were first sent. They are changing their ground.

T. H.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Crown-Point, July 21, 1776, 8 o'clock, P. M.

HONoured SIR: I just now received your favour of this day. A few minutes before it came to hand, eight batteaus, with forty-four pieces of timber, under Captain *Polliphemus*, arrived from the mouth of *Onion River*. In the late storm, the raft broke, and the timber was scattered on the sands. They say there was one hundred and twenty pieces in the whole. Seventy-four men were employed in bringing up these eight boats, and I am told the timber is but of a very indifferent quality, and that much better can be had nearer Head-Quarters. The men on this party have experienced the greatest fatigue. They have been three weeks gone, and if we might calculate on the future by what is past, it would require three weeks for two hundred and ten men to bring up the rest of the timber. There are also boards collecting there. It is said they bring them fourteen miles overland. This is certainly very bad policy, when we can procure boards from other saw-mills, without any land-carriage. The saw-mill by this place could be put in order in five or six days by four or five carpenters and as many labourers. If the carpenters of our regiment now at *Ticonderoga* are sent down, with proper tools, it shall be done immediately.

Our regiment is now very weak from sickness and the numerous detachments that have gone from it; so that ordering a considerable party from it, would prevent us keeping the necessary guards. We have not one hundred and seventy fit for duty on the spot. Some are coming in daily, and others are recovering their health.

We have no smith nor tools here. If the smiths of our regiment were sent here from *Ticonderoga*, I would make search for tools, though I much doubt if any good ones can be had, notwithstanding what Mr. *Gilliland* said. It will, I apprehend, be absolutely necessary to have some smiths here.

Captain *Wilson* was at *Onion River* with his party four days ago. He was within a few hours of the party of five

which you sent off a few days before, and intended to overtake it, which no doubt he effected, as he had a fair wind; so that, from the whole, you have a right to expect success from our friends. It is said still, that the enemy are cutting timber about the *Isle-aux-Noix*. If that be the case, we shall soon know.

There is, it seems, a Tory, who has a saw-mill about fifteen miles below the mouth of *Onion River*. He may, perhaps, supply the enemy, or do the Army here an injury.

I enclose you a note which I have just received. If a party is to be sent down the Lake, Major *Dunlop*, who was down with me, would be a very proper person to command it. We shall be ready to add our proportion to those who come from *Ticonderoga* from the main Army.

I would submit, whether a quantity more than sufficient for this regiment in provisions should not be here, to supply any parties who may accidentally stand in need. One Mr. *Nicholl* I have appointed, to take care and act for the regiment. He would be proper to do the other business, and I would be accountable for his conduct.

I have collected the above facts, and I make no doubt such steps will be taken as the exigency of affairs requires.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,

THOMAS HARTLEY.

P. S. The eight boats with timber will be up to-morrow at *Ticonderoga*. Captain *Hay* is gone up. Quere: Would he not be very proper to go down the Lake?

S. METCALF TO COLONEL JACOB BAYLEY.

Prattsburgh, July 21, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am sorry I had not the pleasure of seeing Mr. *Witherspoon*, &c., &c. The bearers hereof are four *Canadian* officers, late of Colonel *James Livingston's* regiment, who inform me that the forces in *Canada* are no ways equal to what they were at first reported; and that General *Carleton* has miscarried in the plan he had laid to make himself master of this Lake, by drawing three vessels, which had been previously built for the purpose, over sand, past the rapids of *Chambly*, they being entirely broke to pieces in the attempt, and now totally abandoned; so that General *Sullivan* will undoubtedly remain master of this country for the season at least, he having fortified with an intrenchment and cannon. *Point-au-Fer*, on the north end of the Lake, where stands a brick house, commonly called the *White-House*, is a very advantageous situation, as it commands the navigation towards *St. John's*, and is formed into a kind of an island, by a deep morass that runs behind it from one bay to the other. I having no boat to assist these people with, who are on their way to *Albany*, they were constrained to go this road; and as they speak very little *English*, you had better give them a pass to *Albany*.

I am, dear sir, your friend and obedient humble servant,  
S. METCALF.

COLONEL A. WILLIAMSON TO W. H. DRAYTON.

Camp at Baker's Creek, South-Carolina, }  
July 22, 1776. }

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 12th instant is now before me, giving an account of the agreeable news of your having beat the *British* fleet. I shall try my utmost endeavours to follow your example, and beat the *Cherokees*, of whose treachery and faithless behaviour you are well acquainted.

I am now encamped here with about seven hundred effective men from this regiment, which, with one hundred and thirty who do duty in the different forts, you will perceive have turned out pretty well. My numbers would soon increase if I had arms. If any can be spared from *Charlestown*, you can never do this part of the country a greater service than by using your endeavours to have them immediately sent here.

Captain *Tutt's* and *Prince's* companies of Riflemen have just now joined me; they consist of ninety-three effective men; and to-morrow Colonel *Williams* (who has been at least fourteen days contriving a mode to cross *Saluda River*) will also join me with about two hundred men. Captain *Hammond* marched off with a detachment of one hundred

picked men on *Friday* morning for *Pearis's* house, where, I am informed, a party of the enemy have been skulking about these some days past. I expect hourly to hear from him, and some agreeable news. He has my orders, if he can conveniently join Colonels *Thomas* and *Neel*, to act in concert with them, and proceed directly into the nation by *Estatoe*, while I penetrate by way of *Seneca* and the *Sugar* town. *Thomas* has acted in every respect agreeable to his declaration when at his house. I have written and sent him express upon express to no purpose; it is really disagreeable to have any connexion with such men; he has not written me a line since the *Indians* first commenced hostilities. Lieutenant-Colonel *Polk*, of *Neel's* regiment, with three hundred men well armed, has joined *Thomas*; and I am told by Captain *Purves*, who I sent on purpose to see his strength, and marked out a plan to act in conjunction with them, that *Polk* is eager to join me; it is agreeable to his sentiments communicated by letter to me lately. Judge, then, what feelings such a man must be possessed of, who, in the place of hastening to save and revenge his country, can content himself with doing nothing.

*Robert Cunningham* and *Pearis* came to my camp; the former, on his arrival, declared himself our fast friend, and that he came to stand and fall with us. I was sorry I could not show him the countenance I could have wished, owing to the people being so much exasperated at the behaviour of *Hugh Brown* and others, who have lately joined the *Indians* against us, thirteen of whom were taken prisoners a few days ago, and sent to *Ninety-six* Jail, four of whom were painted as *Indians*. I have no doubt of *Cunningham* proving true to his declaration; but, at present, it would be improper to confer any publick trust on him. Mr. *Salvador* has been with me since my first taking the field. I showed him your postscript; he thinks of making the campaign to the nation. I understood last night the *Indians* struck at *North-Carolina* and *Virginia* the very day they commenced hostilities against our frontiers. If these two Colonies join heartily with us, I hope soon to have the pleasure of congratulating you of a happy issue being put to this expedition, and reduce the savages to such a state as to wish they had never broken their faith with us.

I am, with much regard, dear sir, your most humble servant,

A. WILLIAMSON.

To the Hon. *William Henry Drayton*, *Charlestown*.

#### GENERAL H. CLINTON TO GENERAL LEE.

Off *Charlestown* Bar, July 22, 1776.

SIR: On my return to the fleet I found a letter from you by a flag of truce, with some refreshments you were pleased to send me; in return for which I must beg your acceptance of a cask of porter and some *English* cheese.

I have made inquiries concerning the person mentioned in your letter, who, it seems, has occasioned this correspondence between us, but can learn nothing further about him, than that he is not a master of a vessel, as he has represented himself to you. And you will have been already informed by Mr. *Byrd*, that *Ethan Allen*, and those that were with him, are gone to the northward.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

H. CLINTON.

To *Charles Lee*, Esq., Major-General in the service of his *Polish* Majesty.

#### PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held for the County of *Pittsylvania*, at the Court-House, the 22d day of *July*, 1776:

Present, the Chairman, and a majority of the Members.

This Committee being informed that *George Herndon*, *George Murdoch*, *John Mack*, *Samuel Callan*, *Zachariah Sneed*, *William Mitchell*, and *Archibald Smith*, are suspected to be enemies to the rights and liberties of *America*, they having appeared before this Committee agreeable to citation, refused to take the oath prescribed by the General Convention: Whereupon, it is

Ordered, That the Clerk do transmit a copy of these proceedings to Mr. *Alexander Purdie*, that the same may be inserted in his *Gazette*.

Extract from the Minutes:

WILLIAM TODD, Clerk.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED JULY 22, 1776.

On *Sunday* last I was informed that Lord *Dunmore* was landing his troops on *Thacker Washington's* plantation, a little below *Hooe's Ferry*. About twelve o'clock the same night, the Major of the County came express to let me know that the fleet was then at *Marlborough*, a few miles above *Boyd's Hole*. The alarm was soon spread, and in a very little time the shores were covered with men. I went over early yesterday, and discovered four ships and three tenders. They appeared, as near as I can guess, to be somewhere about *Dumfries*. The remainder we supposed to be below, either coming up or attempting to land. Some few of us then pushed down the river, but found the Militia dispersing just before we got to *Boyd's Hole*. They had received information that the balance of the fleet was at anchor near the mouth of the river. This morning early, we returned up *Potomack River*, and saw only three ships and two tenders; and hearing very distinctly at the same time a heavy cannonade at or near *Alexandria*, we concluded the other ship and tender had made the town a visit, where they will certainly meet with a warm reception. As yet we have no account. I shall proceed to-morrow morning up the river *Potomack*, and continue there till the fleet goes down.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM DUMFRIES, VIRGINIA.

On *Monday*, *July 22*, the *Roebuck*, *Mercury*, *Otter*, and an armed ship, came up *Potomack*, and anchored about two miles below *Dumfries*, where the river is yet quite fresh. On *Tuesday*, about twelve o'clock, they sent off two tenders, a gondola covered, and eight boats, mostly large, and full of men, consisting of the remains of the Fourteenth Regiment, Marines, &c. They landed at *William Brent's* Esq.; where about sixty of the *Stafford* Militia were posted, without any cover. The gondola, drawing but sixteen inches water, run in close to the shore, and, with a nine-pounder and grape-shot, obliged the Militia to retreat, when about one hundred and fifty men landed and burnt the house, out-houses, hay-stacks, &c., and intended to have burnt Mr. *Brent's* fine merchant mill, and several other houses along shore; but on the *Roebuck's* observing that the *Prince William* Militia were on their march to Mr. *Brent's*, she hoisted a white flag, and their men immediately retreated, so that no further damage was done. The fleet having taken in fresh water, fell down the river the next day. I followed them to the Narrows, about thirty miles below this, and found they had done no other mischief. As I returned on *Friday*, I was informed that three white men and four negroes were found dead on the shore, two of the whites sewed up in hammocks and shot through the breast; they had fine *Holland* shirts, and are supposed to be of some distinction; and a gold-laced hat was found, with a bullet-hole through both sides of the crown. As the Riflemen had some fair shot at them, it is not doubted but several are killed. No damage was done on the side of the Militia.

#### GEN. THOMAS JOHNSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In conversation with Mr. *Ringgold*, as he had thought, he told me that General *Dent* was collecting the Militia below to attack Lord *Dunmore*. I am apprehensive they will want arms for the purpose, and that a good many of the men, notwithstanding their desire to go on the service, very reluctantly leave their own neighbourhoods, unhappily full of negroes, who might, it is likely on any misfortune to our Militia, become very dangerous. I have spoken with several here, and it seems to be a general sentiment that we ought to assist; and I believe, though our exertions are already as great as we can well make, that for a short expedition on this very interesting occasion, we might now collect a battalion, and borrow the arms which would be wanting. If you, who are acquainted with all circumstances, think it necessary to have men from hence, I shall most gladly execute any orders you may think proper to give for that purpose.

Mr. *Ringgold* gave me your letter for my brother. The furnace is not now in blast. I went out to him as soon as I got the letter. We have now by us a few pots of about the size you describe, a few kettles, and a few *Dutch* ovens,

of much the same contents; the covers we could lay by, and of all sorts make up perhaps sixty or upwards. We shall have bails made to them, and (unless you have an opportunity of supplying the men with others more to your satisfaction) send them to *Baltimore* as soon as we can; the prices must depend on their size, and the whole shall be so reasonable as to give satisfaction. But if you can be better provided, please to advise of it. Mr. *Butler* is getting his furnace into blast with all diligence, and hopes to effect it within a fortnight. You may then have any number of pots and kettles that you please within a short time. We shall also attempt to cast such guns as are wanted, but cannot contract for them in all events, because the metal may not suit, though we have every reason to expect it will. If we succeed in making good guns, the publick may have them delivered at *Baltimore* at £40 a ton, the guns being proved at the works at the publick expense; the swivels at their convenience; but I should be glad if you would ascertain the length, and other descriptions, as the make of cannon carrying the same shot vary very much. If anybody else will contract for a certainty, he should be preferred, even at a greater price.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your very obedient servant,

THOMAS JOHNSON.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

JOHN SCOTT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Monday, nine o'clock.

GENTLEMEN: I take the liberty to inform you that I came to town early this morning, and beg to know at what hour to-day my attendance will be expected by the Council.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JOHN SCOTT.

To the Honourable the President of the Council of Safety.

JAMES MURRAY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: At our last *May* Convention, an order was drawn by your Board in my favour on the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore*, for £7 10s., to pay wagon hire, &c., for carrying arms, ammunition, &c., down to *Snow-Hill*, in *Worcester* County. This order I have carelessly lost. If in this you could furnish me with a duplicate of same date, should be obliged to you, or signify what necessary steps I must take by probate or certificate, and it shall be done. The President may remember something of my application for it. I am, with esteem, your obedient servant,

JAMES MURRAY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

RICHARD DALLAM TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 22, 1776.

SIR: Since my last, I have had what guns I had proved by gentlemen appointed by the Committee of Observation, for which purpose they have passed twenty-three guns ready fitted. I have five more ready; and shall have as many more next week as will pay the sum I received; and unless you can raise the price to me, I must give over. By the parcel I have now made I shall be near £30 loser. Our Committee have given £4 for guns worse than mine. If you want any quantity of bayonets made, I will undertake to make a parcel at 10s. Please to let me know.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

RICHARD DALLAM.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*.

MATTHEW TILGHMAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Talbot, July 22, 1776.

SIR: I must beg the favour of you to lay before the Council the enclosed petition. If I have not paid absolute obedience to their order, I hope they will impute it not to a disposition to dispute their authority, but to the real cause: the saving to the publick a considerable expense, or to myself a heavy and irreparable loss. If the Council consider the matter in the light in which I have endeavoured to place it, and which, in my opinion, is the true one, I am confident they will have no difficulty in granting my prayer. And I hope they will pay some attention to the hint of

keeping an armed boat to ply for the security of this part of the *Eastern-Shore*. Be pleased to offer my petition immediately to the Board, and whatever may be their determination, I must beg the favour of you to transmit it to me by the bearer, who will wait.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

MAT. TILGHMAN.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., *Charles Carroll*, or any other of the Members of the Council of Safety, in *Annapolis*.

THOMAS STONE AND WILLIAM PACA TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The five hundred dollars granted by Congress for raising the four *German* companies in our Province, have been paid into our hands, and retained by us for the purpose of exchanging it for our *Maryland* Convention money, and by this means to give our currency credit and circulation here. Had we not taken this measure, our emissions would have been useless here, and the commercial connexion between this and our Province would have been greatly, if not totally, obstructed. We had exchanged the whole sum with the merchants and shopkeepers, and we have advanced, as per account enclosed.

Mr. *Hughes* having obtained a large sum of Continental money, he exchanged with us as far as we had our Convention money in our hands. This gives us a fresh fund to keep up the credit of our money here. You will be pleased to advise us whether this measure of ours meets with your approbation; if not, we will remit the whole immediately to you.

Captain *Stricker* being appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the *German* battalion, and being desirous to proceed immediately to *Frederick* County, to forward with all expedition the raising of the companies, we thought proper to advance him \$1,520 of the sum appropriated for that purpose; and we also have taken the liberty of advancing Colonel *Ware* £15, and Major *Gist* £67 10s., which sums they request you will charge to their account.

We are, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servants,

T. STONE,

WM. PACA.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN PERKINS.

[No. 66.]

Annapolis, July 22, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety will fix upon some day not far distant to issue the several commissions for the officers belonging to the Flying-Camp, when you may depend upon you and your officers receiving yours. We have no muskets to supply your company with, or any other belonging to the *Eastern-Shore* battalion. It at present remains doubtful whether or not we shall, after all our endeavours, procure sufficient arms to arm the battalion to be stationed upon this Shore, in the stead of Colonel *Smallwood's*, which is marched to the northward. We expect to be supplied from *Baltimore* with knapsacks and haversacks, a part of which, when received, will be appropriated to the use of the *Eastern-Shore* battalion. At present we have no tents, nor are we possessed of the necessary materials to make them. When your company is equipped for marching, and any of the men at that time should prove non-effective, we think if others offer to supply their places, you may safely incorporate them in your company. We are, &c.

To Captain *Perkins*.

P. S. Orders are lodged with the *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL HOOPER.

[No. 67.]

Annapolis, July 22, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 19th of *July* was this day handed to the Council of Safety; and agreeable to your requisition we have sent you enclosed an order upon the *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer for £300, to be applied to the pay and subsisting of the Militia within your district when called into service.

Your arrangement of the Militia meets with the entire approbation of this Board.

We have just received information that a part of *Dunmore's* squadron have moved from the mouth of *St. Mary's River* pretty far up the *Potomack*, with intent to wood and water, which they are in the greatest distress for the want of. When they obtain those articles, it is not improbable but they may think proper to visit you for fresh provision. Should that event happen, we have full confidence that every military exertion will be used to give them a proper reception. We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Hooper*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COMMITTEE OF KENT COUNTY.

[No. 68.] Annapolis, July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We received, by Captain *Berry*, the following articles, viz: fifty barrels of powder, four half-barrels ditto, fifteen chests of arms, two large and two small pieces of lead. We send him back again for another load, and the schooner *Resolution* is to follow her, to bring away everything she leaves. The money for wagon hire and other contingent expenses, we have ordered into the hands of Mr. *Thomas Smyth*. Sixty barrels, or six thousand weight, of powder, and lead in proportion, is to be left for the *Eastern-Shore Magazine*, and five barrels for your County. We want the swivels, blunderbusses, &c., to fit out a small vessel immediately. Should *Elisha Winters* have any guns, please let them come down by the schooner *Resolution*.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation of *Kent County*.

P. S. We expect the sixty barrels for the *Eastern-Shore Magazine* were left at *Talbot Court-House*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THOMAS RINGGOLD AND OTHERS.

[No. 69.] Annapolis, July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You are hereby requested to deliver the barrel of gunpowder, and lead in proportion, lately lodged with you by the Council of Safety for the defence of *Kent-Island*, to Captain *Thomas Barnes* and Captain *Thomas Ellicott*, or their order, and take their receipt for the same.

Per order, &c.

To Messrs. *Thomas Ringgold*, *Aquila Brown*, and Doctor *Jacob Ringgold*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL LEE.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 2d instant, containing the very agreeable intelligence of the success of the *American Army* under your command, I had the honour of receiving, and immediately laid the same before Congress.

It affords me the greatest pleasure to convey to you, by their order, the most valuable tribute which a free people can ever bestow, or a generous mind wish to receive—the just tribute of gratitude for rendering important services to an oppressed country.

The same enlarged mind and distinguished ardour in the cause of freedom, that taught you to despise the prejudices which have enslaved the bulk of mankind, when you nobly undertook the defence of *American* liberty, will entitle you to receive from posterity the fame due to such exalted and disinterested conduct.

That a handful of men, without the advantage of military experience, animated only with the sacred love of liberty, should repulse a powerful fleet and army, are circumstances that must excite gratitude and wonder in the friends of *America*, and prove a source of the most mortifying disappointment to our enemies.

Accept, therefore, sir, the thanks of the Independent States of *America*, unanimously declared by their Delegates to be due to you and the brave \*Officers and Troops under your

\*List of the Officers who were in FORT MOULTRIE on the 28th of JUNE, 1776.

William Moultrie, Colonel; Isaac Motte, Lieutenant-Colonel; Francis Marion, Major; Andrew Dellient, Adjutant.

Captains: Peter Horry, Nicholas Eveleigh, James McDonald, Isaac Harleston, Charles Mott, Francis Huger, Richard Ashby, Richard Shubrick, William Oliphant, John Blake.

Lieutenants: William Charnock, Thomas Lesseesne, Thomas Moultrie, Daniel Maryeck, Jacob Shubrick, Thomas Dunbar, William Moultrie, Jun., Thomas Hall, Henry Gray, Isaac Dubose, Richard B. Baker, Adrian Proveaux, Richard Mayson, Peter Gray, Basil Jackson, Gad Marion.

command, who repulsed with so much valour the attack that was made on the State of *South-Carolina*, on the 28th of *June*, by the Fleet and Army of his *Britannick* Majesty, and be pleased to communicate to them this distinguished mark of the approbation of their country.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *Lee*, *Charleston*, *South-Carolina*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL MOULTRIE.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

SIR: I am extremely happy to have it in my power to transmit to you, by order of Congress, the thanks of the *United States of America* for your patriotick and spirited exertions in behalf of liberty and your country.

This success of our arms, attended with every circumstance that can add lustre to the characters of those who conducted it, will render your name forever estimable with every friend of *America*; and posterity will be astonished when they read, that on the 28th of *June* an inexperienced handful of men, under your command, repulsed with loss and disgrace a powerful fleet and army of veteran troops, headed by officers of the first rank and reputation. May you go on thus to merit and to receive the gratitude of your country; and as a reward for your military services, may your name be enrolled in the list of *American* worthies, on whom posterity will bestow the most grateful and unceasing applauses.

I have the honour to be, with great respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Colonel *Moultrie*, *Charleston*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL THOMPSON.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by Congress to convey to you the thanks of the *United States of America*, for the very distinguished and important part you acted on the 28th *June*, when the fleet and army of his *Britannick* Majesty were repulsed with so much valour in an attack made on the State of *South-Carolina*.

Your own feelings must have already taught you that there is a conscious pleasure arising from patriotism. Be pleased now, sir, to accept from your country, on whose behalf you have exerted your patriotism, that accession of pleasure which it is just you should receive from their grateful approbation of your conduct.

I have the honour to be, with great respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Colonel *Thompson*, *Charlestown*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE GOVERNOUR OF VIRGINIA.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having directed General *Lewis* to order two battalions of Continental troops, in the State of *Virginia*, to march immediately to the Flying-Camp, in *New-Jersey*, under the command of General *Mercer*, I have it in charge to inform you, that should you have reason to apprehend an invasion of that State, and in consequence thereof call forth an equal number of Minute-men or Militia, the Congress have resolved, that while in service they shall be in Continental pay.

I do myself the honour of congratulating you on your appointment to preside over the Councils of the free and independent State of *Virginia*.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Hon. *Patrick Henry*, Governour of *Virginia*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL LEWIS.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

SIR: As it is impossible to ascertain the strength of our enemies, or the force destined for the attack of *New-York*,



it is incumbent on us to be prepared to defend ourselves against any number of troops that may be ordered against that place. For this purpose, the Congress have judged it necessary to augment the Flying-Camp. I have it therefore in command to direct, that, immediately on the receipt of this, you order two battalions of the Continental troops in the State of *Virginia* to march with all possible despatch to the Flying-Camp in *New-Jersey*, under the command of General *Mercer*.

The state of our affairs, and the hourly expectation of the arrival of the foreign troops, render it absolutely necessary that the troops should be sent forward with the greatest expedition.

I am further to direct that you forward to *South-Carolina* the whole five tons of powder which were sent to you for the use of *Virginia* and *South-Carolina*.

Should the Governour and Council of *Virginia* have reason to apprehend an invasion of that State, and in consequence thereof call forth two battalions of Minute-Men or Militia, the Congress have agreed that they shall, while in service, be in Continental pay. I shall write by the present conveyance to the Governour and Council, to inform them of this resolution.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Brigadier-General *Lewis*, *Virginia*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As it is impossible to ascertain the strength of our enemies, or the force destined for the attack of *New-York*, it is incumbent on us to be prepared to defend ourselves against any number of troops that may be ordered against that place. For this purpose, the Congress have come to a resolution to increase the Flying-Camp. I have it therefore in command from Congress to request, that you will immediately augment your quota for the Flying-Camp with four battalions of Militia, in addition to those formerly desired by Congress, and send them with all possible despatch to the Flying-Camp.

You will please to exert yourselves, as the greatest despatch is indispensably required by the situation of our affairs.

I have the honour to be, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Convention of *Pennsylvania*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO CONVENTION OF NEW-JERSEY.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress, taking into consideration the strength of our enemies and the force destined for the attack of *New-York*, have come to a resolution to increase the Flying-Camp. For this purpose, I have it in charge to request that you will immediately augment your quota to the Flying-Camp with three battalions of Militia, in addition to those formerly desired by Congress, and send them, with all possible despatch, to join the Flying-Camp.

The battalions are to be officered, paid, and provided, agreeable to former resolutions of Congress for establishing said Camp.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Convention of *New-Jersey*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL GRIFFIN.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

SIR: The Congress, in consideration of your merit and uniform attachment to the liberties of the *American* States, have been pleased to appoint you Deputy Adjutant-General to the Flying-Camp, with the rank of Colonel.

I enclose your commission with the greatest pleasure, being fully persuaded your abilities and attention will enable you to discharge the duties of your department with reputation to yourself and advantage to your country.

As it is necessary this important department should be

immediately filled, you will please to repair for that purpose to the Flying-Camp as soon as possible, and put yourself under the direction of the commanding officer in that quarter.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Col. *Griffin*, Dep. Adj. Gen. to the Flying-Camp.

DR. FRANKLIN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Mr. *Joseph Belton*, some time since petitioned the Congress for encouragement to destroy the enemy's ships of war by some contrivances of his invention. They came to no resolution on his petition, and, as they appear to have no great opinion of such proposals, it is not easy, in the multiplicity of business before them, to get them to bestow any part of their attention on his request. He is now desirous of trying his hand on the ships that are gone up the *North River*; and as he proposes to work entirely at his own expense, and only desires your countenance and permission, I could not refuse his desire of a line of introduction to you, the trouble of which I beg you to excuse. As he appears to be a very ingenious man, I hope his project may be attended with success.

With the sincerest esteem and respect, I have the honour to be, &c.

B. FRANKLIN.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

MY FRIEND: By yours of the 6th instant, I received your genteel but just reprimand for not answering your letters, and shall, in future, endeavour to give you the trouble of a line at least every week, without further excuse or ceremony.

By the enclosed paper, you will see the account of General *Clinton's* and Sir *Peter Parker's* defeat in *South-Carolina*. The *Virginians* have likewise driven Lord *Dunmore* from *Gwin's Island*, with loss. These are agreeable events, after our repeated crosses in *Canada*. Some of our southern brethren seem much elated with their success. By all accounts, the troops there behaved with incomparable bravery. I am sorry I can't say the same of our troops in *Canada*. Some of the southern gentlemen say *America* must be saved by the Southern, not the Northern troops. However, I hope it will yet appear that the *New-England* troops are not behind any on the Continent in point of bravery.

The papers will inform you of the march of the Militia of this State to *New-Jersey*. Three regiments are ordered from *Virginia* to the *Jerseys*. I hope soon there will be an army there of fifteen or twenty thousand men, besides those at *New-York*. We must, at all events, prevent their getting possession of *New-York* and *Hudson's River*, which I believe is their principal view, and by that way, open a communication with *Canada*.

Lord *Howe's* Proclamation has now convinced everybody that no offers are to be made us but absolute submission. I think it very happy for *America* that *Britain* has insisted on those terms; for had she proposed a treaty, and offered some concessions, there would have been danger of divisions, or at least of our not acting with unanimity and spirit, as I think will now be the case.

The Convention here have taken on them the government of this Colony, and have appointed Delegates for Congress, men who will forward, and not hinder, spirited measures. In short, there is a far greater harmony in carrying on spirited measures in Congress than heretofore. The Conventions even of *Maryland* and *New-York* seem now to be in earnest.

The Confederation is now before a Committee of the Whole. By reason of so much other business, it goes on but slowly. When it is laid before our Legislature, brother *Whipple* expects to be at home, and can inform them of some things they may want to be informed of concerning it. Our Court, I hear, is to sit again the 1st of *September*.

With sincerity, I am your friend,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

P. S. I have omitted enclosing this day's paper, as brother *Whipple* has sent one to you in his letter.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have your favour of the 6th instant. In answer to the part of it respecting the commissions, I can only say, I am perpetually dunning the President to send them. If any alteration in the wages of the commission officers, they will be higher; so there can be no difficulty with them. If any are lowered, it will be the mates, midshipmen, coopers, sailmakers, and perhaps some other of the petty officers, and perhaps boatswain, carpenter, and gunner. If the three last are altered, it will be but a trifle—say one dollar. The number of men I sent you some time ago: eighty seamen, eighty landmen, and eighty or ninety marines; but it is my opinion, if a greater proportion of seamen are entered and less landmen, there can be no harm done. If the officers have boys, no doubt they must be on the roll. It cannot be a question whether the men are to have hammocks—to be sure they must. The men to be entered for a year, and as much longer as you can get them. If you can get arms, the sooner the better. The Agent will have a commission for the business he does; therefore, I suppose, will employ what clerks he thinks necessary.

I always thought you had ample powers to fit the ship for sea, and I believe it is so understood by the Committee. It is impossible to get the exact dimensions of the guns, as there are but few made here, and it is altogether uncertain whether they can be sent to you. The furnaces here have met with many accidents, and I am of opinion your guns must come from *Providence*, or some other furnace eastward. I shall not have the pleasure of seeing you so soon as I hoped, as some very important matters are now on the tapis, which I want to hear debated; besides, I would fain have the marine matters settled before I leave this. I therefore think it will be the latter end of *August* before I shall be able to enjoy that satisfaction which I have flattered myself would be much earlier.

How goes on the courtship? Have you well considered the matter? I would just beg leave to remind you of an observation of one of the first philosophers of the age: that a man who thinks of marrying a woman twenty years younger than himself, ought to consider who is to be her husband twenty years hence. I hope you won't think by this hint that I have any objection to the connexion. So far from it, you may be assured, my dear sir, that whatever contributes to your happiness will be an addition to mine.

I am in pain for the frontier settlements in our Colony; not that I think there is any immediate danger, but I know that the people must be alarmed. I think there should be scouting parties immediately placed on the frontiers. I wish I may have directions to make application to Congress for that purpose.

Our late successes at the southward are almost a balance for our misfortunes in *Canada*, considered Continentally. Must refer you to the papers for news. I hope the bravery of the *Carolians* will inspire the Yankees with new courage, and not let it be said that they have transferred the whole of that virtue to their southern brethren.

This Colony and *New-Jersey* are all alive. The Associates are all gone from this city. Men of fortune don't think themselves too good to march in the character of private soldiers, and I hope won't be ashamed to face the enemy. Colonel *Dickinson*, and all the other Colonels, have marched with their battalions. In short, the Declaration of Independence has done wonders.

I have Mr. *Hancock's* promise that the commission and blank warrants shall go off in a day or two by express. The gentlemen are appointed agreeable to your recommendations. There can be no difficulty in their acting, though they have not their commissions, as they will soon have them.

I am much obliged to you for mustering the regiment. It would give me great pleasure to see them in as good order as the battalions of this city; but that is next to impossible, owing to their being so much scattered, and the want of uniforms. However, we must do the best we can with them. I am, with great respect, yours,

WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

P. S. The order the Officers stand appointed: *Peter Shores* First Lieutenant, *John Wheelwright* Second Lieutenant, *Josiah Shackford* Third Lieutenant; *George Jerry Osborne* Captain Marines, *Stephen Meads* First Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Thuing* Second Lieutenant.

Warrants will be filled up with the names you sent.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

PETITION OF LEVI ALLEN.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress: The Petition and Memorial of LEVI ALLEN, humbly sheweth:

That he has the greatest reason to believe that his brother, Colonel *Ethan Allen*, is now a prisoner on board the *British* fleet lying off the coast of *South-Carolina*; that he is in a low state of health, occasioned by the inhuman usage of barbarous enemies; that his wife and children, with his relations and friends, have the greatest anxiety for and desire to recover him from the chains of captivity, and the wretched state worse than death into which he hath fallen in the defence of his injured country. Your petitioner, therefore, moved with the highest principles of fraternal regard for a suffering brother, most humbly requests the honourable Congress to take this matter under their consideration, and make out an order for the immediate exchange of his brother, together with the prisoners taken with him, for such other prisoners, and in such way and manner, as they shall think proper, and that the same order may be transmitted to all the General Officers or Commanders-in-Chief for the time being in the Continental Army, as your petitioner determines to spare no cost or trouble until this exchange is effected, if within the bounds of possibility, being now on his way to *South-Carolina*, where he has no doubt of finding his brother, if the *British* fleet should not quit the coast before his arrival. Your petitioner has the highest assurance of the interposition and assistance of the honourable Congress in this particular. It is clear and evident that at the time of his brother's engaging in the hazardous enterprise in which he was taken, the late General *Montgomery* assured him and Colonel *Brown*, that in case of captivity, every method should be taken and proposed for his or their redemption as soon as might be.

And, as in duty bound, your petitioner ever prays, &c.

LEVI ALLEN.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

To the Honourable Congress of the free and United States of AMERICA:

We, whose names are undersigned, take the liberty to recommend Mr. *Levi Allen* as a person fit and proper to be intrusted with a flag to the fleet of the King of *Great Britain*, now within the harbour of *New-York*, in order to recover his brother, Colonel *Ethan Allen*, from his captivity, who is supposed to be on board said fleet, under such instructions and limitations as the honourable Continental Congress shall think proper.

JOS. SPENCER, *Brigadier-General*.  
G. SELLECK SILLIMAN, *Colonel*.  
SAML. WYLLYS, *Colonel*.  
JOHN TYLER, *Lieutenant-Colonel*.  
RUFUS PUTNAM, *Lieutenant-Colonel*.  
SAML. H. PARSONS, *Colonel*.  
J. WARD, *Colonel*.  
JED. HUNTINGTON, *Colonel*.  
CHARLES WEBB, *Colonel*.  
COMFORT SAGE, *Colonel*.  
LEVI WELLS, *Major*.  
STREET HALL, *Lieutenant-Colonel*.  
THOMAS SEYMOUR, *Lieutenant-Colonel*.  
ELISHA SHELDON, *Major*.  
WILLIAM HART, *Major*.

New-York, July 13, 1776.

JOHN BROWN'S CERTIFICATE RESPECTING COLONEL ALLEN.

This certifies, that at the *Isle-aux-Noix*, at the time when Colonel *Allen* was sent on the enterprise in which he was taken prisoner, Generals *Schuyler* and *Montgomery* promised and engaged that in case Colonel *Allen* should have the misfortune to be taken prisoner, that every proper method should be taken for his redemption and exchange consistent with the rules of war in such cases.

JNO. BROWN.

July 22, 1776.

COLONEL THOMPSON TO LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearers hereof, viz: Messrs. *Ross*, *Johnston*, and *Paxton*, are Captains of three companies in Colonel *Porter's* battalion, who have more men in their companies willing to turn out in defence of their country

than can be fitted off in firearms. They now call upon you for their part of the publick guns, which I put no doubt you will get for them as soon as possible, as the want of guns is the only thing that hinders their marching according to orders.

I remain, with due respect, your most humble servant,  
ROBERT THOMPSON.

To the Standing Committee for *Lancaster County*.

GENERAL MERCER TO JOHN HANCOCK.

Head-Quarters, Perth-Amboy, July 22, 1776.

SIR: The declaration enclosed in the letter to Captain *Morgan* was brought to me yesterday evening. It was found in the fork of a road leading from *South-Amboy* ferry. We have no reason to suspect the integrity of *Morgan*, or his attachment to the *American* cause. He is Captain of Militia in *South-Amboy*, and a very intimate acquaintance of *Cortlandt Skinner*. *Morgan*, on reading the letter, told me he was ready, as soon as I pleased, to pass over to *Staten-Island*, with all his company, and would convince *Skinner* he had mistaken his man.

Some ships have appeared within a few days coming in from sea. The enemy seem a little alarmed at the number of troops assembled here, but have not changed their position along the shore of *Staten-Island*. Three battalions of Provincial Regulars and three of Militia from *Pennsylvania*, together with one company of Artillery and two field-pieces, are now on duty here, stationed from *Bergen Neck* to *South-Amboy*, to the great relief of the *New-Jersey* Militia.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
HUGH MERCER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN THE 2D PHILADELPHIA BATTALION, DATED AMBOY, JULY 22, 1776.

We arrived here *Saturday* morning, from *Woodbridge*, with all our battalion, except Captain *Wilcock's* company, who are stationed at *Smith's* farm, on *Woodbridge Neck*. We are now in full view of the enemy, only separated by the *Sound*, which is about as wide as *Schuylkill*. Our men are in high spirits, and longing for an opportunity to have a skirmish with them.

Yesterday Colonel *Atlee's* battalion came in, and marched along the beach. They made a good appearance, and I think alarmed the enemy not a little. We could distinctly see a number of the officers observing with glasses, and their men, drawn up in a line, appeared greatly surprised. We have here Colonel *Miles*, Colonel *Atlee*, the Second Battalion, Captain *Moulder's* company, and a *Jersey* company of Artillery: in all about fifteen hundred men. It is supposed the enemy have about one thousand men opposite us. When our numbers are a little more augmented, it is expected we shall do something. To-day our encampment will be marked out, and to-morrow I expect the battalion will pitch their tents.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 29, 1776, and referred to the Board of War.]

New-York, July 22, 1776.

SIR: Congress having been pleased to appoint Mr. *Wilpen* to the command of a company in the *German* battalion now raising, I have directed him to repair to *Philadelphia* for their orders. From my acquaintance with him, I am persuaded his conduct as an officer will meet their approbation; and, thanking them for their kind-attention to my recommendation of him, I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the highest respect, their most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President of Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Received and read July 23, 1776.]

New-York, July 22, 1776.

SIR: Your favours of the 18th and 19th, with which you have been pleased to honour me, have been duly received, with the several resolves alluded to.

When the letter and declaration from Lord *Howe* to Mr. *Franklin* and the other late Governours come to be published, I should suppose the warmest advocates for dependence on the *British* Crown must be silent, and be convinced, beyond all possibility of doubt, that all that has been said about the Commissioners was illusory, and calculated expressly to deceive and unguard, not only the good people of our own country, but those of the *English* nation that were averse to the proceedings of the King and Ministry. Hence we see the cause why a specification of their powers was not given to the Mayor and City of *London* on their address requesting it. That would have been dangerous, because it would then have been manifest that the line of conduct they were to pursue would be variant from that they had industriously propagated and amused the publick with. The uniting the military and civil offices in the same persons, too, must be conclusive to every thinking one, that there is to be but little negotiation of the civil kind.

I have enclosed, for the satisfaction of Congress, the substance of what passed between myself and Lieutenant-Colonel *Patterson*, Adjutant-General, at an interview had yesterday, in consequence of a request from General *Howe* the day before; to which I beg leave to refer them for particulars.

Colonel *Knox*, of the Train, having often mentioned to me the necessity of having a much more numerous body of Artillerists than what there now is, in case the present contest should continue longer, and knowing the deficiency in this instance, and their extreme usefulness, I desired him to commit his ideas upon the subject to writing, in order that I might transmit them to Congress for their consideration. Agreeable to my request, he has done it; and the propriety of his plan is now submitted for their decision. It is certain that we have not more at this time than are sufficient for the several extensive posts we have, including the draughts which he speaks of, and which, I presume, not only from what he has informed me, but from the nature of the thing, can never be qualified to render the same service as if they were regularly appointed and formed into a corps for that particular purpose.

I beg leave to remind Congress that some time ago I laid before them the proposals of some persons here for forming a company of Lighthorse, and of the President's answer a little time after, intimating that the plan seemed to be approved of. As those who wanted to make up the troop are frequently pressing me for an answer, I could wish to be favoured with the decision of Congress upon the subject.

By a letter from General *Schuyler* of the 14th instant, dated at *Albany*, he informs me that the day before some desperate designs of the Tories in that quarter had been discovered, the particulars of which he could not divulge, being under an oath of secrecy; however, that such measures had been taken as to promise a prevention of the intended mischief; and that four of the conspirators, among them a ringleader, were apprehended about one o'clock that morning not far from the town. What the plot was, or who were concerned in it, is a matter I am ignorant of as yet.

With my best regards to Congress, I have the honour to be your and their most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. Congress will please to observe what was proposed respecting the exchange of Mr. *Lovell*, and signify their pleasure in your next. The last week's Return is also enclosed.

Memorandum of what passed at the interview between His Excellency General WASHINGTON and Colonel PATTERSON, Adjutant-General of the Army under General HOWE, JULY 20, 1776.

After usual compliments, in which, as well as through the whole conversation, Colonel *P.* addressed General *Washington* by the title of Excellency, Colonel *Patterson* entered upon the business by saying: That General *Howe* much regretted the difficulties which had arisen respecting the address of the letters to General *W.*; that it was deemed consistent with propriety, and founded upon precedents of the like nature by Ambassadors and Plenipotentiaries where disputes or difficulties of rank had arisen; that General *W.* might recollect he had last summer addressed a letter to General *Howe* To the Hon. *William Howe*, Esq.; that Lord

*Howe* and General *H.* did not mean to derogate from the respect or rank of General *W.*; that they held his person and character in the highest esteem; that the direction with the addition of &c., &c., &c., implied everything that ought to follow. He then produced a letter, which he did not directly offer to General *W.*, but observed that it was the same letter which had been sent, and laid it on the table with a superscription To *George Washington, &c., &c., &c.* The General declined the letter, and said that a letter directed to a person in a publick character should have some description or indication of it, otherwise it would appear a mere private letter; that it was true the &c., &c., &c., implied everything, and they also implied anything; that the letter to General *Howe* alluded to was an answer to one received under a like address from him, which the officer on duty having taken, he did not think proper to return, but answered it in the same mode of address; that he should absolutely decline any letter directed to him as a private person when it related to his publick station. Colonel *P.* then said, that General *Howe* would not urge his delicacy farther, and repeated his assertions that no failure of respect was intended.

He then said that he would endeavour, as well as he could, to recollect General *Howe's* sentiments on the letter and resolves of Congress, sent him a few days before, respecting the treatment of our prisoners in *Canada*: "That the affairs of *Canada* were in another department not subject to the control of General *Howe*; but that he and Lord *Howe* utterly disapproved of every infringement of the rights of humanity." Colonel *P.* then took a paper out of his pocket, and after looking it over, said he had expressed nearly the words. General *W.* then said that he had also forwarded a copy of the resolves to General *Burgoyne*. To which Colonel *P.* replied, he did not doubt a proper attention would be paid to them; and that he (General *W.*) was sensible that cruelty was not the characteristick of the *British* nation.

Colonel *P.* then proceeded to say he had it in charge to mention the case of General *Prescott*, who, they were informed, was treated with such rigour, that, under his age and infirmities, fatal consequences might be apprehended. General *Washington* replied, that General *Prescott's* treatment had not fallen under his notice; that all prisoners under his particular direction he had treated with kindness, and made their situation as easy and comfortable as possible; that he did not know where General *Prescott* was, but believed his treatment very different from their information. General *W.* then mentioned the case of Colonel *Allen* and the officers who had been confined in *Boston Jail*. As to the first, Colonel *P.* answered that General *Howe* had no knowledge of it but by information from General *Washington*, and that the *Canada* department was not under his direction or control. That as to the other prisoners at *Boston*, whenever the state of the Army at *Boston* admitted it, they were treated with humanity and even indulgence; that he asserted this upon his honour, and should be happy in an opportunity to prove it.

General *Washington* then observed, that the conduct of several of the officers would well have warranted a different treatment from what they had received, some having refused to give any parole, and others having broken it when given, by escaping, or endeavouring to do so. Colonel *P.* answered, that as to the first, they misunderstood the matter very much, and seemed to have mistaken the line of propriety exceedingly; and as to the latter, General *Howe* utterly disapproved and condemned their conduct; that if a remonstrance was made, such violations of good faith would be severely punished, but that he hoped General *W.* was too just to draw publick inferences from the misbehaviour of some private individuals; that bad men were to be found in every class of society; that such behaviour was considered as a dishonour to the *British* Army.

Colonel *Patterson* then proceeded to say, that the goodness and benevolence of the King had induced him to appoint Lord *Howe* and General *Howe* his Commissioners to accommodate this unhappy dispute; that they had great powers, and would derive the greatest pleasure from effecting an accommodation; and that he (Colonel *P.*) wished to have this visit considered as making the first advances to this desirable object. General *W.* replied, he was not vested with any powers on the subject by those from whom he derived his authority and power; but, from what had appeared or transpired on this head, Lord *Howe* and General *Howe* were only to grant pardons; that those who had committed no

fault wanted no pardon; that we were only defending what we deemed our indisputable rights. Colonel *P.* said, that that would open a very wide field for argument. He then expressed his apprehensions that an adherence to forms was likely to obstruct business of the greatest moment and concern. He then observed that a proposal had been formerly made of exchanging Governour *Skene* for Mr. *Lovell*; that he now had authority to accede to that proposal. General *W.* replied, that the proposition had been made by the direction of Congress, and having been then rejected, he could not now renew the business, or give any answer, till he had previously communicated it to them.

Colonel *Patterson* behaved with the greatest politeness and attention during the whole business, and expressed strong acknowledgments that the usual ceremony of blinding his eyes had been dispensed with. At the breaking up of the conference, General *Washington* strongly invited him to partake of a small collation provided for him, which he politely declined, alleging his late breakfast and an impatience to return to General *Howe*, though he had not executed his commission so amply as he wished. Finding he did not propose staying, he was introduced to the General Officers, after which he took his leave, and was safely conducted to his own boat, which waited for him about four miles distant from the city.

New-York, July 9, 1776.

From a view of the present important contest with *Great Britain*, it appears that the war is but in its infancy. To carry it on with vigour and success, a well-regulated and numerous body of Artillery will be necessary. The present number of officers and men of the regiment of Artillery here, are not sufficient for the posts in and round about this city. To supply this deficiency, a number of men from the different regiments have been draughted into Artillery *pro tempore*. This is a present remedy; but if the service should require a few companies of Artillery to be sent on command, it could not be complied with unless many posts were left entirely naked. For a variety of extensive service, more officers and men of this profession will be wanting. If it should be thought proper to raise another battalion of Artillery upon the same plan as the present, it could be very easily effected, by taking the men lately draughted into the different companies and forming separate companies; or by taking some officers and men of experience out of the different companies, and incorporating them with the new, they would soon be fit for action.

The number of men draughted into the different companies would form eight companies of sixty men; Captain *Bauman's*, lately raised, would make nine; three companies more would make up a battalion of twelve companies. Upon this plan the Continent would have eleven companies and sixty officers more than they now have, applying themselves to the particular art of gunnery, and ready for any emergency.

HENRY KNOX,  
Colonel Regiment of Artillery.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 13, 1776.

(Parole, *Ulster*.)

(Countersign, *Winchester*.)

The Guard at *Fort-George* to be reinforced with a Field-Officer, two Captains, four Subalterns, six Sergeants, six Corporals, and seventy Privates.

The General was sorry to observe yesterday that many of the officers and a number of men, instead of attending to their duty at the beat of the drum, continued along the banks of the *North-River*, gazing at the ships. Such unsoldierly conduct must grieve every good officer, and give the enemy a mean opinion of the Army, as nothing shows the brave and good soldier more than, in case of alarms, coolly and calmly repairing to his post, and there waiting his orders; whereas a weak curiosity at such a time makes a man look mean and contemptible.

A well-dressed Orderly-Sergeant, from *Generals Scott's, Wadsworth's*, and *Heard's* Brigades, to attend at Head-Quarters every day.

The Majors of the new Brigades, and all other officers of those corps, are directed to look over the Orderly books before they come into camp, and acquaint themselves well



with former orders. They are also to be very careful that the daily orders are delivered, so as that neither officer nor soldier may plead ignorance, as in that case they will be deemed answerable.

A party of eight hundred men, properly officered, to parade to-morrow morning. *Learned's* and *Wylls's* Regiments to receive tools for making fascines: they are to take their dinner with them. Ensign *Field*, of *Learned's* Regiment, to attend this party. All the other regiments to attend at the Engineer's store for tools and orders. Three hours allowed for dinner, and to work till seven, and so continue till further orders. All who have tools belonging to the Engineer's store, to return them immediately.

If any Brigade or Regiment are exempted from fatigue at any time, the Brigade-Majors to inform the Engineer thereof, (except it be in General Orders,) that he may proportion what are sent accordingly.

The safety and success of the Army depends so much upon having the works in all possible forwardness, that the General is much concerned to find the Brigade Majors represented as deficient in their part of the duty. Only five Regiments—*Learned's*, *Reed's*, *Bailey's*, *Parsons's*, and *Wylls's* Regiments—have turned out their working parties this day. The General hopes this is the last time he shall have occasion to take notice of any such neglect.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 14, 1776.

(Parole, Andover.)

(Countersign, Bristol.)

A Court of Inquiry to sit to-morrow morning, to examine into the conduct of Colonel *Ritzema*, who stands charged with practices contrary to the rules and discipline of the Army: Brigadier-General *Heath*, President; Colonels *Wylls* and *Malcolm*, and Lieutenant-Colonels *Johnston* and *Brearly*.

The Judge-Advocate General and witnesses to attend the Court at Mr. *Montagnie's* Tavern in the fields, at ten o'clock.

The Regiment of Artificers, under command of Colonel *Parke*, to join Lord *Stirling's* Brigade. They will receive orders from the Brigadier, with respect to their alarm posts, arrangement and duty, in case of action.

The Regimental Surgeons to meet on *Tuesday* next, at nine o'clock, A. M., at the Coffee-House, on business of importance. The Adjutants of the several Regiments to give them special notice.

The Majors of Brigade and Adjutants of Generals *Scott's*, *Heard's*, and *Wadsworth's* Brigades, are to send into the Adjutant-General's office a daily report of every Regiment or Company belonging to their several Brigades, as they join the Army, in order that proper arrangements may be made while time will admit. The Majors of Brigade are to be answerable for obedience to this order, and if the Adjutants refuse or neglect their duty, they are to be put in arrest immediately.

All the Brigade-Majors and Adjutants are again reminded, that the Weekly Returns (as well Brigade as Regimental ones) are to be brought in every *Saturday* at Orderly time to the Adjutant-General's office. And as inaccuracy and neglect in their Returns will create difficulties in the payment of their men, the Colonels, or officers commanding, should carefully examine the Returns, compare them with those of the preceding week, and have all the alterations accounted for.

The General strongly recommends it to the soldiers to be careful of their arms and ammunition at all times, but more especially in rainy weather. An enterprising enemy, depending upon neglect in this article, often makes an attack, and too frequently with success. Officers will also be very attentive to this order, and see it complied with.

*John Andrews*, *Jeremiah Williams*, and *William Cary*, late belonging to General *Lee's* Guard, to join Captain *Ford's* company of Artificers.

The Chief Engineer was mistaken in his report yesterday as to Colonel *Baldwin's*, Colonel *Huntington's*, and Colonel *Ward's* Regiments' neglect of fatigue, and takes the first opportunity to rectify it.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 15, 1776.

(Parole, Chatham.)

(Countersign, Durby.)

The Pay Abstracts for the month of *June* are immediately to be made up carefully, examined by the Colonels, or officer commanding the Regiments, and then certified by the Brigadiers; after which to be lodged with the Paymaster-General.

A working party of one hundred and fifty men, with a Field-Officer, three Captains, six Subalterns, twelve Sergeants, twelve Corporals, and three Drums and Fifes, to parade to-morrow on the grand parade, at six o'clock, and go up to *King's Bridge*, to relieve the party sent up the 7th instant; to take their arms and two days' provision; to apply to General *Putnam* for boats for transportation; and when at *King's Bridge*, apply to General *Mifflin* for orders.

It is intended that all detached parties to *King's Bridge* shall be relieved once a week in future.

General *Scott's* Brigade to do duty hereafter in their own encampment.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 16, 1776.

(Parole, Essex.)

(Countersign, Fairfax.)

The honourable Continental Congress have been pleased to increase the pay of the Regimental Surgeons to thirty-three dollars and one-third per month, to take place from the 5th of *June* last; and that the pay of the Troops in the Middle Department shall be six dollars and two-thirds per month, from the 10th of *June* last. The Pay Abstracts are to be made out accordingly, and care taken to prevent confusion or delay.

The hurry of business often preventing particular invitation being given to officers to dine with the General, he presents his compliments to the Brigadiers and Field-Officers of the day, and requests, while the camp continues settled in this city, they will favour him with their company to dinner, without any further or special invitation.

The officers, under whose care and direction the cartridges are made up, having neglected to make daily returns to Head-Quarters, they may depend upon it, that after this day, any officer omitting to send a daily return of the number of cartridges made, will be put under an arrest for disobedience of orders.

*After Orders*.—Colonel *Reed*, President of the present sitting General Court-Martial, being unable to attend, Colonel *Webb* is to succeed him as President: said Court-Martial to assemble to-morrow morning, nine o'clock, at the brick-house near Colonel *McDougall's* encampment.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 17, 1776.

(Parole, Georgia.)

(Countersign, Hartford.)

A working party of fifty men, properly officered, to parade to-morrow morning, six o'clock, with their arms, near the Laboratory. There Captain *Anderson* will attend, from whom they are to receive directions: Quartermaster-General to supply such tools as they may want.

*John Berrian*, *Henry Wilmot*, and *John Ray*, Jun., a Committee of the town, are appointed to give passes to citizens going over the ferries. Officers and soldiers who want passes over the ferries, are to apply to their own Brigadier-General. And the General desires that they will give no passes to officers or soldiers of another Brigade. The officers at the Ferry-Guards, to attend to this order particularly, and make it known to the sentries.

The two Companies of Colonel *Van Cortlandt's* Regiment at *Long-Island*, to join their regiment at *New-York*. Captain *Kelsey's* Company, and the Company under the command of Lieutenant *Borden*, of Colonel *Newcomb's* Regiment, to replace them to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

The Court of Inquiry upon Colonel *Ritzema's* conduct, having reported that no other of the charges made against him was supported, except that of using disrespectful expressions of Brigadier-General Lord *Stirling*, and his Lordship generously overlooking the personal affront offered him, the General orders that all further proceedings cease, and Colonel *Ritzema* to be discharged from his arrest.

Yesterday the detachment of one hundred and fifty men, ordered for *King's Bridge*, to march from the parade at six o'clock, did not leave it till nine, by which they lost the tide, and then much short of the proportion of officers, an evil which is every day increasing. The Brigade-Majors will hereafter be deemed answerable for such neglects, unless they report to the Adjutant-General the same day what Adjutant fails in bringing on his quota of men on the parade in time, or put such Adjutant immediately under arrest, and report it at Head-Quarters.

The Adjutants and Colonels of the new troops arriving, are to take notice that Weekly Returns of their Regiments are to be sent in at Orderly time every *Saturday*. Blank

returns will be given out at the Adjutant-General's office to those who apply for them, and an Orderly book for each Company.

A working party of one hundred and fifty men, properly officered, to parade to-morrow morning at six o'clock, with their arms, near the Laboratory, to take one day's provision with them, to relieve the party which went up the 10th instant; this party to stay one week, and then to be relieved.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 18, 1776.

(Parole, Italy.)

(Countersign, Kent.)

Although the General is very sensible that the great fatigue duty of this Army (which he is highly pleased to see the officers and men go through with so much cheerfulness and zeal) does not allow much time for manœuvring and exercising the troops; yet it is a matter of so much consequence to have them as well practised as time and circumstances will admit, that he earnestly recommends it to the Brigadiers, Colonels, or commanding officers of Regiments, to take time for that purpose; and particularly, to have the men instructed and practise the evolutions, manœuvring, and as much of the manual exercise as respects loading and firing, not only with quickness but calmness.

John Priest, of Captain Maxwell's Company, Colonel Prescott's Regiment, Duncan Grant, of Captain McFarland's Company, Colonel Nixon's Regiment, Jason Kemp, of Captain Bolster's Company, late Colonel Learned's Regiment, William Baker, of Captain Waterhouse's Company, Colonel Parsons's Regiment, all tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel Webb was President, for "desertion," and found guilty, were sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes each; Baker to receive his punishment at three different times, thirteen lashes each time. The General approves the above sentences, and orders them to be executed at the usual time and place.

Two guns fired from Cobble-Hill, on Long-Island, are to be the signal that the enemy have landed on that Island.

Complaints having frequently been made that the sentries, especially those along the river, fire wantonly at boats and persons passing, officers of guards are to be careful upon this head, and acquaint the sentries that they are not to fire upon boats coming to the town, and that they are not to molest or interrupt the ferry-boats.

The present number of fatigue to be augmented with one hundred men, properly officered; the whole to parade precisely at six o'clock in the morning; to continue so till further orders.

Colonel Malcolm, of General Scott's Brigade, to have the superintendence of the work laid out near that encampment, and to be excused from other duty.

The General invites the Brigade-Major of the day to dine with him in course, with the other officers of the day.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 19, 1776.

(Parole, Lewis.)

(Countersign, Maryland.)

A detachment of three hundred men, properly officered, to parade to-morrow morning, six o'clock, on the grand parade, with two days' provisions, to go in boats, by way of East-River, to King's Bridge, to execute such work as shall be laid out for them by the Engineer. Lieutenant Champion, of Colonel Wylls's Regiment, to oversee said works. Major Reed to furnish this party with such tools as Colonel Putnam shall direct.

A working party of fifty men, properly officered, to parade to-morrow morning, at six o'clock, on the grand parade, without their arms, to receive their orders from Captain Anderson, and tools from the Laboratory.

William Herenden, of Captain Warren's Company, Colonel Read's Regiment, David Ludlow, of Captain Ledyard's Company, Colonel McDougall's Regiment, both tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel Webb was President, for desertion, and found guilty, were sentenced to receive the former thirty-nine lashes, the latter twenty. The General approves the sentences, and orders them to be executed at the usual time and place.

The Field-Officers of the Picket are directed to attend, on the grand parade, punctually, at a quarter after eight o'clock in the morning, and to continue there till the guards

are marched off; for there has been great remissness lately of that kind.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 20, 1776.

(Parole, Newington.)

(Countersign, Ormond.)

Daniel Grimes, of Captain Shaw's Company, Colonel Marshall's Regiment, tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel Webb was President, was found guilty of "desertion;" but some favourable circumstances appearing in the prisoner's behalf, his punishment is remitted. The Provost-Marshal is ordered to deliver him to Captain Tilton, in order to be put into some Regiment, to do duty here until a good opportunity offers to send him to his own.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 21, 1776.

(Parole, Philadelphia.)

(Countersign, Quebec.)

William Baker, of Captain Johnson's Company, in Colonel McDougall's Regiment, charged with "absenting himself several days from the camp without permission," having been tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel Webb was President, and found guilty, was sentenced to receive twenty lashes. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed at the usual time and place.

Sergeant Ballard, late of General Lee's Guard, now in custody for having presumed to give a pass to a person to cross the East River, appearing to have done it more through ignorance than design, the General is pleased to discharge him; but if any inferior officer shall hereafter take such a liberty, he will be severely punished; it being again declared that passes to citizens or country people are only to be granted by John Berrian, Henry Wilmot, and John Ray, Jun., or one of them; passes to officers and soldiers, only by a Major-General, the Brigadier-General of the Brigade to which the person belongs, the Adjutant-General, or General's Secretary or Aids-de-Camp.

The General has great pleasure in communicating to the officers and soldiers of this Army, the signal success of the American arms, under General Lee, at South-Carolina. The enemy having attempted to land at the same time that a most furious cannonade, for twelve hours, was made upon the fortifications near Charlestown, both fleet and army have been repulsed with great loss by a small number of gallant troops just raised. The enemy have had one hundred and seventy-two men killed and wounded, among whom were several officers; two capital ships much damaged; one frigate of twenty-eight guns entirely lost, being abandoned and blown up by the crew; and others so hurt that they will want great repair before they can be fit for service. And all with a loss on our part of ten killed and twenty-two wounded. The firmness, courage, and bravery of our troops has crowned them with immortal honour. The dying heroes conjured their brethren never to abandon the standard of liberty, and even those who had lost their limbs continued at their posts. Their gallantry and spirit extorted applause from their enemies, who, dejected and defeated, have retired to their former station, out of the reach of our troops. This glorious example of our troops, under the like circumstances with us, the General hopes will animate every officer and soldier to imitate, and even outdo them, when the enemy shall make the same attempt on us. With such a bright example before us of what can be done by brave and spirited men fighting in defence of their country, we shall be loaded with a double share of shame and infamy if we do not acquit ourselves with courage, or a determined resolution to conquer or die. With this hope and confidence, and that this Army will have its equal share of honour and success, the General most earnestly exhorts every officer and soldier to pay the utmost attention to his arms and health, to have the former in the best order for action, and by cleanliness and care, to preserve the latter; to be exact in their discipline, obedient to their superiors, and vigilant in duty. With such preparation, and a suitable spirit, there can be no doubt but, by the blessing of Heaven, we shall repel our cruel invaders, preserve our country, and gain the greatest honour.

A working party of one hundred and fifty men, properly officered, to parade to-morrow morning on the grand parade, at six o'clock, with their arms and one day's provision, to go up to King's Bridge, by water, to relieve the party which went up the 15th instant; to apply to General Putnam for tents.

The General is much pleased with the alacrity of the men in doing fatigue duty; and being resolved to ease them as much as the service will admit, directs that, until further orders, the men who are to go upon fatigue shall be excused from turning out to their alarm posts for that day, unless in case of real alarm.

Return of the Army in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in and near the City of NEW-YORK, commanded by His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.												RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.		Since last Return.							
	Commissioned.						Staff.			Non-commissioned.			Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Initiated.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.		
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'n's.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.														Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.
Colonel Hand's.....	1	1	-	4	7	4	5	1	1	1	1	-	21	10	270	3	6	1	13	293	7	7	347	12	-	-	1
Late Colonel Learned's.....	-	1	1	8	8	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	32	15	255	48	10	232	-	545	-	1	95	-	-	4	-
Colonel Nixon's.....	1	1	1	7	6	5	6	1	1	1	1	1	30	14	236	40	20	80	-	426	2	-	214	-	-	12	-
Colonel Prescott's.....	1	1	1	7	8	6	7	1	1	1	1	1	26	16	311	32	13	54	3	413	1	-	227	-	1	-	-
Colonel Varnum's.....	1	-	1	6	7	4	5	1	1	-	1	1	25	15	278	63	10	46	-	397	-	-	243	-	2	-	-
Colonel Parsons's.....	1	1	1	6	8	8	7	-	1	1	1	1	31	16	326	146	6	114	3	595	-	-	45	-	1	-	-
Colonel Hitchcock's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	27	15	286	45	9	48	-	388	-	-	252	-	1	1	-
Colonel Little's.....	1	1	1	7	8	8	6	1	1	1	1	-	29	16	335	51	9	69	-	464	-	-	176	3	1	1	-
Colonel Read's.....	1	1	1	7	5	7	7	-	1	1	-	1	30	15	281	97	11	135	-	524	-	-	116	1	2	1	2
Colonel Huntington's.....	1	1	-	8	8	8	7	1	1	1	1	1	32	16	264	146	5	122	3	540	-	-	100	-	1	-	-
Colonel Webb's.....	1	1	1	6	6	6	6	-	1	1	1	1	20	14	312	89	10	141	2	554	-	2	86	1	4	-	-
Colonel Arnold's.....	-	1	1	8	8	8	8	-	1	1	1	1	32	15	350	70	2	115	1	538	-	1	102	-	1	-	-
Colonel Ward's.....	1	-	1	4	8	8	6	1	1	1	-	-	25	13	216	126	2	167	-	511	-	2	129	-	-	-	-
Colonel Wylls's.....	1	1	1	8	4	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	24	15	290	70	6	132	-	548	1	-	92	-	1	1	-
Colonel Bailey's.....	1	1	1	6	7	6	5	-	1	1	1	1	30	15	291	105	9	133	-	538	1	-	102	-	-	-	-
Colonel Baldwin's.....	1	1	1	2	6	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	16	11	216	77	6	188	1	488	-	1	152	-	-	-	-
9 Companies of Col. McDougall's	1	-	1	5	6	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	35	18	271	74	7	108	1	461	1	-	259	3	1	-	13
Colonel Ritzema's.....	1	1	-	2	2	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	20	11	276	114	2	62	4	458	-	1	182	9	-	-	-
Colonel Magaw's.....	1	1	1	7	8	7	7	1	1	1	1	1	32	15	406	51	26	4	-	487	-	1	153	-	2	-	-
Colonel Shea's.....	1	1	1	7	8	8	7	-	1	1	1	1	32	12	438	39	20	1	2	500	-	4	140	2	3	2	-
Total.....	18	17	17	124	135	131	130	14	20	19	18	18	549	287	5,968	1476	189	2,002	33	9,668	13	20	3,212	31	10	29	19

Return of General Scott's Brigade; sixty-seven men, rank and file, in a Company, ten Companies to a Regiment, is the establishment.

Colonel Lasher's.....	1	1	1	10	9	10	-	-	1	1	-	-	30	17	390	6	40	91	8	535	-	3	135	3	-	18	10
Colonel Malcom's.....	1	1	1	9	10	8	-	1	1	1	-	-	27	14	234	13	21	20	5	293	3	6	377	13	-	-	-
Colonel Drake's.....	1	1	1	10	6	11	-	-	1	1	1	-	28	16	395	55	1	38	7	496	2	4	174	10	-	-	-
Lieutenant-Col. Hardenburgh's....	-	1	-	5	3	6	-	-	1	1	1	-	15	19	222	22	7	3	-	254	-	1	81	-	-	1	1
Total.....	3	4	3	34	28	35	-	1	4	4	3	-	100	66	1,241	96	69	152	20	1,578	5	14	767	26	-	19	11

Return of General HEARD's Brigade; seventy-two men, rank and file, in a Company, eight Companies to a Regiment, is the establishment.

Colonel Forman's.....	-	1	1	8	7	7	7	-	1	1	1	1	30	15	400	18	-	2	10	430	2	1	146	-	-	-	-
7 Companies of Col. Hunt's.....	-	1	1	7	6	5	6	-	1	1	-	-	22	13	257	11	-	-	1	269	6	1	235	4	-	-	-
7 Companies of Col. Martin's....	1	1	1	7	7	5	7	-	1	1	1	1	27	10	193	35	3	121	3	355	1	3	149	4	-	-	-
3 Companies of Col. Newcomb's....	-	-	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	9	3	56	6	-	37	-	99	3	3	117	20	-	-	-
4 Comp. of Col. Van Cortlandt's.	-	1	1	4	3	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	13	7	174	9	-	-	3	186	1	1	102	141	-	-	-
Total.....	1	4	5	28	24	20	25	1	4	5	3	3	101	48	1,080	79	3	160	17	1,339	13	9	749	169	-	-	-

Return of General WADSWORTH's Brigade; eighty-three rank and file to a Company, and eight Companies to a Regiment, is the establishment.

Colonel Silliman's.....	1	1	1	8	5	6	7	1	1	1	1	1	30	13	252	16	2	81	-	351	2	3	313	-	-	-	-
Colonel Gay's.....	1	1	-	7	6	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	24	16	273	37	-	58	-	368	8	-	296	-	-	-	-
7 Companies of Col. Bradley's....	1	1	1	6	7	5	5	1	1	1	-	-	22	12	305	27	-	23	-	355	6	2	216	-	-	1	3
6 Companies of Col. Sage's.....	1	1	1	4	4	3	5	-	1	1	1	1	20	9	178	20	4	41	-	243	4	3	255	-	-	-	-
Colonel Selden's.....	-	1	-	2	3	3	5	-	1	1	-	-	23	8	212	11	2	3	-	228	9	8	436	-	-	-	-
Colonel Douglass's.....	1	1	1	7	7	7	7	1	1	1	1	1	28	13	324	36	-	56	-	416	4	3	248	-	-	-	-
Colonel Chester's.....	1	1	1	5	6	6	3	-	1	1	1	1	25	12	275	-	-	47	-	322	7	4	342	-	-	-	-
Total.....	6	7	5	39	38	35	37	4	7	7	6	6	172	83	1,819	147	8	309	-	2,283	40	23	2,106	-	-	1	3
The total of General Heard's....	1	4	5	28	24	20	25	1	4	5	3	3	101	48	1,080	79	3	160	17	1,339	13	9	749	169	-	-	-
The total of General Scott's.....	3	4	3	34	28	35	-	1	4	4	3	-	100	66	1,241	96	69	152	20	1,578	5	14	767	26	-	19	11
The old Regiments.....	18	17	17	124	135	131	130	14	20	19	18	18	549	287	5,966	1476	189	2,002	33	9,666	13	20	3,214	31	10	29	19
Total of the whole.....	28	32	30	225	225	221	192	20	35	35	30	27	922	484	10,106	1798	269	2,623	70	14,866	71	66	6,836	226	10	49	33

Head-Quarters, July 20, 1776.

Return of the Regiment of Artillery in the service of the UNITED COLONIES, in and near the City of NEW-YORK, commanded by HENRY KNOX, Esq.

	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Capt. Lieutenants.	Lieutenants.	Second Lieuts.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Cadet.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Drums and Fifes.	Matrosses.	Total.
Present, fit for duty.....	1	1	1	6	6	5	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	20	17	35	33	16	174	333
Sick, present.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	5	-	16	25
Sick, absent.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	6
On command.....	-	-	-	4	4	6	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	11	15	26	26	7	105	213
Total.....	1	1	1	10	10	11	20	1	1	1	1	1	2	32	33	64	64	23	300	577

New-York, Head-Quarters, July 20, 1776.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOHN AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON.

New-York, July 22, 1776.

DEAR BROTHER: Whether you wrote to me last, or I to you, I cannot undertake to say; but as it is some time since a letter has passed between us, and as I expect every hour to be engaged in too busy a scene to allow time for writing private letters, I will take an opportunity, by this day's post, to address to you a few lines, giving a brief account of the situation of affairs in this quarter.

To begin, then: We have a powerful fleet within full view of us, distant about eight miles. We have General *Howe's* present Army, consisting, by good report, of about eight or nine thousand men upon *Staten-Island*, covered by their ships. We have Lord *Howe* just arrived, and we have ships now coming in, which we suppose, but do not know, to be part of the fleet with the expected reinforcement. When this arrives, if the reports of deserters, prisoners, and Tories, are to be depended upon, the enemy's numbers will amount at least to twenty-five thousand men; ours to about fifteen thousand. More, indeed, are expected; but there is no certainty of their arrival, as harvest and a thousand other excuses are urged as the reasons of delay. What kind of opposition we shall be able to make, time only can show. I can only say, that the men appear to be in good spirits; and, if they will stand by me, the place shall not be carried without some loss, notwithstanding we are not yet in such a posture of defence as I could wish.

Two ships (the *Phoenix*, of forty-four guns, and the *Rose*, of twenty) ran by our batteries on the 12th, exhibiting a proof of what I had long most religiously believed; and that is, that a vessel, with a brisk wind and strong tide, cannot, unless by a chance shot, be stopped by a battery, unless you can place some obstruction in the water to impede her motion within reach of your guns. We do not know that these ships received any capital injury. In their rigging they were somewhat damaged, and several shot went through their hulls; but few, if any, lives were lost. They now, with three tenders which accompanied them, lie up the *North* or *Hudson's River*, about forty miles above this place, and have totally cut off all communication, by water, between this city and *Albany*, and between this Army and ours upon the Lakes. They may have had other motives inducing them to run up the river, such as supplying the Tories with arms, and the like; but such a vigilant watch has hitherto been kept upon them, that I fancy they have succeeded but indifferently in those respects, notwithstanding this country abounds in disaffected persons of the most diabolical dispositions and intentions, as you may have perceived by the several publications in the gazettes, relative to their designs of destroying this Army by treachery and bribery, which were providentially discovered.

It is the general report of deserters and prisoners, and a prevailing opinion here, that no attempt will be made by General *Howe* till his reinforcement arrives, which, as I said before, is hourly expected. Our situation at present, both in regard to men and other matters, is such as not to make it advisable to attempt anything against them, surrounded as they are by water, and covered with ships, lest a miscarriage should be productive of unhappy and fatal consequences. It is provoking, nevertheless, to have them so near, without being able to give them any disturbance. Their ships that passed us are also safely moored in a broad part of the river, out of reach of shot from either shore.

Mrs. *Washington* is now at *Philadelphia*, and has thoughts of returning to *Virginia*, as there is little or no prospect of her being with me any part of this summer. I beg of you to present my love to my sister and the children, and compliments to any inquiring friends, and to do me the justice to believe that I am, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To John Augustine Washington, Esq.

BARON DE CALBIAC TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, July 22, 1776.

MY GENERAL: Though it is easy to see your Excellency, by the kind reception with which you entertain everybody, I have, with a good deal of repugnancy, imposed a law to myself, in discontinuing to go and present to you my humble duty—in the first place, by the reason of the difficulty that I have to make myself understood; and, secondly, in the apprehension to trouble you from your business.

In the mean while, a sentiment of patriotism obliges me to trouble you again, being wounded by the sorrow in seeing my countrymen in the greatest want; and what afflicts me the most is, that it is no more in my power to do for them what I have done for the others: so that you will permit me to represent to your Excellency, that the good mind that led those gentlemen to serve under your orders, and to help this Continent against her enemies, has determined them to leave their families, their country, and to despise all sorts of dangers, in order to join you. You know, sir, that necessity has no law, and you must not be surprised if some *Frenchmen* have behaved so scandalously. I hope that you will be so good as to observe my representation; having the honour to be, of your Excellency, Mon General, the most humble and most obedient servant,

LE BARON DE CALBIAC.

P. S. The 6th *June*, 1776, four battalions of the regiment of *Champagne* arrived at *Guadaloupe*, to garrison that place, while the fleet and army of *France* go to *Quebeck* to retake *Canada*. This account I have just received from that Island.

JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Camp, New-York, July 22, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: It passes for some apology in my own mind, for not writing so often as at some times I think I ought to, that, in the first place, my letters cannot carry news, because, in your publick station, you have the best and earliest from all quarters; in the second place, that the urgency of the publick affairs needs all your attention.

Since the *British* fleet placed themselves so near us as *Staten-Island*, the most of the principal inhabitants of the city have been moving away with their effects. The late adventure of the *Phoenix* and *Rose* determined all the hesitating to fly. I should be willing to part with all of them, unless we had some skilful assayer to separate the bad from the good.

Since the Declaration of Independence, I have often thought how anxious you would be that the leaders of the present day, though they themselves may not reap the fruits of their labours, should not spare any pains to have the foundations of the great Continental government well laid, and as well that of particular States, that publick virtue and liberty, which make the publick happiness, may be secured and perpetuated. It is plain to see, from a small acquaintance with the manners of this people, the pernicious influence of some overgrown estates. The landlords, though few in number, have the power of disobliging their numerous dependants, and therefore assume the right of dictating to them in their most interesting and tenderest concerns. Ought not or cannot a timely remedy be provided against the limitation of the descent of large tracts of land that carry such evil power with them?

General *Sullivan* is returned to this place; he did not meet a very cordial reception, I am told, from *G. W.* General *Washington* and the Adjutant-General of the *British* Army at *Staten-Island* had an interview at Colonel *Knox's*, near *Fort George*, last *Saturday*. The application was from their side, and very importunate. Our expectations were raised to look for something considerable; but it proved to be very frivolous—a proposition to exchange Master *Lovell* for Governour *Skene*, which heretofore they had refused to us. The General told him it could not be done without an order of Congress. The Adjutant-General wished for a familiar intercourse between the two armies, and that all proceedings be carried on on the highest principles of honour and humanity. Our General treated him rather coolly, and they parted soon.

A small party of the enemy landed on the *Jersey* side yesterday, under the protection of a tender. Our people repulsed them without firing but a few small-arms. What loss, or whether any, do not learn.

My love and respects to all, as is due. I remain, your affectionate son,

JEDH. HUNTINGTON.

P. S. The papers of this day do not contain the joyful news from *South-Carolina*; therefore I enclose you a hand-bill.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 22, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports this morning that the ships that came in yesterday have troops on board. They appear



to be dressed in the Highland habit. Nothing material has happened in this camp since yesterday.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,  
N. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters,  
*New-York*.

WILLIAM HOPKINS TO OYSTER-BAY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

In Committee for Township of Oyster-Bay, July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By request of Captain *Daniel Noorstrant*, we do make application to your honourable House for a commission for *Jacob Totten*, First Lieutenant under above-said Captain, instead of *Daniel Hendrickson*, who absolutely refuses executing his commission. Reasons may be given sufficient for his excuse.

N. B. The company belonging to Captain *Daniel Noorstrant* hath unanimously appeared and chosen *Jacob Totten* First Lientenant.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM HOPKINS, *Chairman*.

To Chairman of County Committee, or his Deputy.

ROBERT YATES TO WILLIAM PAWLING.

In Committee, Poughkeepsie, July 22, 1776.

SIR: We have, among other things, determined to fit out two armed sloops at *Albany*, in order to protect the river against the depredations of tenders. To effect this, we have written to the Committee at *New-York* to furnish us with gunners, or persons who in anywise are used to the management of cannon on board of ships, and a quantity of combustible matter for fire-arrows, and by all means a person who understands the making of them. If your business will possibly admit, we must entreat your attention to this matter also. Mr. *Jay* is gone to *Salisbury* for cannon, Messrs. *Yates* and *Livingston* to *Albany*, and *Tappen* and *G. Livingston* remain to superintend the works here, where we request your attendance as soon as you conveniently can.

We are, sir, your most humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

ROBERT YATES, *Chairman*.

To *William Pawling*, Esq., Member of Congress for *Westchester* County, at *New-York* or elsewhere.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO COLONEL DAYTON.

German-Flats, July 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: From the advice contained in an intercepted letter which was yesterday delivered me, there is reason to suspect that Lieutenant *McDonald*, of your regiment, is concerned in the embezzlement of the effects at *Johnstown*. You will therefore be pleased to send him immediately, under arrest, to this place, together with such other officers, if any there are, who may lay under similar suspicions, and all such officers and soldiers who may, by their testimony, elucidate a matter which reflects so much disgrace on the regiment.

The Representatives of the *United American States* have lately transmitted me a resolution deprecating, in the most pointed terms, the abuses of a like kind committed to the northward, and have ordered every military offender to be brought to justice. You will, I doubt not, exert your best endeavours to convict the delinquents, and to wipe away that stain which now sullies the whole corps. I beg you will attend here yourself, and bring with you the orders I sent you previous to your leaving *Albany*. I have a sufficiency of officers here to hold a general court-martial.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Colonel *Dayton*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, July 22, 1776.

SIR: This morning I received your favour of the 18th instant from the *German-Flats*. General *Arnold* has written to you, with the *Indian* goods he sent you, by this conveyance. He is disappointed that he has not more to send you. The same express that brought me your letter brought me one from Mr. *Livingston*, a copy of which I send you

enclosed. I have also ordered Mr. Commissary *Avery* to send you an exact state of his magazine here. The fresh provisions mentioned in Mr. *Livingston's* letter is not any of it arrived here yet, nor do I know of any cattle being upon their way hither; so we must eat pork, or go without meat. The Militia are beginning to arrive at *Skenesborough*; so the demands upon our magazine will increase daily. General *Arnold* sets off to-day for *Skenesborough*, if possible to expedite the building the gondolas. I hope we shall not be too late with our fleet. Four gondolas are all that are built, and it will take a fortnight to finish those that are upon the stocks. This I am assured of by an officer who left *Skenesborough* yesterday; he is an intelligent young man, is well versed in maritime affairs, and is to command one of the gondolas. The corps of carpenters, which you tell me are ordered to *Skenesborough*, will arrive late; but that, if the enemy move slow, may answer. I have acquainted Mr. Commissary *Avery* with the paragraph in your letter which relates to Mr. *Trumbull*, and have directed Mr. *Avery* to govern himself accordingly. I am told Colonel *Gansevoort* stopped my letter to the postmaster at *Albany*, and sent the messenger I ordered down with it back to *Tyonderoga*. The Army here are outrageous in having their letters stopped at *Albany*, all correspondence with the lower country being entirely precluded. I have written to Colonel *Gansevoort* upon the subject, and will certainly bring him to immediate trial, if he dares, for the future, to stop any letters going to or from the Army that he is not very particularly ordered to intercept. The Eastern Governments have established a weekly post to the Army, free of all expense to the officers and soldiers.

I am, &c.

HO. GATES.

To General *Schuyler*.

P. S. Enclosed is a return of all the provisions at this post. There is at *Crown-Point* only a bare sufficiency to supply one weak battalion posted there.

JOHN TRUMBULL TO COLONEL READ.

Head-Quarters, July 22, 1776.

SIR: By the General's order, I wrote you four or five days since, desiring you to collect all the well at *Fort George* of every corps, and return to the Army with them. Perhaps you have not received that letter. There is now a still more urgent necessity of your immediate return, as you are appointed to the command of a brigade, with whom your presence is absolutely necessary. You will, therefore, sir, on the receipt of this, immediately collect all who are able to return to their duty, and repair with them to this place as soon as possible.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN TRUMBULL.

To Colonel *Read*.

CAPTAIN WILSON TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Three-Brothers, July 22, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: We arrived at the east side of the *Isle-au-Motte* on *Friday* night, about one or two o'clock, concealed our boats, and kept a good look-out till about six in the afternoon of *Saturday*, when we perceived a canoe creeping up under the east shore of the Lake. A party was immediately detached in pursuit of her, and took her, with a *Frenchman* in her. We had no interpreter amongst us, and therefore found considerable difficulty in understanding him. Thus much we learned, that he had been to *St. John's*, and had informed himself of the number of troops there, of the works they were chiefly employed at, and of the number of boats they had in readiness. He informed us, as we understood him, that he met two men in a canoe about a league on this side of *Isle-aux-Noix*, who informed him that two of our boats lay at *Isle-au-Motte*. He says they live near *Gilliland's Creek*, and (if we understood him properly) went down with information to the enemy. We hope to be able to intercept them on their return.

We have taken a certain *John Davie*, who, from the manner in which he was travelling, and the account which he gave of himself, appears to be a very suspicious person. The prisoners are sent up in charge with the bearer, Lieutenant *Clark*, with one batteau and part of the men. With those who remain here we propose to return to *Isle-au-Motte*

this evening. A party of four men was in readiness on *Saturday* evening to have proceeded on the east side of the Lake from opposite *Point-au-Fer* by land to *St. John's*; but upon learning from the *Frenchman* that intelligence was gone down of our being at *Isle-ou-Motte*, it was thought most prudent not to send them. We have neither a bark canoe nor a good pilot.

I am, dear, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES A. WILSON, *Captain*.

To His Excellency Brigadier-General *Arnold*.

COLONEL SEYMOUR TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, July 22, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: As the troops of Lighthorse returned yesterday from *New-York*, I thought it my duty to give your Honour the earliest account of our conduct and proceedings, with every attending circumstance. I before mentioned the immediate forwarding of your Honour's orders to the Majors of the several regiments named therein, as soon as they came to my hand. The companies made so great despatch in their march, that most of them came on (though well-spirited) without the precaution of a blanket, or even a change of clothing. They had conceived the idea, from the suddenness and urgency of the orders, that they were immediately to be called to action, and soon to return, which made them too incautious. I must, however, in justice, say, that a better body of substantial yeomen never appeared on such an occasion. They were admired and applauded for their spirit and zeal.

We no sooner arrived at *King's Bridge*, on *Monday* morning, than the General's letter met us, copy of which I now enclose. This at once seemed to check and mortify. We had no idea of sending back our horses, especially as the men had left their farms and crops in the most critical situation, and must return as soon as possible. I ordered them, however, to halt at the bridge, and, with Majors *Starr* and *Sheldon*, waited upon General *Washington*. He soon told us that forage could not be had upon the Island, (the drought being extreme that way,) and that he would by no means be justified to pay for it, if it could be found. This again flung us into some perplexity, for we thought at least if there was so great need of the men, from the danger of a sudden attack, as the General often expressed it, that the Continent ought to undergo the burden of detaining us. There was, however, no reasoning upon the subject. We then proposed finding pastures for our horses, at and this side of the bridge, and depend upon the Colony, and so tarry a short time, rather than be turned directly back, which might throw a discouragement upon the honest intentions and wishes of men forward to serve their country on any emergency. To this the General graciously consented; and after much difficulty to obtain pastures for a small space, we marched into the city, through dust and sweat. Our numbers were soon trebled, and the sound of it rung through the enemy's camp. The same day our horses were sent out, and the men were put into houses, with nothing but the clothes on their backs, for lodging. As soon as a return of our men could be made, a number were ordered upon guard. This was something unexpected, but cheerfully submitted to. Soon after, a further order came for mounting guard, and for eight of our men to go to *King's Bridge* upon fatigue, there to remain one week. The first of these requisitions was complied with, but the last declined, as unreasonable for men under our circumstances. Colonel *Silliman*, as well as others, advised against submitting to fatigue; that it was counter to the laws of the Colony, and what your Honour had no idea of subjecting us to. Major *Hart*, with me of course, (by direction of General *Wadsworth*,) waited upon General *Washington*, and stated the case, mentioned the exemptions of our law, &c., at same time suggested that the men would freely furnish guards of every kind, and man the lines, as they had done, if they might only be excused from working parties, for which they were in no measure prepared. We were answered, that no distinction could be made between our men and the rest, and if they would not submit to these terms, they might be dismissed. This reply, after we had come so far, left everything at home in the most suffering condition, had made such despatch, and placed out our horses at so much risk and expense, and had done every other duty in the time of the alarm, and

also at other times (except that of the pick-axe, the shovel, and the wheelbarrow,) was indeed very humiliating. We could not account for such treatment, unless it was from the quarter of such who always viewed the existence of a body of Lighthorse with a jaundiced eye. It was the opinion of several General Officers that we ought to be excused; that it might be done consistently, and that we deserved thanks and applause instead of the reverse. And, in short, if so large and respectable a body of men, scattered through the Colony, are to be blained, under particular circumstances, for not complying with every formal round of duty in camp, from which they knew themselves excused, it must rather create disaffection than otherwise. We are, however, willing, if we have done amiss, to stand amenable at your Honour's bar.

We left the city on *Thursday* noon last, when the most, if not all of our enlisted levies had arrived. About seven thousand of the Flying-Camp had also reached the *Jersey* shore. These at least must treble our number to that of the enemy. Lord *Howe* also arrived the *Friday* before, without fleet or army (save a ship or two.) Under these circumstances, no prospect of any sudden attack, our horses not to be kept any longer, the pressing circumstances of our affairs at home, and the general opinion that we could not be needed soon, (even General *Putnam* said we were not wanted,) together with the sudden and unexpected reply from the General, all induced us to return.

I have troubled your Honour too long with a relation of facts, but thought it necessary, that no mistake might arise from differing accounts. I ought to mention one circumstance further: that is, that just before I left *New-York*, after the men were all gone, Generals *Spencer* and *Heath* called upon me, and said there was a misunderstanding in the matter, and that they had just come from the General, and he meant to excuse us from fatigue. The matter was now over, the men gone and irrecoverable. And besides, the General had otherwise expressed it the evening before, when Major *Hart*, with me, waited upon him for the purpose.

I can't help remarking to your Honour, that it may be with truth said, General *Washington* is a gentleman of extreme care and caution; that his requisitions for men are fully equal to the necessity of the case; and that if more attention was had to the Northern Department it would be as well.

It is much to be lamented that our numbers of volunteers are so slow and deficient. Am persuaded that detachments must, after all, take place, as our only remedy.

I should have stopped here, but am this moment informed by Captain *Hooker* that Mr. *Webb*, General *Washington's* Aid-de-Camp, has written your Honour something dishonourable to the Lighthorse. Whatever it may be I know not, but this I do know, that it is a general observation, both in camp and country, if the butterflies and the coxcombs were away from the Army, we should not be put to so much difficulty in obtaining men of common sense to engage in the defence of their country.

Your Honour will excuse my freedom and prolixity in this, as it proceeds from no other motive than a sacred regard for the community of which I have the favour to be a member.

I am, with every sentiment of esteem and regard, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

THOMAS SEYMOUR.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, July 22, 1776.

SIR: The company of Artificers in the Continental service here, under the care of Captain *Eayrs*, your Excellency did not mention in your directions respecting the troops, and I must request your directions respecting said company. It is a very good company, and if such a company be wanted in the Continental service, I believe a better cannot be had.

*Sargent's* and *Hutchinson's* regiments marched the 18th instant for *Norwich*; *Glover's* marched the 20th. The two remaining regiments are recovering fast of the small-pox, and as soon as they can march with safety I shall order them forward. I shall use every precaution to prevent the marching regiments from communicating the small-pox, and for this purpose will endeavour that they shall be thoroughly cleansed, being sensible of the destructive consequences that would result from spreading this disorder in our armies, which are every hour liable to be called to action.

Application was made to me some days since by the Government of *New-Hampshire* for some ammunition to supply the Continental regiments now on their march from that State to join our Army in *Canada*; and as they had none to march through the woods with, and it would be unsafe to go without, I furnished them with eight barrels of powder, two thousand pounds of musket-ball, and two thousand flints.

I have ordered the proper returns, that I may be able to make such a return to your Excellency as mentioned in yours of the 11th instant.

I am your Excellency's obedient and very humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO COLONEL FOSTER.

In Council, July 22, 1776.

SIR: In the list or return by you made out and signed in behalf of the Field-Officers of the Sixth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Lincoln*, of the Captains and subalterns chosen by the several companies belonging to said regiment, you express a desire that commissions may be made out, &c., except those for the third company, for the reasons for which exception the Council are referred to a copy of a petition annexed to said return, signed by *Joseph Swett* and others, which has been read; and thereupon

It is *Ordered*, That the Field-Officers of the Sixth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Lincoln* be, and they hereby are, directed to make a full inquiry whether the facts set forth in the said petition are true, and whether any corrupt practices were used in the choice of said officers; and they are directed to make return hereof to the Council as soon as possible.

To Colonel *Benjamin Foster*.

Worcester, Massachusetts, July 22, 1776.

On *Monday* last a number of patriotick gentlemen of this town, animated with a love of their country, and to show their approbation of the measures lately taken by the Grand Council of *America*, assembled on the green near the Liberty Pole, where, after having displayed the colours of the Thirteen Confederate Colonies of *America*, the bells were set a ringing and the drums a beating; after which the Declaration of Independency of the *United States* was read to a large and respectable body (among whom were the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence) assembled on the occasion, who testified their approbation by repeated huzzas, firing of musketry and cannon, bonfires, and other demonstrations of joy; when the arms of that tyrant in *Britain*, *George III.*, of execrable memory, which in former reigns decorated, but of late disgraced, the Court-House in this town, were committed to the flames, and consumed to ashes; after which a select company of the sons of freedom repaired to the Tavern, lately known by the sign of the King's Arms, which odious signature of despotism was taken down by order of the people, which was cheerfully complied with by the Innkeeper, where the following toasts were drunk, and the evening spent with joy, on the commencement of the happy era:

1. Prosperity and Perpetuity to the *United States* of *America*.
2. The President of the Grand Council of *America*.
3. The Grand Council of *America*.
4. His Excellency General *Washington*.
5. All the Generals in the *American* Army.
6. Commodore *Hopkins*.
7. The Officers and Soldiers in the *American* Army.
8. The Officers and Seamen in the *American* Navy.
9. The Patriots of *America*.
10. Every Friend of *America*.
11. *George* rejected, and Liberty protected.
12. Success to the *American* Arms.
13. Sore eyes to all Tories, and a chesnut burr for an eye stone.
14. Perpetual itching without the benefit of scratching to the enemies of *America*.
15. The Council and Representatives of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

16. The Officers and Soldiers in the *Massachusetts* service.

17. The Memory of the brave General *Warren*.

18. The Memory of the magnanimous General *Montgomery*.

19. Speedy redemption to all the Officers and Soldiers who are now prisoners of war among our enemies.

20. The State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

21. The Town of *Boston*.

22. The Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence for the Town of *Worcester*.

23. May the enemies of *America* be laid at her feet.

24. May the Freedom and Independence of *America* endure till the sun grows dim with age, and this earth returns to chaos.

The greatest decency and good order was observed, and, at a suitable time, each man returned to his respective home.

JOSEPH PALMER TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Germantown, July 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have sent expresses to the commanding officers of the several regiments in my brigade for the draught ordered, which I expect will be immediately complied with. I think it was a wise and necessary measure; but permit me to suggest whether it is not necessary that there should be an appointment to general command at *Hull*, and also at the Castle, if not at each of the other fortified posts. I shall always consider ourselves weak until there is a general command appointed over all the forces when at such or such a station, whether they be Colonial or established regiments, Militia, or any others who may, upon an alarm or otherwise, be there. At present, it is apprehended that there is no such officer; for the particular commander of the Train has no command over Colonel *Whitney's* or *Marshall's* regiments; nor have either of them over the Militia, or others (excepting their own corps) who may be at such or such a post, upon any alarm; nor have the Militia officers any command but only over their own corps. The necessity and danger without it is so obvious when attended to, that I doubt not immediate provision will be made for it. I mentioned *Hull* and the Castle, because they are singly of more importance than some others, particularly *Hull*, which I consider is the key of the whole harbour, and therefore demanding more particular and immediate attention.

Upon this occasion, as new regiments will be doubtless raised, I would beg leave to mention my son for a Colonel, which is his rank. Upon account of the connexion, I have not pushed him forward; it was a delicate point. I now mention it, not as a favour to be conferred upon him or myself, exclusive of right, but founded therein. He was early engaged on the side of liberty, and was complained of to Governour *Hutchinson* by the Commissioners as a dangerous person. The tea affair witnessed his zeal, which was confirmed in a different way on the memorable 19th of *April*; and Colonel *Hancock*, of the Cadets, gave testimony to General *Washington* of his military knowledge. His conduct as the first Quartermaster-General, in the most difficult times, has been approved of by General *Ward*, and his removal from that office was, professedly, by General *Washington*, to make way for a worthy gentleman of another Colony, and not for any fault or incapacity; and by the General's recommendation, Mr. *Mifflin* offered him the deputyship in that office; but he, considering that all the blame, if any, would be thrown upon him, and all the praise, if any, would be given to another, declined an acceptance; since which he has been neglected, for what reason I know not. As a gentleman of letters, as a sufferer in the cause, having given up everything to it, as one whose moral character does honour to his religious profession, and as a person of military knowledge, he is, at least, equal to some who have been appointed. He has held himself in readiness to serve the publick, when he might have served his private interest with much greater prospect of advantage. I have not consulted him upon this application, nor has he seen what I write. He will not dance daily attendance at the levees of the great, humbly petitioning for that which his country ought to thank him for accepting. If he is neglected this time, we shall consider the publick as saying to him, "we have no occasion for your services, we have better men;" in

consequence of which he will look out for other means to provide for his family and serve the State; and I shall really suspect that I am a stranger to his true character, that the publick know more of him than I do, and that he is not the man I have taken him to be.

I herewith enclose abstracts of the returns of the four Independent companies. They have never had any Commissary, which has occasioned much difficulty to them and me. They have not had any pay since *December*, as I think, and are now in straits for want of it, being part at *Dorchester Heights* and part at *Hull*, and very uneasy at their unsettled and ill-provided state. If those at *Dorchester* should be returned to *Hull*, where they are more wanted, the Commissary directed to supply them all, and they ordered to make up their rolls and billeting to a certain day, they may be kept quiet until they are regimented, or a Field Officer appointed over them; and when they are upon the same footing as others, they will cheerfully do their duty. I think they may be made part of the new regiments which it is supposed will be raised.

I am, dear sir, your very humble servant,

J. PALMER.

To the Honourable *James Bowdoin*, Esq., President of the Council.

PETITION OF THE TOWN OF WARREN.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:

The Petition of us, the Committee of the Town of WARREN, humbly sheweth:

That the inhabitants are destitute of fire-arms and lead, and pray that your Honours will grant us a sufficient quantity of fire-arms and lead, or otherwise grant us a sum of money to purchase them, as you in your wisdom shall think proper; for which we, the Committee of Safety for said *Warren*, will account, in behalf of said town.

We shall ever pray, &c.,

JOSHUA MERRILL,

JOSHUA COPP,

OBED. CLEMENT,

Committee for the Town of Warren.

Warren, July 22, 1776.

COLONEL DAVID GILLMAN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Head-Quarters, Portsmouth, July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have the pleasure to inform you that the works at *New-Castle* go on very well. If nothing extraordinary happens, I am in hopes the walls of that important fortress will be almost completed this week. I believe I may venture to say, it will be one of the most complete ones upon the Continent of *America*, when finished. I should have been almost ready to have mounted all the cannon on the fort by this time, could I have got timber to have laid the platforms, but am still at a loss. Should be glad to know how soon some might be procured for that purpose. I flatter myself, gentlemen, when I have got these works a little out of the way, shall have an opportunity to discipline my men, and make them somewhat respectable, in case we should be attacked. I should think it proper to have some person appointed to muster the men here, as the Captains are daily recruiting.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

DAVID GILLMAN.

To the Committee of Safety.

Plymouth, England, July 23, 1776.

This day Commodore *Fielding*, with the last of the *Hessians*, *Waldeckers*, &c., *Burgoyne's* Lighthouse, horses for the Artillery, &c., &c., sailed for *America*. The *Repulse*, with the remainder (fifteen hundred) of the former division of the *Hessians*, sailed for *America* on the 25th of May.

B. JOHNSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, July 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I omitted in my letter in favour of Mr. *Morris*, to mention anything relative to equipping Captain *Hardman's* company. I have since had conversation with the Captain, and he is of opinion, that if you would furnish

him with money, he could get guns, blankets, &c. For my own part, I think, from his assiduity, he will soon do it. Nor do I think it will be in his power to do it without.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

B. JOHNSON.

To the Council of Safety of Maryland.

MAJOR PRICE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Upper Camp, St. George's, July 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I arrived at this place the 21st instant, with one of the four-pounders; the other two I left at *Leonardtown* till further orders. After inspecting this camp, and giving the necessary orders, I went over to the lower camp, commanded by Colonel *Barnes*, who is stationed much nearer to the fleet than to this camp. I think a nine-pounder could reach the *Fowey* from one of the points, though I doubt our doing her much damage. The rest of the fleet lay outside of her. They are very quiet, and give us no disturbance. The *Roebuck*, and three or four large ships, went up the river the evening before I got here, since which a number of cannon have been fired, as I suppose, near the mouth of *Nanjemoy*. I have ordered the other two pieces of cannon to the lower camp, and shall, as soon as the nine-pounder arrives, order that there; and, if intrenching tools, which I have sent after, can be had, throw up an intrenchment as near the *Fowey* as possible. I find great difficulty in providing necessaries; it is the poorest part of the country I ever was in. I suppose there are not three spades and shovels to be had within ten miles.

We have several deserters from the enemy, most of them in the small-pox. A valuable negro made his escape from us last night, he not being so well guarded as he ought to have been, owing to the people's being afraid of the small-pox. The shores are full of dead bodies, chiefly negroes. I think, if they stay here any time, they must be ruined; for by deaths, desertions, and the , I think their business must be done completely. The officers who have been here some time, imagine about fifty corpses have been thrown on the shores.

Upon my arrival here, I was informed that General *Dent* had ordered a flag of truce on board the *Fowey*, to request a passage for Mr. *Daniel Wolstenholme* to go to *England* with his property; and this was done in consequence of a passport Mr. *Wolstenholme* obtained from the Committee of this County; and that he expected a boat every day to take him on board; but as matters are circumstanced, I thought it advisable not to suffer Mr. *Wolstenholme* to leave the Province, until your knowledge and approbation could be had relative to this business; therefore hope for your instructions by the return of this express, who promises to return immediately.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS PRICE.

To the Council of Safety for the Province of Maryland.

P. S. The *Fowey* and *Otter*, with about fifty sail of vessels, are still here. This express to be paid by your Board.

MAJOR PRICE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Upper Camp, St. George's, July 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: About two hours after I sent off the express to you, which I had promised to detain till twelve o'clock, and did so, to give Mr. *Wolstenholme* an opportunity of writing to your Board, I received the enclosed packet from Colonel *Barnes*. The messenger told me, on delivering it, that it was for me, and, without looking at the direction, I broke the seal. A number of gentlemen were present. However, I discovered the mistake without knowing the contents, and enclosed it immediately. I hope you will pardon this blunder.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

THOMAS PRICE.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of Maryland, at Annapolis.

COLONEL BARNES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

St. George's Neck, July 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you will receive the papers relative to our permitting Mr. *Wolstenholme* to go on board the



fleet here. The first application received from Mr. *Wolstenholme* was by myself directed to the commanding officer of the station where I was. On perusing it, I sent a message by the gentleman that brought it, to inform Mr. *Wolstenholme*, that as I understood General *Dent* was at the station at the *Narrows*, I should consult him about it, and send him an answer; which answer was, that it was not thought proper for him to depart, as you will see by a paragraph in one of Mr. *Wolstenholme's* letters; on receiving of which, he sent me his passport from the Committee of the County, a copy of which you have enclosed. Upon demanding of him that he would say nothing to the prejudice of the Province, he answered, that he defied his worst enemy to say that he had ever done or said anything inimical, or that had a tendency that way, but that he would not be bound to anything; but that the same principle that had ever been the rule of his actions would govern his future conduct. Well knowing, from the knowledge I had of Mr. *Wolstenholme*, that he was a man of honour, and his word not to be doubted, and as he had for several years been very anxious to go to *England*, and an opportunity now offered, which, in all probability, would not again occur for some time, and his passport from the Committee being unanimous, which, without very particular reasons, in my opinion, ought to be adhered to, particularly by the military, were the reasons for me to agree, with General *Dent*, that Mr. *Wolstenholme* should depart. By one of the letters written by Mr. *Wolstenholme* to Governour *Eden*, with my certificate to it, which was sent with a flag on board one of the men-of-war, it was understood by all the gentlemen here, and must have been by the fleet, that Mr. *Wolstenholme* was to depart, if they thought proper to send for him. Whether it is consistent with the honour of the Province to detain Mr. *Wolstenholme* after what has passed, I leave you to determine. But I must confess to you that I think the honour of the Province, together with General *Dent's* and mine, are concerned in it. I am really astonished at the slight received from Major *Price*, not to have been consulted or asked how the affair was really conducted, before he counteracted General *Dent's* and my conduct. I doubt not Major *Price* will inform you of our affairs here, which prevents my troubling you thereon.

Reports have been spread to Mr. *Wolstenholme's* prejudice, relative to a conversation passed between him and a gondola under his bank, without any foundation, as I am informed by several of his family, who heard the conversation, and were called on by him for that purpose.

I remain, with regard, your obedient servant,

RICHARD BARNES.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. The substance of the letter from Mr. *Wolstenholme* to Governour *Eden* was, to beg that he would use his endeavours to procure him a passage in a ship that was going to *England*, and that, if he could be received with conveniency, a flag might be sent from on board the fleet for him. Under which I wrote the following certificate:

"By order of General *John Dent*, I do hereby certify, that if the above shall be approved of, and a flag should be sent on shore, every due respect shall be paid to it.

"RICHARD BARNES."

*Papers referred to by Colonel BARNES.*

St. Mary's, July 17, 1776.

SIR: Doctor *Keyman* is so kind as to wait on you, in order to acquaint you of the danger my house and family were in this morning from a covered vessel, or galley, in his Majesty's service, the commanding officer not knowing who was the proprietor.

The manner in which it was prevented, and the conversation that passed between the commanding officer and myself on the occasion, which I have great reason to believe caused his immediate return, without any intention of doing further damage, and what happened afterwards to Mr. *Morris's* house, as well as the action which occasioned it, I flatter myself you will hear from persons whose veracity may, in general, be less questioned than my own at so critical a juncture. As I mentioned the term of four days, and it was found convenient to be received by the flag, I thought it necessary to acquaint you therewith, in order that you might appoint a proper officer on the occasion, and that

every due respect may be paid to it, as the Militia, who have returned to my house since the affair, are, I apprehend, very little acquainted with ceremonies of this nature.

I am, very respectfully,

(Signed by Mr. *Wolstenholme*.)

To the Commanding Officer of the *Maryland* Provincial Troops, at *St. George's, Maryland, St. Mary's County*.

St. Mary's, July 19, 1776.

SIR: By Colonel *Read*, I am just now favoured with yours of this date, acquainting me that you have communicated my request to General *Dent*, "relative to sending and receiving a flag of truce from the fleet, and that he is against sending a flag on board, and permitting any one to go on board from this part, and that you therefore hope I will decline all thoughts of going at present."

If you will please to refer to my letter sent on the occasion, I presume you will find that the purport of it hath been entirely mistaken, as I only acquainted the commanding officer at *St. George's*, (which I find you were at that time,) that I thought it necessary to inform him a flag would be sent for me, and desiring that a proper officer might be appointed on the occasion, and that every due respect might be paid to it, as the Militia, who had returned to my house since the affair which I had mentioned in my letter, were very little acquainted with ceremonies of that nature. How, from the above request, it could be imagined that I asked the General's permission to depart the Province, or to go on board any ship in the fleet for that purpose, I am at a loss to determine; as he must, no doubt, be well acquainted with the genteel treatment I met with from the Committee of Observation of this County, and the unanimous consent they gave me to embark at any time I should judge most convenient to my health and private concerns. If, by the permission granted me, the Committee have exceeded the power delegated to them by the Convention, which it is my opinion they have not, to that body only, I apprehend, they are answerable; but their determination is no way subject to any controlling orders of the General; so that, unless the military power is authorized to supersede that of the civil, the General cannot possibly have any right to give the least obstruction to my intended embarkation. I therefore beg you will desire him to consider well the consequences of such a step, as well with regard to the rights which every freeman in this Province is entitled to, as the danger of that resentment which may possibly be expressed against innocent persons here, from a detention of an officer in his Majesty's service, without the least charge of any crime whatever against him. I am far from disputing the General's authority to receive, or not to receive, the flag; but I do deny that the military power hath any right to control that of the civil. If it has, the people of this Province are as complete slaves as any in *Turkey*.

As a friend, therefore, to the rights and privileges of a freeman of *Maryland*, I do expect and demand that no hinderance or molestation whatever be given to my departure for *Great Britain*, in any vessel I please, provided that it is the General's pleasure the flag of truce should not be received. Doctor *Keyman*, who is so kind as to promise the delivery of this letter, will, at the same time, furnish you with the passport granted me by the Committee, in order to be shown to General *Dent*, which, after his perusal of it, I must beg you will be pleased to return to him. Should its authority be still disputed, I shall be under the indisputable necessity of appealing to that power which, as in the case of his Excellency Governour *Eden* and Mr. *Purviance*, I flatter myself will support the rights of freemen against every undue invasion whatever.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your very humble servant,

DANIEL WOLSTENHOLME.

To Colonel *Richard Barnes*, at *St. George's*.

Court-House in Leonardtown, July 1, 1776.

In Committee:

Present: Colonel Abraham Barnes, (in the chair,) Major James Eden, Major Samuel Abell, Captain John Smith, Captain Edward Abell, Captain Everard Bond, Captain Vernon Hebb, Colonel John H. Read, Major Ignatius Fenwick, Mr. Wilfred Neale, Mr. William Taylor, Mr. Henry Tubman, Mr. Nicholas L. Sewell.

On reading a Letter from *Daniel Wolstenholme, Esq.*, Collector of his Majesty's Customs on *North Potomack*, setting forth that, by advice of his Physicians, he intended to

leave this Province and return to *Great Britain*, his native country, on account of his infirm state of health, for which purpose he had obtained a warrant from the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Board of Treasury in *London*; yet the peculiar circumstances of the times, joined to his own inability to prosecute the intended voyage, had unfortunately prevented him from embracing the opportunity within the time limited by the aforesaid warrant, by which means he is utterly disabled, by peculiar circumstances, from making a second application to their Lordships for a renewal of it, and hoping, under such a predicament, to be able to justify his conduct in his proposed departure, finds himself under the necessity of making immediate application to this Committee for the grant of such a passport as may enable him to leave the Province with safety to himself and that security to his property which he hath ever hitherto enjoyed, so soon as he can, with convenience to the present situation of his affairs, procure a passage for that purpose: Thereupon,

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the said *Daniel Wolstenholme*, Esq., have leave to depart this Province (with his effects unmolested) to *Great Britain*, at any time hereafter as shall by him be judged most convenient for his health and private concerns; and that the Chairman make out a passport, to be delivered to the said *Daniel Wolstenholme*, Esq., agreeable to this resolve.

Test: TIMOTHY BOWERS, Clerk.

MAJOR WILLIAMS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, July 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Colonel *Stull* informs me that at your last Convention, at *Annapolis*, you did me the very great honour of appointing me Colonel of the *Frederick County Battalion*, to serve the *United States of America* in the Flying-Camp, until the first day of *December* next.

Ever since the commencement of the unnatural war waged by a wicked Ministry against this country, I have considered it as my indispensable duty to exert my feeble abilities in its defence; and entering early into the service, have had the good fortune to be so far recommended to the honourable the Continental Congress as to obtain a commission as Major of a battalion of Riflemen, to serve the *United States* three years; and being diffident of my abilities to discharge the duties of a more exalted station at present, beg leave to decline the very honourable appointment by which you, gentlemen, have conferred an obligation on me ever to be most gratefully remembered and acknowledged.

I beg leave in a particular manner to profess my gratitude to those worthy gentlemen by whose recommendations I obtained so respectable an appointment. Their favourable opinion I trust will always be maintained by a propriety of conduct in, gentlemen, your most obliged and obedient humble servant,

O. WILLIAMS.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of *Maryland*.

T. HANSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Green-Hill, July 23, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed I send you a list of my proportion of men raised as part of the Flying-Camp. This return I should have made sooner had I conceived it a necessary step. Officers that have made their returns taught me to believe that by this opportunity the end would be equally as well answered as if I had come up a few days sooner. I was unwilling, too, to leave the Province whilst I thought I might be of service in repelling *Dunmore's* men from landing. I hope, therefore, I shall not be suspected of negligence or inattention, as my design was for the best.

I should thank you for any information respecting arms for our men; if any money is allowed the officers to purchase arms; and when the men are to march.

I am, sir, your obedient servant, T. HANSON.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety.

JAMES MURRAY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Observation, Dorchester County, }  
July 23, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: We received yours of the 16th instant, requesting our assistance in furnishing firelocks and blankets for the use of the Flying-Camp; which you may be assured

we shall endeavour to comply with, as far as our situation will admit of; but we think we should be wanting in our regard for the publick cause and the safety and welfare of our country, if we omitted to repeat to your Honours, what we have on several occasions informed you of, our weak and defenceless state. We are satisfied at this time there are not more than a fourth part of the Militiamen in our County who have arms that can be depended on, and these only fowling-pieces and squirrel-guns, not fixed with bayonets. There are others, which are defective, some of which may be repaired, which we are endeavouring to have done; but a great part of these can never be made fit for service. As to publick arms, we have none that we know of in our County, and but twenty-two taken from Non-Enrollers and Non-Associates.

As to blankets, there are none that we know of in any of the stores here; nor is there any way we can think of by which there appears any probability of getting any, unless it be by applying to different families, some of whom may, on this occasion, perhaps, furnish a few, though this is uncertain, as there seems a scarcity of blankets among the people; however, on our receiving cash, you may be assured we shall endeavour by every means in our power to procure them.

We know of no person this way that can be engaged to make knapsacks with haversacks, priming-wires and brushes, camp-kettles, canteens or wooden bottles; if we should hereafter be informed of any such, we shall advise you of it.

We are, gentlemen, your obedient and very humble servants. Per order of the Committee of Observation:

JAMES MURRAY, Chairman.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. We learn from Mr. *Goldsborough* that we are to receive a supply of powder and ball or lead. We should be glad to be furnished with it as quick as possible, being in great want of it.

GENERAL DENT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles County, July 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed is the commission under which I have had the honour to act, and more especially by your late order, until the 21st instant, when an order was presented to me from your Honours, appointing Major *Thomas Price* to the command.

Be pleased to take notice that I will not in future accept of any commission from any body of men, under whom the same controlling power exists that has deprived me of my late command. If you have had any insinuations touching my conduct during the short time I have been in actual service, justice requires that I should be heard, when, I flatter myself, I shall be able not only to justify my conduct, but in some measure be entitled to the thanks of every sensible and judicious man; which, together with the success of the *American* arms, have been and still shall be, the study and sincere wish of, your obedient servant, JNO. DENT.

GENERAL JOHNSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, July 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Peter Harrison*, who was appointed a Lieutenant in Captain *Hardman's* company of Militia, having been named by the Committee as Lieutenant of the company of Riflemen now raising in this County, Captain *Hardman* has had the aid of one Mr. *Morris*, in *Harrison's* stead. *Morris* is a fine, lively young fellow, has been very serviceable in raising the men, and, I think, from what I hear of him, will make a good officer. I shall be glad that his application to fill *Harrison's* place in *Hardman's* company may prevail.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your most obedient servant, THO. JOHNSON.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, July 23, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., (Chairman,) J. Boyd, C. Ridgely of William, J. Calhoun, J. Cockey, J. Griest, J. Standeford, B. Griffith, T. Rutter, J. Moale, W. Buchanan, J. Gittings, E. Talbot, D. Lux, W. Tolly, Jun., A. Britain, T. Sollers, T. Gist.

On application from *John Hatton* to be relieved part of his Tax on account of his poverty, and it appearing to the Committee that his excuse is just, he is excused.

A Letter from the Committee of *York County*, in *Pennsylvania*, was read in Committee, respecting the circulation of Convention Money of this State in that State, requesting that this Committee would endeavour to promote the circulation of said Money in that State:

The Committee resolved, that they would represent the matter to the Legislative authority of this State, to remedy the said inconvenience.

A Letter from the Council of Safety of the 16th instant, on the subject of the Declaration of Independence; also a Letter from the Honourable President of the Congress, enclosed by them to our Board on the subject aforesaid, were read: Whereupon, it was

*Resolved*, That on *Monday* next the Declaration of Independence, dissolving all connexion between *Great Britain* and the *Thirteen United Colonies*, and declaring them free and independent States, be proclaimed at the Court-House of the County.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *William Smith*, *John Boyd*, and *Benjamin Levy*, together with the General and Field-Officers of the Town Battalion, and of the Independent Company, be a Committee to form the regulation of the procession for the Declaration of Independency.

The Committee acquainted Mr. *Robert Christie*, Jun., (Sheriff of this County,) of the time agreed on for the Declaration of Independency, and at the same time requested him to attend at the same time, and proclaim Independency; which he promised to do.

The Committee, taking into consideration that part of the Letter from the Council of Safety requiring our assistance to furnish the Militia from this Province that are to join the Flying-Camp with Firearms and Blankets, were of opinion, that, in order the more speedily to comply with their requisition, the Committee of Safety be immediately desired to furnish this Committee with £1000; which sum, when obtained, is to be lodged with Messrs. *James Calhoun*, *William Aisquith*, and *John Boyd*; who are requested to use the utmost expedition and industry in applying to the inhabitants of this County, and earnestly request all those who have it in their power, to supply the publick with Firearms for the purposes aforesaid; for the return of which in the like good order as when received, or, in case of loss, the value thereof, agreeable to an appraisement to be made by two reputable freeholders, the publick faith be pledged; and that they also be requested to purchase as many good Blankets as the inhabitants in the respective Hundreds in this County can spare; provided they do not exceed the sum of 20s. for every Blanket of equal quality with the best new striped *Duffil* Blankets, and not much injured by use, and so in proportion for those that, in their judgment, are much impaired by use, or of inferior quality.

Messrs. *Calhoun*, *Aisquith*, and *Boyd*, are appointed to write, and acquaint the honourable Council of Safety of the measures taking by this Committee to effect the purposes mentioned in their Letter. They are also to give Instructions to the persons employed in collecting Blankets and Arms, and to write to Mr. *David McLure*, in *York-Town*, to know whether any Blankets can be procured in that place in a short time.

The above-mentioned gentlemen are appointed a Committee to prepare and get printed, sixty copies of Lists for taking the number of inhabitants in this County, which they are directed to send to the persons appointed to take the numbers in the respective Hundreds.

The following persons were appointed to collect the Blankets and Arms in the different Hundreds in this County, viz:

*Darby Lux*, in *Back River Upper*, *Back River Lower*, *Middle River Upper*, and *Middle River Lower Hundreds*.

Captain *Thomas Rutter*, in *Middlesex* and *Patapsco Lower Hundreds*.

*Shadrach Bond*, in *North* and *Soldier's Delight Hundreds*.

*Walter Tolly*, Jun., in *Gunpowder Upper* and *Mine Run Hundreds*.

*Charles Ridgely*, of *Wm.*, in *Patapsco Upper Hundred*.

*William Lux* in *Delaware Hundred*.

Colonel *William Buchanan* in *Pipe Creek Hundred*.

Mr. *John Cockey Owings* having by a note advised this Committee, that he declined acting as a Collector of the

Fines assessed on the Non-Enrollers in *Back River Upper Hundred*, Mr. *Shadrach Bond* was appointed in his room.

Attest:

*GEO. LUX, Secretary.*

#### BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your order of the 16th, for the purchase of blankets and arms, was yesterday taken into consideration by our Committee, by whom we are directed to inform you of the measures resolved on to accomplish your intentions. Several persons of judgment and activity, and of the most influence, are appointed to ride through different districts of the County, to use their best endeavours to prevail on the inhabitants to spare part of their blankets on the present emergency. The same persons are instructed to purchase all muskets which are either good or capable of being made so. We conceived there was so little chance of borrowing any, that it appeared to us vain to attempt, as those who are well disposed to defend their country will use their own arms, and those who are otherwise disposed, will be more influenced by the money than by any other arguments. In order to despatch this very urgent business the more expeditiously, we have borrowed a few hundred pounds, and given it to several of the gentlemen appointed for the purpose, who set off to the country this day. As we have recommended the greatest industry to the gentlemen who manage this business, we shall probably be able to inform you against next week of their success.

We have some information, which induces us to expect that a quantity of new country-made blankets may be procured in *York County*; therefore shall send an express this day to a person in *York town*, who can inform us on this subject.

The house-keepers in town spared all the blankets they could in the spring to accommodate the Regulars that were stationed here; so that few can be expected from them. Please to send the Committee £1000, to answer the intended purchase. Should we not be able to procure to that amount, the surplus may be returned.

We are, with much respect, by order and in behalf of the Committee, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

*SAML. PURVIANCE, Jun., Chairman.*

*WILM. AISQUITH,*

*JNO. BOYD,*

*JAS. CALHOUN.*

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### MUSTER-ROLL OF CAPTAIN GRAYBILL'S COMPANY.

A Roll of thirty-four men enlisted by Captain *Philip Graybill*, in virtue of a warrant issued by the honourable Council of Safety, for that purpose, and to him directed, bearing date the twelfth day of *July*, in the year of our Lord seventeen hundred and seventy-six.

Wolfgone Citzenger,	David Mumma,	Rudolph Krower,
Christopher Begel,	Jacob Myers,	Adam Earbaugh,
Frederick Wilhelm,	Jacob Hardstone,	Roland Smith,
John Moore,	Ferdinand Lorange,	Wm. Kornmelstone,
Vendell Andrews,	Henry Millberger,	John Shryork,
Michael Kersher,	William Libzinger,	Joseph Stritter,
George Hyatt,	Jacob Fry Miller,	Jacob Ruturt,
John Shlife,	James Caple,	Martin Lantz,
Abraham Frantz,	John Rich,	Philip Kautz,
Frederick Wage,	Lorange Knery,	Vendell Lorange,
Henry Hartman,	Peter Baker,	Matthias Byer.
John Shaffer,		

I do certify, that I have viewed and examined thirty-four men, answering to the above names, exhibited to me for that purpose by Captain *Philip Graybill*, and find them effective and fit for duty.

*THOMAS JONES,*  
*Second Major of Baltimore-Town*  
*Battalion of Militia.*

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN YOST.

[No. 70.]

Annapolis, July 23, 1776.

SIR: We are very desirous of knowing exactly what arms you have ready for the publick, that we may send for them. As soon as you get a wagon load, or such number as will be worth while sending for, let us know by first good opportunity, and if none offers, and your arms be ready, hire an express, and we will pay him. We are, &c.

To Mr. *John Yost*.

AFFAIR OF THE GALLEYS NEAR SANDY-POINT, JULY 23, 1776.

*Captain CONWAY's Statement.*

Alexandria, August 10, 1776.

To the Printer of the MARYLAND GAZETTE:

SIR: No other motive than in justice to my own character, as well as that of my officers, could ever induce me to request of you to publish the following Narrative and Depositions; more especially at this important juncture, when it is the duty of every individual to propagate the general harmony, and to discountenance every domestick contention that would seem in any way tending to frustrate the general good.

About five weeks ago, I had the honour to be appointed to the command of the *Protector* row-galley, belonging to this Commonwealth; I went down to *Yeocomico* to recruit men; I enlisted six hands; from the capacity and good behaviour, as well as the character that was given me of three of them, I appointed one my Second Lieutenant, and the other two Midshipmen. We knew that part of the enemy's fleet had gone up the river *Potomack* before us. Instead of coming up in a pilot-boat as we at first intended, we came up with two row-boats, thinking by that means to pass the fleet with greater safety. What happened after we came in sight of the fleet will appear by the following Depositions:

"The Deposition of JOHN THOMAS, Second Lieutenant to Captain ROBERT CONWAY, of the *PROTECTOR* row-galley, belonging to the Commonwealth of VIRGINIA.

"*Alexandria*, in *Fairfax County*, ss.

"This day came before me the subscriber, one of the Magistrates for the County aforesaid, *John Thomas*, Second Lieutenant to Captain *Robert Conway*, of the *Protector* row-galley, and made oath, that on *Tuesday*, the 23d day of *July* last, about nine or ten o'clock in the forenoon, near *Sandy-Point*, seven of us, with two boats, landed on the *Maryland* shore, within about half a mile of the enemy's fleet, which consisted of four ships, two tenders, and one row-galley, expecting, as soon as we landed, to have been guarded by a party of the *Maryland* Militia, having no fire-arms ourselves, thinking to pass the fleet the following night. As soon as we landed we conveyed our baggage to an adjacent house, when, after inquiry, we were informed the troops were opposite the *Roebuck*, to whom four of us immediately went; from whence we observed the fleet manning their boats, with intent (as we thought) to land on the *Maryland* shore, from which the *Roebuck* man-of-war seemed to be two or three hundred yards; when a gentleman they called Colonel *Harrison*, said, Come, let us march down; to which several replied, I can't bear to shoot a man; others, that their guns were out of order, with sundry other excuses; to whom Colonel *Harrison* said, You that have not a mind to go, give your guns to those men that came with Captain *Conway*. I then said, Give me a gun and ammunition, and I will go; which one of the Militia readily did; so down we marched, under the command of Colonel *Harrison*. Soon after we came down to the shore, the enemy gave three loud huzzas, and rowed over to the *Virginia* side, with two tenders, one gondola, and ten row-boats; from which they landed and burnt Mr. *Brent's* house, from whence they returned in about an hour to their respective vessels. In the mean time we thought ourselves very safe under the protection of the Militia; who, by this time, as we were informed had increased from between thirty and forty men, to between three and four hundred. In justice to Colonel *Harrison*, I must not omit informing, that he seemed very active and resolute, encouraging his men, and telling them that nature could not form a more convenient place than where he proposed they should be stationed. About three or four o'clock in the afternoon, the enemy's gondola and a schooner tender put off and made for our boats; seeing that, I said, Gentlemen, I hope, as we came to offer you our services, you will be kind enough to assist us in taking care of our boats, having no fire-arms ourselves; they said one company should go with us; then we ran down ourselves, and hauled the smallest boat about thirty or forty yards into a marsh, the other, which had ballast in, we hauled on the beach and staved. By this time the company of Militia came down, but the enemy being close ashore where our boat was, they stopped in a valley about fifty or sixty yards distance from the boat on the beach; the enemy's row-galley rowed several times towards the boat on the beach and back again; at last the

row-galley and tender fired, on which the sentinels the Colonel had placed, ran across a cornfield and made for the woods; to whom the Colonel called, Come back; No, (says I,) they will not come back till they get to *Port-Tobacco*, (at which he laughed.) They would peep at the enemy when they rowed close to our boat, but never offered to fire, excepting it was the Colonel, who presented once, but recovered without firing. Some of them said, if the row-galley landed she would rake them up the valley, (which indeed was impossible;) at which they ran, the men first, after whom the Colonel retreated; notwithstanding, I am pretty well assured the Colonel would have stood, had he been supported by his men. When the enemy saw them (from the *Roebuck's* mast-head) running off, they hallooed at them, and called them sundry names; then made signs for the row-galley to pull ashore, which they did, and launched our boat off, then gave three huzzas, and fired several shot, both small and great, at the house where our baggage had been taken to; then returned to their ships with their booty, without having one gun fired at them. Colonel *Harrison* seemed to have that good opinion of Captain *Conway* as to say, he was assured that *Conway* would not be backward in taking a firelock. And further this deponent saith not.

"JOHN THOMAS.

"August 10, 1776.

"Sworn to before me,

"WM. RAMSEY, *Justice of the Peace*."

"The Deposition of EDWARD COLES and CUTHBERT ELLISTON, Midshipmen on board the *PROTECTOR* row-galley, commanded by Captain ROBERT CONWAY.

"*Alexandria*, in *Fairfax County*, ss:

"Likewise *Edward Coles* and *Cuthbert Elliston*, two Midshipmen belonging to the *Protector* row-galley, came this day before me, the subscriber, one of the Magistrates for the County aforesaid, in the Commonwealth of *Virginia*, and took the accustomed oaths, by virtue of which they depose and say: That on *Tuesday*, the 23d day of *July* last, coming up the river *Potomack* with Captain *Conway*, came in sight of the enemy's fleet, consisting of four ships, two tenders, and one row-galley, when we made for the *Maryland* shore, and landed about half a mile below them, expecting to have been protected by the Militia on shore, the number of whom (as we were informed soon after our landing) was between three and four hundred; we were seven in number, with two boats. Soon after we landed, four of us went up to the troops. After we were with the troops about an hour and a half, some of the men offered to give up their firelocks to us, and one in particular gave his gun to Mr. *Thomas*, our Second Lieutenant. We saw the enemy's two tenders, one row-galley, and some row-boats, filled with men, and making for the *Virginia* shore, (instead of coming to the *Maryland* shore, as we expected,) where they burnt Mr. *Brent's* houses; from thence they returned to their ships. Between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, we observed their row-galley and a schooner tender making down for the place where our boats lay. The little boat we pulled into a marsh out of their way, and hauled the big boat on the beach, which was staved by *James Sorrell*, by Captain *Conway's* order, before the enemy could come nigh enough to fire at us with any certainty. As soon as the enemy's row-galley began to fire, the Militia made a precipitate retreat, and ran up to the woods, after whom Colonel *Harrison* went up; then the enemy came and took the boat from off the beach, without having one gun fired at them, although some of the Militia were within less than one hundred yards of the boat when they took her off, and gave three huzzas. Further said deponents say not.

"EDWARD COLES,

"CUTHBERT ELLISTON.

"August 10, 1776.

"Sworn to before me:

WM. RAMSAY, *J. P.*"

Soon after I arrived at *Alexandria*, my row-galley was ordered down to watch the motions of the enemy's fleet, but at my return, to my great surprise, I found the following Advertisement had been stuck up at several publick places in this town:

"ADVERTISEMENT.

"*Alexandria*, July 31, 1776.

"Whereas it appears, by certificates now in my possession, under the hands of Captain *John H. Lowe*, Mr. *John*



*M. Burgess*, and *Mr. George Fraser Hawkins*, of *Maryland*, that Captain *Robert Conway* has propagated a report, much to the dishonour of the Twenty-Sixth Battalion of the Militia of *Maryland*, viz: that three or four hundred of the said Militia betook themselves to flight as soon as the Ministerial row-galley began to fire: in order, therefore, to remove every ill impression made by the said report, I take this method of asserting that it is a malicious, infamous falsehood; as many gentlemen who were present, as spectators, when Captain *Conway* says this scene of cowardice was acted are ready upon oath to testify.

“S. HANSON, *S. of Sam.*”

No man, conscious of his own integrity, would lay silent under such opprobrious epithets; therefore, in vindication of what I have already asserted, which was altogether to the same effect as the foregoing Depositions, I desire you will publish the foregoing Narrative, for the truth of which I appeal to every impartial spectator; and remain, sir, your humble servant,

ROBERT CONWAY.

Certificates of Captain JOHN N. LOWE and Mr. JOHN M. BURGESS and Mr. GEORGE FRASER HAWKINS.

Prince George's County.

I do hereby certify to all whom it may concern, that some time last week I fell in company with several people, who were on their way, by water, to *Alexandria*. Amongst these there was one *Mr. Conway*, as I understood, who said he was just from *Sandy-Point*, where a party of three or four hundred of the *Maryland* Militia was stationed; that as soon as the row-galley began to fire, the said Militia all ran; that Colonel *Harrison* walked after them, laughing at them, and never attempted to rally them; that the only man of spirit amongst them was one *Jones*, as he described; that the galley landed a parcel of her men and launched one of his boats, carrying her off, after giving three huzzas, without meeting with any opposition. This conversation, and a great deal more, passed in the presence of many gentlemen. I would have been more particular, but being very unwell with a bad fever, cannot at this time recollect every particular conversation that passed.

Given under my hand this 29th day of *July*, 1776.

GEO. FRASER HAWKINS.

To all whom it may concern.

We, the subscribers, *John H. Lowe* and *John M. Burgess*, set out on *Wednesday* last from *Mr. George Hawkins's*, with some other gentlemen, by water, in order to view the situation of the Ministerial fleet that was then lying opposite *Sandy-Point*; and on our way down we met with *Mr. Conway*, who said he was from *Sandy-Point*, where a party of three or four hundred of Militia were stationed, and at the appearance of a row-galley, which directed her course to the shore, and on firing, the said Militia ran off. He was asked whether the Colonel did not endeavour to rally the men; he said no, but walked after them and laughed. He said, as the row-galley approached the shore, the Colonel addressed his men in the following manner: You that will not fight, give your guns to those that will. On which declaration every man left the field but himself and one who we suppose to be one *Jones*. The row-galley landed a parcel of her men, launched one of his boats, gave three cheers, and carried her off, without meeting with any opposition. There were several other matters that he spoke, the particulars of which I do not at present remember, but all tended to the discredit of said Militia.

July 29, 1776.

Colonel HARRISON's Statement.

Charles County, October 21, 1776.

*Mr. GREEN*: SIR: Reports having been propagated by a certain *Robert Conway*, of the *Protector* row-galley, belonging to the Commonwealth of *Virginia*, his Second Lieutenant, and two Midshipmen, with design to dishonour the Twenty-Sixth Battalion of Militia of this Province; which reports being, within my own knowledge and that of many other persons, entirely without foundation, I had determined to treat them with contempt; but finding that they have carried the joke rather far, by publishing part of their story in the *Baltimore* and *Virginia* gazettes, and some of them

swearing to the same, I think it high time to publish a little too, as a piece of justice due myself and those whom I had the honour to command. You will, therefore, be pleased to insert in your next paper the whole which Captain *Conway* has published in the *Baltimore* paper of the 20th of *August*, herewith sent you; also, the certificates under the hands of Captain *John H. Lowe* and *Mr. John M. Burgess* and *Mr. George Fraser Hawkins*.

The variation between Captain *Conway's* own narrative (as certified by Messrs. *Lowe*, *Burgess*, and *Hawkins*) and the depositions of his Lieutenant and Midshipmen, and again, the variation in what they depose, must make every impartial reader suspect the truth of them. Captain *Conway* asserts, that as soon as the row-galley began to fire, the said Militia (being three or four hundred in number) all ran; that as the row-galley approached the shore, every man left the field save two. *Mr. Lieutenant* swears that only one company out of the three or four hundred men ran. Messrs. Midshipmen swear that the whole three or four hundred made a precipitate retreat, and ran up to the woods; then they swear, that some of the Militia were within less than one hundred yards of the boat when the enemy took her off.

Men who mean to wound the characters of others in the eyes of the publick, by inventing and circulating falsehoods, should be extremely circumspect in what they say or swear; and, as I have already observed, the variation and inconsistency in the assertions and depositions of Captain *Conway* and his party, would make every impartial man suspect their veracity. However, to evince to every one that they are founded only in malice and mischief, I have taken the depositions of Messrs. *Finley*, *Hunter*, and *Lawrason*, of *Alexandria*, and Messrs. *Matthews* and *Stoddart*, gentlemen volunteers, which you will also insert, with the certificate under the hands of the *Rev. Mr. Fendall* and *Mr. Warren Dent*.

“*Alexandria*, October 4, 1776.

“On *Tuesday*, the 23d of *July* last, we, the subscribers, set off from this place with intention to see the enemy's ships, which we were informed were proceeding up *Potomack*, and arrived opposite them at *Sandy-Point*, in *Maryland*, about half an hour past six o'clock in the evening, where we found a body of Militia stationed, who informed us there were more men a little lower down the river, to whom we immediately went, and were by them told that Colonel *Harrison*, with a detachment of twenty-five men, was gone down to prevent the enemy's taking off Captain *Conway's* boats, by means of a gondola and armed schooner, which had left the ships for that purpose, as was conceived. We saw the *Roebuck* under way turning down, and firing now and then across the field, between the detachment and main body, and heard other great guns, which we supposed were from the gondola and armed schooner. We returned to the main body, when we immediately heard a brisk firing of small-arms and swivels, which was thought to be an engagement betwixt the detachment and the enemy. We think about sixteen cannon were fired in the whole. The men appeared to be all drawn up ready with their arms, and during the firing seemed in good spirits; and we heard several of them ask if they ought not to go to the assistance of the detachment. We neither saw nor discovered anything like cowardice, but, on the contrary, a willing spirit seemed generally to prevail.

“JOHN FINLEY,  
“WILLIAM HUNTER,  
“JAMES LAWRASON.

“Sworn before me,

WILLIAM RAMSAY, *J. P.*”

“*Charles County*, October 18, 1776.

“We, the subscribers, joined three Companies of the Twenty-Sixth Battalion of Militia, under the command of Colonel *Harrison*, at *Sandy-Point*, on *Tuesday*, the 23d of *July* last, early in the morning, in the character of volunteers. About nine o'clock the ships began to man their tenders and small boats; when Colonel *Harrison* ordered the three companies to stand to their arms, and, after watching the motions of the enemy a few minutes, gave orders for Captain *Martin's* company, consisting of about forty-five men, including officers, to repair to the head of a valley which led down to the river nearly opposite the *Roebuck*. We fell in with this company at the head of the valley. A little while after, there came three or four strangers, who

were questioned by Colonel *Harrison*, and informed him that they had come up the river, were going to *Alexandria*, and had landed a little below in two small boats. Those we understood to be Captain *Conway*, his Lieutenant, and two men. By this time ten row-boats, two tenders, and a gondola, were filled with men alongside of the *Roebuck*, which lay near four hundred yards from the *Maryland* shore. It was every moment expected the enemy would land and attack us. Colonel *Harrison* told Captain *Mastin's* company, that in case the enemy attempted to land there, he should instantly march down at their head and post them behind the beach; and after admonishing them, begged that if any one felt confused or under any panic, to candidly inform him, and turn out of the ranks; on which one of the privates turned out, and told him that he did not like to march down the hill. He was then ordered to give up his gun and ammunition to some other that would, and Colonel *Harrison* delivered his gun to Captain *Conway's* Lieutenant, who said he would march down with us. About ten o'clock the enemy's boats, tenders, and gondola, left the *Roebuck*, giving three cheers, and, contrary to our expectation, went over to *Virginia*, where they landed, and set fire to Mr. *Brent's* houses. Colonel *Harrison* marched the company down to the beach, in order to show them where he intended to post them, had the enemy attempted, or in case they should attempt, a landing at that place. Before the enemy returned from *Virginia*, we were reinforced with about one hundred and twenty men under Colonel *Hanson*. About five or six o'clock in the afternoon, the enemy's small tender and the gondola were observed to be manning, and in a few minutes left the *Roebuck*, and directed their course towards the Bay, where Captain *Conway's* boats were landed. Colonel *Harrison* immediately ordered the men to arms, and conceiving the enemy's design was to take off Captain *Conway's* boats, gave Captain *Mastin* orders to take about twenty of his best armed men, and follow him down, to watch the motions of the tender and gondola. This detachment we joined, with two other volunteers; in the whole, we think it consisted of twenty-five persons. We proceeded down towards the Bay with all haste, and near the head of a valley met with Captain *Conway* and some of his men. Captain *Conway* went down the valley with Colonel *Harrison*, to show where his boats lay, and we followed close after in *Indian* file, and were halted at the mouth of the valley. He told the Colonel that one of his boats was drawn over the beach into a marsh; the other was on the shore staved, which was about fifty yards from us, though we could not see her from the mouth of the valley, on account of some bushes which grew on the beach. The tender had got in the Bay before we reached our post, and lay about one hundred and fifty yards off. As soon as we were halted, the tender fired one of her carriage-guns, which was presently succeeded by a discharge of grape-shot from the gondola; this load grounded within a few paces of us, and many of the shot, with several cannon-balls, were picked up the next day. Sundry great guns were discharged at us whilst we remained at this post. The gondola, after she came against the boat, rowed off and on, and, after a short time, seemed to be gradually getting more into the Bay, as if designing to open the valley and rake it. We heard Captain *Conway* say to Colonel *Harrison* that he thought she was endeavouring to rake the valley, and advised him to order a retreat, or words to the same purpose. The Colonel, after taking a view of the gondola, turned about, and, in a low tone, gave orders for a retreat to the head of the valley—the gondola being within seventy or eighty yards of us at the time. Five or six of the men who were in the rear, retreated some distance beyond the place intended, which we firmly believe proceeded from their not having heard the orders distinctly, as most of them returned immediately to the head of the valley, on being called to by some of the officers. From this place we observed the *Roebuck* had got under way and fallen down, and began to fire on us; also the tender, our situation being open to them both. The Colonel returned to the mouth of the valley, and we and others went different ways, to take another view of the gondola, which we found lying quite still, nearly opposite the boat, with her hatches close shut, and nothing visible but her oars and guns, though Captain *Conway's* Lieutenant had just before informed that her hatches were up and men exposed, which raised our hopes of getting a shoot. We recollect that, previous to

our leaving the mouth of the valley, Captain *Conway* asked Colonel *Harrison* to let the gondola be fired at, to scare her off from the shore, which was refused, as there was no living object to shoot at. A retreat was then ordered to the main body by Colonel *Harrison*, and the detachment directed to scatter as they retreated through the old fields, to observe the flash of the enemy's cannon, and to fall down whenever they saw it. The fire from the *Roebuck*, armed schooner, and gondola, grew very warm, and the frequent falling down of the men occasioned a general laughter. We retreated to a fence at the edge of a wood, and lay behind it until the enemy's fire ceased, then returned to the main body, with which we remained until the ships went down the river, and the troops were discharged.

"JOHN MATTHEWS,  
"WILLIAM STODDERT."

"Charles County, October 18, 1776.

"Then came Messrs. *John Matthews* and *William Stoddert*, gentlemen, and made oath on the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, that the above is a true state of the transactions at *Sandy-Point*, under Colonel *William Harrison*, on the 23d of July last.

"G. R. BROWN."

"Charles County, October 20, 1776.

"Whereas we find, by sundry depositions published in the *Baltimore Gazette*, and by certificates under the hands of *George Fraser Hawkins*, Esq., Captain *John H. Lowe*, and Mr. *John M. Burgess*, that reports have been falsely and industriously propagated, reflecting on the courage, and tending to injure the character of the Twenty-Sixth Battalion of *Maryland* Militia, under the command of Colonel *William Harrison*: And whereas we think it a duty incumbent on us; and on every man, to rescue injured merit from undeserved reproach, and check any idle reports that may reflect disgrace on the *American* arms:

"We think it but common justice to declare, that many of the most injurious aspersions contained in the above mentioned publication and certificates, are, within our knowledge, totally false, and in every sense groundless. And we do further assert, that we attended the said Militia from the *Monday* of the enemy's arrival at *Sandy-Point* until their departure from said place; and that said Militia appeared to us to assemble with cheerfulness and alacrity. And we have all the reason in the world to believe, that had the enemy attempted a landing, they would have been warmly and vigorously opposed; for, on two different occasions, the one on *Monday* during a thunder gust, when the men were obliged to take shelter in a small house, the sentries gave an alarm that the enemy were preparing to land, they, so far from exhibiting any symptoms or signs of fear, were, on the contrary, in our opinion, too warm and impetuous, by springing out of the house without waiting for orders, and running towards the shore in an irregular manner; the alarm proved groundless, and their too eager behaviour drew from the Colonel a gentle reprimand. The other instance happened on the *Tuesday* morning when the alarm was given that the enemy were manning their boats, and preparing to land; and the general opinion was, and every man expected, that they would attempt a landing at *Sandy-Point*; on which Colonel *Harrison* ordered the men to stand to their arms, and in a very short time after, ordered Captain *Mastin's* company to the head of a valley which led down to the shore where it was expected the enemy would land. On this trial (and we do not believe men can be put to a greater or severer one) the men behaved with the most undaunted courage and cool intrepidity. Upon the whole, not only in the above particularized instances, but in the whole of their conduct, they appeared spirited, brave, and ready to engage.

"HENRY FENDALL,  
"WARREN DENT."

Were it necessary, a variety of other evidence could be procured to invalidate these idle tales; but I firmly trust that the testimony now offered will fully satisfy every impartial and well disposed person. I would observe, that the gentlemen who depose and certify are not of the battalion—three of them residing in *Alexandria, Virginia*—and can have no further interest in its character than as good members of community. What motive induced Captain *Conway* and his officers thus to assert, and thus solemnly to depose, I am at a loss to say, unless it was to divert their constitu-

ents from an inquiry into their own conduct; for, be it known to the publick, that *Potomack River* at *Sandy-Point* is near four miles wide, and they, like persons wanting sense, landed their boats within a small distance of the enemy's ships, on the *Maryland* shore, when they might have evaded them at least three miles by passing along the *Virginia* side; and in case they had been noticed and pursued by the enemy, could at any rate have gone ashore, and sued for protection from the opposite Militia of *Virginia*. Had Captain *Conway* and his officers reported facts as they happened, they must have given the publick a favourable opinion of the Militia in general at *Sandy-Point*. A single company, armed and equipped as our Militia too generally are, was drawn up in their presence, ready to advance down to the beach, there to receive the attack of ten row-boats, two tenders, and a gondola, filled with men. On the commanding officer's admonishing this company, and begging that if any of them felt confused or afraid, to candidly inform him, one of the company, out of about forty-eight persons, said he did not like to march down the hill, and turned out of the ranks. Whether this be an instance of general cowardice, or not, the impartial publick will say. For my part, his refusal by no means surprised me, as the expedition appeared very dangerous, and was really so, though I thought it necessary. We were, agreeable to every one's idea, to oppose the landing of at least four times our number, and could we not have repulsed them, must have retreated up the hill, exposed to a near fire from the *Roebuck*, two tenders, and a gondola.

The retreat of the detachment in the afternoon, which went down to prevent the enemy's taking off Captain *Conway's* boats, was by my orders. If it was wrong, I am chargeable with it and not the men. However, I thought it prudent, and, in a similar situation, should act again in the same manner. I shall not, to humour Captain *Conway* or his crew, expose men to the fire of a gondola, when the chance of killing is only on the side of the enemy; but hope ever to be found ready and willing, with those whom I have the honour to command, to risk life whenever any valuable end can be answered.

Before I conclude, I must declare that, from the trial of the men at *Sandy-Point*, I entertain the highest opinion of their bravery in general; and were they equipped as men going into battle should be, would risk my life with them as soon as with any men in the world. And as Mr. Lieutenant *Thomas* has, in the course of his deposition, given his opinion of me, I must in return give mine of him: which is, in the sincerity of my heart, this, that he would at any time, to oblige a person on whom he was the least dependant, swear that black is white, or white black.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM HARRISON.

SAMUEL CHASE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, July 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yesterday's post brought us yours of the 19th instant. The copies of the letters from Colonels *Barnes* and *Jordan* you omitted to enclose. We hope the necessity of recalling Captains *Thomas* and *Hindman* will soon be removed, and that they will be permitted to march to the Flying-Camp as soon as possible. It is of the last consequence to collect a sufficient force to oppose the *British* Army, which may be hourly expected at *Staten-Island*. General *Washington* has not above fifteen thousand troops. Two battalions of the *Virginia* Regulars are ordered to *New-York*. Four battalions in this Province, and two more in *New-Jersey*, are ordered to reinforce the Flying-Camp.

We agree with you that it will be useless to send men without arms. We have had no opportunity to consult Congress relative to subsistence of the men during the time they are collecting. We doubt not the expense will be Continental. If they should be employed upon your works, it would contribute to their health and defray the expense of provision.

A man who professes to be an adept in the refining of sulphur has applied to us, and enclosed are his terms. We are ignorant whether any quantity of sulphur has been discovered in our Colony, and do not know whether you want such a man.

We have no intelligence from *New-York* since the 19th; Lord *Howe's* fleet had not then arrived. We shall be obliged by the communication of any intelligence worthy of notice, and at all times ready to obey your commands.

Your most obedient servants,

SAML. CHASE,  
T. STONE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

LETTER FROM A MEMBER OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL LEE.

Philadelphia, July 23, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: It would take a volume to tell you how many clever things were said of you and the brave troops under your command, after hearing of your late victory. It has given a wonderful turn to our affairs. The loss of *Canada* had struck the spirits of many people, who now begin to think our cause is not abandoned, and that we shall yet triumph over our enemies.

The Declaration of Independence has produced a new era in this part of *America*. The Militia of *Pennsylvania* seem to be actuated with a spirit more than *Roman*. Near two thousand citizens of *Philadelphia* have lately marched towards *New-York*, in order to prevent an incursion being made by our enemies upon the State of *New-Jersey*. The cry of them all is for battle. I think Mr. *Howe* will not be able to get a footing in *New-York*, and that he will end the present or begin the next campaign in *Canada*, or in some one of the southern Colonies—the only places in which *America* is vulnerable. We depend upon *Gates* in the North, and you oblige us to hope for great things from the South.

The Tories are quiet, but very surly. Lord *Howe's* Proclamation leaves them not a single filament of their cobweb-doctrine of reconciliation.

The spirit of liberty reigns triumphant in *Pennsylvania*. The Proprietary gentry have retired to their country seats, and honest men have taken the seats they abused so much in the government of our State.

The papers will inform you that I have been thrust into Congress. I find there is a great deal of difference between sporting a sentiment in a letter, or over a glass of wine upon politicks, and discharging properly the duty of a Senator: I feel myself unequal to every part of my new situation, except where plain integrity is required.

My former letters to you may pass hereafter for a leaf of the Sibyls. They are full of predictions; and what is still more uncommon, some of them have proved true. I shall go on, and add, that I think the Declaration of Independence will produce union and new exertions in *England* in the same ratio that they have done in this country. The present campaign, I believe, is only designed to train us for the duties of next summer.

Adieu; yours sincerely,

AN OLD FRIEND.

To Major-General *Lee*.

DR. CADWALADER'S CERTIFICATE.

War Office, July 23, 1776.

The bearer, *James Carmichael*, a Continental soldier, says he is so ill as not to be able to join his regiment. Any physician of eminence certifying this will be of service to the man, as he wants to remain until cured.

RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

I have examined *James Carmichael*, and am of opinion that he is incapable of doing the duty of a soldier.

THOMAS CADWALADER.

Philadelphia, Thursday, July 25, 1776.

Last *Tuesday*, the Convention of this Province appointed the following gentlemen as a Council of Safety, viz: *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Mifflin*, *Jonathan B. Smith*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*, *James Cannon*, *Samuel Howell*, *Nathaniel Falconer*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *Joseph Blewer*, *George Gray*, *John Bull*, *Henry Wynkoop*, *Benjamin Bartholomew*, *John Hubley*, *Michael Swoope*, *Daniel Hunter*, *William Lyon*, *Peter Rhoad*, *David Epsey*, *John Witzel*, and *John Moore*, Esquires.

WILLIAM MACLAY TO RICHARD PETERS.

Sunbury, July 23, 1776.

SIR: On notification from the War Office that flints were wanted, I immediately determined to examine what could be produced in that way in this country, my former general acquaintance with the country, in the practice of surveying, enabling me to prosecute such an inquiry with the greater advantage. The bearer, Mr. Ball, will produce you specimens of our success. Some of our gunsmiths, who have tried them in firearms, do not hesitate to pronounce them superior to imported flints. I will, however, be sufficiently happy, if, on general experience, they are found only equal. The vein or quarry appears inexhaustible, situate along the banks of *Penn's Creek*, down which and *Susquehanna* there is a safe and expeditious navigation for boats and canoes great part of the year; the distance from *Sunbury* about ten miles. I will only add, that if it is thought advisable to establish a manufacture of flints at this place, I will cheerfully render every assistance in my power.

And am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

WM. MACLAY.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary of the War Office at *Philadelphia*.

G. NOARTTS TO RICHARD PETERS.

Sunbury, July 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: In consequence of an advertisement put out of the War Office, a number of gentlemen of this County have taken pains to discover a quantity of flint-stone, and have sent Mr. *Thermond Ball* to you with some of it. If, from the specimen which will be delivered to you, it should be found necessary to establish any kind of manufacture of them, I am desired to acquaint you that the gentlemen here are ready to give any assistance in their power.

I am, sir, with respect, your most humble servant,

G. NOARTTS.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary at War, *Philadelphia*.

WILLIAM ALLEN TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

July 23, 1776.

SIR: Since I had the honour of receiving a commission of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army of the honourable Continental Congress, several circumstances have intervened, which render it extremely inconvenient, and indeed impossible, for me any longer to execute the duties of the said commission; wherefore, with the greatest sense of gratitude for your past favours, I humbly beg leave to resign it into your hands.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

WILL. ALLEN.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, Inspection, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 23d day of *July*, 1776:

Present: William Atlee, William Bowsman, Lodwick Lowman, Jacob King, Henry Dehuff, Michael Mussen, Adam Reigart, Edward Shippen, John Miller, and Christopher Crawford.

*William Atlee* in the chair.

The Chairman handed the Committee two packets, received last night, between ten and eleven o'clock, by express; one containing Ordinances of Convention for disarming the Non-Associators; and the other containing Circular Letters from the Convention to the different Colonels and Commanding Officers of the Battalions in this County; which Circular Letters and Ordinances are sent off by expresses, as directed by the honourable the Convention.

The Chairman read to the Committee copies of two Letters: one from the Committee to *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary of the Board of War, acknowledging the arrival of the Prisoners sent here under the conduct of Captain *Sterling*, from *Burlington*; and the other of them to the Honourable *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq., the President of the Convention of this Province; which being read, are approved of, and ordered to be transcribed and forwarded as expeditiously as possible.

*It is Ordered by the Committee, That John Leggit*, of Captain *Watson's* Flying-Camp, do deliver to Captain *Paxton*, of Colonel *Porter's* Battalion, the Gun which Captain *Paxton* sometime ago intrusted him with; and if the said Gun should be in the hands of any other of Captain *Watson's* Company, he is desired to direct the same to be delivered to Captain *Paxton*, who hath engaged, in a Company now forming, to join the Camp in the *Jerseys*.

A number of the reputable inhabitants of *Earl Township* represent to the Committee, that the Militia in that district are about to march in a few days, under Colonel *Peter Grubb*, for the Camp in the *Jerseys*; that several families of the Associators who are obliged to march, will in a short time be in a suffering condition; and request this Committee to appoint such persons as may be proper to take charge of such as may be found not of ability to maintain themselves; and they, at the same time, recommend Mr. *Gabriel Davis* as a person that may be confided in.

The Committee, taking the same into consideration, do, by virtue of the authority to them given by the Resolve of the Committee of Safety of the 15th of *July* instant, nominate and appoint the said *Gabriel Davis* to take care of, and distribute to such distressed families in that district the allowance he shall judge reasonable; and he is requested to undertake this duty, and keep an account of his disbursements, that this Committee may draw on the Committee of Safety for the necessary sums of money, and return the proper account to that Board of his expenditures.

*Joseph Park*, of the Seventh Regiment, and *John Langford*, of the Seventh Regiment, are permitted to work with *Ernest Born*, Weaver—Mr. *Michael Musser* and Mr. *Lewis Peters*, here in Committee, engaging to be answerable for them, agreeable to the Resolves of this Committee.

*William Craig*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *William Tanner*, Weaver—he, here in Committee, engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the Resolves of this Committee.

*Robert Borreas*, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with *John Jordan*—*James Bickman*, Esq., engaging for his good behaviour, &c.

*Thomas Matchin*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, and *John Jack*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, are permitted to work with *Jacob Curry*, Weaver—he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for them, agreeable to the Resolves of this Committee.

*John Dare*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *Joseph Simons*, at the Silversmith's business—he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the Resolves of this Committee.

WILLIAM ATLEE TO BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

In Committee, Lancaster, July 23, 1776.

SIR: Your express arrived here last night between ten and eleven o'clock, with the Ordinance of Convention for disarming the Non-Associators, and the Circular Letters to the Commanding Officers of the Battalions of Associators in this County; and this morning, about eight o'clock, we despatched three expresses to different parts of this County, with a Circular Letter and Ordinance to each of the Commanding Officers of the Battalions, agreeably to the orders of Convention; so that by twelve or one o'clock, to-day, we expect those officers will be possessed of them, and have no doubt will do everything in their power to forward the march of the Militia.

We shall, with great cheerfulness, agreeably to the requisition of Convention, aid and assist them, as far as in our power, to carry the recommendation of Congress into the most immediate and effectual execution, by providing them with every necessary which we possibly can. We have assisted such Captains as have had companies ready, or nearly so, with cash, camp-kettles, and a few muskets and bayonets, and our gunsmiths have been busy for a few days past in repairing their arms. But we think it our duty to mention to the Convention that our stores are nearly exhausted. We have distributed our muskets and bayonets, so that we have hardly sufficient in good order to relieve our necessary guards. Our tin-workers are out of tin, so that no more camp-kettles can be expected from them; and we have taken up the chief part of the cash to be found amongst our moneyed men, which we have distributed amongst the officers, to



enable them to advance something to such of their people as stood in need of it; and beg leave to submit to the Convention, whether money should not be immediately lodged here in proper hands, to be paid by discretion of the Committee to the officers that march with the Militia, for the use of their men, most of whom require some little necessities, and many of them have families with whom they would choose to leave a few shillings. We should be happy to have it in our power to supply these or any other necessities to our Militia as they march. Their applications are to us; and they expect here to be equipped and assisted, and it gives us pain to see their disappointment.

Our tin-workers say there is no tin to be had in *Philadelphia*. Should there be any in the publick magazines to spare, we should keep our tinmen employed in making kettles and canteens for the troops. We shall use our best endeavours to keep our gunsmiths busy, and do everything in our power to execute the orders of the Convention, and promote the general interest; and are, sir, your most obedient humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

W. ATLEE, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq., President of the Convention of *Pennsylvania*.

WILLIAM ATLEE TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

In Committee, Lancaster, July 23, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Sterling* arrived here on the 21st instant, and delivered us your letter of the 16th, mentioning his being appointed to conduct a number of prisoners to this town. The prisoners arrived here with him; and as our barracks were full, we have been under the necessity of taking a house for their accommodation till some additional buildings are made at the barracks; to do which we hourly expect orders from the Committee of Safety, Convention, or Congress.

Captain *William Goodwin*, of the Artillery, before he left this place to proceed with Captain *Sterling* for *Fredericktown*, assured the Committee in writing, under his hand, that, upon his arrival at *Fredericktown*, he would sign the parole directed by Congress. We therefore permitted *John Brown*, one of the prisoners sent to our care, to attend him, with directions to have him sent back under the care of Captain *Sterling*, if Captain *Goodwin*, upon his arrival at *Frederick*, should refuse to sign his parole, and engage for the good behaviour and appearance of his servant.

As Captain *Gamble* experienced the like indulgence at *Philadelphia*, and had his servant from among the prisoners, upon his signing the parole and engaging for him, and as Captain *Sterling* assured us the Congress would have permitted all the prisoners to have had their servants had they not absolutely refused signing the parole, we ventured to favour the application of a gentleman who was represented to us by Captain *Sterling* as a worthy good man, with a family in a distressed situation.

We are, sir, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM ATLEE, *Chairman*.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary of the Board of War, *Philadelphia*.

PETITION OF JONATHAN ROLAND AND OTHERS.

Earl Township, Lancaster County, July 23, 1776.

Whereas the Committee of Safety, *Philadelphia*, July 15, 1776, making a recital in the *Gazette*, No. 2,482, that the Assembly of this Province did, in a former session, resolve, that if any Associator called into actual service should leave a family not of ability to maintain themselves in his absence, the Overseers of the Poor, with the concurrence of one Justice of the Peace of the City or County where such Associator did reside, shall immediately make provision by way of out-pension for the maintenance of such family; and said Committee considering that the funds of said Overseers will prove greatly insufficient whenever a considerable number of Associators are drawn into actual service, the said Committee have resolved, that out of the funds of which they have the disposition, they will make such provision as they shall think necessary to answer the said purposes, and that it is recommended by said Committee to the Committees of Inspection and Observation for the City of *Philadelphia*, and

the several Counties in the Province, to nominate and appoint a proper number of judicious persons residing in said City and Counties, respectively, to distribute to such distressed families the allowance they shall think reasonable.

Whereas we the petitioners, in behalf of ourselves, in this time of emergency, do make our address to you, gentlemen, who are the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the County of *Lancaster*, as we are to set out under Colonel *Peter Grub* in a few days for the Flying-Camp now in the *Jerseys*, and finding that several families belonging to such Associators as are obliged to march away will in a short time be in a suffering condition, in consideration whereof we the petitioners, request, gentlemen, you would nominate such persons as you may think proper to take the charge of such as may be found not of ability to maintain themselves in our district.

Gentlemen, if it might not be thought impertinent in your petitioners to mention a person for the above purpose, we would be satisfied you would nominate *Gabriel Davis*, as he is a person we confide in to give us satisfaction in our absence; and your petitioners are in duty bound to pray.

JONATHAN ROLAND,  
GEORGE LIGHTNER,  
VALENTINE BAUER,  
AMOS SCHNEIDER,  
PETER BAKER,  
HENRY PETTERS,  
PETER SCHAEFFER,  
HENRY MARKLE,  
JOHN LIGHTNER,  
MICHAEL BRUBAKER,  
VALENTINE REINTZER.

CAPTAIN CREGIER TO THOMAS RANDALL.

Cranberry Inlet, July 23, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour about four weeks since, by the hands of Dr. *Boyd*, wherein I found you advised me to join Captain *Rogers*; but understanding *Rogers* was gone to the Sound in order to refit; and what more induced me to keep to the southward was my having expectation of meeting with some of the fleet, which I much expected this way, but have been deprived of that satisfaction. There appeared six sail one day, and seven sail the other day; but they were all large ships under strong convoys, so there was no doing anything with them, and every day frigates cruising along this coast. Three days ago fell in with a ship and sloop tender about ten guns, the frigate being about a mile and a half from the sloop, and was determined to give the sloop battle, but could not bring her to battle. I have been assisting in bringing into this and *Egg-Harbour* Inlet, two prizes taken from the *West-Indies* by two different privateers. One of those prizes I had much trouble with, and in short was three days at work getting the other into port, who lay aground on the bar of *Egg-Harbour*, a ship of three hundred tons, laden with sugar, rum, and molasses, bound to *Bristol*.

I am too well informed that your city is invaded by pirates and ruffians, whom I hope in God to hear a good account of, and that very shortly.

My provisions grow short, and in a little time shall want a new supply, unless I fall in with some of the enemy's store vessels; but as for that I cannot promise myself, but will discharge my duty in the search of them; and as for being supplied by the way of *Long-Island*, I believe there is no prospect, as I do imagine the troops intend landing on the said Island. My bread is but very indifferent, and does not keep good; although it is aired every fortnight, yet it moulds very fast, and believe it never was made of sound flour. You know I laid in only four months' provisions, and you may judge how long what remains will serve me.

My people begin to want many articles, and I would be glad if you will send me some cash, that I may furnish them with a little. I have advanced of my own cash to the officers and men £39. The custom out of *Philadelphia* is to advance half of their wages monthly, and beg you will send me whatever you think proper, and charge the same to me.

I beg your advice in every respect; and any instructions given me I shall gladly comply with. Myself, officers, and men, are willing at any time to march to your assistance, on the shortest notice; and I am willing to sacrifice both life

and everything to serve my country. Whatever instructions you may have, let me have by the bearer, my chief Lieutenant.

I remain, with due respect, your humble servant,

THOMAS CREGIER.

To *Thomas Randall, Esq.*, Member of the Provincial Congress in *New-York*, or any of the Marine Committee in *New-York*.\*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 24, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

New-York, July 23, 1776.

SIR: I was honoured with your favour of the 20th, by yesterday's post, since which, and my letter, nothing of moment has occurred.

The ships mentioned in my letter of the 21st to have been in the offing, got in that day, and are supposed to be part of the *Scotch* fleet, having landed some Highlanders yesterday.

Enclosed I have the honour to transmit you copies of a letter and sundry resolutions, which I received last night from the Convention of this State. They will inform you of the computed number of inhabitants and stock upon *Nassau-Island*, and their sentiments on the impracticability of removing the latter, and also of the measures they think necessary and likely to secure them.

I have also enclosed a letter from Mr. *Faesh* to Lord *Sirling*, upon the subject of a cannon furnace for the use of the States. Congress will see his plan and proposals, and determine upon them as they shall judge proper.

I am, sir, with every sentiment of respect, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

\*To the Honourable the Congress of New-York, assembled at the WHITE-PLAINS, in the State of New-York:

The humble petition of us the subscribers sheweth: That we have been four months in the service of the *American* States, on board the schooner *General Putnam*, during which time we have not been to sea but eleven days, all the rest of the time we have spent inactively at the head of inlets, five or six miles from the mouths thereof, from whence, at any emergency, we could not put out without great difficulty, and often not at all. That we have at sundry times lain a week, sometimes longer, in an inlet; and in one we have lain at anchor, four or five miles from the mouth, a full month, without ever attempting to go out, or scarcely offering to send any person to look out. That numbers of vessels have passed and repassed without our endeavouring to speak them, notwithstanding it was the opinion of the officers we had several opportunities very favourable. That with our commander, *Thomas Cregier* on board, we have not been out of this inlet in seven weeks. That our said commander hath several times insulted the officers when they have candidly advised him, and gave them to understand that their business was only to answer a question when asked, and not attempt giving advice. That in correcting the people for slight or no offences, he hath used unlawful weapons; once presenting a pistol to the breast of one *Byrns* for only requesting to know what his stated allowance was, and swearing by God he would blow a ball through him. At another time, with a large hickory club, striking one *Bell* on the head and much wounding him, for what, in our opinion, scarcely appeared a crime. That in no one thing has he complied with the resolves of the Congress, his whole conduct being one series of folly, vice, and inconsistencies, setting the most scandalous examples to the people, swearing, lying, and frequenting the company of the most contemptible of women, presenting the private property of others to them. Also at sundry times giving the ship's and cabin stores away. We are sorry to have occasion to lay these charges against our commander; but, black as they are, they can be proved by the journals of the officers and the evidence of the most respectable persons in these parts. That, by these means, he hath rendered himself despicable to every man on board; has greatly dissatisfied every friend of the cause, and become the derision of its foes. That we cannot with honour serve any longer under the command of the said *Thomas Cregier*. That it is our sincere opinion (with him as our commander) we have not done the least service to our country, and the season of the year being so far advanced, we humbly conceive the vessel unfit to be continued in the service, she being weakened, and consequently would endanger our lives in a gale of wind; besides, she leaks so that not a man in the hold can lay dry in the cabins. And, at the same time, we solemnly declare our ardent desire to exert our utmost abilities in defence of our distressed country in any station where there is a probability of doing it, and profess ourselves fully satisfied with the conduct of our Lieutenant, Mr. *Quigley*, and the officers in general. And though we confess it would be most agreeable to have a discharge from this vessel, yet, if your honourable House should think proper to continue us therein, (as long as the season will admit,) under the command of Mr. *Quigley*, or any other person you shall appoint, except the said *Thomas Cregier*, we shall cheerfully comply; for we beg leave to assure you that we glory in yielding obedience to your commands; but humbly request, for the honour and interest of our country and ourselves, that the said *Thomas Cregier* may be cashiered. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Jno. James Boyd, Surgeon.

George Shell, Gunner.

John Thomas, Carpenter.

John Trail, Boatswain.

John Pritchett,

William Radley, Cook.

John Hardy,

Thomas Shourds,

Benj. Woodruff,

William Willase,

William Bell,

Thomas Stills,

Timothy Byrns,

Henry Basset,

Isaac Pritchett,

Samuel Turner,

Ezekiel Heagen,

Morgan Lahy,

John Thayer,

Nathaniel Larence,

Mack Donol,

Josiah Davis, Steward.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
July 20, 1776. }

SIR: I have the honour to enclose your Excellency, by order of the Convention, a copy of sundry resolves which were yesterday agreed to, for the defence of the inhabitants and protection of the stock on *Nassau-Island*; and beg leave to submit to your consideration a short state of the situation and circumstances of that Island and its inhabitants, from which you will see the inutility of any attempts for a total removal of the stock from thence.

It is supposed there are near one hundred thousand head of horned cattle, besides a much larger number of sheep and other stock, the removal of which would necessarily consume the greatest part of the campaign. But supposing the same could be effected in a short time, vast numbers of the stock must inevitably perish for want of subsistence, as it could not be procured within any reasonable distance. Besides, such a measure would reduce the inhabitants, computed from twenty-five to thirty thousand, to the most deplorable and insuperable difficulties and distresses. These considerations have induced the Convention to give over the thought of removing the stock from the Island, as not only impracticable, but not advance of the publick service, especially as the waste and common lands in the easternmost part of *Queen's* and *Suffolk* Counties are so covered with thickets of wood, as to render it too dangerous for foraging parties to attempt to penetrate.

I trust that the Militia now to be raised, (which is expected to form a corps of between seven hundred and nine hundred men,) with the troops already stationed at the east end of the Island, may be sufficient to remove the stock from those places which are most exposed, and prevent the depredations of small detachments. And should the enemy attempt, with their main Army, to fix themselves on any part of the Island, I doubt not but your Excellency will give a good account of them.

The Convention have received information that there are a considerable number of fatted cattle and sheep on the Island. They submit whether it would not be proper that the Commissary-General should be requested to give the preference in purchasing to these cattle.

I cannot conclude without expressing my wishes that the detachment under Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston* may be continued at their present post, for that part of the Island is so much exposed to be insulted by the enemy's cruisers, that I fear the inhabitants would totally abandon the country should those troops be drawn off.

I have the honour to be, most respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

NATHAN. WOODHULL, President.

To His Excellency General Washington.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
July 20, 1776. }

This Convention having taken into consideration the expediency of removing the Stock from *Nassau-Island*:

*Resolved*, That it will not be for the publick good, provided it were practicable, to remove the Stock from the Island, except such Cattle, Sheep, and Hogs, as are fit for the use of the Army.

2d. That the common Stock in *Suffolk*, *King's*, and *Queen's* Counties, be put in such convenient and secure places in each County as may be most convenient, to be guarded by a sufficient number of Troops, and to be driven off into the interior parts of *Nassau-Island*, whenever the Commanding Officer or Officers of the said Troops shall order, to prevent such Stock from falling into the enemy's hands; leaving, if he shall judge it safe and necessary, with each large family, three Milch-Cows, two Cows to a middling farm, and one to a small family. And if the said Commanding Officer finds that he cannot prevent the Stock from falling into the enemy's hands, he may order them to be killed or destroyed.

3d. And to the intent that no person may be a loser by said Stock being killed or destroyed,

*Resolved*, That the oath or affirmation of the owner of Cattle, describing their number, age, and qualities, shall be a direction for the valuation of such Cattle, driven from his possession: *Provided*, That no person who has joined, or shall go over to and join the enemy, or who has been or

shall be in anywise aiding or assisting the enemy, shall, in consequence of this resolve, be entitled to a compensation for any loss he shall or may sustain.

4th. That the Commanding Officer of each Battalion of Minute-Men and Militia in *Suffolk*, *Queen's*, and *King's* Counties, be ordered immediately to draught out one-fourth part of the Minute-Men and Militia of said Counties, and carry these resolves into execution; and that the Field-Officers of the Minute and Militia Regiments in each County do appoint such Captains and Subalterns to command such draughts, out of the Militia or Minute Officers, as they shall judge most proper; and that the draughts be formed into Companies, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, three Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and fifty Privates. And in case any draughts shall be left after the Companies are completed, and not sufficient to form another Company, Officers shall be appointed for them in the following proportion: one Captain and one Lieutenant, two Sergeants and two Corporals, for forty Privates; two Lieutenants, two Sergeants, two Corporals, for thirty Privates; and one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, and one Corporal, for twenty Privates—each man to find his own arms and accoutrements. That the Field-Officers of the said Militia, so to be draughted, be appointed by this Convention. The troops so raised to have Continental pay and rations, and to continue in service until the last day of *December* next, unless they shall be sooner discharged. That the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of the said Troops, who shall furnish themselves with a good and sufficient Musket or Firelock, Cartouch-box and Belt, and Bayonet or Hatchet, shall be allowed ten dollars bounty to each man.

5th. *Resolved*, That the Brigadier-General of *Suffolk* and *Queen's* Counties be directed to order the Militia of those Counties to hold themselves in readiness to march into either of the said Counties, or any other part of *Nassau-Island*, on the shortest notice, with five days' Provisions. And that the President of this Convention be, and he is hereby, directed to write a Letter to the Colonel of the Militia of *King's* County, ordering that he hold his Regiment in the like readiness, to march to any part of *Nassau-Island*, with five days' Provisions.

6th. *Resolved*, That Colonel *Josiah Smith*, of *Suffolk* County, be First Colonel of the Troops to be raised by draughts from the Militia on *Nassau-Island*; that Colonel *John Sands* be Second Colonel of those Troops, with the rank of Colonel, but with the pay of a Lieutenant-Colonel; and that *Abraham Remsen* be Major; that Colonel *Benjamin Birdsall*, at south side of *Queen's* County, take the command of one Company of those draughts, with Chaplain's pay, saving his rank.

7th. *Resolved*, That the Rations of the said Troops be estimated at the rate of 10½d. each, which they are to receive in Money, in lieu of Provisions.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary*.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
White-Plains, July 22, 1776. }

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the Colonels of each Regiment of Troops to be draughted from the Militia of the Counties of *Dutchess*, *Westchester*, *Ulster*, *Orange*, *Suffolk*, *King's*, and *Queen's*, be each of them, respectively, a Muster-master of the several Regiments draughted or inlisted in the said Counties; and that each of said Colonels do return, upon oath, to this Convention, a Muster-Roll of the Regiment by him so mustered as aforesaid; and that no person so draughted or inlisted, receive his Bounty until he shall have passed muster.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the one-half of the Bounty to be given to the draughts from the Militia in the said Counties, be sent to the Committee of each County, to be paid unto the said Troops immediately upon and after their passing muster as aforesaid; and that the remainder of the Bounty be paid when the said Troops shall be mustered by the Continental Muster-master, at their respective places of rendezvous; and that his Excellency General *Washington* be requested to cause the said musters to be completed with all possible despatch.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 25, 1776.]

New-York, July 23, 1776.

SIR: Since I had the pleasure of writing you, by this morning's post, I was favoured with a letter from Governour *Trumbull*, a copy of which is enclosed, and to which I beg leave to refer you.

In regard to the stock he mentions, I wrote to him requesting that they might be removed from the Island on which they were, as I conceived it of great importance to distress the enemy as much as possible in the article of fresh provisions. I wish the other Governments may follow his example, and have it removed from the Islands belonging to them respectively.

When the ships of war and tenders went up the river, it was thought expedient that application should be made for the *Connecticut* row-galleys and those belonging to *Rhode-Island*, in order to attempt something for their destruction. As soon as they arrive we shall try to employ them in some useful way; but in what, or how successfully, I cannot at present determine.

Congress will please to observe what Mr. *Trumbull* says respecting the Continental regiment raising under Colonel *Ward*. If they incline to give any orders about their destination, you will please to communicate them by the earliest opportunity, as their march will be suspended till they are known.

The orders Mr. *Trumbull* has given to the officers of the cruisers to stop provision vessels, seem to be necessary. We have too much reason to believe that some have gone voluntarily to the enemy; and that there are many persons who would contrive to furnish them with large supplies; and however upright the intentions of others may be, it will be a matter of the utmost difficulty, if not an impossibility, for any to escape falling into their hands now, as every part of the coast, it is probable, will swarm with their ships of war and tenders. I had proposed writing to the Convention of this State upon the subject before I received his letter, and am now more persuaded of the necessity of their taking some steps to prevent further exportations down the *Sound*. In my next I shall inform them of the intelligence received from Mr. *Trumbull*, and recommend the matter to their attention.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. It appears absolutely necessary that the exportation of provisions should be stopped; our Army is large, and otherwise may want; nor can individuals be injured, as they have a ready-money market for everything they have to dispose of in that way.

Lebanon, July 17, 1776.

SIR: Your favours of the 7th and 9th instant are duly received. It gives me pleasure to meet your approbation of the measure of sending our regiments of Horse to join you. I make no doubt they will cheerfully acquiesce in whatever you shall direct respecting their horses, as the general good of the service ought to be, and I believe is, their governing principle. I find our battalions are filling up fast, and moving to your assistance.

The stock of horned cattle and sheep are removed from *Fisher's Island* and the *Elizabeth-Islands*. *Block-Island* lies in the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, and the *Elizabeth-Islands* and *Martha's Vineyard* are in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*: I cannot, therefore, with propriety, give any orders for the removal of the fresh provisions from them.

I am sorry it is not in my power to comply with your requisition for heavy cannon without leaving our port or harbour of *New-London* in too defenceless a state. By a return from the overseer of our cannon-foundry at *Salisbury* I find they have cast fourteen six, eighteen nine, and eight twelve-pounders, and are proceeding to bore them out and fit them for use. He has my orders, when the twelve-pounders are finished, to deliver them to your Excellency's order, to be used where they may be most wanted, without waiting for further orders from me. Ball for twelve-pounders are also to be had there. Should you have occasion, you will please to give orders accordingly. I expect eighteen-pounders will be soon cast there, which is the largest size we can hope for from that furnace.

I have ordered two of our row-galleys to proceed to *New-York*, and trust they will be with you at the receipt of this; they have no guns larger than nine-pounders. I wish it

may be in your power to make them more useful, by placing heavier metal upon them, whilst they continue in your service.

The Continental regiment raising in this Colony is now in some measure filled up, mustered, equipped, and ready to march; but as there seems to be much danger from the prevalence of the small-pox in *Boston*, should they march there, and as the whole force of the enemy on this side seems to be directed against you at *New-York*, I have thought it best they should suspend their march towards *Boston* till your pleasure might be known whether they should join the Army at *New-York* or proceed for *Boston*.

Since the arrival of the fleet and army at the *Hook*, several frigates and ships have been stationed between *Montauk Point* and *Block-Island*, to intercept the trade from the *Sound*, in which they have been so successful that they have derived great advantage from the provision vessels they have taken. And as, by frequent advices from the Captains of our armed vessels, and others, it appeared highly improbable that any vessel going out or coming in by that passage could avoid falling into their hands; and as several vessels were prepared and preparing in sundry places to proceed to sea with cargoes of provisions, the owners of which must be presumed to be ignorant of the hazard they run in getting out; and sensible of how great importance it is that all supplies of provisions should be kept back from the enemy; and having good grounds to believe that some evil-minded persons have designedly carried provisions to the enemy, or thrown themselves in their way, as your Excellency will see by the enclosed copies of depositions taken and sent to Congress,—I have given orders to the Captains of the armed vessels in the service of this Colony to stop and detain all provision vessels coming out of any port in this Colony, or through the *Sound*, and bound to sea, for the present, and until the Continental Congress and the Congresses or Conventions of the Colonies or States to which they respectively belong, may be apprized of the hazards attending their proceeding in their voyages, and, on consideration, shall give such orders as they may think fit respecting the same. The apparent necessity of the measure will, I flatter myself, justify me in taking it, where it is known and properly explained. To prevent or obviate any misrepresentation, is my motive for troubling your Excellency with this account.

I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your obedient humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

19th.—Received your favour of the 15th instant, which induced me to send orders immediately to *Thomas Stanton*, Captain of our other row-galley, the *Shark*, to proceed with her forthwith to *New-York*, and subject himself to your command. Wish him safe, and serviceable to your designs.

20th.—Colonel *Ward*, of the Continental battalion lately ordered to be raised here, and mentioned above, informs me that his regiment is not much beyond half filled, occasioned by their being raised for a longer time and receiving less bounty than others. Since many are ordered from *Boston*, and this may be stationed on the works below or in the environs, at places out of danger of the infection from the small-pox, will it not be best this battalion should be ordered to march to that place, first mentioned for their destination? They are principally men who have not seen service. Please to give the earliest notice of your pleasure therein.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO BARON DE CALBIAC.

New-York, July 23, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of yesterday, and in answer thereto, I am to inform you, at the same time that I commend the good intentions which you profess induced your countrymen to leave their families and homes, that I have done the only thing in my power to favour their views. On their first arrival and introduction to me, I gave them a letter to the Continental Congress, to whom it was necessary to make known their wishes, and from whom any appointment they expect must come. This, I am persuaded, you are sensible of, and would wish you to communicate to them. Their pretensions will be duly considered, and if supported by proper credentials, I make no doubt but suitable regard will be had to their merits. Your and their good sense will readily suggest the propriety and expediency of their furnishing some testimonial and recommendation previous to any appointment. These would have been proper at any time, but the late instance of treachery and ingratitude in Monsieur , in deserting and taking the command of a party of the enemy in *Canada*, after he had been promoted to office in the service of the United Colonies, makes them indispensably necessary, though I do not entertain the least suspicion of the honour and integrity of the gentlemen of whom you write, or mean to insinuate that a conduct like Monsieur would frequently happen. I might further add, that the unacquaintance of our soldiers with any language but their own makes them unwilling and impatient under the command of foreigners, unless they are men of high reputation. Nor will they consent thereto but on that account, and where they possess great military knowledge. It therefore follows, that any appointments these gentlemen may obtain will not be attended with any good purposes or satisfaction to themselves, unless they are to corps of their own people, or those who understand their language. I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Baron *De Calbiac*.

A Return of the Ammunition and other Utensils at the different Forts on LONG-ISLAND, July 23, 1776.

		Paper cartridges.	Flannel cartridges.	Round shot.	Grape shot.	Case shot.	Bar shot.	Port-fires.	Tubes.	Spunges.	Worms.	Ladles.	Powderhorns.	Linestocks.	Handspikes.	Aprons.	Oil cloths.
At Fort Greene .....	6-pounds 2...	100	23	100	50	-	-	12	48	2	2	2	2	2	8	2	-
	3-pounds 3...	43	200	43	-	-	-	24	130	3	3	3	3	3	8	3	2
	12-pounds 2...	60	-	61	-	34	-	-	-	3	2	2	2	2	8	2	-
At Fort Pulnam.....	6-pounds 1...	50	8	48	30	-	-	2	24	2	1	1	1	1	4	1	-
	3-pounds 2...	32	120	32	-	-	-	3	60	4	2	2	1	2	6	2	1
	32-pounds 3...	122	124	124	20	-	50	-	4	4	4	3	4	4	16	3	-
At Fort Stirling.....	18-pounds 2...	50	50	50	-	-	20	-	-	2	2	2	2	2	8	2	-
	6-pounds 1...	50	8	50	-	-	-	-	24	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	-
	3-pounds 1...	15	24	15	-	-	-	5	-	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	-
At Cobble Hill.....	9-pounds 2...	175	60	190	50	38	38	3	96	3	2	2	3	3	8	2	-
	3-pounds 1...	15	49	15	-	-	-	4	35	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
At Redoubt at the Mill,	3-pounds 1...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	4	-	-

Musket Cartridges.					
	Fort Greene.		Cobble Hill.	Fort Stirling.	
oz. balls,	15,072	oz. balls,	2,592	oz. balls,	3,432
20	3,728	20	1,056	23	1,920
21	2,956	21	1,000	24	2,000
23	504	22	1,000	-	-
26	2,640	23	960	-	-
32	1,200	24	1,000	-	-
-	-	26	1,200	-	-
-	26,100	-	8,808	-	7,352
					8,808
					26,100
				Total.....	42,260

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 23, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is a letter sent me by Colonel *Varnum*, relative to Captain *Read*. Your Excellency can best determine the force of the reasons offered for a discharge. The First Lieutenant of the company, perhaps, may make as good a Captain as the present acting one.

Colonel *Hand* reports that the enemy continues as they were.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

NATH. GREENE.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 23, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is a letter sent me by Colonel *Varnum*, relative to Captain *Read*. Your Excellency can best determine the force of the reasons offered for a discharge. The First Lieutenant of the company, perhaps, may make as good a Captain as the present acting one.

Colonel *Hand* reports that the enemy continues as they were.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

NATH. GREENE.



Red-Hook, July 22, 1776.

SIR: As I mentioned to you before, Captain *Read* is soliciting for a discharge. The reason, he is informed by letters which he cannot discredit, that his wife is verging to the close of life by means of a chronick disorder, which appears too inveterate to yield to the efficacy of medicine. He cannot so far stifle the tender emotions of conjugal affection as to remain in absence. The distance is so great that he cannot wish to injure the service by requesting a furlough, leaving a weakness in the command of his country. From these circumstances I am induced to request you to represent his prayer to the Commander-in-Chief, whose exalted wisdom and humanity cannot fail of directing what is right in so disagreeable a situation.

I am, sir, your very humble servant, J. VARNUM.  
To General *Greene*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED HUNTINGTON, LONG-ISLAND,  
NEW-YORK, JULY 23, 1776.

Yesterday, the freedom and independency of the *Thirteen United Colonies* was, with beat of drum, proclaimed at the several places of parade, by reading the Declaration of the General Congress, together with the Resolutions of our Provincial Convention thereupon; which were approved and applauded by the animated shouts of the people, who were present from all the distant quarters of this district. After which, the flag which used to wave on Liberty Pole, having "Liberty" on one side, and "George III." on the other, underwent a reform—i. e., the Union was cut off, and the letters *George III.* were discarded, being publickly ripped off; and then an effigy of the person represented by those letters, being hastily fabricated out of base materials, with its face black, like *Dunmore's Virginia* regiment, its head adorned with a wooden crown and stuck full of feathers, like *Carleton's* and *Johnson's* savages, and its body wrapped in the Union, instead of a blanket or robe of State, and lined with gunpowder, which the original seems to be fond of,—the whole, together with the letters above mentioned, were hung on a gallows, exploded, and burnt to ashes. In the evening, the Committee of this town, with a large number of the principal inhabitants, sat round the genial board, and drank thirteen patriotick toasts, among which were, The Free and Independent States of *America*; The General Congress; The Conventions of the Thirteen States; Our principal military Commanders; and success and enlargement to the *American* Navy. Nor was the memory of our late brave heroes, who have gloriously lost their lives in the cause of liberty and their country, forgotten.

Southampton, Suffolk County, New-York, July 23, 1776.

Last *Monday* afternoon, was exhibited to view in this town a very agreeable prospect: the old gentlemen, grandfathers, to the age of seventy years and upwards, met, agreeably to appointment, and formed themselves into an Independent company. Each man was well equipped with a good musket, powder, ball, cartridges, &c., and unanimously made choice of *Elias Pelletreau*, Esq., for their leader, (with other suitable officers,) who made a very animating speech to them, on the necessity of holding themselves in readiness to go into the field in time of invasion. They cheerfully agreed to it, and determined, at the risk of their lives, to defend the free and Independent States of *America*. May such a shining example stimulate every father on *Long-Island* in particular, and *America* in general, to follow their aged brethren here.

CAPTAIN DENTON TO GENERAL WOODHULL.

New-York, July 23, 1776.

SIR: Some weeks ago, the Second Lieutenant of my company secretly deserted it; but, previous to his leaving me, he assigned his warrant over to *Cadwalader Moore*, one of my Sergeants, a young man every way well qualified to act in the capacity of an officer, and who bears an unexceptionable character, and is of good family. Upon relating the circumstance of my being destitute of a Second Lieutenant to my company to some of the members of the late Committee of Safety, they told me they would mention the matter in Committee; and shortly afterwards I was informed by Mr. *Cooper*, (one of the members I had mentioned the affair to,) that the Committee had ordered that *James Mil-*

*ler*, my Ensign, should be Second Lieutenant, and *Cadwalader Moore* Ensign; and upon that, *Moore* went to some expense in purchasing regimentals, and has ever since appeared in the character of an officer. Lately, the commissions were issued for most of the officers of the regiment, but Mr. *Miller's* commission was detained from him, and no commission issued to Mr. *Moore*, which occasions some uneasiness in my company. I must therefore request the favour of you to lay the affair before the Convention; and if any further light is required on it, Mr. *Strong*, the bearer, will be able to give it. I have the only full company in the regiment, which makes me take the greater liberty of mentioning the affair to you.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,  
DANIEL DENTON,  
Captain in Third Regiment New-York Forces.  
To Nathaniel Woodhull, Esq.

REPORT ON COMMISSIONS FOR CAPTAIN DENTON'S COMPANY.

Your Committee, appointed to take into consideration the letter received from Captain *Daniel Denton*, dated 23d instant, and from such information as they could collect, do report:

That a commission be made out for *James Miller*, as a Second Lieutenant, bearing date the 3d day of *May* last; and another for *Cadwalader Moore*, as Ensign, bearing date the same day, both in the company commanded by Captain *Denton*, and in Colonel *Ritzema's* regiment.

COLONEL CORTLANDT AND CAPTAIN PLATT TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Peekskill, July 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: There was yesterday a council of war held at *Fort Montgomery*, where it was agreed that three hundred men would be a sufficient guard on the east side of *Hudson's River*, from *Anthony's Nose* to *Croton*; but as all the troops belonging to this State are withdrawn, the whole draught has fallen on the *New-England* forces, who have agreed to stay until *Saturday* next, but we think it will be impracticable to prevail on them to stay any longer there. Beg the Convention would order such parts of the new levies as may be raised to be on the ground at that time, to relieve them. Colonel *Cortlandt's* regiment has been called out, and I think there may be depended on about fifty or sixty of the new levies from the said regiment by *Saturday*. About three hundred of the *New-England* troops returned home this day; and by some pay-rolls delivered in, it appears that their subsistence money, for men and horses, will amount to near six hundred pounds. Therefore, in order to pay said subsistences, and discharge sundry other accounts, request the Convention to give an order on the Treasurer of this State for six hundred pounds, to be paid to the bearer, *John Levinus*.

No particular occurrences have happened. The ships remain a little below *Verplanck's Point*. Have made no attempts to land lately. One of their barges was seen night before last rowing down the river by *Teller's Point*. We have since ordered twenty men stationed at *Albert Aarsen's*, below *Croton*. The detachment from General *Ten Broeck's* brigade have also left *Fort Constitution* and the heights they were ordered to occupy above *Anthony's Nose*, it is supposed in order to raise their men.

Remain, gentlemen, your very humble servants,  
PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT;  
ZEPHA. PLATT.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

P. S. This instant an officer arrived here by order of General *Washington*, in search of three *French* gentlemen, whom he found here. They are suspected of being spies from *Canada*.

GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Montgomery, July 23, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with your Excellency's commands of the 17th instant, and am happy to find the measures taken here for the reception of the enemy's shipping approved. Yesterday some of the carpenters from *Poughkeepsie* arrived at this place with the fire-rafts. They are

constructed on the plan lately transmitted to your Excellency by my brother. We are busy preparing, and hope to be able to-morrow or next day to draw them across the river, though I fear we will be put to great difficulty in procuring anchors, cables, &c., for securing them. The combustible matter with which they are filled will, I apprehend, hardly be quick enough, for want of spirits of turpentine and saltpetre. We have neither, and I don't know where to apply for or how to procure these necessary articles. Should the enemy ever attempt to gain possession of this fortress by land, with equal numbers only, we are in a bad situation to defend it. The hill on the south side of *Poopen's Kill*, and not above one-seventh of a mile distant, overlooks every gun almost in our battery, which lies in open view of it. It is accessible to the enemy from a landing that we cannot command with our batteries, by a road along which field-pieces may easily be brought up. We must, for the safety of these works, keep a large body of men there, should the enemy attempt landing, if no works are erected. If fortified, a less number will hold the ground, annoy the enemy's shipping, and render us safe from that quarter or any attempt by land. Indeed, it is the spot where our first works should, in my poor judgment, have been made. Mr. Jay, Messrs. *Livingston*, *Mr. Tappen*, and *Mr. Yates*, a Committee of Provincial Congress lately at this place, are of opinion with me, that this fortress is by no means safe, unless that height is secured. General *Fellows* and other officers from the eastward are all of the same opinion. They advised me to begin some small works there. I have laid such out, as well as I know how; and the Militia are employed in making fascines and other necessary preparations which are not attended with any publick expense; but I can't think of doing anything more than making a small breastwork for musketry, until I receive your Excellency's orders on this head, especially as there may be good reasons against erecting any such works, which, from my want of military knowledge, don't occur to me. A few cannon would serve them; and these, I think, may be spared from other fortifications here, where they cannot be so serviceable.

I find large arrears are due to the few artificers, carters, &c., employed in completing these works. Since the Commissioners of Congress were dismissed, I believe there has not been any money furnished the commanding officer for that purpose. They are uneasy, discontented, and, in my opinion, do not half work. We dare not drive them till able to pay them, and are obliged to use our own private cash and credit to prevent their leaving us, which they threaten, and we can't as yet do without them.

Nothing of any great importance has happened since my last. On the 16th instant the enemy's shipping came under way, and proceeded up the river opposite the stores at *Haverstraw*, about eight miles above where they first lay, opposite *Tarrytown*. They discharged a few shot at the houses on the west shore, without doing any damage. I went down there next day, caused the goods to be removed out of the stores, and the cattle, sheep, &c., contiguous to the shore, to places of safety, and ordered one hundred and eighty Militia, under a prudent officer, to protect that neighbourhood and prevent the enemy getting any supplies. In the afternoon a tender sloop made sail, and ran up within full view and long-shot of our battery, sounding the river carefully as she beat up. We gave her a thirty-two-pounder, which hit her; she put about, and fell down to the shipping, plundering a small house on her return, near the shore, before our people could possibly get there.

The 17th instant, the *Rose*, Captain *Wallace*, and the same tender, came under sail. The tender, soon after, endeavouring to cover a barge in shore at which our people were firing, ran aground, and did not get off before evening. The *Rose* proceeded up within three miles of this, plundered a poor man's house, and set it on fire. Captain *Wallace* headed the party who committed this little robbery; his share of the plunder was a handkerchief full of salad and a pig so very poor that a crow would scarcely deign to eat it. The house stood single under a mountain, and we thought the poverty of the owner would be a sufficient protection, though we had a party not far distant, but they were not able to arrive time enough to prevent the mischief. Their being able to move from place to place so much quicker by water than we can by land, is much against us. However, I think I have my party so disposed of now as to prevent

effectually any mischief in future. The *Rose* fell down in the evening near to where the tender run aground, and the next day the *Phoenix* moved up to her; so that they now all lay about five or six miles below us.

A deserter swam on shore from the *Rose* a few nights ago. I directed Colonels *Nicoll* and *Hay* to take and transmit to your Excellency his examination, which I hope you have received. He was a volunteer in our service last summer, was taken on board of one of our privateers last winter by the *Rose*, is now here, and well known by our Artillery officer and people.

I am very apprehensive that the enemy's shipping (from their moving up so near us, and other little circumstances) mean to take the advantage of a dark night, and slip by us. The shores are high and bold, and the navigation of course safe and easy. To prevent this, I keep out an advanced guard every night on the extreme point in view, about two and a half miles below our works, properly prepared to kindle up a large light fire on the shipping's heaving in sight; I have also on the shore, opposite the battery, for a considerable distance up and down the river, large piles of dry brushwood, mixed with leaves and the best combustible matter I can procure, with proper persons to set them on fire upon the signals being given from the first point; so that, by having them between us and those lights, we will be able to play upon them with great advantage, while our shore will be thereby darkened to them.

The Militia from *New-England*, on the opposite shore, have lately applied to our Congress at *White-Plains* for leave to return home. They referred the matter to a council of war to be held here, and yesterday General *Fellows* and other officers attended on that business. The result was, that all should be dismissed but three hundred, who were to continue to defend the shore. I think that number sufficient.

I am sorry to trouble your Excellency with so long a letter. I am induced to give you so particular an account of the motions of the enemy here, that, by comparing them with their movements below, some judgment may, perhaps, be formed of their designs, while diffidence of my own judgment in military operations leads me to inform your Excellency of every little step we have taken. These considerations, I hope, will apologize for my being so prolix.

I am, with the highest respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. CLINTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. Since writing the above, Messrs. *Livingston*, *Van Zandt*, and *Lawrence*, arrived here to consult upon the most advisable way of fixing a chain across the river, and to view the shores. The ship-carpenters at *Poughkeepsie* are making more rafts and other matters advised by the Committee of Congress. The bearer may be trusted with your Excellency's commands for this post.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED AT FORT MONTGOMERY, IN THE HIGHLANDS, JULY 23, 1776.

The *British* piratical rovers up the river were then below *Verplanck's Point*. Their intentions were unknown; but it plainly appeared that their design in coming up was entirely frustrated. They were far from expecting we were so well prepared to receive them, especially at the Fort. They were well watched on both sides the river; and, on *Friday* last, one of their tenders having got aground, would have been destroyed by our people on shore, had it not been for want of boats. A continual fire of musketry was kept upon her till she was relieved by the assistance of the *Rose* man-of-war.

Captain *Wallace*, the noted pirate, with about thirty men, landed at *Haverstraw*, where they set fire to the house of Captain *Lilly*, a noted Tory, who was the first and only one who received a specimen of the kind treatment they as well as others may expect from their newly-adopted friends. The *British* Act of Parliament makes no distinction between such and the freemen of *America*.

We have at this post one thousand men, well equipped; seven hundred at *Fort Constitution*; and several thousands at *Peekskill*, on both sides of the river. At General *Clinton's* request, I came down here to assist in preparations for a proper reception of the enemy, should they deign to favour us with a visit.

Last *Thursday*, a prisoner escaped by swimming from on board the *Rose* man-of-war. He is a native of *Boston*, well known to many officers and men from thence, in the *Train*. Was last summer in the service. He was taken by the *Rose*, on his passage from *Ipswich* to the *West-Indies*; so that his information respecting those worse than freebooters may be relied on, viz:

That by the conversation of the *Rose's* crew, he found that they expected, on coming up, to be joined by five hundred Tories, who were to have driven down with them plenty of stock of all sorts; that they had been informed great quantities of provision and goods of all kinds were deposited in the stores at *Peekskill*, which they were to have destroyed, and then, proceeding through the Highlands to *Poughkeepsie*, were there to destroy our men-of-war on the stocks; that they appeared highly mortified in finding everything in a situation so different from what they had been made to expect; that the *Rose* had on board one hundred and ten men, (boys included,) and twenty marines; that in passing *New-York*, the greatest damage they received was from the batteries at *Paulus-Hook Ferry*, and the *Blue-Bell*; that the cook and another man had each a leg, and another his thigh, taken off by a cannon-ball; that two twelve-pound shot lodged in the head of the foremast just below the hounds, one went through and through the quarter; one into the quarter gallery and cabin, and three were cut out just above her black streak. Her shrouds and rigging were much hurt.

The *Phoenix's* damage he was unacquainted with, and, being a prisoner, it could not be expected they should inform him. He only heard, accidentally, that she had a twelve-pound shot in her bowsprit.

CAPTAIN WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 23, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I send you down one gondola, and I expect to send you one more the latter end of this week. The vessel and one gondola which are now on the stocks, I expect to have done next week, and will send them down also.

I have sent this day to the saw-mill concerning boards, and there were none sawed. But I am going to-morrow to the saw-mill myself, and I will have them sawed as quick as possible, and sent down to you.

There are this day twenty-nine carpenters more arrived at this place. There are none of General *Waterbury's* men arrived yet; so that I find I am too weak at present to supply the saw-mills and carpenters with what they want to forward the business.

I would be glad if the General would order those two small companies of my regiment now in the Fort here to help me. Then I think I would be able to forward the work in a proper manner.

I find thirty men here of Colonel *Van Dyke's* regiment. I would be glad if the General would please to order them over to *Ticonderoga*, where part of their regiment now lies; for as they are Militia, I find them to be under no command, and I am tired of being plagued with people of so many different corps as I have been already this year.

I would be glad if the General would order some rum over here for the carpenters, for we have none at all; and among rum, I would be glad of one barrel of *West-India*.

I find we want one set of blacksmith's tools more, which I have sent for by express to General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*.

I have no more; but conclude, dear General, with my compliments to you, and so remain your affectionate friend and humble servant,

CORNS. WYNKOOP.

To Major-General *Gates*, at *Ticonderoga*.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL HARTLEY.

Tyonderoga, July 23, 1776.

SIR: Your letter to me of the 21st instant, with that to General *Arnold* of the same date, are now before me. Mr. *Brown* was brought here by your party. I am much obliged to you for your address in securing him. The *Indian* goods are received, and sent forward to General *Schuyler*. The raft, with the party under Captain *Peramus*, of Colonel *Burrell's* regiment, arrived last night. If the

procuring the boards and timber is attended with all the labour and difficulty you mention, I think Colonel *Wait* had better desist, and return to his regiment; but he should first destroy the remainder of the raft, and such ship-timber as may be useful to the enemy.

When the command down the Lake returns, you will be strengthened by their reinforcement. Mr. *Hops* is intended to be employed in the capacity you mention, where I wish his behaviour to be such as to merit further promotion. The service in the vessels will be the post of honour. Those who distinguish themselves therein may depend upon my protection. I will direct Lieutenant-Colonel *Baldwin* to send down the carpenters of your regiment as soon as possible, to be employed at the saw-mill in the manner you recommend. I will consider whether it be proper and convenient to send smiths to *Crown-Point*. If that is determined, such as can be spared from hence shall be sent there.

This will be delivered to you by Major *Bigelow*, of the Artillery, who goes by the positive command of General *Washington*, and the honourable the Convention of the *United States of America*, with a letter to General *Burgoyne*. You may send your orders to *Onion-River* by him, and he should be directed to send back all the parties now upon the scout down the Lake. The commanding officers of those parties should have some private signals, that they may not attack or interrupt each other's discoveries. They ought all to be called in, and desist from further progress, while the flag of truce is going up and down the Lake. As some more batteaus will go to *Crown-Point* to-morrow morning, I shall consider what I have further to say to you, and write by that opportunity.

The oars for the gondolas should be forwarded with all expedition. I am, sir, &c.,

HORATIO GATES, Major-General.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley*.

GENERAL GATES TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER AT ALBANY.

Tyonderoga, July 23, 1776.

SIR: The prisoner (*Brown*) who is sent with this, has been a conductor of artillery stores, and is accused, among many acts of villany, of selling the publick stores of ammunition, &c. He is suspected, likewise, of attempting to escape to the enemy. He has, by some means, put the principal evidence in this case out of the way, so that, at present, it is not possible to proceed in his trial. For this reason, I send him to you, with my orders to confine him in close jail, under care of a guard, in the city of *Albany*, till you receive orders from me to release him.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES, Major-General.

To the Commanding Officer at *Albany*.

REUBEN FOSTER TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Newbury, Cohos, July 23, 1776.

SIR: The bearer of this, Monsieur *Traversé*, having come over to this part of the country from the parish of *St. François*, by a tedious journey, claiming our protection, as being in danger of suffering there by his attachment to the general cause of *American* liberty, and having served as Captain of Militia in the said parish, under commission of Captain *Goforth*, while commanding a party at *Trois Rivières*, as appears by his papers; by which, and the account he gives of himself, we think him an honest man, and have shown him all the civility in our power, at the same time taking the most prudent and cautious method of conveying him through the country to the Head-Quarters of our Northern Army, where he expressed his desire of going, having been known to Major-General *Sullivan*, and several officers of our *American* Army, that he might give the best intelligence he could. We hope for your approbation in our conduct; and, with our warmest wishes for the success of our Army under your command, remain, very respectfully, sir, your most humble servants,

REUBEN FOSTER,  
SAMUEL BAYLY,

Chairmen of Committees of *Newbury* and *Haverhill*.

To the Hon. Major-Gen. *Sullivan*, or the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army at *Crown-Point*.

## GOVERNOUR OF RHODE-ISLAND TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Providence, July 23, 1776.

SIR: On *Sunday* last, in the afternoon, Lieutenant *Calcott*, of the *Merlin*, came into *Newport* with a flag, and delivered me a letter from Lord *Howe*, with his declaration. I do myself the honour to enclose copies of them and of my letters to him. Mr. *Calcott* also left with me three letters from Lord *Howe*, I suppose of the same tenour with that to me, directed to the Commander-in-Chief of *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Connecticut*, and *New-Hampshire*, to be forwarded.

The General Assembly have passed an act for the punishment of traitors, and have also appointed a Committee to procure clothing for the Continental troops in this State. I enclose a copy of the act approving the resolution of Congress declaring the United States independent of the *British* Crown. The Declaration was published on *Saturday* last, at *Newport*, with great solemnity, in presence of the whole General Assembly, the brigade being under arms, thirteen cannon fired, &c. It will be published here on *Thursday*, and in the several towns in the Colony at their next stated meetings.

I am, with great truth and esteem, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

NICHs. COOKE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. The carpenters are all inlisted. Their baggage proceeds to-day, and they follow to-morrow.

East-Greenwich, Rhode-Island, July 26, 1776.

On *Tuesday* last, the *Kentish Guards*, commanded by Colonel *Richard Fry*, appeared in their uniforms. About twelve o'clock they drew up on the parade before the State-House, when the Declaration of the General Congress, declaring these Colonies free and Independent States, was read; likewise a Resolve of the Assembly, concurring with the same, which was announced by a discharge of thirteen cannon at *Fort Daniel*. Next, the Guards fired thirteen volleys. This was followed by three huzzas from a numerous body of inhabitants. They then repaired to *Arnold's Hall*, where, after partaking of a very decent collation, the following patriotick toasts were drunk:

1. The *Thirteen United States of America*.
2. The General Congress of the *American* States.
3. General *Washington*.
4. The *American* Army.
5. Augmentation of the *American* Navy.
6. In memory of those immortal Heroes who have fallen in the *American* cause.
7. May a happy rule of Government be established in the State of *Rhode-Island*.
8. *American* Manufactures.
9. Free trade with all the world.
10. May true patriotism warm the breast of every *American*.
11. May the Independency of the *American* States be firmly established, and a speedy peace take place.
12. May Liberty expand her sacred wings, and, in glorious effort, diffuse her influence o'er and o'er the globe.

## CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, *July 23, 1776*:

Present, His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer, Jz. Huntington, Benj. Huntington, Jed. Elderkin*, and *Nathaniel Wales*, Esquires.

Mr. *Daniel Dee* is appointed Second Lieutenant of the Company of Matrosses, under command of Captain *Nathaniel Saltonstall*, at *New-London*, in the service of this Colony.

*Voted*, That this Council do approve of an order drawn by his Honour the Governour, dated the 22d, on the Pay Table, for £200, in favour of *Ephraim Bell*. To render his account.

*Voted*, That this Council do approve of an order drawn by his Honour the Governour on Colonel *William Pitkin*, to sell to Mr. *James Phelps*, of *Spencer town*, of the Colony of *Massachusetts*, fifty pounds of the Gunpowder in said Colonel *Pitkin's* hands, belonging to this Colony, at the price of 5s. 4d. per pound.

*Voted*, To draw an order on the Pay Table for £200 in favour of *Josiah Elderkin*, to enable him to purchase Tents and Clothing for the Continental Army; to be paid out of the money lodged by Mr. *Sherman* in the Treasury, if lodged there for that purpose; otherwise, to be paid out of the proper Treasury of this Colony; and to render his account. Order given 23d *July*, 1776, and delivered Colonel *Elderkin*.

## RICHARD DERBY, JUN., TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 29, 1776.]

Council Chamber, Watertown, July 23, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 16th instant is now before us, and in answer thereto we have little to say in addition to what this Board wrote you in their letter of the 19th instant. Marching orders were issued some time ago to the commanding officers of the regiments ordered to be raised for *Canada* and *New-York*, and we have now the pleasure to inform you that many of the men have already marched for their several destinations, and we expect the whole will be gone in a few days.

The fifteen hundred men last ordered for the Northern Department are now raising with all possible expedition, and the necessary preparations are already made for their marching, so that we hope that Army will soon receive such reinforcements as will enable them to prevent the enemy from making any further advances upon us in that quarter. And we again assure you, that we will still continue to exert ourselves zealously for the publick good, hoping shortly to hear matters have taken another turn, and that our publick affairs will soon wear a more favourable aspect.

In the name, and by order of the Council, I have the honour to be your most obedient servant,

RICHARD DERBY, Jun., *President*.To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

## REUBEN SWAIN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Nantucket, 7 mo., 23d, 1776.

RESPECTED FRIEND: I have desired the bearer, *Micajah Coffin*, to wait on thee to request thy permission for liberty to make a request to Lord *Howe* for the liberation of a son of mine and two sons-in-law, that were taken about five weeks ago on their return from a long and tedious whale-voyage on the coast of *Brazil*. One of my sons-in-law and my son were in the brig *Speedwell Pembroke*, *Obed Bunker* master, and now supposed detained on board the *Greyhound*, ship-of-war, Captain *Dixon*. The consideration and anxious concern that must attend parents and near relations, who have their children and near connexions placed in such disagreeable situations, I hope will induce thee to suffer some mode of application for their relief; which shall be accepted with gratitude, as a favour done to thy respectful and assured friend,

REUBEN SWAIN.

To *George Washington*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army in *America*.

## BENJAMIN BARNARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Nantucket, 7 mo., 22, 1776.

RESPECTED FRIEND: I have desired the bearer, *Micajah Coffin*, to wait on thee to request thy permission for liberty to make a request to Lord *Howe* for the liberation of a son and brother of mine, who were taken on board the brigantine *Mercury*, (on their return from a long and tedious whale-voyage on the coast of *Brazil*), *George Bunker* master, about four weeks ago, and are detained on board the *Cerberus* frigate, Captain *Symons*. The consideration of the anxious concern that must attend parents and near relations who have their children and near connexions placed in such disagreeable situations, I hope will induce thee to suffer some mode of application for their relief; which shall be accepted with gratitude, as a favour done to thy respectful and assured friend,

BENJAMIN BARNARD.

To *George Washington*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army in *America*.



## MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

In Council, July 23, 1776.

Whereas *Edward Mitchell*, *Theophilus Cushing*, and *William Drew*, Esqs., were appointed a Committee to provide fifteen hundred Canteens, and two hundred and fifty Camp-Kettles, and Camp Equipage, for the last fifteen hundred men to be raised agreeable to a late Resolve of the Continental Congress, and were directed by a Resolve of the General Court, of the 12th of this instant, to send them forward to the several places and in like proportions with those by a Resolve of the said Court ordered for the other forces destined to the same place, which, if complied with, will be very inconvenient, and retard the business: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said Committee be, and they hereby are, directed to provide and send forward the aforesaid articles forthwith to *Charlestown*, in the Government of *New-Hampshire*, to the care of *Samuel Hunt* and *Church*, Esqs., or either of them, by them to be delivered, one-half to Colonel *Samuel Brewer*, or his order, and the other half to Colonel *Aaron Willard*, or his order, for the use of their regiments; and this order to be printed in the several Newspapers in this State without delay.

A true copy.

Attest:

JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Sec.*

## PETITION OF THE COMMITTEE OF BROOKFIELD.

To the Honourable the Council of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in NEW-ENGLAND:

Most humbly shew, the subscribers, the major part of the Committee of Inspection for the Town of *Brookfield*, that the inhabitants of this town have always been ready, and have freely exerted themselves in the common cause of *America*; that they have near one-third their men in the service at *New-York* and in the Northern Department, including their proportion of what are now to march for *Boston*; that it is a large and ancient town, and suffered, perhaps, as much as any town in this State by former wars; that there is but one Field-Officer now belonging to the same in the publick service; that Captain *King*, a gentleman of reputation among us, would be glad of an appointment as Field-Officer at *Boston* station, if it would be agreeable to the honourable Board.

Wherefore, we earnestly recommend him to your Honours, and pray that he may be appointed accordingly, and your petitioners will pray, &c.

THOS. MOOR, DAVID HITCHCOCK,  
JOHN WAITE, JABEZ CROSBY,  
TULLY RICE, JOHN HAMILTON.

Brookfield, July 23, 1776.

I, the subscriber, who have the honour to command the Fourth Regiment, in the County of *Worcester*, do also join in the prayer of the foregoing Petition.

JAMES CONVERSE.

Brookfield, July 23, 1776.

JOSEPH CUSHING TO JOHN TAYLOR.

Hanover, July 23, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I have lately received the orders of Council for mustering the Militia and raising men to supply the places of the Continental regiment ordered to *New-York* and *Canada*. We have, through difficulty, raised our men for *New-York*, and some for *Canada*. I hope by the middle of next week to complete the number required. I have not given out orders, as yet, for mustering the Militia and raising the men to supply the places of the Continental regiment, lest it might totally defeat getting the men for the *Canada* department, thinking it best to see the orders for men to reinforce the Army for *Canada* first complied with and executed. I imagine we shall soon get the men to supply the places of the Continental troops.

I am informed the Field-Officers are not appointed for the Militia regiments that are to supply the places of the Continental regiment. Would, therefore, beg leave to recommend my friend, *Jeremiah Hall*, who now is a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Plymouth*, as a suitable man for a Colonel of one of these regiments, as he now is an officer in the Militia, and has been out several campaigns heretofore, and known to be firmly attached to

the cause of his country, and known by the people of this quarter. I should take it as a favour if you would use your influence with the members of the honourable Board for his appointment; and I am, with respect, your friend and servant,

JOS. CUSHING.

To the Hon. John Taylor, Esq., at *Watertown*.

P. S. I purpose to be inoculated, if the weather is cooler. I hope my non-attendance will be excused on account of small-pox. Great danger is apprehended in the natural way.

## MAJOR HAWLEY TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Northampton, July 23, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The Councils favour of the 15th instant, I received by Mr. *Cranston*, enclosing an order to Brigadier *Fellows*, directing him to march his brigade by the way of No. 4 to *Lake Champlain*; which order I make bold to enclose and remit, concluding, (as the lawyers say,) *improvide emanavit*. I judge so, because I know that Mr. *Fellows's* brigade was originally destined to *New-York*; and although his command might be since varied, yet I find it expressed in the same letter, which enclosed the said order, that Brigadier *Briskett* commands the reinforcement destined to *Crown-Point*; which Mr. *Cranston* also confirms by word of mouth.

Your Honours have been pleased to send me orders for inlisting *Hampshire's* quota of fifteen hundred further recruits; but as your Honours have not been pleased to send any money to me, or to any other of the Committee for that purpose, we are at some loss how to proceed without further instructions.

The levies for the *Hampshire* battalion, in the northern part of the County, have succeeded beyond expectation. Two companies proposed to march this day, and another company of ninety-eight men, effective and well equipped, are to march on the morrow. I believe several of the companies from this County, without any express license from the Committee, will presume to march by *Bennington*, and not by No. 4, because they are informed by Mr. *Farnsworth*, that he is scarce able to provide rations at No. 4 for the troops of this Government, exclusive of *Hampshire* County men, and that he has great plenty of stores at *Bennington*. I saw the orders of the General Court to the Captains, but say nothing to divert them from their purpose; for I believe there is no provision to pay the men their mileage at No. 4, and very scanty provision for their rations. I fear there will be great complaints in that quarter. Besides, there is a great plenty of small-pox there at No. 4, and none the other way, and all the accounts now are that the *Bennington* route is much the most feasible. The men will run the risk of going with but little ammunition, rather than run the risk of the small-pox and submit to the other inconveniences there is a prospect of in the No. 4 route. The Field-Officers of this battalion being in the small-pox, the whole business is devolved on the Committee.

I am your Honours' respectful, and most obedient servant,  
JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To the Honourable Council.

Salem, July 23, 1776.

*Friday* last arrived here Captain *Fisk*, in the privateer sloop called the *Tyrannieide*, in the service of this State, mounting fourteen carriage-guns and two swivels, having been out about twelve days on a cruise. He, on the 12th instant, in latitude 40° 23' fell in with the armed schooner *Dcspatch*, one *Gutteridge* commander, mounting eight carriage-guns and ten swivels, having thirty-two men, in the service of the King of *England*; when a warm, obstinate, and well-disputed engagement ensued, and which lasted upwards of an hour, when the schooner struck to Captain *Fisk*, which he safely brought in with him, having in the engagement lost her Captain and one man killed, the Master and four of her sailors wounded, and a Midshipman, who was passenger on board, bound in this schooner to *New-York*. Captain *Fisk* had one man killed and three wounded, one of whom is since dead of his wounds, the other two likely to recover. The six wounded men belonging to the schooner are likely to recover. The schooner has on board, besides her guns and provisions, seventeen half-barrels of powder.

*Sunday* last was sent in here by Captain *Lander*, in a letter-of-marque schooner belonging to this place, a sloop from the *West-Indies*, bound to *Halifax*, laden with salt. She has on board some brass blunderbusses and a quantity of *English* goods; was taken about a fortnight ago. About the same time was taken, by the above letter-of-marque, a ship from *Jamaica*, bound to *London*, laden with three hundred and ninety-three hogsheads of sugar, one hundred and forty-four hogsheads of rum, twenty-four pipes of wine, twenty-six pieces of cannon, from nine to four-pounders, and fifteen tortoise. This ship is thought to be worth between twenty and thirty thousand pounds sterling. She is not yet arrived here.

Last *Sunday* a store-ship from *Ireland*, being one of those which were blown off our coast last fall, bound to *Boston*, not having heard that the Ministerial fleet and army had left it, ran close in with the Islands in the harbour, and immediately came to anchor, when the first salute she received to welcome her was from an *American* battery erected at *Point Alderton*; when, after receiving a few shot therefrom, she struck.

FLAG FOR CAPT. ROACH TO CARRY MRS. LIVIUS TO QUEBECK.

Colony of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, {  
July 23, 1776. }

Captain *Henry Deaborn*, who was of Colonel *Arnold's* detachment, and made prisoner at the attack upon *Quebeck* on the 31st of *December* last, having had liberty to come home on his parole, and represented to this Committee that the Honourable *Peter Livius*, Esq., at *Quebeck*, treated him and other prisoners with great humanity, and that said Mr. *Livius* was desirous that his lady and children, now at *Portsmouth*, in this Colony, might be permitted to come to him at *Quebeck*, it is therefore determined by the Committee that the schooner *Polly*, *Thomas Roach* master, with *James Stoodley*, *John March*, and *John Bowman*, mariners, have liberty to depart from the port of *Piscataqua* for *Quebeck*, with provisions sufficient for the voyage, for the sole purpose of conveying Mrs. *Livius* and her children there, not doubting but liberty will be granted for said schooner and men to return to this Colony as soon as may be. In witness whereof, we have affixed the seal of the Colony, the day and year above mentioned.

By order of the Committee:

M. THORNTON, *Chairman pro tem.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO L. BARRETT.

[No. 71.]

Annapolis, July 23, 1776.

SIR: We have, in consequence of yours of the 15th inst., sent to *Fredericktown* eight hundred and six pounds of lead, and have desired the Committee of the Middle District to forward it to you. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Lemuel Barrett*, Chairman of *Skipton* District, *Frederick* County.

THOMAS SMYTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Chestertown, July 24, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 22d instant to the Committee of Observation for this County, was this morning delivered to Mr. *Ringgold* and myself, and we immediately ordered all the powder and sailcloth in the care of the Committee on board Captain *Barry*, for which, enclosed, you will receive his receipt. The second escort of wagons is expected at town to-night, by which time I hope the schooner *Resolution* will appear, that the powder, &c., may be delivered to me out of the wagons. The money sent to me by my son for the payment of the wagonage of the powder and other contingent charges, did not reach me until after the arrival of the wagons that brought the first load from *Chingoteague*; they have since been paid off.

I am, with much respect, sir, your most humble servant,  
THOS. SMYTH.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety.

JOSIAS BEALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Piscataway, July 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received your favour by last post. You have no doubt an account of our situation, from the proceed-

ings of the enemy up *Potomack*. I took the liberty last week to mention the want of more powder at *Piscataway*, &c. As you said nothing on the subject in your letter, permit me to mention the matter again, as there is uneasiness, from the apprehensions of the people on account of the small quantity we have. I hope your honourable Board will consider the matter, and order for the best. I have the satisfaction to say our people have shown a manly disposition. On *Monday* last, when (from the alarm-guns from the *Virginia* vessels, fired in their way up to *Alexandria*) the enemy were expected every hour up, they marched to the shore with great firmness. I was with them all the day, and, from their behaviour, make no doubt they would have behaved well had the enemy appeared and tried them. I much wish they were provided better, if it can be done.

I am this morning so unwell with the cholic, that sitting to write is uneasy, and prevents adding further than that I am, with esteem for your honourable Board, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

JOSIAS BEALL.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

GENERAL DENT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles County, July 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On the evening of my return home from the camp at *St. George's*, yours of the 22d instant came to hand, wherein you say you don't doubt of my doing everything necessary to repel the invaders, and likewise, that you have ordered Major *Price*, with three field-pieces and one nine-pounder, &c. These, you say, will enable the Major and myself to speak more properly with the row-galley than I hitherto could do. You likewise request I will (as I hitherto have done) continue to watch their motions, and from time to time inform you thereof, with several other requests equally irreconcilable to me, after having, by a short order, given me nothing to do. I have the highest opinion of the Major's abilities and attachment to the cause, and doubt not he is equal to the task; all that I request is to be informed whether you have any reason (from the disposition of the troops while under my command) to believe that I was wanting, either in military knowledge, assiduity, or personal courage; for the first of which, I would beg leave to refer you to Major *Price*, and for the two latter, to the officers of the several corps while under the command of your most obedient servant,

JNO. DENT.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

B. GRAVES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Some time ago I tendered you an account of some repairs done to gun-locks, in consequence of instructions from Brigadier-General *Chamberlaine*. I did not exceed my orders in any one thing, to my knowledge, particularly with respect to the circumstances of the persons for whom the repairs were done.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

B. GRAVES.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

ROBERT L. NICOLS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Talbot County, July 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Veazey's* demand upon me, due from the commencement of his company, renders me under the necessity of begging a small order on our Treasurer for payment of the lower troops. About four hundred pounds will be sufficient. As the time draws near for payment, you will please to forward it.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

ROBT. LLOYD NICOLS.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

J. CONTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

July 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: At the request of the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's* County, I am to acquaint you, as Chairman appointed for this day, that there is but little

probability at present of borrowing or purchasing any guns, well fixed, in this County, at the price of £4 10s., or of collecting any blankets; but if any such should hereafter be got, the Committee will send them to the Council as soon as they may be obtained. Also, I am to inform you, that the collectors appointed some time past to receive fire-arms from Non-Associates have not as yet made any return thereof.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,  
J. CONTEE.

To the Honourable Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GOVERNOUR RUTLEDGE.

Philadelphia, July 24, 1776.

SIR: The Congress being of opinion that the service of the *United States* will be promoted by taking into pay a number of troops in the State of *South-Carolina*, who are to act either as Infantry or Lighthorse, as occasion may require, have come to the enclosed resolves, which I do myself the honour of transmitting in obedience to their commands. In consideration that these troops will go through more than ordinary duty, and be put to greater expense than others, the Congress have augmented their pay in proportion. I have delivered blank commissions to the Delegates of your State.

With most hearty and sincere wishes for your health and happiness, and the prosperity of the State over which you preside, I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Governour *Rutledge*, of *South-Carolina*.

[Same to the Convention of *Georgia*.]

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 24, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour to enclose sundry resolves, to which I must entreat your attention. The Congress, you will there find, reposing the most entire confidence in your judgment, have left the disposition of the troops at *New-York*, the Flying-Camp, and *Ticonderoga*, wholly with you, being fully assured you will make such an arrangement as in your opinion will conduce most to the publick good.

The Commissioners appointed to audit the accounts of the Army in the *York* department have been with me. They are preparing to set out as soon as possible, and I expect will be at *New-York* in a few days.

You will observe that the Congress have empowered the Commander-in-Chief in each department to negotiate an exchange of prisoners, which you will please to conduct agreeably to the enclosed system.

I have written to General *Schuyler*, and forwarded a copy of the enclosed resolves.

I have the honour to be, with the highest esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, July 24, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed resolves, which I do myself the honour of transmitting, are so explicit that I need only refer your attention to them. The Congress are extremely concerned to find there should be a necessity of recommending harmony to the officers and troops of different States under your command. At a time like this, when the greatest confidence is so essentially required, nothing can show greater weakness or wickedness than to throw provincial reflections on one another, which must have a direct tendency to impede the publick service, and to weaken the union of the *American States*. I am, therefore, to request that you will discountenance and suppress, by every means in your power, such ungenerous and base practices, and promote discipline, order, and zeal, in the Army, as much as possible.

The Commissioners appointed to audit the accounts of the Army in the Northern Department have been with me. They are preparing to set out immediately, and I expect will be in *New-York* in a few days.

The Congress having empowered the Commander-in-

Chief in each department to negotiate an exchange of prisoners, you will please to conduct the business agreeably to the enclosed system.

In consequence of a flag from Lord *Howe*, with a letter directed "To *George Washington*, Esq.," which he declined receiving, as an improper direction, considering his rank and station, the Congress came to a resolution, not only expressing their approbation of his conduct, but ordering for the future that no Commander-in-Chief, or other the commanders of the *American Army*, should receive any letters from the enemy but such as are directed to them in the characters they sustain.

You will please to inquire into the complaints of the soldiers as soon as possible, and give strict orders that the goods furnished them shall not be charged at a higher price than the first cost of them, and an allowance of five per cent. for charges.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Schuyler*, *Albany*, or elsewhere.

THOMAS STONE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, July 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I send you herewith forty barrels of powder and fifty-four boxes of arms, the arrival of which I informed you by the post. I have agreed with the wagoners for 30s. per day, each, going and returning. They are to travel twenty miles per day going and twenty-five returning. This seems to be the usual practice, though I think it very exorbitant. I have paid them £12 each, and have informed them they will receive the balance from you upon delivery of their charges, or if it be more agreeable to you, they may be paid here on your certificate. I have paid £15 2s. for cartage from *Egg-Harbour*, and shall settle the freight to-morrow, which, according to agreement with *Harrison & Vanbibber*, is ten per cent. on the gross sales here; and powder which came with ours has sold by the quantity for £25 per hundred weight, which, I suppose, will ascertain the rule for the freight. The guns came loose, and are hurt by it; I had them put into boxes, to prevent their being further damaged. Two are left out to guard the powder. Others, &c., will be delivered you. I have thought it advisable to send two men to guard the powder and arms, at 5s. per day each. My brother Delegates think this mode of conveying these very necessary articles to you right, and I hope it will also meet with your approbation.

Nothing since ours by the post. The wagons to be paid from this day.

I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

T. STONE.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*.

JOHN COVENHOVEN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the State of New-Jersey, }  
Brunswick, July 24, 1776. }

SIR: In answer to your letter of the 21st instant, we can inform you that a considerable number of the levies required from this State by Congress are now on their march to *New-York*. We have written to General *Heard* to make return as soon as possible of the deficiencies in each County, and you may rest assured we shall use our utmost efforts, at this critical period, to complete the brigade ordered for the reinforcement of the Army at *New-York*, and also to afford you all such other assistance as the weal of the *United States* shall require and the condition of this State admit of.

We are, sir, with great respect, your obedient humble servants.

By order of Convention:

JOHN COVENHOVEN, *Vice-President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *New-York*.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, July 24, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is a return of the troops in this Colony. Two battalions joined yesterday. We are told of numbers being on the way from *Philadelphia*. In a few days the

harvest will be secured, when General *Livingston* will have it in his power to call in a considerable body of Militia to take post along the *Jersey* shore. And these troops may be employed on such other service as you judge proper.

Proper persons are employed to examine and secure all the craft, of which I shall transmit a return as soon as possible.

The returns of the troops are not so accurate as I could wish; the number of rank and file may, however, be supposed tolerably exact, making some allowance for the sick, of which I have been able to procure distinct lists. Of the troops who joined yesterday (the fourth battalion,) twenty of the men had no muskets. They were furnished with pikes about twelve feet long.

The enemy have reinforced their guards on this part of the Island. Three battalions appeared on the point opposite this place yesterday morning, with four pieces of field-artillery. Probably this arises from their perceiving our force daily increasing here.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
HUGH MERCER.  
To His Excellency General *Washington*.

A General Return of the PENNSYLVANIA Forces in NEW-JERSEY, PERTH-AMBOY, July 24, 1776, under the Command of Brigadier-General MERCER.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.											Sergeants, present.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.
	Commission.					Staff.								
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Surgeon's Mates.			
Col. Miles—first battalion Riflemen. . . . .	-	1	1	6	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	6	409
Col'nel Miles—second battalion Riflemen . .	1	1	1	6	17	-	1	1	-	-	-	20	7	347
Col. Atlee's battalion Musketry . . . . .	1	1	-	8	7	6	-	1	-	1	1	15	15	329
First battalion Philadelphia Associators . .	1	1	1	6	12	11	-	1	1	-	-	24	12	360
Second battal'n Philadelphia Associators . .	1	1	1	7	16	14	1	1	1	1	1	29	14	339
Third battalion Philadelphia Associators . .	1	-	2	7	12	11	-	1	1	1	1	26	16	305
Fourth battal'n Philadelphia Associators . .	1	1	1	7	16	8	-	1	1	-	-	23	11	250
Fifth battalion Philadelphia Associators . .	-	1	1	4	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	6	94
Col. Montgomery—Chester battalion. . .	1	1	1	6	11	7	-	-	-	-	-	19	6	165
Total . . . . .	7	8	9	57	124	57	2	6	4	3	3	202	93	3,522
Artillery from New-Jersey—two companies, six pieces cannon—privates . . . . .														120
Artillery from Philadelphia—one company, two pieces cannon—privates . . . . .														50
Total . . . . .														3,695
One Brigadier-General—the Hon. DANIEL ROBERDEAU, Esq.														

WHERE STATIONED.														
At Newark ferries—two companies, rank and file. . . . .														122
At Newark—artillery, two pieces—Matrosses . . . . .														20
At Elizabeth-Town and posts adjoining—rank and file. . . . .														500
At Elizabeth-Town—artillery, two pieces—Matrosses. . . . .														20
At Woodbridge and posts adjoining—rank and file. . . . .														500
At Woodbridge—artillery, 2 pieces—Matrosses . . . . .														20
At Amboy and posts adjoining—rank and file. . . . .														2,496
At Amboy—artillery, four pieces—Matrosses. . . . .														110
													3,695	

HUGH MERCER, Brigadier-General.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.  
New-York, July 24, 1776.

SIR: I have been honoured with your favour of the 20th instant, with its several enclosures. I observe the sentiments of your honourable body on the impracticability of removing the stock from *Nassau-Island*, and the measures they have adopted for securing them there and protecting the inhabitants, and sincerely wish they may prove adequate.

I have long since and frequently requested the Commissary to purchase all the fatted cattle and sheep from the Island that he possibly could, in preference to any other. He informs me that he has had many from thence, and that he now has

persons employed in different parts for that purpose. The expediency of the measure strikes me so forcibly, that you may depend every means in my power will be directed to its execution.

Agreeably to your request, I shall continue Colonel *Livingston* at his present post, for the protection of the inhabitants against the insults of the enemy's cruisers, unless something should happen to make his removal necessary.

When the several regiments are raised, and I am certified thereof, and of the places of rendezvous, I will direct the Mustermaster-General to attend and complete the musters.

Governour *Trumbull* having informed me by letter, yesterday, that since the arrival of the fleet at the *Hook*, many of the enemy's frigates and ships have been stationed between *Montauk-Point* and *Block-Island* to intercept the trade from the *Sound*, and in which they had been but too successful in taking several provision vessels, and of the impossibility that any should escape falling into their hands, he had ordered the armed vessels in the service of *Connecticut* to stop and detain all vessels going down the *Sound* with provisions, till the Continental Congress, or the Conventions of the States to which they belong, could be apprized of the hazards attending their proceeding in their voyage, and give orders thereon. I beg leave to recommend the matter to the consideration of your honourable body, and submit it to them whether it may not be expedient to lay a general embargo or prohibition upon all exports of this kind from your State, except such as Congress or yourselves may order.

The propriety of keeping the enemy from supplies of this sort, and providing a sufficiency for our Army, is so evident that words are unnecessary upon the subject. However, I cannot but observe, as my opinion, that the former will be impossible to effect, unless some general restraining regulation is come into. No care, nor industry, nor honesty, on the part of exporters, will be able to elude the vigilance and activity of their almost innumerable cruisers. But when it is considered, that as long as a free export of any articles of this nature is tolerated, disaffected persons may easily fall into their hands with impunity, nor any means be left us to ascertain their guilt; when there is strong reason to believe that some have designedly done so, and almost incontestable proof, from sundry depositions of deserters and others, that a ship that went from hence sailed with no other view, and joined the enemy at the *Hook*,—I incline to think the measure not only advisable, but necessary; especially as the large consumption of provisions by our Army affords, and will afford, a ready cash market for all that individuals may have to dispose of, and take away every objection of injury on that head. Were it otherwise, private advantages and emoluments must always give place to the publick good, when they are incompatible.

The last deserters from the enemy inform us, since they have heard of our forming a camp at *Amboy*, they have talked much of turning their views to *Long-Island*, and regaling themselves with large supplies of provisions they intend to get from thence. This is an additional circumstance to induce the Commissary to purchase the cattle there before any other.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.  
To the Hon. *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President, &c.

P. S. When the ships of war, &c., ran up the river, I wrote to Governours *Trumbull* and *Cooke* for some of their row-galleys, supposing they might be of service in attempting something against the ships. I expect three or four every hour, besides the one I have. If the Secret Committee are forming any plan against the ships, in which they may think they may be usefully employed, and will let me know, I shall be glad to coöperate with them, and furnish every assistance the galleys can give, if not otherwise materially engaged.

I am just now informed that the ship mentioned above to have gone to the enemy, was fitted out by the Congress, under the command of a Captain *Hilton*, who has acted this base part.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.  
New-York, July 24, 1776.

SIR: I was honoured yesterday with your favour of the 17th instant, and return you my thanks for your kind atten-



tion to, and compliance with, my request for the row-galleys. They are not yet arrived, that I know of.

I wrote Congress by the return express that brought yours, respecting Colonel *Ward's* regiment, and as the post comes in every day, it is probable I shall soon have their answer. The result I will transmit you by the first opportunity, and would recommend that the regiment be put under marching orders, that they may proceed without loss of time whatever way Congress shall direct.

The orders you have given to your armed cruisers for stopping provision vessels, appear to me extremely necessary. I have mentioned the matter to Congress, and shall warmly recommend it to the consideration of the Convention of this State. If it should be attended with inconvenience to individuals, yet necessity and publick utility ought to be first considered, and outweigh everything else: but it cannot; there is nothing but what they can readily dispose of for the use of the Army and for ready cash; so that every ground of objection must be nugatory. I am, &c.

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

New-York, Wednesday, July 24, 1776.

The men-of-war that lately went up the *North-River*, lie in *Haverstraw-Bay*. Their tenders cruise about, and last *Saturday* one of them went near the Fort; upon which our people fired a thirty-two pounder at her, which went through her quarter, when she tacked about and stood down the river. Some time after, they landed a party of their men at *Peekskill*, set fire to a wheat field, and burnt the house of Mr. *John Lilly*. A number of the Militia were soon collected; who attacked and killed seven of them, without any loss on our side.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 24, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports nothing new; everything remains in much the same situation as they were yesterday.

I am, your most obedient, humble servant,

N. GREENE.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

German-Flats, July 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your Excellency's favour of the 17th instant was last night delivered me by Mr. *Bennet*.

If I had with me the remonstrance of the Field-Officers against quitting *Crown-Point*, I should attempt to point out the insufficiency of each of the several reasons they give against the removal of the Army to *Ticonderoga*, and which would at the same time show on what I founded my opinion of the propriety of the measure; but as the paper was left at *Albany*, I shall cursorily enter into some observations. The little time I have for reflecting on the subject, the constant interruptions from the *Indians*, indisposition of body, and my inability to convey my ideas with that perspicuity the subject merits, I hope will plead for the inaccuracies which you will discover.

*Crown-Point* is a peninsula which projects from the west side of *Lake Champlain*, and runs down and almost parallel to both sides of it. The east side of the peninsula is bounded by the waters of that part of the Lake which flow from *Skenesborough* and *Lake George*, passing by *Ticonderoga* in their way; and the northeast corner of the peninsula is distant from the east shore of *Lake Champlain* about half a mile, or something better, but under three-quarters of a mile. The northwest corner of it is nearly, if not quite, two miles distant from the western shore of the Lake. If the enemy should have a naval superiority, our armed vessels must retire to the southward of *Crown-Point*, between that and *Ticonderoga*, or take shelter under any fortifications we might have there. In either case the enemy may go along the western shore, land in the bay that forms the peninsula, and attack any force that may be at *Crown-Point* from the rear, or they may land on the east side of the Lake, below *Crown-Point*; and as the country is flat, and in some parts improved, they may possess themselves of the east shore, between *Crown-Point* and *Ticonderoga*, without any great difficulty, however strong any fortification on the east side, opposite to *Crown-Point*, might be; and hence all supplies

must be cut off, unless our force at *Crown-Point* should embark in batteaus, and be sufficiently strong to land and repulse them. And there is little prospect that such an attempt would succeed, considering how infinitely better they are provided than we, and what advantages they would receive from the works they might throw up.

Besides the last considerations, permit me to subjoin, that such is the nature of the ground at *Crown-Point*, (the Point faces to the north, fronts the Lake, and is indented with small bays, and about one mile broad on a straight line from the northeastern to the northwestern point,) that the fort which General *Amherst* erected there was so exposed, from the grounds about it, that it required three or four strong redoubts to cover it—redoubts that were in themselves very considerable fortifications, and built at much expense on account of the scarcity of earth, insomuch so, that all the fortifications ten thousand men could make in the course of the campaign, would be far from formidable.

At *Ticonderoga* we are not exposed to these dangers or difficulties. The Lake between the fort and the intended encampment on the east side of it, does not exceed half a mile in breadth. Let us now suppose that the enemy are capable of forcing our armed vessels to seek shelter at *Ticonderoga*: nothing then is to obstruct their coming to that place. Being come, let us suppose that they would land on the east side of the Lake: the intended camp is defended on the north by a large creek and sunken country, which effectually prevents any approaches from that quarter; they must therefore take a tour of several miles to head the sunken country, before they can get into our rear. If they do, are our supplies cut off? No; for we have the communication by *Lake George* open. Can they drive us out of the strong camp on the east side? I think not. I think it impossible for twenty thousand men to do it, ever so well provided, if the camp consists of less than even a quarter of that number, indifferently furnished, such is the natural strength of the ground. But let us suppose that the enemy should land on the west side and attempt to drive us thence: here we fight on an equal footing, (except what advantages our lines and fortifications may give us,) and we can oppose nine-tenths of our Army to them; for they cannot prevent the junction of our troops either way, whenever they please to join. Let us suppose the worst: they drive us from the ground; we lose our cannon; but they cannot prevent such as do not fall in the engagement, from retiring to the strong camp. A bare inspection of a good map, if I had one to send your Excellency, would, I hope, convince you of the weight of these observations.

But if we are obliged to retreat from *Ticonderoga*, will not their vessels pass our strong camp and get between that and *Skenesborough*? I think it impossible for them to pass. The passage is narrow; the channel more so; our vessels lying in line of battle on the south side of the camp; theirs obliged to come up by two at a time at most, exposed to our cannon in getting there, and when there, at once attacked by our vessels and our batteries within point-blank shot.

But if the enemy have possession of *Ticonderoga*, will they not cut off our supplies? Yes, effectually, any supplies attempted to be sent by the way of *Lake George*, but not those sent by the way of *Skenesborough*, or through the towns lying in this Colony on the east side of *Lake Champlain*, between the camp and *New-Hampshire*, and the northern parts of the *Massachusetts*.

But cannot the enemy, when in possession of *Ticonderoga*, penetrate into this Colony by the way of *Lake George*, and leave our Army in the strong camp? Yes, provided they take their boats, provisions, &c., out of *Lake Champlain*, on the north side of *Ticonderoga*, and convey them by land into *Lake George*—the distance between three and four miles; but as they cannot do this without our knowledge, we can move any part of our Army by the way of *Skenesborough* to *Fort George*, before they can reach it; but as we have no naval force on that Lake, nor any strong fortifications, and if they are superior, and our Army not reinforced by Militia, (which I should hope would not be the case,) we can retire from thence to some place in the vicinity of *Fort Edward*, and bring away all the carriages from the few inhabitants that live there; and I conceive that they would find it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to move only such of their boats and necessaries as they cannot dispense with, over a fifteen-mile land-carriage, even if they

should be able to bring a considerable number of carriages from *Canada*, for it will take one hundred carriages, each carrying four barrels of pork or flour, (and they can bring no carriages that will convey more,) to transport one day's provision for ten thousand men, and the carriages can only complete a trip in two days.

Upon the whole, I do not only think *Ticonderoga* infinitely preferable to *Crown-Point* for a stand to be made, but so happily situated for us, that I have very little apprehension of General *Burgoyne's* being able to succeed in that quarter, unless there should be too great a disparity of numbers in his favour.

I had almost forgotten to observe that your Excellency, from the information you have had, seems to entertain an idea that the situation of *Crown-Point* "is of the utmost importance, especially if we mean to keep the superiority and mastery of the Lake;" and that "if it is abandoned by us, it is natural to suppose the enemy will possess it; and if they do that, then our vessels will be in their rear, and it will not be in our power to bring them to *Ticonderoga*, or the post opposite to it."

Your Excellency will pardon me for a few remarks on that passage of your letter.

*Crown-Point* lies about forty-three miles from the extreme south part of *Lake Champlain*, which is at *Skenesborough*, and about one hundred from the northern extreme, which is at *St. John's*. The part of the Lake south of *Crown-Point* is seldom, in any place, above two miles wide. From *Crown-Point* to about eighteen miles north of it, it may be at a medium about three and a half miles, three and four being the extremes; beyond that, for about fifty-six miles, it is seldom less than six, or more than fourteen or fifteen; but a chain of islands, running nearly parallel to the sides of the Lake, lie in the broadest part, on and nearly in the middle, so that the width on each side is about six miles.

Let us now suppose our Navy to be in any part of the Lake to the northward of, and out of the reach of the cannon that may be at *Crown-Point*, and there attacked by the enemy: What assistance can it receive from any fortification at the Point? None, surely; and, if worsted, it must fly to the south side of *Crown-Point* for shelter, and the enemy have the entire mastery of the Lake. If *Crown-Point* was totally abandoned, and if the Navy was attacked and worsted in any part to the northward of *Ticonderoga*, whether in sight of that place, or towards the north end of the Lake, the consequences are exactly the same. It must retire to the south of where the Army is. If we abandon *Crown-Point*, that the enemy will possess themselves of it is certain, if they can do it; but if we suppose they can, we must not only suppose that they can and will pass our fleet, although theirs should be inferior, or that they must have a naval superiority. If they can pass our fleet anywhere beyond *Crown-Point*, their Army can attack ours at *Crown-Point*, if it is there, or at *Ticonderoga*, if there: in either case our ships will be in their rear.

But supposing they could and would, by some means or other frustrate our intentions in having a Navy in the Lake, (which intention appears to be to prevent any boats coming up,) and pass by it, although superior to theirs; is it probable they will do it? Will they risk the danger they may run if a fair wind should enable our ships to get up with them? Will they risk an interception of their supplies, and a prevention of retreat in case of a repulse? I think not; but if their Navy is superior, the keeping possession of the Lake is impossible; and then the question recurs, where is the best place to make a stand with the greatest prospect of advantage to us? I think that place to be *Ticonderoga* and the grounds opposite to it. I may be mistaken. The only view I had in giving my opinion for removing the Army to these places was, that I thought it would there most advance the interest of the cause we are engaged in. Although I do not recollect that in the resolution of the General Officers to move the Army from *Crown-Point*, that it is observed that a small post was to be kept there, from whence our vessels might be supplied more readily than from *Ticonderoga*, yet that was determined on.

I have always deprecated jealousies and contentions in the Army. I believe the officers that have served under me will do me the justice to acknowledge it. I shall invariably continue in that line of conduct, and, if seconded by the inferior officers, I hope the evil will soon vanish.

Your Excellency's conclusion is too just, "that the most lavish and extravagant waste has been made of provisions." The difficulties I experienced last campaign on this account are incredible; and I was in hopes that the orders I had issued to the officers, and the directions I had given to the Commissaries in the course of the winter, would have been effectual, and have put a stop to many infamous practices. On this side of *Canada* I experienced the good effects; such of the Commissaries appointed by the Colonies at the beginning of the struggle as were then employed, and were found incompetent, were removed as soon as it could be done without giving umbrage to particular Colonies. This removal took place last fall, and things have been carried on regularly since that time. But otherwise in *Canada*; a return was asked of such as were employed; and the orders by which they, as well as the officers, were to govern themselves, were transmitted to the commanding officer in *February* last, with a request to publish them. I am informed they were never made publick, nor was any return sent of who were employed, and the Deputy-Commissary could not tell, as they were appointed in *Canada*, and acted independent of him. When Mr. *Price* was appointed Deputy Commissary-General for *Canada*, I gave him a copy of these orders; copy of which, and a copy of my instructions to him, I think I transmitted to your Excellency. I never received a single line from him during the time he was in *Canada*; and I am informed by Mr. *Swart*, whom Mr. *Livingston* sent into *Canada* as his deputy, that the soldiers have been permitted to go to the barrels and take what they liked, and that this was by general orders. On my last arrival at *Crown-Point*, I found the provisions lying in parcels on different parts of the beach, exposed to the weather and to be stolen. I ordered it, and did see it, put into the stores, and then found much less than I had expected, although I had supposed that great waste and loss had taken place in the retreat from *Canada*. When I observed that fresh beef was not to be had, I conceived that it could not be immediately procured in sufficient quantities, as all stall-fed beef was expended, and the grass-fed then hardly fit for killing; nor was I much mistaken, although a few days after I found that Mr. *Livingston*, by his exertions, and with borrowed money, had made shift to engage such a number that my apprehensions on that score are at an end. But Mr. *Trumbull* was certainly ill-informed in supposing that fresh meat could be easily procured at the time alluded to. If Mr. *Livingston* had been less industrious than he was, we should have experienced a scarcity of provisions, both from the then scarcity of beef, and money to purchase it with. I am, however, still uneasy on account of pork, lest any accident should hereafter be occasioned by not having a sufficient quantity in store.

Before General *Sullivan's* brigade arrived at *Albany*, the troops were contented with the Continental allowance; and when only bread, pork, and peas, could be got, they had a pound of each of the two former, in lieu of all the other articles; but a regiment of his brigade refusing to draw less than eighteen ounces of pork, and General *Sullivan* assuring me that the additional ounces had been allowed them since *December* last, in lieu of milk, I ordered the Commissary to issue it, taking receipts for the quantities delivered. This extra-allowance has not only made the calculation I sent you some time ago extremely erroneous, but will greatly distress us.

I am so well convinced of the difficulties you labour under to procure the necessary supplies of every kind for the Army, that I have only asked for such things as could not be procured at *Albany* or in the neighbouring country, and have written to Committees and employed persons in every quarter of the County. I tried, but in vain, to procure the articles for the gondolas; but as the navigation is since interrupted, I hope to be able to get them, and shall write immediately to *Albany* on that head.

I shall, immediately on my return, give out in orders that no double commissions are to be held, except by the officers you mention. I hope your Excellency will approve of my leaving it to the choice of the officers what commission to keep.

I believe I forgot to mention that General *Thomas* and I concluded that it was highly necessary to have an active Deputy Quartermaster at *St. John's* and *Chamblay*. I mentioned Lieutenant-Colonel *Buell*, of *Burrell's* regiment as

an officer whose activity and prudence I could rely on. He accepted the office, but with much persuasion, as he wished to remain with the regiment. He is now at *Fort George*, and I am really at a loss to find one to replace him, who will be equal to the duty he is obliged to do.

My Secretary, who had orders to open any despatches that might come from you, and to transmit such parts to General *Gates* as contained orders that required more immediate despatch than the roundabout way of first sending them here would admit of, informs me that the omitted part of my letter of the 12th was, "enclose returns of the Army at *Crown-Point*, the garrison of *Fort George*," &c. "When I was at *Crown-Point*, I proposed to a council of officers an expedient to procure the return of the deserters of the Northern Army, and it was" unanimously, &c.

I am just now informed that the *Pennsylvania* carpenters arrived at *Albany* on the 20th instant. I left directions for forwarding them, and I hope they are now at work.

I have no hope that the conference with the *Indians* will open before the 29th, and I fear it will then last a week. Their delays distress me beyond imagination. I have represented to them that important business required my attendance at *Albany*; they will not, however, suffer me to leave them; and my colleagues apprehend if I do that it will essentially injure us. I must, therefore, comply with their wishes, although my presence on the communication was never more wanted than at this juncture.

Mr. *Trumbull*, the Deputy Paymaster-General, informs me that his chest is quite empty. So early as the 22d of *May* Congress voted half a million of dollars for the Northern Army; \$200,000 have only been received. Will your Excellency please to represent to Congress that the service suffers very materially for want of money, and that the officers in the different departments are put to inconceivable difficulties on that account.

That Heaven may protect and pour its best blessings on you, is the unfeigned wish of your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: After my regards to your Honour, I would inform you that the letter received with the provision and ammunition mentioned five barrels of powder. There were but two barrels powder come to hand, which was in provision barrels; and whether your Honour included the five in the two, or whether there was a mistake, I cannot tell, and should be glad your Honour would inform me by the first opportunity.

I should be glad your Honour would see fit to appoint and send some proper person here, to act as Commissary, which I think is very much wanted.

I am, dear sir, respectfully, your Honour's humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*, at *Ticonderoga*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 24, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I arrived here last evening, and found three gondolas on the stocks; two will be completed in five or six days, the row-galley in eight or ten days. Three other gondolas will be set up immediately, and may be completed in ten days. A company of twenty-seven carpenters from *Middletown* are cutting timber for a row-galley, on the *Spanish* construction, to mount six heavy pieces of cannon. One hundred carpenters from *Pennsylvania* and *Massachusetts-Bay* will be here this evening. I shall employ them on another row-galley. In two or three weeks, I think we shall have a very formidable fleet. No canvass or cordage is yet arrived, though much wanted. Not one syllable of news from below. There are only one hundred barrels of pork and two hundred of flour here. I have desired Mr. *Schuyler* to purchase beef for the troops and workmen here. A Commissary of Provisions is much wanted here, and will be more so when the Militia arrive, who are daily expected. If Mr. *Taylor* can be spared, he will be a proper person to send, and may purchase a considerable quantity of beef

in this neighbourhood. I hope the vessels and gondolas will not be retarded for want of seamen or marines. Those seamen who were sent from *Crown-Point* with Captain *Mayhew*, and afterwards joined their regiments, I would wish were ordered on board the vessels and gondolas. We shall not be able to procure a sufficient number without them.

The mills at *Cheshire's* are sawing, and will produce about four thousand feet of boards each day. All that can be sawed in a fortnight will be wanted here. I have ordered the next gondolas that go down to be loaded with boards. I think it will be best to send to *Onion River* for the boards there, and for a parcel lying between *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point*. Mr. *Hay* can inform where they lie. As soon as I can give the carpenters proper instructions, and set them at work, I will return to *Ticonderoga*.

I am, very respectfully, dear General, your obedient and humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To the Honourable Major-General *Gates*.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 24, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Captain *Wilson*, it seems, has taken prisoners, one a *Canadian*, who left *St. John's* within a few days. You will be able to make some material discoveries from him. I have examined him, and was much at a loss to know if the flag should not be stopped till we could hear from you; but as Major *Bigelow's* orders were positive, he is just now gone down. It would be of consequence to take eight *Indians* and one *Canadian*, who have come up from *St. John's* to spy what we are about. They have landed somewhere between this and *Cumberland-Head*.

*Hays* and another on the western shore, *Midkiff* and some others in *Massiskie-Bay*, ought to be secured. There is too much reason, I fear, to suspect some other persons, of whom Lieutenant *Clark* can inform you. I shall wait your orders.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 24, 1776.

SIR: I have understood from several quarters that which inclines me to apprehend, that the supposition that *Gilliland* and some others had sent down one *Edward Watson* and another to *St. John's*, had some foundation. They doubtless carry any intelligence they have to the enemy. It has just been intimated to me that *Gilliland* and *Jack Watson*, with one *Macaulay*, all relations, have had a hint that they are suspected. This may induce them to send a canoe or boat, to warn the two men of their danger in returning, or to make their own escape. I have ordered a party of about twenty-five men to set off in a boat towards *Cumberland-Head*, to intercept the eight *Indians* and the *Canadian* on their way back to *St. John's*, or the two rascals in the canoe, who are gone to *St. John's*, in their return to *Willsborough*, and also to favour Captain *Wilson's* retreat. *Hays*, and the men mentioned in my letter of this day, ought, in my opinion, to be secured. You will judge of the proper time. I hope my conduct will meet with your approbation.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

P. S. The party will set off to-night or to-morrow morning early, unless countermanded.

PETITION FROM CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

To the Hon. HORATIO GATES, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in the Northern Department to defend the AMERICAN States, &c.:

The Petition of the Committee of Safety for the County of CUMBERLAND, in the Colony of NEW-YORK, humbly sheweth:

That whereas, by resolves of our Provincial Congress, this County is to raise one hundred and twenty-five effective men to join the troops under your command, and whereas this County of *Cumberland* is a frontier, eminently exposed to the ravages both of *British* and *Savage* cruelty:

We, therefore, your petitioners, humbly pray that your

Honour would be pleased to order that the said one hundred and twenty-five men may be employed, in actual service, as scouting parties, &c., to defend our frontier towns, which are this moment exposed to be destroyed, ravaged, and burnt, by a merciless and inveterate enemy, and to make and repair the roads from hence to Head-Quarters.

Your petitioners humbly conceive that your Honour will be forward to grant us this our request, when we acquaint you that we have never, as yet, understood that either the Continental or Provincial Congress have made any provision for these purposes.

Confiding in your Honour's humanity, and not doubting in the least but that you will readily grant us this our petition, we are, with respect, your most obedient, humble servants, &c.

Signed by order of the County Committee:

JAMES CLAY, *Chairman*.

Westminster, Cumberland County, July 24, 1776.

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE GRANTS.

Extract of the Votes and Proceedings of a General Convention of fifty-nine Delegates on the west side of the range of *Green Mountains*, on the *New-Hampshire Grants*, held at *Dorset*, the 24th day of *July*, A. D. 1776: said numbers represented the Inhabitants of thirty-five Townships on said *Grants*.

Captain *Joseph Woodward* Chairman, Doctor *Jonas Fay* Clerk, of said Convention.

This Convention being of opinion that the business which occasions their meeting at this time requires the most serious deliberation, are disposed to pass the following Votes, viz:

1st. That not more than one person be permitted to speak at a time in this Convention, and only by leave of the Chairman.

2dly. That the business of the meeting be closely adhered to, and that the several articles in the warrant for this meeting be considered in due order, except otherwise overruled.

After receiving the Report from the honourable the Continental Congress, by Captain *Heman Allen*, voted to pass over the 4th, 5th, and 6th articles of the warrant, till nine o'clock to-morrow, for consideration.

Adjourned to six o'clock to-morrow morning.

Meeting opened at time and place.

Proceeded to the consideration of the fourth article of the warrant, and the same is objected to. Proceeded to the consideration of the fifth article of the warrant, and voted, that suitable application be made to form the district of land commonly called and known by the name of the *New-Hampshire Grants* into a separate district. Dissentient, only one.

Proceeded to the consideration of the sixth article of the warrant, and voted to recommend it accordingly.

Voted, To choose a Committee to treat with the inhabitants on the east side of the range of *Green Mountains* relative to their associating with this body.

Voted, That Captain *Heman Allen*, Colonel *William Marsh*, and Doctor *Jonas Fay*, in conjunction with Captain *Samuel Fletcher* and Mr. *Joshua Fish*, together with such other gentlemen on the east side of the range of *Green Mountains* on said *Grants* as they may hereafter appoint to join them, be, and are hereby, appointed a Committee for the above purpose.

Adjourned one hour.

Meeting opened at time and place.

Proceeded to the consideration of the following Association, viz:

This Convention being fully sensible that it is the will and pleasure of the honourable Continental Congress that every honest friend to the liberties of *America*, in the several *United States* thereof, should subscribe an Association, binding themselves, as members of some body or community, to stand in the defence of those liberties; and whereas it has been the usual custom of individuals to associate with the Colony or State which they are reputed to be members of: Yet, nevertheless, the long and spirited conflict which has for many years subsisted between the Colony or State of *New-York* and the inhabitants of that district of land commonly called and known by the name of *New-Hampshire Grants*, relative to the title of the land on said district,

renders it inconvenient in many respects to associate with that Colony, which has hitherto been the sole reason of our not subscribing an Association before this.

The better, therefore, to convince the publick of our readiness to join in the common defence of the aforesaid liberties, we do publish and subscribe the following Association, viz:

"We, the subscribers, inhabitants of that district of lands commonly called and known by the name of the *New-Hampshire Grants*, do voluntarily and solemnly engage, under all the ties held sacred among mankind, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, to defend by arms the *United American Colonies* against the hostile attempts of the *British* fleets and armies until the present unhappy controversy between the two countries shall be settled."

The foregoing Association being approved, is accordingly signed by fifty of the members of this Convention; and voted, that each inhabited Town on the *New-Hampshire Grants* be served with a copy thereof, and that it be, and is hereby, recommended to each of said inhabitants who are friends to their country, that they severally subscribe the same as soon as may be, and make return by the Delegate or Delegates which they are hereby directed to appoint to join this Convention at their next sitting at *Dorset*, the 25th day of *September* next, at eight o'clock forenoon, to which time and place this Convention stands adjourned.

Per order:

JONAS FAY, *Clerk of said Convention*.

Extract from Minutes of General Convention of NEW-HAMPSHIRE GRANTS,  
24th JULY, 1776.

New-Hampshire Grants, in General Convention, }  
Dorset, July 24, 1776. }

Resolved, That it be, and it is hereby, recommended to the several inhabitants on the *New-Hampshire Grants* who are friends to the liberties of the *United States of America*, that they subscribe the Association agreed on and signed by the several members of this Convention, and return the same to the Clerk thereof as soon as may be.

Resolved, unanimously, That any person or persons, inhabitants on the *New-Hampshire Grants*, who shall in future subscribe and return an Association to any of the Committee or Committees of Safety for either of the Counties in the Province of *New-York* or to the Provincial Congress thereof, otherwise than the Association contained in these records, and subscribed by the several Delegates of this Convention, shall be deemed enemies to the common cause of the *New-Hampshire Grants*.

Resolved, That nine persons be chosen as a Committee of Appeals, who are to hear and determine such matters as may be properly exhibited to them in writing by any of the inhabitants of the *New-Hampshire Grants*, relative to the cause of *American* liberty, by way of proper appeal from either of the Committees of Safety on said *Grants*; any five of which Committee to make a quorum.

Extract from the Minutes:

JONAS FAY, *Clerk*.

#### KILLINGWORTH COMMITTEE.

Killingworth, July 24, 1776.

Whereas *Benjamin Griffith*, of *Killingworth*, hath for some time been suspected of being unfriendly to the common cause, and an enemy to his country; said *Griffith* was cited to appear before the Civil Authority, Selectmen, and Committee of Inspection of said *Killingworth*, for examination, on the 11th day of *July* instant, and adjourned to the 15th, who, upon examination, pleaded not guilty. After taking a number of evidences in the case, this meeting, considering the evidences, and the late Act of this Colony in the premises, and question being put by the chairman of said meeting, whether the said *Griffith* was inimical to his country, or to these *United Colonies*? Voted in the affirmative by a very clear vote. And it was ordered by said meeting or court of inquiry, that said *Griffith* be disarmed of all fire-arms of what kind soever, and not allowed to keep arms any more in his house, until he make it appear to said meeting, or the major part of them, according to the late act of this Colony, that he is friendly to the *United Colonies*, and to the common cause.

The doings of this meeting desired to be made publick.

Signed by order:

ELNATHAN STEVENS, *Chairman of said meeting*.



## TO THE INHABITANTS OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

MY COUNTRYMEN: When I consider the danger attending this important day—*Burgoyne* with his *Regulars*, *Canadians*, and *Indians*, on our Northern and Western frontiers, General *Howe* with his *Regulars* and Naval force on our sea-coasts, and our Northern Army in such a situation as that the enemy may evade their force and possibly spread devastation in our defenceless towns—how necessary and important is it, then, that every well-wisher to *American* liberty should be equipped in the best manner to oppose our enemies. In what a miserable situation would we be in should our frontiers be invaded with two or three thousand *Canadians* and *Indians*, and so many of our people without fire-arms and ammunition, to oppose their career. How far would they spread devastation before we should be able to stop them? Should *Howe*, with the help of his fleet, suddenly transport his Army to any of our Colonies where our Army is not stationed, and our home farmers be unprepared to meet them, in such case we must leave our houses to the devouring flames, and possibly our stock, our wives, our children, at their mercy. Pray let us realize these things, and if any are destitute of implements of war, let them, rather than remain in such a situation, “sell their coats and buy them.” Pray consider that our liberties are vastly more worth than all our property, and that he who at such a day as this will not rather venture his life in battle than be a slave, shows a dastardly spirit, and cannot be said to stand fast in that liberty in which the God of nature has made us free.

A WATCHMAN.

Worcester, Massachusetts, July 24, 1776.

## COURT-MARTIAL ON LIEUTENANT MOSES BANKS.

At a General Court-Martial held at *Boston*, July 24, 1776, by order of the Hon. *Artemas Ward*, Major-General and Commander-in-Chief of the *American* Forces stationed at *Boston*, on *Moses Banks*, Second Lieutenant and Quartermaster-General in the Eighteenth Regiment of the United Independent States of *North America*, for defrauding the said Regiment of their pay, provisions, &c., he was found guilty, sentenced to be cashiered, forfeit all his pay, and refund £10 to the Regiment.

## JOHN BACHELLOR TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston, July 24, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The information which the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* lately gave to your Honours, relative to Captain *Obrian*, they had from me. I then supposed the suggestion could be easily supported; but from various circumstances since turned up, I am inclined to think that the malice of his enemies hath induced them to take such steps to injure his character as cannot be justified.

I am, your most obedient and most humble servant,  
JNO. BACHELLOR.

## WILLIAM SEVER TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Kingston, July 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The brigantine *Independence* being now nearly ready for sea, Captain *Samson* waits on your Honour for his commission, and such instruction for his conduct as may be thought proper.

As from the time which has elapsed since the evacuation of *Boston*, I apprehend we cannot expect to find *British* merchant-ships on the coast of this Colony, and *British* ships-of-war having withdrawn themselves, allow me, sir, to suggest the expediency, in my opinion, of giving him such latitude in his orders as will authorize his cruising in the path of the homeward-bound *West-India* trade, at least a part of the time he may be abroad.

Captain *Samson* does not think the half ton of powder which he has received is by any means sufficient. I am informed the person who received it was told that it was as much as had been ordered by the brigantine at *Dartmouth*; but it is said that about half a ton of powder, which was stored at *Dartmouth*, has been received on board said brigantine, in addition to what was received at *Watertown*. If you, sir,

should be of opinion that the quantity is insufficient, I presume you will endeavour to have it augmented.

I am, respectfully, sir, your very humble servant,  
W. SEVER.

To the Hon. *James Bowdoin*, Esq., President of the Council,  
at *Watertown*.

## CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMMITTEE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Falmouth, July 24, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: We desire you will give the bearer hereof, Mr. *Jesse Partridge*, an order upon the Treasurer for the sum of £820, to pay off the men, the bounty, advance pay, &c., as ordered by the honourable Court. We likewise desire blank commissions for one set of commission Officers for one company, and orders for the men's marching when inlisted.

JOSIAH NOYES,  
JOSHUA FABYAN,  
JNO. LEWIS,

Committee of the County of *Cumberland*.

To the Honourable Council of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

In Council Chamber, July 27, 1776.

Read and Ordered, That a warrant be drawn on the Treasurer for £251 16s., for the use of *Jos. Noyes* and others, Committee for the County of *Cumberland*.

JNO. AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

## NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO BENJAMIN GILES.

In Committee of Safety, July 24, 1776.

SIR: We received yours by Mr. *Trott*. Have sent you by him £20, and expect you will settle with him for his time and expenses in the service. We hope Mr. *Farnsworth* or his deputy will supply the troops in such a way as will help them to proceed; and though we would by no means pretend to supply, or in anywise be concerned in the affair, unless to prevent their returning home dissatisfied, in which case we would desire you to do what you can in reason to furnish them to march forward. If the provision you have furnished is not wanted, you may stow it, and it will come to bear at some time or other, without doubt.

By order of the Committee.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,  
M. THORNTON, Chairman pro tem.

To *Benjamin Giles*, Esq.

Williamsburgh, July 26, 1776.

Yesterday afternoon, agreeable to an order of the honourable Privy Council, the Declaration of Independence was solemnly proclaimed at the Capitol, the Court-House, and the Palace, amidst the acclamations of the people, accompanied by firing of cannon and musketry, the several regiments of Continental troops having been paraded on that solemnity.

Advices from *Charlestown*, which arrived here by express, say that the *Cherokee Indians* have committed several outrages, which seem to be only a part of the capital and favourite plan laid down by his most excellent and clement Majesty *George the Third*, to lay waste the Provinces, burn the habitations, and mix men, women, and children, in one common carnage, by the hands of those merciless savages. It is to be hoped, however, that our frontier riflemen, joined to those of the *Carolinas*, will be able before long to strike some blow that may intimidate numerous tribes of *Indians* from falling into the measures of the tyrant, and make a severe, lasting, and salutary example of the treacherous *Cherokees*. By the same express, we learn that the Army and squadron under *Clinton* and *Parker* have remained tolerably quiet since their late drubbing; but daily make some alteration in the disposition of the land forces from one Island to another, probably for the sake of water, of which, deserters say, they are in great want; as also, that considerable sickness prevails among them, and great discontents, from hard duty and bad diet. The deserters likewise say, that was not the Army on an island from which it is difficult to escape, two-thirds of them, they are confident, would soon

be with General *Lee*. An officer of distinction writes: "That when he considers the difficulties which the enemy's Generals have to encounter, the temper and disposition of their troops, and the improving spirit of our people, he assures himself that the game in that quarter is in our hands, and hopes that *God* will give them more grace than to shuffle it away."

## BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Messrs. *Gordon* and *Patten*, saddlers in this town, have informed me that they had made proposals to you for making a quantity of knapsacks and haversacks for the service of the Flying-Camp; and that a recommendation from the Committee, or some persons here well known to you, was necessary before a contract was made. As there may not be a meeting of the Committee before *Monday*, we conceive it might further the publick service to give you our opinion, that they are both men of character, and equal to the undertaking, and that we doubt not they will punctually fulfil any engagement of the nature in question which they may make.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

SAML. PURVIANCE, JUN.,  
JAS. CALHOUN,  
JOHN BOYD.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*,  
*Annapolis*.

## JOHN HANSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Frederick County, Middle District, July 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by the Committee of this District to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 16th, enclosing several resolves and the Declaration of Independence, to the contents of which papers due attention will be paid. Persons were some time ago appointed in the different Hundreds within this District, to receive the arms from those who had not signed the Association and enrolled in the Militia; but no returns have been made by them. Three guns only have been brought in, which have been delivered to *Mantz's* company; and the Committee offer it as their opinion, that very few guns will be got by way of loan, and that there is not the least probability of arming the Flying-Camp from this quarter but by purchase.

The Committee have often been applied to by the prisoners in the Tory Jail for an enlargement, on giving sufficient security not to depart the bounds which may be allotted them, and for their good behaviour; but they are doubtful whether they would be justified in complying with their request, and would be glad to be favoured with the opinion of your honourable Board; and as some of these prisoners are officers, whether they are not entitled to their parole, agreeable to the resolution of Congress respecting prisoners.

Yesterday, were brought to this place, under a guard from *Burlington*, fifteen officers, taken at *St. John's*, who are ordered by the Board of War to be kept here. Those who refuse to sign the parole are ordered to be confined in Jail. Three of them have signed, and the other twelve who refused to sign were last night sent to the Tory Jail, which we hope will occasion them in a short time to take the advantage allowed them. It is a dreadful place (but the best we have) to be confined in, and so crowded at present (being twenty-seven) that it may be dangerous to their health. The officers last mentioned find themselves; but it will be necessary to augment the guard, which will increase the expense; and the money sent to defray the charges of the prisoners being nearly expended, the Committee request that a further sum be sent by the first opportunity.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANSON, JUN., *Chairman*.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## COLONEL STRICKER TO SAMUEL CHASE.

Fredericktown, July 25, 1776.

SIR: I arrived here on *Monday* last, and have since seen divers of my recruiting parties, which have not been so successful as I could wish. The Flying-Camp and Militia's turning out hurts our recruiting much, although the four

Captains appointed in this Province have already completed thirty men each. I could wish we had it in our power to enlist the men who have engaged in the Flying-Camp, as there are many of them who would willingly go with us.

The fifteen hundred and twenty dollars I received for the two Captains' bounty money for this County; shall make use of for purchasing blankets and arms, if you see proper, as the Captains had already received the full bounty money for the recruiting of their companies. I have already advanced fifty pounds to one of the Captains for the subsistence and expense money for raising the company, and I expect the others to call upon me for the same purpose.

Should be glad there might one of the companies of our battalion be a Rifle company, as I think I could arm them in this Province; for muskets, I am afraid we can get but few that are good here.

I shall esteem the favour of a reply, and to receive any further instructions you may please to favour me with, being the needful.

I remain, with compliments to the gentlemen the Delegates from this Province, sir, your most obedient servant,  
GEORGE STRICKER, *Lt. Colonel*.

To *Samuel Chase*, Esq.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL JOHNSON.

[No. 72.]

Annapolis, July 25, 1776.

SIR: We have received your favour of the 22d, and are very glad that the Militia of *Frederick* are so ready to turn out on the present occasion. We think their service will not be wanting, for although there are many of the enemy's ships in *Potomack*, yet there are but few men in them, and those sickly and die fast. The *Fowey* and *Otter*, with about fifty sail of vessels, are still at *St. George's*. The *Roebuck*, with three ships, and a few small vessels, are as high up *Potomack* as *Mattawoman*, where, it is said, they are watering. We have already contracted for a large number of camp-kettles of iron and copper, and expect to procure some of tin.

If your brother's iron is suitable for casting guns, we would contract with you for fifty three-pounders, fifty four-pounders, and seventy-five swivels to carry one-pound balls. Captain *Nicholson* informs us, that the length of the swivels is not material; the three and four-pounders ought to be somewhat shorter than the common standard.

Should we find it necessary, we will hereafter give orders for the march of a battalion from *Frederick* County.

We are, with respect and esteem, yours, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Thomas Johnson*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MAJOR PRICE.

[No. 73.]

Annapolis, July 25, 1776.

SIR: You will make use of all or part of the cannon, as you see cause, taking care not to waste powder in vain.

Enclosed you have an order, which you will do everything in your power to enforce.

You should be particularly cautious in taking care to secure deserters; some of them, you may depend upon it, are spies. The negro you mention, that escaped from the guard, may have been sent on purpose to seduce the slaves in the neighbourhood.

Be pleased to inform us, from time to time, of material occurrences, as they happen. We have paid the express; and are, &c.

To Major *Thomas Price*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COMMITTEES OF DORCHESTER AND SOMERSET.

[No. 74.]

Annapolis, July 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have ordered Captain *John Gunby's* company to march to *Cambridge*, in your County, and to be stationed where you may direct. We hope that company will be sufficient to protect you against tenders who may attempt to plunder. We are, &c.

To the Committees of Observation of *Dorchester* and *Somerset* Counties.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MATTHEW TILGHMAN.

[No. 75.]

Annapolis, July 25, 1776.

SIR: We are very apprehensive that we should incur the censure of the honourable Continental Congress and of the Islanders who have stock, should we make the order you request. The resolve of Congress is full and explicit, without any exception. Should we extend our powers to answer your request, others would expect indulgence, and we know not where the exceptions would stop. Our powers are extensive, but not large enough to control the orders of Congress. Your application may well lie over till the meeting of the Convention, which will be in a short time.

We shall take particular notice of your application for an armed hoat, and give directions to our armed vessels as soon as they can be got ready. The *Defence* is going down the bay, and will be a good security against tenders, for the present.

Perhaps it would be prudent to sell some of your cattle. If you want a market, our contractor will probably take off some of your superfluous numbers. We are, &c.

To the Honourable *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL BARNES.

[No. 76.]

Annapolis, July 25, 1776.

SIR: Before your letter and papers therein enclosed came to hand, we had received a letter from Major *Price*, in which Mr. *Wolstenholme's* affair was mentioned. The Council of Safety thereupon passed a general order to all the Committees of Observation and military commanders, not to suffer any person whatever to go out of the Province for the present. A copy of this order was enclosed to Major *Price* and your Committee.

All intercourse with the *Fowey* has been heretofore expressly forbidden by the Convention. Besides, times are so much altered since Mr. *Wolstenholme's* passport, and the men-of-war have so openly invaded this Province, that we could not discharge our duty without passing such order; at least, we thought so. Mr. *Wolstenholme's* case may be attended with particular circumstances; he must, however, submit to the times.

We hope both General *Dent* and yourself, on reflection, will be of opinion that we have done right. The suffering gentlemen to go off on board the men-of-war or tenders, or any other vessel that may have communication with them, is attended with great danger to the Colony. Every means of intelligence must be cut off, if possible. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Richard Barnes*.

## JOHN ADAMS TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Philadelphia, July 25, 1776.

SIR: I find myself under a necessity of applying to the honourable the General Court for leave to return home. I have attended here so long and so constantly, that I feel myself necessitated to ask the favour on account of my health, as well as on many other accounts. I beg leave to propose to the honourable Court an alteration in their plan of delegation in Congress, which, it appears to me, would be more agreeable to the health and convenience of the members, and much more conducive to the publick good, than the present. No gentleman can possibly attend to an incessant round of thinking, speaking, and writing, upon the most intricate, as well as important concerns of human society, from one end of the year to another, without trying both his mental and bodily strength. I would therefore humbly propose, that the honourable Court would be pleased to appoint nine members to attend in Congress—three or five at a time. In this case, four or six might be at home at a time, and every member might be relieved once in three or four months. In this way you would always have members in Congress who would have in their minds a complete chain of the proceedings here, as well as in the General Court; both kinds of which knowledge are necessary for a proper conduct here. In this way, the lives and health, and, indeed, the sound minds, of the delegates here, would be in less danger than they are at present, and, in my humble opinion, the publick business would be much better done. This proposal, however, is only submitted to the honourable body, whose sole right it is to judge of it. For myself, I must entreat the General Court to give me leave to resign, and immediately to appoint some other gentleman in my room. The consideration of my own health, and circumstances of

my family and private affairs, would have little weight with me, if the sacrifice of these was necessary for the publick; but it is not, because those parts of the business of Congress for which (if for any) I have my qualifications being now nearly completed, and the business that remains being chiefly military and commercial, of which I know but very little, there are multitudes of gentlemen in the Province much fitter for the publick service here than I am.

With great respect to the General Court, I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN ADAMS.

To the Deputy Secretary.

## ROBERT MORRIS TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, July 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I ought to have written you a fortnight ago that Mrs. *Gates*, with your son *Bob*, had gone for *Virginia*, after about two weeks stay with us, during which you had the misfortune to lose a horse. I believe he had been too hard driven, at least *Bob* thought that was the cause of his death, although the servant would not allow it. Mrs. *Gates* bought another from Mr. *Hancock*, for which I am to pay him forty pounds, and shall charge it to your account. Mrs. *Gates* did not take the money she wanted at home, but is to draw on me for it.

I hope you will be able to put our affairs at the Lakes on a more respectable footing than they have ever been since the days of poor *Montgomery*. Certainly there has been great mismanagement in that department, and I find some people attributing this to a source I never should have suspected. Is it possible for a man who writes so well, and expresses such an anxiety for the cause of his country, as General *Schuyler* does—I say it is possible that he can be sacrificing the interest of that country to his ambition or avarice? I sincerely hope it is not so; but such insinuations are dropped.

I beg leave to recommend Major *Wood* to your patronage; you'll find him a bold, intrepid officer; and as Lieutenant-Colonel *Allen* has resigned, I shall push for the Major to have that vacancy.

You'll be pleased with *Lee's* success at *Carolina*; the enemy were mauled greatly, and I think the repulse disgraces them; consequently reflects great honour on our people.

You are no doubt well informed of what passes at *New-York*; and as I have full employment for my whole time, I shall only assure you of the esteem and regard with which I am, dear sir, your affectionate, humble servant,

ROBERT MORRIS.

## LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Inspection and Observation, held at the house of *Adam Reigart*, on the 25th July, 1776:

Present: Edward Shippen, William Atlee, William Bowsman, Lodwick Lowman, Jacob Krug, Henry Dehuff, Christopher Crawford, Michael Musser, Eberhart Gruber, Adam Reigart.

*William Atlee* in the chair.

*John Purick*, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with *Basoran Wolf*, at the Saltpetre business, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the resolves of this Committee.

A Letter from Colonel *Philip Greenwalt*, dated the 24th of July instant, mentions that the Ninth Battalion of this County is to march for *Trenton*, in the *Jerseys*, next Monday; that the men stand in need of Muskets, Cartridge-Boxes, Field-Kettles, Canteens, and other necessary accoutrements, and requests this Committee to let him know when to send for them, and how many of each; which Letter being read, the Chairman is desired to inform Colonel *Greenwalt* that the Committee have already distributed the whole of the Muskets and Cartridge-Boxes which can possibly be spared from the guard here, and that there are neither Kettles nor Canteens to be had here, nor tin to make them of; and that, were it in our power, we should cheerfully comply with the request.

*Edward Shippen* took the chair, and *William Atlee*, in behalf of Colonel *Atlee*, motioned that Colonel *Atlee*, upon entering into the service, had employed and hired a certain *John Hamilton* to take care of his farm; that there is no other man about the house or farm than the said *John Hamilton*; that Mrs. *Atlee* hath a number of young chil-

dren, and, without the assistance of the said hired man, cannot take care of her farm, but the same, with her family, must suffer. Upon consideration, it is the opinion of the Committee, that the said *John Hamilton* should be permitted to stay at home with Colonel *Atlee's* family, and take care of his affairs in his absence in the service of his country; and Captain *Hare*, in whose Company the said *John Hamilton* is an Associator, and the Colonel and other Field Officers of the Battalion, are requested not to march the said *John Hamilton* with the troops intended for the Camp, but to permit him, on furlough or otherwise, as he or they shall think most proper, to stay with Colonel *Atlee's* family, to take care of his affairs.

Mr. *Atlee* resumed the chair.

Col. *Thomas Porter*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Robert Thompson*, and Major *Thomas Smith*, of the Fifth Battalion of Associators, in *Lancaster County*, of *Pennsylvania*, do now report, that they have formed a Company for the Flying-Camp, to be assembled in the *Jerseys*, and, with the assent of the Company, have chosen Mr. *James Watson* as their Captain, Mr. *William Steel* as their First Lieutenant, Mr. *Dorrington Willson* as their Second Lieutenant, and Mr. *William Nelson* as their Ensign, (or, if a Rifle Company, their Third Lieutenant,) and do recommend the said gentlemen (who have filled superior stations in the Militia with reputation) to this Committee for their appointment; which report and recommendation being considered, are approved of, and the said Mr. *James Watson* is appointed Captain, Mr. *William Steel* is appointed First Lieutenant, Mr. *Dorrington Willson* is appointed Second Lieutenant, and Mr. *William Nelson* is appointed Ensign, (or, if a Rifle Company, Third Lieutenant,) of the said Flying-Camp Company furnished by Colonel *Porter's* Battalion of Associators aforesaid, agreeable to the resolves of the Committee of Conference of *Pennsylvania*, and are to take the charge of the Company accordingly.

Colonel *James Burd*, of the Fourth Battalion of Associators in *Lancaster County*, in *Pennsylvania*, and *Cornelius Cox*, First Major of the Battalion, do now report, that the First Company of Volunteers of the said Battalion intended to serve in the Flying-Camp to be formed in the *Jerseys*, agreeable to the resolves of the honourable Continental Congress and resolutions of the Conference of Committees of the said Province, have unanimously chosen Mr. *John Reed* their Captain, Mr. *James Collier* their First Lieutenant, Mr. *John Gillcreart* their Second Lieutenant, and Mr. *John Cochran* their Ensign; which report being considered, is approved of, and the said Mr. *John Reed* is appointed Captain, Mr. *James Collier* is appointed First Lieutenant, Mr. *John Gillereat* is appointed Second Lieutenant, and Mr. *John Cochran* is appointed Ensign, of the said Flying-Camp Company furnished by Colonel *Burd's* Battalion of Associators aforesaid, agreeable to the resolves of the Conference of Committees of *Pennsylvania*, and are to take charge of the said Company accordingly.

*Thomas Dickinson*, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with *Leonard Oaler*, Wheelwright, *Stephen Lutz* here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the resolves of this Committee.

*Samuel Eaton*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *Christopher Petre*, Stocking Weaver, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the resolves of this Committee.

*Daniel Allen*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *Michael Shirdle*, Tailor, Mr. *Lowman* here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the resolves of this Committee.

*James Vidian*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *Casper Eglee*, Brewer, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the resolves of this Committee.

WILLIAM ATLEE TO THE ASSOCIATORS FROM LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

In Committee, Lancaster, July 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee of Safety of this Province, by their resolve of the 14th *July* instant, have recommended it to the Committees of Inspection and Observation of the several Counties in the Province to nominate and appoint a proper number of judicious persons residing in the said Coun-

ties respectively, to distribute to the distressed families of such Associators as are called into actual service and are not of ability to maintain themselves, the allowance which the persons so to be nominated shall judge reasonable, and have empowered the Committees to draw on that Board for the necessary sums of money, to be by them lodged in the hands of the persons so nominated and appointed, to be applied as above directed. It must give great satisfaction to such of the Associators who are called into actual service and leave poor families unable to maintain themselves, to reflect that those families are under the care of good men, who will be attentive to their situation, and make the necessary provision for them in their absence; and we are anxious to have the resolve carried into immediate execution; but as we are at a loss who to appoint, not knowing but the man of our appointment may be the companion of the poor Associator in the camp, and also being desirous that the persons appointed to this duty may be men who are agreeable to the Associators, in whom they can confide, who are known to have leisure to attend to this duty, and goodness of heart to search out and relieve the distressed, we request the favour of you, gentlemen, to send to us the names and places of abode of some good men in the Townships or District from whence your Battalion is drawn, who continue at home, are willing to accept, and will be the most suitable for this service, that we may nominate and appoint them thereto without delay.

We are, &c., WILLIAM ATLEE, Chairman.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.  
Perth-Amboy, July 25, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is a Return of the Troops in *New-Jersey*. There was a very capital error in the Return of yesterday, through the carelessness of my clerk.

The position of the enemy continues the same as when I wrote last. I have sent to such of the Counties here as had not completed the levies for the Army at *New-York*, to give all possible assistance, and forward such men as were enlisted. Such of those troops as have come in my way I have pushed on with all expedition.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

H. MERCER.

To General Washington.

A General Return of the Troops in NEW-JERSEY, under the command of Brig. Gen. MERCER, July 25th, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Drums and fifes.	Rank and file.
Col. Miles's First Rifle Battalion.....	1	1	1	6	18	-	24	6	409
Col. Miles's Second Rifle Battalion.....	-	1	1	6	17	-	20	4	347
Pennsylvania Musketry..	1	1	-	8	16	15	16	8	341
First Battalion Philadelphia Associators..	1	1	1	6	12	11	24	12	360
Second Battalion Philadelphia Associators..	1	1	1	7	16	14	31	15	400
Third Battalion Philadelphia Associators..	1	1	2	7	12	11	26	16	310
Fourth Battalion Philadelphia Associators..	1	1	1	6	16	8	28	11	285
Fifth Battalion Philadelphia Associators..	-	1	1	4	13	-	17	6	180
Colonel Montgomery, Chester.....	1	1	1	6	15	8	27	11	290
Artillery from New-Jersey, six pieces.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120
Artillery from Philadelphia, two pieces.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
Total.....	7	9	9	56	135	67	213	89	3,092

Brigadier-General Roberdeau.									
STATIONED.									
At Newark Ferry, rank and file.....									12
Artillery at Newark Ferry, 2 pieces, Matrosses.....									20
At Elizabeth-Town and its posts, rank and file.....									500
Artillery at Elizabeth-Town, two pieces, Matrosses.....									20
At Woodbridge and its posts, rank and file.....									577
Artillery at Woodbridge, two pieces, Matrosses.....									20
At Amboy and its posts, rank and file.....									1,723
Artillery at Amboy, four pieces, Matrosses.....									110
									3,092

HUGH MERCER, Brigadier-General.



*A General Return of the Forces in the JERSEYS, under the command of Brig. Gen. MERCER, July 22, 1776.*

BATTALIONS.	Colonels.	Lieut. Cols.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Drums.	Fifes.	Rank and file.
1 Battalion Pennsylvania Riflemen.....	1	1	1	6	18	-	24	4	2	409
2 Battalions of Pennsylvania Riflemen.....	-	1	1	6	17	-	20	3	4	347
Battalion of Pennsylvania Musketry.....	1	1	1	8	15	15	15	8	7	283
1 Battalion of Penn. Militia, officers included....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	380
2 Battalions of Penn. Militia, officers included....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	480
3 Battalions of Penn. Militia, officers included....	1	1	1	7	12	11	26	8	8	305
Total.....	3	4	4	27	62	26	75	23	21	2,204
Brigadier-General Roberdeau.										
ARTILLERY.										
From <i>New-Jersey</i> , 2 companies, 6 pieces of cannon, 120 Matrosses.										
From <i>Philadelphia</i> , 1 company, 2 pieces of cannon, 50 Matrosses.										
STATIONS.										
2 pieces at <i>Passaick</i> , 2 at <i>Elizabeth Town Point</i> , 2 at the <i>Blazing-Star</i> at <i>Amboy</i> .										
STATIONS OF THE TROOPS.										
Ferries of <i>Hackensack</i> and <i>Passaick</i> , 2 Captains and 122 rank and file.										
<i>Elizabeth-Town Point</i> , officers included.....										500
<i>Woodbridge</i> , with several advanced posts.....										600
<i>Amboy</i> , with advanced posts.....										882
<i>Edgar's Landing</i> .....										100
										2,204
Four tons of Powder.										

HUGH MERCER, *Brigadier-General*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CAMP AT ELIZABETHTOWN,  
DATED JULY 25, 1776.

Yesterday nine of our Riflemen crossed the river in order to harass some Regulars who were throwing up a kind of breastwork on a bridge for their enemies, who kept firing on our men for some time, without doing any execution, till one of the brave fellows went within a few yards of the enemy and desired them to surrender. At that instant he received a ball through his head, which killed him on the spot. The Colonel sent over a flag of truce to the commanding officer on the Island, desiring leave to bring off his man, which the officer very politely agreed to, and let him take man, rifle, and all his accoutrements. After talking a little, he inquired what news was stirring. On being told that General Clinton had been defeated at *Carolina*, he bore it very well; but on being acquainted that Lord *Dummore* had been driven from *Gwin's Island*, he looked very much confused.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 29, 1776.]

New-York, July 25, 1776.

SIR: Disagreeable as it is to me, and unpleasing as it may be to Congress, to multiply officers, I find myself under the unavoidable necessity of asking an increase of my Aids-de-Camp. The augmentation of my command, the increase of my correspondence, the orders to give, the instructions to draw, cut out more business than I am able to execute in time with propriety. The business of so many different departments centring with me, and by me to be handed on to Congress for their information, added to the intercourse I am obliged to keep up with the adjacent States, and incidental occurrences, (all of which require confidential and not hack writers' to execute,) renders it impossible, in the present state of things, for my family to discharge the several duties expected of me with that precision and despatch that I could wish. What will it be, then, when we come into a more active scene, and I am called upon from twenty different places perhaps at the same instant?

Congress will do me the justice to believe, I hope, that it is not my inclination or wish to run the Continent to any unnecessary expense; and those who better know me will not suspect that slow and parade can have any influence on my mind in this instance. A conviction of the necessity of it for the regular discharge of the trust reposed in me is the governing motive for the application, and, as such, is submitted to Congress by, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

New-York, July 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Congress having empowered me to appoint suitable places of rendezvous for the battalions raising in your Government for the Northern Army, and to communicate the same to you, also to advance them one month's pay, &c., as you will perceive by the enclosed copy of their resolution which I have the honour to transmit, I must request the favour of you to direct them to march by companies, as they are raised, to *Skenesborough*, and there receive orders and instructions for their conduct from the officer commanding the Northern Army; and also to advance the month's pay, and take every necessary measure for forwarding their march, and complying with the purport of the said resolve; assuring you that whatever money may be advanced necessarily in carrying the same into execution shall be repaid to your order.

Before I conclude I cannot but confess that I do not clearly understand what battalions Congress allude to, and therefore beg leave to refer you to the requisition I presume they made upon the subject.

I am, with great respect, yours,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

[Similar Letter sent to Governour Trumbull and the *New-Hampshire* Convention.]

COLONEL REED TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 29, and referred to the Committee appointed to revise Articles of War.]

New-York, July 25, 1776.

SIR: The discipline of the Army falling more immediately within the notice of my department will, I hope, sufficiently apologize for recommending Mr. *Tudor*, the Judge-Advocate, to the attention of Congress.

The military system of government, though much more complete than at first, is yet extremely defective. The mildness of the punishment, even of crimes the most destructive to the Army, such as desertion, burglary, drink, of sleeping on guard, which are capital in all other parts of the world, not to mention mutiny and sedition, which is a growing evil, have rather made such crimes known to others than serve as examples. This Army is composed of a greater mixture than any which has yet been collected, and I am sorry to say we have too many who would equal, if not exceed, the King's troops in all kinds of disorder and irregularity. To men of this stamp thirty-nine lashes is so contemptible a punishment that it is very frequent for them, in the hearing of their comrades, to offer to take much more for a pint of rum. Neither my nature nor education would lead me to unnecessary severity, but I cannot, consistently with the duty and regard I owe the service, avoid giving my clear opinion, that unless some very material alterations in some articles take place, the publick will be greatly defrauded, military duty neglected, and the most dangerous consequences ensue to the *American* cause.

Since bounties have been introduced, a new species of desertion has appeared, that of leaving one corps to enlist into another, and we have some instances of its being done a second and a third time. I would humbly propose that some additional punishment to that for simple desertion be made. We have a general court-martial sitting every day, by which a Field-Officer and twelve Captains are kept from all other duty, a circumstance, perhaps, which never happened in any army before; and yet crimes, especially desertions, increase every day. The punishing desertion capitally I am sensible would only prevent discovery and detection, and would not meet the genius of the people; but if the number of lashes was increased, so as not to be less than one hundred, and the offender liable to double fatigue, I hope it would be more effectual.

Mr. *Tudor* will propose several other regulations which appear very proper, and to which I humbly beg leave to solicit the attention of Congress, as a matter of no small importance. It would be extremely useful, and I may say necessary, that, should any alterations be made, a new edition of the articles should be published, as we have now many new regiments who cannot procure any, and offenders plead ignorance with great reason.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

Jos. REED.

## GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 25, 1776.

SIR: The challenge I mentioned to your Excellency the other evening I find is given and accepted, and the parties have appointed to-morrow morning to fight. As I am made acquainted with the matter, I beg your Excellency's direction in what manner I am to conduct myself.

This moment Colonel *Hand* was with me, and acquaints me that I have mistaken his intentions respecting promotions. As he is coming to Head-Quarters, I wish he may explain the matter to your Excellency, and the alteration be made on the return there, or sent back to me, and I will make the necessary alterations here.

I apprehend it is necessary to have an order of Congress for the removal of the wheat along *New-Utrecht, Gravesend, &c.*, shore, that if the enemy should land there, they may not have it in their power to do us any injury; for everything they destroy or carry off will be a matter of triumph. The wheat is almost fit to thrash, and can be speedily removed out of harm's way.

I should be exceeding glad if your Excellency would visit this post, when at liberty, to see if there are any alterations or further regulations necessary.

I am, with due respect, your Excellency's obedient servant,

NATH. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *New-York*.

N. B. The challenge mentioned in the forepart of my letter was given by Lieutenant *Dunworth* (discharged the other day) to Captain *Talbot*. I did not wish to know anything about it; but it was made known to me, and many of the officers know that I do know it. This perplexes me a little, knowing duelling to be against all law, both civil and military.

## GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 25, 1776.

SIR: I have just completed a brigade return for the vacancies in the different regiments. My brigade is so dispersed that it is difficult getting returns seasonably. I should have made this return yesterday, but could not get Colonel *Hand's* until last evening.

The outguards report nothing worthy your Excellency's notice this morning.

I am so confined writing passes, &c., that it is impossible for me to attend to the duties of the day, which, in many instances, prejudices the service. Such a confined situation leaves one no opportunity of viewing things for themselves. It is recommended by one of the greatest Generals of the age, not only to issue orders, but to see to the execution, for the Army being composed of men of indolence, if the commander is not attentive to every individual in the different departments the machine becomes dislocated, and the progress of business retarded.

The science or art of war requires a freedom of thought and leisure to reflect upon the various incidents that daily occur, which cannot be had where the whole of one's time is engrossed in clerical employments. The time devoted to this employment is not the only injury I feel, but it confines my thoughts as well as engrosses my time. It is like a merchandise of small wares.

I must beg leave to recommend to your Excellency's consideration the appointing an officer to write and sign the necessary passes. The person I should wish to be appointed is Lieutenant *Blodget*. If it was put in general orders that passes signed by him should be deemed authentick as if signed by me, it would leave me at liberty to pursue the more important employments of my station.

I hope your Excellency will not think this application results from a lazy habit, or a desire to free myself from business—far from it; I am never more happy than when I am honourably or usefully employed. If your Excellency thinks I can promote the service as much in this employment as any other, I shall cheerfully execute the business, without the least murmur.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

NATH. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

New-York, July 25, 1776.

Our troops stationed on *Bergen-Point*, give the Ministerial fleet and army some uneasiness, by firing at the tenders, boats, &c. It so galls and provokes them, that they return the fire with great fury, but have not done the least damage to our people.

Last Lord's day a great many shot were heard in this city and at *Bergen-Point*. The occasion was this: A barge from the fleet, full of men, landed on the Point, but were opposed and driven off with precipitation by our troops; a smart fire ensued from a tender for a considerable time, without doing any injury. By two deserters, we are informed that a Captain and two privates were killed on board their barge.

We hear from *New-Jersey* and *Connecticut* that a great part of the men being absent on military service, and the time of harvest coming on, the women, assisted by the elderly men, whose age rendered them unfit for the Army, have so effectually exerted themselves, that they have generally got in the harvest completely, the laudable example being set by the ladies of the first character in each place. And we are credibly informed that many of them have declared that they will take the farming business upon themselves, so long as the rights and liberties of their country require the presence of their sons, husbands, and lovers, in the field.

## GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Greenwich, July 25, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: The bearer, Lieutenant-Colonel *Jacobs*, of Colonel *Bailey's* regiment, complains that one Ensign *Seth Bryant*, belonging to said regiment, and now employed in the works, was yesterday afternoon, by order of my Lord *Stirling*, put under guard in a common guard-house, where he still remains, on suspicion of embezzlement. A procedure so extraordinary, constrains me to represent the matter to your Excellency, as your Excellency is sensible that in all service, and in special, by the rules and regulations by which this Army is to be governed, "whenever any officer or soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, if an officer, be put in arrest; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be imprisoned." Whether he be guilty or not, I cannot tell; the judgment of a general court-martial is to determine. But as he wears a Continental commission, his being confined under guard must give umbrage to every gentleman who sustains a commission in the Army.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most humble servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, present.

## REPORTS OF GENERAL AND FIELD-OFFICERS.

Greenwich, July 25, 1776.

In pursuance of the general order of yesterday, directing the Brigadier and the Colonel or Commanding Officer of each Regiment in his Brigade to meet and estimate the quantity of Paper absolutely necessary to serve a Regiment a month, &c., the officers of the First Brigade met this day for that purpose.

Present: Brigadier-General *Heath*, Colonel *Prescott*, Colonel *Read*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Sheppard*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Jacobs*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Wesson*.

The subject-matter being maturely considered, the officers are of opinion that twelve quires of Paper are absolutely necessary for each Regiment per month, if they are to provide their own books.

W. HEATH, Brigadier-General.

*Quantity of Paper necessary for each Regiment of General Greene's Brigade.*

For five Morning Reports, to be made by the Corporals, of the state of each Company, one to each officer in the Company, and one to the Adjutant, eight sheets per day. Also a Daily Report of the sick to the Surgeon of the Regiment by the Corporal, and of the absent men, one sheet per day.

The Adjutant must every day make a report of the state of the Regiment to the Commanding Officer.

The Sergeant of each Company to make a Provision Return every other day to the Quartermaster.

The Adjutant to make three Weekly Returns—one to

Head-Quarters, one to Brigadier-General, and one to Colonel of Regiment.

The Surgeons to make three Weekly Returns—one for Head-Quarters, one to Brigade-General, and one to Colonel of Regiment. He must, moreover, have Paper to dispense medicines and send orders for the reception of the men into the General Hospital.

Daily Reports of Guards.

Regimental Court-Martials and Orders on the Quarter-master-General's Store for necessaries for the men.

Sheet of Paper per month to each Company to make abstracts, and the like quantity to register them.

Paper for Passes on necessary occasions.

Reports of Arms and Ammunition necessary to be made by each Company at least twice a week.

Paper for necessary correspondence.

A ream per month to each Regiment thought sufficient.

NATHANAEL GREENE, *Brig. General.*

J. VARNUM, *Col. Ninth Regt.*

DANL. HITCHCOCK, *Colonel.*

MOSES LITTLE, *Colonel.*

EDWD. HAND, *Col. First Regiment.*

July 25, 1776.

At a meeting of the Brigadier-General and the Officers commanding Regiments in the Second Brigade, according to General Orders of the 24th instant, to estimate the quantity of Paper absolutely necessary for the use of a Regiment's Returns and their publick use one month:

Having considered the several uses of Paper in a Regiment, and estimated the quantity necessary for the same, are of opinion that ten Quires to a Regiment will be necessary, exclusive of sufficient books for orders and printed forms for Weekly Returns.

JOS. SPENCER, *Brigadier-General.*

SAM'L H. PARSONS, *Col. 10th Regt.*

JED. HUNTINGTON, *Col. 17th Regt.*

JONA. WARD, *Col. 21st Regt.*

SAM'L WYLLYS, *Col. 22d Regt.*

Camp, New-York, July 26, 1776.

*An Estimate of the quantity of Paper necessary to serve the Brigade commanded by General HEARD, for one month:*

General	- - - - -	1 quire.
B. Major	- - - - -	1 "
Four Colonels, each one quire	- - -	4 "
Four Adjutants, each one quire	- - -	4 "
Thirty-two Captains	- - - - -	32 "
		<u>42 quires.</u>

PETER GORDON, *B. M.*

July 26, 1776.

On consulting the Field-Officers of my Brigade, they are unanimously of opinion, that if one quire of Paper be allowed per month to each Company, one quire to the Adjutant, one quire to the Commanding Officer of each Regiment per month, it will be a sufficient and proper allowance.

STIRLING, *Brigadier-General.*

To His Excellency General Washington.

July 25, 1776.

An estimate of Paper necessary for the regiment of Artillery per month: Twenty quires, or one ream.

HENRY KNOX, *Colonel.*

New-York, July 26, 1776.

The Colonels of the several Regiments in my brigade being convened according to orders of the 24th instant, have estimated the quantity of Paper necessary to serve a Regiment for Returns, and other publick uses, for a month, at ten quires.

JAMES WADSWORTH, *Brigadier-General.*

New-York, July 26, 1776.

GENERAL MIFFLIN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp at Mount Washington, July 25, 1776, }  
eight o'clock, P. M. }

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have this minute received a letter from Mr. Gerry, at Norwalk, on his way to Boston, with the following paragraph:

"I was informed at the *White-Plains*, by some gentlemen of the Convention, that a person very unfriendly to the *American States* had authentick information of the intention of the General in providing the *chevaux-de-frise*; and that it was appropriated, with the ships, to stop the channel in the *North River*, and hem in the enemy's ships."

The movement of the ships this morning down the river confirms Mr. Gerry's information. Lieutenant Connolly says they came nine miles down this morning. We keep a good look-out for them, as the wind and tide are favourable to their wishes. When they first appear I will order six alarm guns to be fired at a minute's interval; and when they come within reach, will keep up as heavy a fire as possible.

I am, with attachment, your Excellency's obedient servant,

THO. MIFFLIN.

To His Excellency General Washington, New-York.

COLONEL HAY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Haverstraw, July 25, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 20th instant, with twenty pounds of powder. The approbation you are pleased to express of my conduct, and the regiment under my command, while it affords the most sensible satisfaction, cannot fail to produce a continuance of our exertions, until it is in your Excellency's power to relieve the inhabitants.

My regiment consists of but four hundred men, one-fourth of whom, with eighty men sent me by General Clinton, I find necessary to keep on constant duty. This Precinct has already raised two companies for the Continental service. In the vicinity of the mountains being poor, is thinly inhabited by people of small estates; this, together with the great extent of shore we have to guard, is extremely burdensome to the people, and I suppose is the true reason that has induced Captain Parker to fix his station in *Haverstraw Bay*.

Since the destruction of *Halstead's* house, and the robbing the poor man of his hogs by Captain Wallace, nothing of a hostile nature has been attempted. The enemy have collected their force nearly opposite my house, and employ their time in sounding the river. Their having taken down the sand bags from the sides of their ships, spread awnings in all their vessels, and neglecting to embrace the many fair winds and tides that have offered, induce me to think that Captain Parker has resolved to confine his operations to the south side of the Highlands, and to make no further progress up the river till the arrival of a reinforcement. As yet they have had no supplies from this shore, nor any addition to their strength except two poor wretches of infamous character; nor have I any reason to think that many have resorted to them from the eastern shore, although a bullock was brought from thence, and hoisted, with great shoutings, from a barge into the *Rose* at the dawn of day on *Monday* last. My guards have since seen cabbages delivered from a canoe. If there has been any other communication between the enemy and the County of *Westchester*, it must have been in the night, for I have observed no increase of the number of boats about the ships or tenders in the daytime.

Permit me, sir, to suggest that it would tend greatly to obstruct the designs of the enemy if the shores above and below them were furnished with light whaleboats, to pursue their barges. This would enable us not only to dismiss part of the guards now employed, but also to cut off any supplies, follow them wherever they may attempt to land, and prevent the disaffected from joining them, give greater safety and relief to the peasants, and, upon the whole, be a saving to the publick. I shall, in compliance with your Excellency's request, give you the earliest information of every material event in this quarter; and am, sir, your most obedient servant,

A. HAWKES HAY.

To His Excellency General Washington, Head-Quarters.

P. S. Half after ten o'clock A. M. This moment the ships and tenders came under sail, fair wind and tide, and they are proceeding down the river.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

German-Flats, July 25, 1776.

SIR: I am this day honoured with your obliging favour of the 17th instant, and am happy to learn that we shall

soon be supplied with felling-axes. If the helving will not cause much delay, I could wish to have it done, and the axes ground, otherwise to send them on as they are, we being in great need of them.

I am happy that your Honour has so early issued the proclamation concerning the deserters from the Army. I hope it will have a good effect. Before I went last to *Crown-Point*, I gave directions to Lieutenant-Colonel *Buell* to collect all the boards he possibly could for erecting hospitals for the sick at *Fort George*, and temporary barracks for the troops wherever they might be. He has carried into execution my wishes with that diligence which distinguishes him, and a very considerable quantity of boards are collected. As soon as I found our Army was to retreat from *Canada*, I caused a saw-mill to be erected at the head of *Wood-Creek*, that will cut nearly three hundred boards of fourteen feet long in every twenty-four hours. The mill began to work about twelve or fourteen days ago, so that I trust we shall have sufficient shelter for our troops. I believe there are not any old gun-barrels or locks left; if there should be, I will order them to be sent to you. The head carpenters will be charged with the money you have advanced, and I will order it to be replaced as soon as the Deputy Paymaster-General has it in his power to do it. I dare say Doctor *Ely's* design will not be mistaken. I wrote to General *Gates* on the subject, and pointed out his errand. I consider his being sent up on such an occasion, as an evidence of his foresight and attention to the good of the common cause. The conference with the *Indians* is not yet opened, and I fear it will not be until *Monday* next. My long absence from the Army distresses me much, as the variety of business carrying forward on the communication, I fear, will get somewhat deranged. But neither my colleagues nor the *Indians* will permit me to return until the business is completed.

I am, with perfect esteem, and every wish for your health and happiness, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

German-Flats, July 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 13th instant, I received yesterday, and that of the 17th, this morning. I am perfectly in sentiment with you on the subject of private sutlers. They are in an Army what tippling-houses are in cities: the receptacle of the abandoned, where mutiny, disorder and every vice takes rise. I shall immediately give orders for purchasing *Arnet's* rum; but your order to the Deputy Commissary-General would have been sufficient.

Governour *Trumbull*, from whom I had a letter this morning, of the 17th instant, advises me that I may soon expect one thousand axes. I hope they are now on the way, with such others as may have been collected by the other people employed in that business before I left *Albany*.

This moment I received the enclosed. If the chain can be spared, I wish you would send it without delay, under the care of a careful officer to attend it to *Poughkeepsie*.

The *Indians* are not yet convened; and I fear we shall not open the conference until *Monday* next. I intended to leave the business to my colleagues, but they were both of opinion that if I quitted this place before the treaty was held, that it would essentially prejudice our cause; and the *Indians*, too, formally addressed me on the occasion. Their delays greatly distress me, as I know I could be of some service in expediting matters. Can you procure no intelligence from *Canada*?

Adieu, my dear sir; I am, with best wishes and esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

P. S. If you do not send the chain, please to advise my Secretary, who is at *Albany*, of it, and direct him to despatch a messenger to Messrs. *Van Zandt*, *Lawrence*, and *Tudor*, at *Poughkeepsie*, to inform them of it.

Yours, &c.,

P. SCHUYLER.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 25, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I wrote you early yesterday morning, and delivered the letter to Colonel *Wynkoop*, who was to

have set off for *Ticonderoga* in the morning, but was obliged to wait for his people, who were gone to *Cheshire's*, and did not return till evening, when he received your order to remain here. I have sent carpenters to assist in fixing the gondolas and vessels. I should have returned this morning, but the boats which were sent to *Cheshire's* the day before yesterday for the carpenters are not yet returned. It will be necessary for me to stay until they arrive, to give them orders respecting the craft they are to build. I have sent off an express this morning to General *Schuyler* for sundry articles wanted for the gondolas, and have requested him to send either to *Connecticut* or to General *Washington* for two or three hundred seamen, who will be absolutely necessary to man what craft we shall soon have completed. Without a larger number of seamen than can be found in the Northern Army our navigation will be useless. We have received no advice from below lately. The first company of Militia arrived last evening—others are expected every minute.

I am, with esteem and affection, dear General, your obedient and humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

CAPTAIN WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 25, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I have received yours of yesterday, and shall, with a great deal of pleasure, comply with all commands in said letter. I shall send you one gondola to-morrow, and the rest I shall forward as fast as possible, and send them down.

When I came here on this ground, I found things went very irregular and slow. The carpenters complained to me that if the soldiers went into the woods to help them, they would sit down by the trees instead of working, and when they complained to their officers thereof, found no redress.

I have been one day from here, to *Cheshire's* saw-mill, where I saw that neither the store nor barracks was set up at that place, and the commanding officer at that post was gone to *Albany*; and found also that the saw-mill did not go at night, only by day; and no boards sawed. I have now given them the strictest charge to saw continually, for I found they had water plenty. I have employed my officers and men to clear the creek and fetch the boards, and expect this day one hundred and forty boards here from that place, which I will send you down to-morrow.

The same day that General *Arnold* arrived here on this ground, he told me it was General *Gates's* positive orders that I should go down to *Ticonderoga* and join my regiment, which I thought a little strange of. As I had no men at home, (they being all employed in clearing the creek and fetching boards down,) I could not comply with his orders. The greater part of them arriving, I was determined to comply with his orders; but receiving your letter this morning, and finding nothing of that nature mentioned, induces me to stay till further orders from your Excellency.

What is the reason of General *Arnold's* giving such orders to me I know not, except that some of our commanders at this place see that I drive business on faster, as several have complained to General *Arnold* concerning me.

I am, dear General, your Excellency's humble servant,

CORNELIUS WYNKOOP.

To Major-General *Gates*, at *Ticonderoga*.

P. S. Concerning the stores, I found it went very irregular, and have demanded the keys, and have appointed one of my officers to act in that station, as long as the General pleases to continue him therein.

Providence, Saturday, July 27, 1776.

*Thursday* last, (25th *July*.) at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, his Honour the Governour, attended by such Members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly as were in town, and a number of the inhabitants, went in procession to the State-House, escorted by the Cadet and Light-Infantry Companies, where, at twelve o'clock, was read the Act of Assembly concurring with the most honourable General Congress in their Declaration of Independence. The Declaration was also read; at the conclusion of which, thirteen volleys were fired by the Cadets and Light-Infantry; the Artillery Company next fired thirteen cannon, and a like number of new



cannon (cast at the *Hope Furnace*) were discharged, at the *Great-Bridge*; the ships *Alfred* and *Columbus* likewise fired thirteen guns each, in honour of the day. At two o'clock his Honour the Governour, attended and escorted as above, proceeded to *Hacker's-Hall*, where an elegant entertainment was provided on the occasion. After dinner the following toasts were drunk, viz:

1. The Thirteen Free and Independent States of *America*.
2. The most Honourable the General Congress.
3. The Army and Navy of the *United States*.
4. The State of *Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations*.
5. The Commerce of the *United States*.
6. Liberty to those who have spirit to assert it.
7. The friends of the *United States* in every part of the earth.
8. General *Washington*.
9. The Officers of the *American Army and Navy*.
10. May the Crowns of Tyrants be crowns of thorns.
11. The memory of the brave Officers and Men who have fallen in defence of *American Liberty*.
12. May the Constitution of each separate State have for its object the preservation of the civil and religious rights of mankind.
13. May the Union of the States be established in justice and mutual confidence, and be as permanent as the pillars of nature.

The Artillery Company, and a number of other gentlemen, dined the same day at *Lindsey's Tavern*, when the following toasts were drunk:

1. The Free and Independent States of *America*.
2. The General Congress of the *American States*.
3. The Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.
4. His Excellency General *Washington*.
5. His Excellency General *Lee*.
6. The brave *Carolincans*.
7. Success to General *Gates* and the Northern Army.
8. May the subtlety of the *American Standard* destroy the ferocity of the *British Lion*.
9. The State of *Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations*.
10. The Honourable Governour *Cooke*.
11. May the Independent States of *America* for ever be an asylum for Liberty.
12. The *American Army and Navy*.
13. The *Providence Independent Companies*.

The whole was conducted with great order and decency, and the Declaration received with every mark of applause. Towards evening the King of *Great Britain's* Coat of Arms was taken from a late publick office, as was also the sign from the *Crown Coffee-House*, and burnt.

#### MAJOR MEIGS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Middletown, July 25, 1776.

SIR: I arrived here the 22d instant, after a tedious passage of sixty-six days from *Quebeck*, on my parole of honour to return when called for, a copy of which, together with my pass from General *Carleton*, are enclosed, (the original is in the hands of General *Howe*.)

I am to represent to your Excellency the situation of the unfortunate detachment that were made prisoners on the 31st *December* last. The number now in *Quebeck* is about three hundred, including officers. The officers were confined in the Seminary. The soldiers were confined in the *Jesuits' College*, and were served with the same rations that were served to the garrison after the siege was raised. The officers had liberty to walk in a large garden that is adjoining the Seminary. The officers and privates are in great want of money, as they cannot procure clothing without it, of which they are in great want; the officers are now considerably in debt for necessaries, exclusive of the garrison allowance. Generals *Carleton* and *Howe* have given their word for the protection of any private gentleman that may be sent with money, but will not admit that an officer of the Army be sent. The prisoners bear their confinement with becoming fortitude, but are anxious for an exchange of prisoners, if it can be obtained consistently with the interest of their country.

I am informed that Lieutenant-Colonel *Campbell*, of the Highlanders, applied to General *Howe* for a cartel, and that Major *French* and others are anxious for an exchange. In

*February* last, the officers prisoners at *Quebeck* petitioned General *Carleton* for an exchange of prisoners, provided our country should approve of it. The General received the petition, read it, and told the officer that presented it, that he would consider of it; but returned no other answer. I intended to have waited on your Excellency myself, but was advised by the gentlemen in *Hartford* and this town not to do it without your Excellency's advice, as it would be undoubtedly known to General *Howe*, and perhaps even represented that I had joined the Army, or was giving intelligence, for which he might immediately demand me. When I gave my parole to General *Carleton*, he told me Major *Skene*, son to Governour *Skene*, had arrived at *Quebeck* two days before, and that he should not employ him till he had the advice of the King of *England*.

I have sent by the bearer a number of unsealed letters, which I brought from the prisoners at *Quebeck*.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

RETURN JONA. MEIGS.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the *American States*.

#### JAMES BOWDOIN TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston, July 25, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: Last *Monday* the Militia of this town were called into the field to draught the town's proportion of the last ordered levies. After much uneasiness, between thirty and forty men, I understand, were enlisted, on a promise of extravagant bounties. Some demanded, and I am told were promised, one hundred dollars over and above the Government bounty.

When the resolve for raising these last levies was under consideration of the honourable Board, it was said by several gentlemen, and it appeared to be the sense of the Board, that the men which *Boston* would have to furnish would not be called for to go either to *New-York* or *Canada*, as the draught of every twenty-fifth man from the whole Militia of the Colony would produce a much greater number than fifteen hundred, the number wanted, and that the overplus would be ordered to *Boston* and its neighbourhood. And after the receipt of General *Washington's* order for all the Continental regiments stationed there to proceed to *New-York*, it was said at Council that it would be proper that the said overplus should be ordered to *Nantasket*, the *Castle*, and *Dorchester*, together with a further number, to replace those regiments. If this were the case, and your Honours continue of the same mind, I beg leave to submit to your consideration whether it would not be proper that the men enlisted in *Boston* should be ordered here, for the defence of the town, or that your Honours should signify that the said men will not be ordered to *New-York* or *Canada*; in which case the payment of the said most extravagant bounties may be stopped, and the town, already almost ruined, in some measure relieved.

If your Honours think proper to do anything in this matter, the relief will depend on its being done immediately; and in that case, I beg leave to suggest whether it would not be proper that one or two of your honourable members should be desired to come to *Boston*, without delay, to communicate your pleasure.

Enclosed is a letter from the Honourable Mr. *Sever*, just received. It will be brought by Captain *Samson*, the commander of the Colony's ship of war, who says the quantity of powder allowed him is too short; I believe it would be proper to enlarge it at least five hundred pounds.

There is an account to the eastward that some of the enemy's small vessels are cruising on that shore, and have taken a number of our coasters. I submit it to your consideration whether Captain *Samson* should not be ordered to cruise on that shore for some time, and then proceed where it is most likely he may pick up some of their *West-Indiamen*; and that he be directed to *Boston* by the middle of *September*, in order to proceed, with other of our vessels of war, to *Newfoundland*, to sweep the whole *British* fishery; and, in the meanwhile, our other armed vessels be ordered to be at *Boston* at that time.

All which is submitted with great respect, by your Honours' most obedient, humble servant, JAMES BOWDOIN.  
To the Hon. Council of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

## JAMES BOWDOIN TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston, July 25, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: The enclosed petition, from *Winslow*, came to hand the last evening. The most effectual means of securing the eastern part of the Colony from an inland attack, and quieting the minds of the people settled there, I humbly apprehend, is, to engage the *St. John's*, *Mickmack*, *Penobscot*, and other eastern *Indians*, to engage heartily in the war, agreeably to General *Washington's* request. For this purpose I beg leave to suggest to your Honours, whether it would not be proper that three or four, or more, suitable persons be engaged to go immediately into the *Indian* country, along with the *Indians* that are now there, and enlist them into the service without delay. I cannot but apprehend such a measure would be attended with success, and that General *Washington*, in that case, would in a short time have a considerable body of them; which would answer the double purpose of assisting him and securing our eastern frontiers, which otherwise may be in great danger of being broken up by these same *Indians*.

I am, most respectfully, your Honours' most obedient, humble servant,  
JAMES BOWDOIN.  
To the Honourable Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

## J. PALMER TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Germantown, July 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Mr. *Bates* has finished six pieces, and would have finished the other four, had he had iron. He mentions to me your sending one ton of the largest iron for the four mentioned, and for the six large ones which are to be done, and says he should be glad to have the wheels for the first ten pieces. He also says he shall want cash as soon as the other ten are finished, in order to keep up the spirit for doing the others. Perhaps when you send him the iron and the wheels, the same vessel may take the six pieces from thence for *Hull*.

Pray my compliments to the Committee. I hope this will find them well. I very much want to see them at *Hull*, to which place I was just setting out.

And remain ever, your very humble servant,

J. PALMER.

To *Richard Devens*, Esq., Commissary-General, *Boston*.

P. S. Please send me news, or the papers; for news is so refined when it reaches *Hull* that we don't understand it. The Committee want paper at *Hull*; *J. P.* has expended all his own, or nearly all.

## MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO DEACON NEWELL.

July 25, 1776.

SIR: The Council have this minute received information that Colonel *Reed's* regiment, in the County of *Middlesex*, are now delayed from marching towards *Canada* solely for want of camp-kettles, which were to have been delivered at *Concord* some time since. You will be pleased to inform the bearer whether those kettles are gone forward to *Concord* or not; if not, whether it is in your power to send them forward immediately; if that should not be the case, you will direct the bearer to Dr. *Carling*, or any other person whose province it is to order those matters, that the kettles may be sent forward with all possible despatch. I need not urge the necessity of sending this article immediately, as the soldiers are now lying on the road.

By order of Council: JNO. AVERY, D. Secretary.  
To Deacon *Timothy Newell*.

## GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, July 25, 1776.

SIR: Herewith is enclosed Returns of the Stores in this division of the Continental Army. I shall immediately send to the Agents to furnish those articles mentioned in Mr. *Webb's* letter of the 18th instant, and shall comply as far as is in my power with all your directions therein.

As soon as the regiments are able to march, I shall give orders therefor, and immediately retire.

I am, your Excellency's obedient and very humble servant,  
ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

## A Return of Ordnance Stores.

Round Shot: 1-pounders 11,400, 2-pounders 340, 3-pounders 800, 6-pounders 4,100, 9-pounders 460, 12-pounders 2,800, 18-pounders 480, 24-pounders 2,030, 32-pounders 62.  
Boxes of Round Shot, with wood bottoms: 3-pounders 1, 6-pounders 24, 12-pounders 17, 24-pounders 3.  
Boxes of Case-Shot, with wood bottoms: 2½-pounders 1, 6-pounders 9, 12-pounders 30, 18-pounders 3, 24-pounders 15; 5½-inch howitzer 4, 8-inch howitzer 1.  
Caps and Cylinders: 6-pounders 800, 12-pounders 2,200.  
Empty Cartridges: flannel, 6-pounders 1,600, paper, 12-pounders 3,000, hand-grenades 720.  
Shells: 5½-inch 510, 8-inch 200, 10-inch 795, 13-inch 167.  
Mortar Beds: 8-inch 2, 10-inch 2.  
Barrels of powder 856, barrels of brimstone 2, barrels of turpentine 2.  
Weight of musket balls 9 tons 6 ct., buck-shot 10 ct., junk 13 ct., chalk 140 lbs., thread 70 lbs., twine 12 lbs., sheet lead 5 ct., slowmatch 150 lbs.  
Carcasses: 8-inch oblong 35, 10-inch round 11, 13-inch round 37.  
Drums: serviceable 29, unserviceable 15; Fifes 18.  
Musket cartridges of all sorts 37,700, cartouch boxes 351, hand-bellows, double blast, 1 pair, budge barrels 5, pincers 2 pair, funnels 6, hammers 2, park pickets 2.  
Flints: Musket 11,000, carbine 2,500, wallpiece 250.  
Reams of Cartridge Paper: Cannon 36, musket 28.  
Barrows: Hand 8, wheel 31.  
Lanterns: Muscovy 5, dark 2, common 6.  
Harness: sets of men's 60. Horse: saddles 68, bridles 40, collars 82, harness 22.  
Tanned hides 4, copper ladles, without staves, 6-pounders, 4.  
Spare Sponge and Ram Heads: 6-pounders 16, 24-pounders 1.  
Jars of Oil: Sweet 3, train 13.  
Coils of White Rope: 1½-inch 2, 2-inch 1, 3½-inch 1, 4½-inch 1.  
Casks of Spikes: 7-inch 9, 8-inch 2.  
Melting ladles 5, casks of streak nails 3, sheep skins 40, brass scales and weights 1 pair, handspikes 30, camp-kettles, with fryingpan covers, 66, 6 dozen of fuses fixed, 50 dozen of tubes fixed, bottoms of wood for 13-inch mortars 90, watch-coats 12, hand-screws 2 pair, powder-horns 2,890, boxes of grape-shot 16, shot-bags 1,430, unserviceable fire-arms 614, gun-locks 54, yards of bunting 35, sand-bags 500, priming-wires and brushes 3,500, fuse compound 2 boxes, 5 small coils of common cordage, scaling-ladders 19, spare travelling carriages for 12-pounders 4, sets of iron carriage-wheels 30, cod lines 32.  
*Ordnance Store, Boston, July 22, 1776.*  
Errors excepted. Per NATHANIEL BARBER, Jun.,  
Deputy Commissary of Artillery.  
N. B. Included in the above Return: At *Roxbury*: Powder 500 bbls.; shells, 13-inch 92, 10-inch 43, 8-inch 19.  
At *Cambridge*: Powder 232 bbls.; shells, 13-inch 75, 10-inch 371, 8-inch 181, 5½-inch 610.  
*A Return of Ordnance Stores, made to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, July 22, 1776.*  
Round Shot, with wooden bottoms: 6-pounders 1,792, 12-pounders 720, 24-pounders 136.  
Round Shot, without bottoms: 3-pounders 416, 6-pounders 720, 9-pounders 680, 12-pounders 2,275, 18-pounders 600, 24-pounders 1,130, 32-pounders 1,884.  
With Flannel Cartridges filled: 6-pounders 64.  
Case Shot, with wooden bottoms: 12-pounders 348, 24-pounders 71.  
Case Shot, with Flannel Cartridges filled: 3-pounders 721, 6-pounders 890, 9-pounders 150, 12-pounders 82, 24-pounders 40, for 8-inch howitzers 21, 5½-inch howitzers 58.  
Carcasses: 13-inch 31, 10-inch 14, 8-inch 63.  
Grape Shot: 32-pounders 82.  
Double-headed Shot, (bar and sliding:) 18-pounders 49, 24-pounders 21, 32-pounders 261.  
Paper Cartridges, filled: 3-pounders 416, 6-pounders 104, 9-pounders 132, 12-pounders 115, 18-pounders 328, 24-pounders 23, 32-pounders 555.  
Paper Cartridges, empty: 3-pounders 2,000, 6-pounders 5,000, 9-pounders 800, 12-pounders 12,000, 18-pounders 300, 24-pounders 6,010, 32-pounders 450.  
Flannel Cartridges, empty, (light and heavy:) 6-pounders 2,400, 12-pounders 2,100, 24-pounders 1,450.  
Caps and Cylinders: 6-pounders 1,220, 12-pounders 3,660, 24-pounders 1,900.  
Reams of Cartridge Paper: musket 52, cannon 10.  
Fixed Fuses: 4 2-5-inch 3,000, 8-inch 188, 13-inch 59.  
Empty Fuses: 13-inch 75, 8-inch 2,000, 5½-inch 2,000.  
Sponges, with Rammer Heads: 3-pounders 19, 6-pounders 36, 12-pounders 5, 18-pounders 2, 24-pounders 3, 32-pounders 3.  
Wad Hooks: 3-pounders 13, 4-pounders 4, 6-pounders 7, 32-pounders 3.  
Copper Ladles: 3-pounders 9, 4-pounders 25, 6-pounders 43, 9-pounders 10, 12-pounders 16, 18-pounders 12, 24-pounders 1, 32-pounders 12.  
Shells: Hand-grenades 260, 4½-inch 23,000, 5½-inch 2,200, 8-inch 1,900, 10-inch 300, 13-inch 27.  
Spikes for laying Platforms: 7-inch 1,800, 8-inch 5,500.  
Sets of Harness: Men's 100, horse 60.  
2,800 powder-horns, 16 haversacks for Artillery, 14 sets of drag-ropes, 213 handspikes, 3 sets of gin-blocks, 28 portfire-stocks, 85 lin-stocks, 3 matchlocks, 50 dozen of port-fires, 76 cannon priming-irons, 45 sheep-skins for sponges, 3 budge-barrels.  
Tin Tubes: Fixed 3,000.  
Pincers: For drawing tubes 48; 14 hammers.  
Weight of slow match 23 ct., sulphur 50 lbs., saltpetre 90 lbs., musket-ball 3,700 lbs., buck-shot 300 lbs., thread 12 lbs., twine 63 lbs., lead 23 ct., rosin 2 ct.  
30,000 flints, 114,000 musket-cartridges, 15,000 musket priming-wires and brushes, 5 tanned hides, 3 handscrews, 55 wooden cases for cannon cartridges.  
Sand Bags: bushel, 5,000, half bushel, 5,000.  
Oil: sweet 15 gallons, Spermaceti 15 gallons.  
Lanterns: Muscovy 2, horn 2.  
20,000 sponge tacks, 500 copper nails.  
Fire-Arms: Carbines 74, rifles 150, unserviceable 720.

Spunges, with Rammer Heads: For swivels 18, cohorns 24, howitzers 27.

Barrels of Powder: mealed  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , grained 53.

Spirits of Wine 9 gallons.

Errors excepted. **EZEK. CHEEVER, Com. Artillery.**

New-York, July 22, 1776,

*A Return of Stock and Tools, belonging to the Continent, in the possession of THOMAS CHASE, Assistant Quartermaster at BOSTON, July 25, 1776.*

Snow Shoes, 450 pairs.  
Snow Shovels, 1,778.  
Handbarrows, 225.  
Wheelbarrows, 205.  
Pickaxes, 678.  
Iron-shod Shovels, 312.  
Iron Spades, 125.  
Broadaxes, 42.  
Felling-axes, 6 casks and 24.  
Common Axes, 64.  
5-inch Spikes, 2 casks and 800.  
6-inch Spikes, 2 casks.  
7-inch Spikes, 1 cask and 300.  
8 and  $8\frac{1}{2}$ -inch Spikes, 1 cask.  
Hambre Lines, 17 double.  
Iron Pots and Kettles, 60.  
Wooden Plates, 300.  
Wooden Bowls, 50.  
Wooden Pails, 200.  
Grindstones and Troughs, 17.  
Smiths' Hammers, 1 cask and 33.  
Anvils, 10.  
Smiths' Bellows, 19 pair.  
Iron Mandril, 1.  
Nail Stakes, 11.  
Drill Stock, 1.  
Beams and Weights, 2.  
Forge Tongs, 51 pair.  
Screw-plates, 3.  
Nail Tools, 18.  
Bolt Sweges, 3 sets.  
Firmers, 1 dozen.  
Gouges, 1 dozen.  
A quantity of old tools of different sorts.  
4-penny Nails, 18,000.  
10-penny Nails, 92,000.  
20-penny Nails, 11,000.  
24-penny Nails, 5 casks.  
Carpenter's Tools, 3 chests.  
Hand-saws, 78.  
Tenon-saws, 5.

Compass-saws, 6.  
Files, different sorts, 7 dozen.  
Turning Lathe and Tools, 1.  
Bar Iron, 8 tons 1 cwt. 10 lbs.  
Old Iron, 1 ton 12 cwt.  
Nail Rods, 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lbs.  
Sea Coal, 38 chaldrons.  
Fire-wood, 700 cords.  
Writing-paper, 120 reams.  
Shot-bags, 1,500.  
Steel, 270 lbs.  
Vices, 4.  
Beek Irons, 4.  
Boards, 21,000 feet.  
Oak Plank, 5,500 feet.  
Ranging Timber, 2,540 feet.  
Wheel Timber for 10 pair Wheels.  
Garrison Carriage Wheels, 2 pairs.  
Axletrees, 39.  
White-oak Logs for hubs, 16.  
Spokes, 130 dozen.  
Travelling Carriages, stuff for four 18-pounders.  
Ash Timber, 34 feet.  
Clapboards, 700.  
Refuse Shingles, 20,000.  
Horses, 7.  
Oxen, 3 yoke.  
Whale-boats fit for use, 40.  
Flat-bottomed Boats, 30.  
Long and Mosses Boats, 6.  
Tents, 125.  
Hammocks, 22.  
Ticklenburgh, 150 yards.  
Twine, 50 lbs.  
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch Rope, 60 lbs.  
Old Canvass, 50 yards.  
Dog-fish Skins, 5.  
Large Iron Grates, 16.  
Jars of Olive Oil, containing 40 or 50 gallons the two, 2.  
Old Chain, 1.

Camp at Boston, July 25, 1776.

Errors excepted.

**THOS. CHASE,**  
Assistant Quartermaster.

JOSEPH NYE, JUN., TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Sandwich, July 25, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: Being appointed one of the Committee for this Colony for raising every twenty-fifth man for the *Canada* department, I have applied myself to the service with success, but cannot find by the resolve that they are to be marched from home without further orders from your Honours. I beg to have your direction by the bearer, Colonel Norton; and remain your most obedient humble servant,

Jos. NYE, Jun.

Boston, Thursday, July 25, 1776.

Last Sunday, a ship of two hundred tons, commanded by James Arnout, was sent into this harbour by Commodore Hopkins, in the *George* ship-of-war, taken in *Nantasket-Road*. She has on board sixteen hundred barrels of pork, four hundred firkins of butter, some oat-meal, &c., &c.

Last Tuesday evening, came to town from *Halifax* Lieutenant Scott, of *Peterborough*, in *New-Hampshire* Government, who was wounded and taken prisoner at the memorable battle of *Bunker-Hill*, the 17th of June, 1775, and has been a prisoner ever since. He informs, that he, with thirteen others, broke jail about five weeks ago, and betook themselves to the woods, where they separated; that Captain Martindale and his First and Second Lieutenants, John Brown, rifleman, Leonard Briggs, of Ware, and himself, arrived at *Truro*, at the head of *Cobbe-cut-River*, after a travel of three days, where they procured a boat, and got to the eastward; that Richard Carpenter, formerly a barber in this town, Philip Johnson Peack, David Kemp, of Groton, and Corporal Cruse, of Virginia, and two others, took the road to Windsor, where they were apprehended, and confined in irons; that Benjamin Wilson, of Billerica, one of the *Bunker-Hill* prisoners, died lately in jail; and that he left Master James Lovell, still confined, in health and high spirits.

# CONVENTION OF COMMITTEES OF HAMPSHIRE COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.

Extracts of the doings of a Convention of the Committees of the Towns in the County of *Hampshire*, and State of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, held at the Court-House, in *Northampton*, on Thursday and Friday, July 25 and 26, 1776.

Present: Eighty-eight Delegates from forty Towns.

Colonel John Bliss President, and Mr. Robert Breck Clerk.

*Resolved*, That all persons that shall be convicted of being notoriously inimical to the cause of *American Liberty*, be disarmed as soon as may be, and that such as are more dangerous among them, be confined to the Town to which they belong, or to their farms, or kept in safe custody, or bound with sufficient sureties, as shall appear necessary; and as confederacies are judged to be formed and forming in many parts of the country, and may be strengthened, and other great inconveniences may ensue from such persons (who are inimical as aforesaid) collecting together in companies, that they be restrained from all such Meetings and Conventions, as also from holding any intercourse or correspondence with those sent into the County as prisoners.

It is recommended to the Committee of Safety of the several Towns in the County aforesaid, that such persons as are prisoners and privates in their respective Towns, who have hired themselves out for their support, be not permitted to go out of the limits of such Town, till the time of their contract be fulfilled, nor be out of their respective places of abode after daylight, unless by special order of their master, nor after nine o'clock with his consent; that they be not suffered to dwell with any person who shall be judged inimical to the *American States*; and that all such persons as shall hire such privates be strictly enjoined to return such privates to the Committee of such Town from whence they were taken at the time of their discharge; and that special care be taken that such prisoners as are on their parole strictly conform to, and abide within the limits of, such parole, otherwise they ought to be closely confined. Also, that such prisoners as are on parole be so situated as that their limits shall not extend to any Town where officers or privates are confined, and that no privates be suffered to dwell in any Town where officers or others on parole are stationed.

It is recommended to the Selectmen of the several Towns in the County aforesaid, that may be defective, that they do, as soon as may be, procure the several proportions of a Town stock of powder; also, a sufficient quantity of fire-arms for such poor persons as are not able to equip themselves, agreeable to the resolve of the great and General Court of this State.

It is further recommended to the Committees of the several Towns in the County aforesaid, to use their utmost care in apprehending and securing all deserters from our Army, and cause that they be returned to their respective corps; also, that they request their several Towns that they instruct their Representatives to procure an order from the General Court of this State, that all persons travelling through the same should have passes, denoting their friendliness to the *American States*, and make provision for suspected persons being taken up, examined, &c.

*Resolved, also*, That it be earnestly recommended to all the good people of this County in general, and the Committees of the several Towns in particular, that they use their utmost influence and endeavours to discountenance and suppress all mobs, riots, and tumultuous proceedings, and the seizing and detaining the person and property of any individual contrary to a late resolve of the Continental Congress; and that any person who has been, or may be, so seized, be immediately dismissed, and the property of any one so seized and detained, be immediately replaced.

*Voted*, That Major Hawley, Mr. Robert Breck, and Dr. Levi Shephard, be a Committee to make the foregoing extracts from the proceedings of the Convention aforesaid, and transmit the same to Mr. Ebenezer Watson, Printer, in *Hartford*, for publication, as soon as may be.

London, July 26, 1776.

Captain Williamson, of the *Francis*, arrived in *London*, from *Antigua*, and brings an account, viz: that a few days after he was on this side the *Bermuda Islands*, the following ships were taken by the *Revenge* and *Montgomery*, two small *American* privateers, viz: the brig *Henry*, *Blyth*, from

*Barbadoes* to *Halifax*, taken the 28th of *May*, laden with rum; the *Rover*, *Hunter*, from *Antigua* to *Dublin*, taken the 13th of *June*, laden with rum; the *Isabella*, *Kirk*, from *Antigua* to *Dublin*, taken the 13th of *June*, loaded with rum; the *Harlequin*, *Goodwin*, from *Nevis* to *Dublin*, taken the 2d of *July*, loaded with sugar and rum; the *Devonshire*, *Fisher*, from *Antigua* to *Dublin*, taken the 1st of *July*, loaded with sugar and rum, in latitude  $34^{\circ} 55'$ , longitude  $53^{\circ} 36'$ . Fifty per cent. insurance was offered on some of the above ships; and insurance, with convoy, rose near thirty per cent.

Captain *Stephenson*, of the *Lady Juliana*, arrived in town this day, and gives the following account of the capture of his ship, the *Lady Juliana*, from *Jamaica* to *London*, in company with the *Reynolds*, Captain *Rusden*, from *Jamaica* for *London*, and the *Juno*, Captain *Marsden*, from *Jamaica* for *Bristol*: On the 9th and 12th of *May* last, they were attacked by two *American* privateers off the *Matanzas*, bearing S.S.E., and that the *Reynolds*, *Rusden*, was taken by the *American* privateer, Captain *Henry*, mounting six three-pounders, and ten swivels, on the 9th of *May*; and *Lady Juliana*, *Stephenson*, and *Juno*, *Marsden*, were taken by the *Chance*, Captain *Adams*, who mounted four six-pounders and ten swivels, the 12th; that the Provincials put the Captains and passengers on board a *Spanish* vessel that was leaky, who carried them into *Providence*, where the Captains purchased a vessel, called the *Baltimore*, which is since arrived at *Plymouth*.

The nine ships above mentioned were all taken with the greatest ease, after they had been convoyed one hundred and fifty leagues from the ports they respectively sailed from, and left by the men-of-war, under a supposition that they were totally out of danger. The privateers which took them were but thinly manned, and weakly armed. One carried ten, and the other twelve guns. Several of the ships carried a great number, but (which is very extraordinary) no powder on board, the Governors of the places they sailed from not allowing any to be shipped, for fear enough should not remain with them to defend their situations in case of an attack, which was something more than probable. The *Lady Juliana*, Captain *Stephenson*, had six hundred hogsheads of sugar and thirty thousand hard dollars on board, besides other negotiable and marketable articles. Her cargo, therefore, exclusive of the dollars, at a moderate computation, was worth twenty-five thousand pounds. She was boarded by Captain *White*, an old acquaintance of Captain *Stephenson*, who cordially shook hands with his captor when he set foot on deck, little thinking he was an enemy. *White*, out of civility and respect for old acquaintanceship, promised to send *Stephenson* safe to *England*, at the same time told him, that he was ordered by the Congress to carry every prize he took to *Rhode-Island*, and that the other privateer was to carry hers to *Salem*, in *New-England*. The ship *Francis*, on board which *Stephenson* came to *England*, was suffered to sail home, as the Captains of the Provincial privateers did not think her valuable enough to be seized. The amount of the cargoes of the above prizes, we are informed, upon the best authority, is upwards of £140,000 sterling.

SILAS DEANE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Paris, July 26, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed letter from Dr. *Franklin* will hint at my business in this city, where I arrived the 7th instant, and should have sent forward this earlier, had I not hopes of the honour of presenting it to you in person. This I now find I cannot expect without delaying it beyond all bounds. I therefore forward it by the common conveyance, and inform you that my address in this city is to Messrs. *Germany*, *Guardot & Co.*, bankers; that I shall tarry here till the last of *August*, when I propose going to *Dunkirk*, thence to *Amsterdam* and *Hamburgh*, in which journey I hope for the pleasure of seeing you. In the mean time, I shall be happy in a correspondence with you on the subject of the dispute between the *United Colonies* and *Great Britain*, or any other that shall be agreeable to you; and I wish to be informed if I shall be in danger of any disagreeable treatment in my journey through *Holland*, in a private capacity, though it should be known that I was in the service of the *United Colonies*. It has been suggested to me that I might meet

with some interruption or difficulties from the friends of the *British Ministry*, which occasions my making this inquiry.

I have the honour to be, &c., SILAS DEANE.

P. S. I read and understand the *French* language tolerably well, though I am unable to write it.

CAPTAIN MERONEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have exerted myself endeavouring to furnish my company with guns and blankets, but find it impracticable without money. I applied to Mr. *Harrison*, and could receive but seventy pounds, insufficient to furnish one-tenth. Mr. *Harding*, the bearer, is a gentleman, and may be trusted with any sum. Three hundred and fifty pounds is the sum I want to receive by the bearer.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your obedient servant,  
PHILIP MERONEY.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

GENTLEMEN: I am of opinion that a less sum than is mentioned in the above letter will not furnish the above company with arms and blankets. C. BEATTY.

To the Council of Safety.

MAJOR PRICE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Upper Camp, Prince George's, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: If you expect frequent intelligence from this place, you must send down for it, it being impossible to get horses here.

I have been under the necessity of sending home all the *Militia* except fifty, and it was with much difficulty I could keep them. Indeed, their distress seems to be very great, for most of them are poor people whose crops are suffering, and many have not any dependance but their labour. I received an express from General *Lewis* last night. The following is a copy of my answer to him, which will give you as true a state of matters here as possible.

I found it absolutely necessary to keep the wagon and horses brought from *Annapolis*, not knowing what hour it might be necessary to remove the cannon, and also to draw them back, for it will not be possible to get any here. However, if you think it best, and will send me directions, I shall act accordingly.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,  
THOS. PRICE.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MAJOR PRICE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

St. George's Camp, July 26, 1776.

SIR: The enemy come on *St. George's Island* in the day time to get water and wood, and in the evening retire on board their ships. They have no manner of fortifications on the Island.

The fleet lies from the northeast side of *St. George's River* about a mile, the depth of water, as I imagine, about three fathom. The Island lies from the main land about a hundred yards. The water, at low tide, about knee-deep, where we threw up a small intrenchment. There are three pieces of cannon on *Cherryfield Point*, (about a mile from the *Fowey*), one a nine-pounder, one a four, the other three. I have another on the northwest side of the river, (the narrowest water between the land and main,) a four-pounder. I have about four hundred men (half of whom are well armed, the other half poorly) placed on each side of *St. George's River*. I have good reason to think, with the force I have, I can prevent the enemy's landing or plundering the inhabitants. I yesterday morning sent one hundred on the Island about half after two o'clock. They marched silently through the Island till day appeared, and then lay hid till they came from the ships to water. The advance party being rather eager, was too soon discovered, and the whole enemy ran to their boats, my people then pursuing them with all speed, and firing on them as they were getting into their boats, when our people say they killed three or four, that they saw fall, and several wounded, and one taken prisoner. The *Fowey* then fired on them, and compelled them to retire. After destroying their water-casks and filling up a well, (the best on the Island, for they have no springs,)



they returned to the main without loss. By the best advice I can get from the prisoners and many deserters, the whole fleet does not intend to stay here longer than those up the *Potomack* come down, which they expect every day. Captain *Beall*, who was wounded in the first engagement, is recovering fast. I am, &c.,

THOS. PRICE.

N. B. I yesterday sent under a small guard a prisoner to *Annapolis*, taken yesterday, and three deserters, one of them an officer of *Dunmore's*, who made his escape with an old man who is very sick and not able to travel. I believe they are well pleased they have made their escape. One of them went from *Annapolis*, who says *Caton* was privy to his and others going on board the *Fowey* while she lay there. Please to pay this express.

B. HOOE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Chingoteague, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I did myself the honour of writing you on the 19th instant by Mr. *Crockett*. Some days after that time, I purchased about one hundred hogsheads of tobacco, sixty of which I have actually received, and since making the purchase the whole of the flour has arrived. I have examined a good deal of it, and find it is in such a state as will not admit of its being stored any length of time in expectation of a sale. I shall, therefore, endeavour to sell or ship it without delay. If I cannot do better, I must have the schooner *John* examined and valued and send her off with it, for it will soon perish here, and there is a good chance of selling it very high if it can be expeditiously pushed to market. The brig will sail in twelve days, by which time Captain *Martin* has engaged to return. If he does not, I must send her without him, as it is not in my power to attend here longer.

The two chests of arms and nine bales of sailcloth the Captain has delivered since the Committee of *Worcester* wrote you of the deficiency. The powder yet remains, twelve whole barrels of shot, four and a half barrels of which he says was put on board for the vessel's use.

Captain *Martin* appears very anxious to be commissioned. Of this I can say nothing, as he is a stranger to me, except that the men enter and act more cheerfully where they have a chance of sharing a prize; but how proper it may be to grant commissions to vessels carrying cargoes must be submitted to you.

I have the honour to be, your Honours' most obedient servant,

B. HOOE.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CAPTAIN DARNES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Queen Anne's County, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Jackson* waits on you with two copies of my muster-roll, agreeable to the resolve of the Convention. I can't say but I am a good deal distressed at the uneasiness of our people. They throw themselves out of business by entering into the service, and many of them have not holes to put their heads in, and are perpetually teasing me about it. They are prodigiously anxious to be provided for with arms. They really labour under great disadvantages at present. If possible, I make no doubt but you will soon supply us. It certainly would be vastly agreeable to, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JOHN DARNES.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

COLONEL BARNES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Camp at Cherry Fields, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am informed that Colonel *Kent*, who was appointed by the Convention to command the *Defence*, declines the acceptance of the command. I shall therefore take the liberty to recommend Captain *George Cooke* as a proper person to command the *Defence*, knowing that Captain *Richardson's* opinion was, that neither of the gentlemen on board the *Defence* was sufficiently qualified to take the command. Captain *George Cooke* has served on board the *English Navy* for seven years, and has been in several engagements, and I think well qualified for the business. I have had an opportunity of finding him to be a man of undaunted courage since I have been in these parts. As Colonel *Plater* is well acquainted with Captain *George Cooke*, and I suppose some others of the Council, I shall say no more

about him further than that I thought it my duty to prevent his passing unnoticed, if in my power.

I remain, gentlemen, your humble servant,

RICHD. BARNES.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

B. BRACCO TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Port-Tobacco, July 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have sent the bearer, Sergeant *Smith*, express to inform you that the small-pox has broken out among the men under my command here, and hope you will be kind enough, by his return, to let me have instructions in what manner I am to act—whether immediately to inoculate the remainder of the men, or remove them out of the way. I think the latter would be of no effect, as the man who communicated the infection was a day and a night in company with all the soldiers here. Some combed his hair, and others slept with him. He was a man that called himself a deserter from Lord *Dunmore*, and produced a pass from the Committee of *Essex County*, in *Virginia*. I have spoken to Dr. *Browne*, who had the care of the fellow, and he says he thinks he was inoculated.

I am, sir, with the greatest gratitude, your most obedient humble servant,

B. BRACCO.

To James *Tilghman*, Esq., at *Annapolis*.

COLONEL HAWKINS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles County, July 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: On the 18th instant, I received orders from Brigadier-General *Dent* to select from the interior parts of my battalion three companies of Militia, to be composed of men out of different companies, and despatch them to *St. George's River*, to relieve the Militia collected there at that time. Agreeable to order, I set out immediately, and had two of the companies raised the next day, commanded by Captain *Parnham* and Captain *John Harrison*; the other was not raised till the 20th, and was commanded by Captain *McPherson*. *Parnham's* company, which was foremost, got down to *St. George's*, or within a small distance of it, before great part of the fleet sailed up *Potomack*, and have been detained there ever since. The other two companies were ordered to return and watch the motions of the enemy, and to prevent their landing or plundering the inhabitants. And I have the satisfaction of informing you that our Militia have prevented the enemy from landing or plundering, if they intended it, and that we have sustained no damage, except the loss of a couple of boats, and the fleet have gone down the river again this day. I received a line yesterday evening from Captain *Parnham*, informing that several of his men are sickly, and desires that others may be sent to their relief; but that he is willing to stay as long as it may be necessary. And he pressed me much to send him a small supply of cash, as it is a shocking place to be at, especially without money, and many of his company are very poor. I must therefore request that you will appoint some person to adjust the accounts of my battalion, and be pleased to send the cash for the payment of the companies, and the necessary expenses, by Mr. *Henry Massey Hanson*, that I may be able to comply with the request of Captain *Parnham*; and, for further particulars, must beg leave to refer you to Mr. *Hanson*.

I am, very respectfully, dear sir, your obedient humble servant,

J. HAWKINS.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

FREDERICK COUNTY COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Lower District of Frederick County, }  
July 26, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: Understanding that there is a vacancy for a Major in the battalion for this County, we take the liberty to recommend Major *Richard Crabb* to you for that office. We are convinced as well of Major *Crabb's* attachment to the cause of *America*, as of his economy, fortitude, and manly resolution, and doubt not but his own merit will fully justify the appointment.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

By order:

SAML. W. MAGRUDER, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO WORCESTER COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 77.] Annapolis, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are informed that there are a number of pieces of cannon in your County that have lain there some years, ever since the *Spanish* wreck on the seaboard side of your County. We request you would immediately cause those cannon to be examined, and let us hear from you by express what state and condition they are in, and how many there are, and what weight of metal they would carry, as also who claims any property in them; and if anybody claims, under what contract or agreement they were purchased, and of whom. We expect your answer as soon as you conveniently can. We are, &c.

To the Committees of Observation of *Worcester* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.  
[No. 78.] Annapolis, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The letters from Colonels *Barnes* and *Jordan* were not enclosed in our last, from inattention. We now send them, with copies of some other letters from below, from whence you will see how affairs are going on there.

*Dunmore's* fleet have separated. The *Fowey* and the *Otter*, with a number of vessels having the Tory families on board, remain in the mouth of *St. Mary's River*. The *Roebuck* and six or seven other vessels have moved up the river *Potomack*, as high as *Quantico* in *Virginia*, where they stopped to take in water. There are some flying reports of their having landed at Mr. *William Brent's*, and burnt his house, which are confirmed this day by *Charles Lansdale*. He says it is feared they are landing on Colonel *Smallwood's* estate. The last he heard of them was yesterday, and the report was, they were landing on the *Maryland* side, near Colonel *Smallwood's*.

We observe what you say about the *Flying-Camp*, and shall do the best we can. We shall give the necessary orders for finding the troops rations, in expectation that the subsistence-money will be reimbursed. As soon as the Regulars are replaced that have and are about to march to the northward, we shall use our endeavours to complete the remaining battalions with all diligence, and send them forward, either in battalions or companies, as they get ready. Most of those we have seen of the new-inlisted men, appear to be quite raw, and in great want of necessities. Some pay must be advanced to put them in tolerable condition to appear in.

On *Tuesday* last, we gave orders to Captain *Thomas* to march with his men to *Philadelphia*, as soon as the commanding officer below thinks he can be spared. And this day, on receipt of your letter, we have ordered Captain *Hindman* to move forward, although we apprehend the *Eastern-Shore* will be weakened thereby, and we are doubtful that will be the next place invaded.

We feel for the State of *New-York*, but cannot help feeling also for *Maryland*, and shall endeavour to conduct ourselves in such manner as to give every assistance in our power to them and to the common cause, without exposing ourselves to destruction. Since the march of our Regulars, we are truly in a defenceless state, and if powerfully invaded, know not what may be the consequence. However, we hope for the best, and are exerting ourselves to the utmost.

We wish our powder that arrived at *Egg-Harbour*, to be sent to *Baltimore*. The arms we desire may be left at *Philadelphia*, for the use of one of the companies of the *Flying-Camp*, who will have our order to call for them.

We approve of what you have done as to the five thousand dollars, and would have you keep the balance to answer contingent expenses, and render account from time to time as you may see fit.

Doctor *Tootle*, our Surgeon-Major, has put into our hands a list of chirurgical instruments, which we send you herewith, and request the favour of you to procure and send them down by the first opportunity.

We send you also the proceedings of the last Convention.

*Thomas Jennings*, Esq., is just arrived, in good health, after a very long passage. He left *London* the 29th of *March*, and brings no very particular news that we hear.

We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOSIAS BEALL.

[No. 79.] Annapolis, July 26, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 24th instant was laid before us, and we observe the contents. In answer thereto we can only say that five quarter-barrels of powder have been sent to *Piscataway*, and that six or seven barrels are now lodged with the Committee of *Prince George's* County. If more be necessary, we will order some down. It gives us sincere pleasure to find the people in different parts of the Colony so spirited, and can assure you nothing shall be wanted on our parts. We are, &c.

To *Josias Beall*, Esq., *Prince George's* County.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN HANSON.

[No. 80.] Annapolis, July 26, 1776.

SIR: The instructions from the Council of Safety (as you will observe) only respected muskets; but we desire you will purchase rifles upon the best terms you can. Be pleased likewise to pay for those purchased by Captain *Mantz*; and by the first opportunity we shall order and send you any money you may find necessary.

We are, &c.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JAMES TILGHMAN.

[No. 81.] Annapolis, July 26, 1776.

SIR: The business before this Board daily becomes more important, and consequently requires as full a Council as may be. We hope, therefore, before this reaches you, that your line with your cousin is settled, and that it will not be inconvenient for you to attend your brethren immediately. We are the more earnest in making this requisition, as Colonel *Plater* intends to *St. Mary's* in a few days, and then we shall be left with only four members. Mr. *Smith* pleads the necessity of staying at his ship-yard about the building of the gondola, in excuse for his non-attendance; and Mr. *Hands* has resigned his seat. We are, &c.

To *James Tilghman*, Esq.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 82.] Annapolis, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The alacrity shown by your Committee in exerting itself in the common cause in which we are all engaged, it is hoped, will be attended with the success it merits, and which is so exceedingly necessary at this alarming and important juncture of time, as without arms and blankets little prospect of a favourable campaign can arise, if the troops were ever so numerous.

Agreeable to your request, therefore, and to expedite the business, we have transmitted to you, by Captain *Yates*, the £1000, the disposal of which you will be pleased to render us an account.

No account has yet been sent to this Board of the expenditure of the £1000 advanced at the time of the alarm occasioned by the *Otter*; omitted, we suppose, through the hurry of business, and therefore desire you will furnish it by the first opportunity. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation of *Baltimore* County.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Friday, July 26, four o'clock, P. M.

SIR: Congress being adjourned, I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 25th instant, this moment come to hand. The subject of it is so just, that I will venture to say that it will be complied with in its fullest latitude.

The preamble to the resolutions for confiscating the property of the subjects of the King of *Great Britain* having been this day expunged, and the resolution altered, agreeable to the one now enclosed you, I am to request you will please to erase that from the resolves I enclosed you a few days past, and substitute the one I now transmit in its place.

With every wish in your favour, and every sentiment of esteem, I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

P. S. Brigadier-General *Sullivan* this day sent me a letter of resignation, which is ordered to lie on the table until *Monday*. I have not yet seen him.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO PENNSYLVANIA DELEGATES.

In Convention, Friday, July 26, 1776, P. M.

The draught of Instructions for the Delegates in Congress was read and unanimously approved, and is as follows, viz:

"GENTLEMEN: This Convention, confiding in your wisdom and virtue, has, by the authority of the people, chosen and appointed you to represent the free State of *Pennsylvania* in the Congress of the *United States of America*, and authorized you, or a majority of such of you as shall at any time be present, to vote for and in the name of this State, in all and every question there to be decided. And this Convention apprehend it to be a duty which they owe the publick to give you the following general directions for your conduct, confident that you will at all times pay the utmost attention to the instructions of your constituents.

"The immense and irreparable injury which a free country may sustain by, and the very great inconveniences which always arise from a delay of its Councils, induce us, in the first place, strictly to enjoin and require you to give not only a constant, but a punctual attendance in Congress.

"The present necessity of a vigorous exertion of the united force of the free States of *America* against our *British* enemies, is the most important object of your immediate regard, and points out the necessity of cultivating and strengthening, by every means in your power, the present happy union of these States, until such a just, equal, and perpetual consideration can be agreed upon, and finally effected, as will be the most likely to secure to each the perfect direction of its own internal police; in the forming of which Confederation, you are to give your utmost assistance.

"We recommend to you to use your utmost power and influence in Congress to have a due attention paid to the establishing and maintaining a respectable naval force, as such a force is absolutely necessary to every trading nation, and is the least expensive or dangerous to the liberties of mankind.

"With respect to the forming of treaties with foreign powers, it is necessary only to say, that we strictly charge and enjoin you not to agree to, or enter into any treaty of commerce or alliance with *Great Britain*, or any other foreign power, but (on the part of *America*) as free and independent States; and that whenever *Great Britain* shall acknowledge these States free and independent, you are hereby authorized, in conjunction with the Delegates of the *United States*, to treat with her concerning peace, amity, and commerce, on just and equal terms."

## LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Inspection, Observation, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 26th of *July*, 1776:

Present: Edward Shippen, Wm. Atlee, Lodwick Lowman, Henry Dehuff, Christopher Crawford, Jacob Krug, John Miller.

*William Atlee* in the Chair.

There being a number of young lads in town, to wit: *Henry Wilson*, *William Furguson*, *William Porter*, *Robert Jockley*, *Michael McGachakin*, *George McGighagin*, *James Ellet*, *Robert Jones*, and *Christian Newcomer*, who have been, at the request of Colonel *Hand*, under the tuition of the Drum-Major of Colonel *Slough's* Battalion, and the Fife-Major of Colonel *Ross's* Battalion, and those teachers being now employed in the service in such manner that they cannot instruct the said lads, and Captain *Ross* now being about to march to the Camp, and agreeing that the said lads shall march under the care of his Sergeant:

*It is Resolved*, That the said lads be sent, under the care of Captain *Ross's* Sergeant, with his direction, to the Camp at *New-York*; and that the Chairman write to Colonel *Hand* by the Sergeant, informing him of this proceeding, and that the Committee have advanced £4 10s. to the Sergeant for their subsistence by the way.

Colonel *Greene* representing that near fifty of his Flying-Camp Company are now in this town, armed, accoutred, and ready to march, and that a number of the draughts of some of the Companies of his Battalion have not yet joined them, requests the sentiments of this Committee whether those who are shall march for the Camp under his command, and what method shall be taken to oblige the other draughts to follow:

Upon consideration, it is the sentiments of this Committee, that those who are in this place, armed and accoutred, be immediately marched for the Camp, where there may be immediate occasion for them; and that this Committee immediately write to Captain *Ambrose Crean*, *Thomas Roppeheffer*, and *John Rough*, requiring them immediately to send down to this place the draughts from their respective Companies appointed or allotted to form the said Flying-Camp Company, that they may follow their commanders to the Camp as expeditiously as possible; and if they refuse to proceed upon being required, to march them under Guard.

*Ordered*, That 7s. 6d. be paid to *Edward Smith*, one of Colonel *Greene's* Company, for riding express the other day with Circular Letters to the Colonels.

*William Sergeant*, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with *Jacob Heffer*, at the Blacksmith's business, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him agreeable to the Resolves of this Committee.

*The Examination of WILLIAM POOR, in respect to the BRITISH Officers (prisoners of war) who broke their Parole, and escaped from LEBANON, PENNSYLVANIA, in JUNE, 1776.*

In Committee, Lancaster, July 26, 1776.

Says, some time last spring or summer, (he thinks about three weeks before the officers went away,) he was at his own house by *Swatara Creek*, at the place belonging to Mr. *Maddox*, of *Philadelphia*, about sixteen or seventeen miles from *Lebanon*; was getting ready to set off to buy a cow; one *White* called at his house, and told him he was looking for a brother of his who had come into the country, and he heard worked with one *Poor*. He told *White* he knew of no such person. He left the house to go after the cow, and *White* accompanied him till they came to *Jones's Town*, and there they parted after drinking some cider together at *Parker's*, in *Jones's Town*, for which *White* paid. That he did not see *White* afterwards till *White* came to him in company with the officers. Says, that on the way between his house and *Jones's Town*, he and *White* were met by one *Thomas Edmonds*, who lives over *Swatara* near *John Smiley's*; that *Edmonds's* shirt was bloody, and he asked him if he had been fighting; that *Edmonds* answered no, he had been in *Sliter's Town*, where the soldiers wanted to enlist him, and struck him. That *Edmonds* then said to *Poor* that he wanted to speak with him. *Poor* told him to speak out; that he hesitated. *Poor* asked him if it was a secret. *Edmonds* said it was. That upon this, he went a little aside with him, and then told him he had been at *McHugh's* with the officers, and that the officers wanted him (*Poor*) to go away with them. That he told *Edmonds* it was a dangerous thing, and he would have nothing to do with it. That *White* could not hear the conversation between him and *Edmonds*. That *Edmonds* then told him to say nothing about it, or else the officers would be confined. That *Edmonds* left them then, and *White* and he (*Poor*) proceeded to *Jones's Town*, where they drank together as above. That *White* and he left *Jones's Town* together, kept together about half a mile, when *White* said he would go to *Lebanon*, and parted with *Poor*, who went to look for his cow. That *White* and *Edmonds* had no conversation together. That *White* and he (*Poor*) had no conversation about the officers or taking them off. That he never had any conversation with the officers, or any of them, before they came to him at his house after they left *Lebanon*, except that once when at *McHugh's* one of them named *Cuppaidge* asked him if he was from a particular part of *Ireland*, to which he answered in the negative. That about a week after this conversation between him and *Edmonds*, as he was riding out of town, one *Bullman*, a blue-dyer in *Lebanon*, called to him and stopped him, told him that the officer at *McHugh's* wanted to speak with him; that he then told *Bullman* he had nothing to say to the officers. That some time after this, (he thinks some weeks,) as he was fishing in *Swatara*, about half a mile from his house, in the afternoon a little before sunset, on a *Saturday*, several men came up to him, four of whom were officers, one named *Richardson*, one named *Cubbage*, one named *Hume*, the other name he don't know, with three servants, and the said *White*, and a man who sometimes called himself *Billy Caldwell*, and sometimes *Paddy McGown's* man. That some of them,

he don't know which, told him they had escaped from *Lebanon*, and wanted to get to *Wyoming*, and wanted him to show the way. That he told them he did not know the way, and had never been there. That *Hume* presented a pistol to his breast, and told him if he did not go with them he was a dead man. He then consented to go, and asked leave to go home and get some clothes; but they would not suffer it, and obliged him to go with them. That they immediately proceeded over the hill, and travelled about six miles, where they stopped to rest and refresh themselves. That they rose before day, and the next morning crossed *Weiser's* road, about a mile or two from *Kuntzelman's*, and proceeded to a hollow place not far from *Kuntzelman's*, where they stopped, and sent *Caldwell* to *Kuntzelman's* to inquire the road to *Wyoming*. That *Caldwell* soon returned, and they proceeded travelling the whole day over the mountains till after sunset. That they then encamped in a place full of old logs, &c. Here they made a fire, a tent was raised for the officers, and the servants and others made coverings of bark, &c. Here they eat bread and cheese, of which he (*Poor*) partook, and laid down to sleep, saying they thought themselves safe. That towards morning he observed them all asleep, and made his escape, taking with him a sword which happened to lay near him. He left the said officers, their servants, *Caldwell*, and *White*, there asleep. That the officers had guns and ammunition, and the servants pistols and swords. *Caldwell* and *White* had no guns, but *Caldwell* used to have one of the officer's guns, and marched before. That they had a horse with them, which carried their provisions and linen for their tent—the horse a dark-coloured horse, don't know any marks. That about noon of the day he left the officers he came to *Kuntzelman's*, where he had a gill of rum. That *Kuntzelman* asked him where he had been; to which he answered that he had been hunting for beaver and their signs. He then proceeded homewards; but, as he could not reach home that night, he lay in the woods, and arrived at home the next morning.

Being asked why he did not then give notice of the route of the officers, &c., he says he was afraid, as they had sworn him to secrecy on some book which *Hume* took out of his pocket, on the other side of *Kuntzelman's*. Says *Caldwell* was a tall young man, fair complexion, wore a blue coat. Says that *Caldwell* was at his house about nine or ten days before the officers went away, and told him he came from the *West-Branch*, and was going towards *Tulpehocken*; that he heard him say he had been a soldier with Lord *Dunmore*, and was a Lieutenant in the expedition against *Wyoming*.

*William Poor* being again examined on the 8th November, 1776, acknowledges that the officers had his mare, and that he left it with them. That they bargained with him for it for £7. That the conversation about the price of the mare was the same morning that he left them before day. That they counted him down the money, and laid it down, but he left the money and went off presently afterwards, one of them (who he thinks was one of the officers) being sitting at the fire at the time. That it was one of the servants' swords which he brought off with him, who was asleep when he took it. That his daughter told him when he came to his house, before they went off, that she had bought some whiskey for the officers; but says he did not send her. Says that *Hume* presented a pistol to his breast twice: the first time was the first night they set off, after travelling a small distance; and the second time was after *Caldwell* returned from *Kuntzelman's*. That his mare was loaded with the officers' baggage and necessities from the time they set off, and travelled with them so loaded.

#### THE EXAMINATION OF JOHN WHITE.

Says that some time in *May* last went up the country to look for a brother of his, who, he had been told by one *William Johnston*, was come into the country, and lived up near *Lebanon*, at one *Poor's*. He proceeded from *Lancaster* to *Manheim*, where he dined; from there he went to *Lebanon*; got there that evening, and stopped at *McHugh's*, the sign of the *Bear*; lodged there that night; next morning left *Lebanon* alone, and went to *Jones's Town*; stopped there and took a draught of cider, and from thence went to *William Poor's*, at *Swatara Gap*; got there late in the evening; supped there and lodged there in the same bed with *Poor*;

could hear nothing of his brother, therefore, next morning, determined to return. *Poor* told him he wanted to go to buy a cow, and set off with him; they travelled together to *Jones's Town*, (*Poor* riding on his horse or mare;) at *Jones's Town* they dined together, and drank some cider and beer; after dinner they left *Jones's Town* together, and kept company about a mile, when they separated; *Poor* said he was going to look for the cow, and he proceeded to *Lebanon*; got there that afternoon, and stopped again at *McHugh's*; stayed in the bar-room till supper time, and went to bed there and stayed all night, and next morning left *Lebanon* about daylight, and proceeded to *Manheim*, where he took a drink of cider, and then walked on to *Lancaster*, which he reached in the evening, and put up at *George Widclay's*, where he worked at the shoemaker's trade. Says he did not see or speak with any of the officers either of the times he was at *McHugh's*, nor at any other place, at or before this time, nor with any of their servants. Says that on the way between *Poor's* and *Jones's Town* they met a man who appeared as if he had been fighting; that *Poor* asked the man if he had been killing anybody, and was answered by him, no, that he had been at *Lebanon*, that they wanted to list him there, and had struck him; that the man told *Poor* he had something to say to him; *Poor* answered, Say it then. Upon which the man told him it must not be heard; that *Poor* then went aside with the man, and they spoke together two or three minutes, while he (this examinant) held *Poor's* horse; that the man and *Poor* then separated, and *Poor*, when he returned, said the man had told him some of the *English* officers wanted to speak to him, and said that he told the man he did not know them; says that *Poor* and he had no further conversation about the officers. That about two weeks after his said return, the said *William Johnston* having told him it was a good place for the shoemaker's trade at *Wialusing*, he agreed to accompany him there, and accordingly, on a *Friday* morning, they set off together, stopped together at *Manheim*, eat something there, and from there proceeded to *Lebanon*; got there that evening, and put up at the sign of the *Swan*; stayed there that night; *Johnston* stayed there with him. Next day *Johnston* and he stayed in the house all the morning. They agreed to go to *Poor's*, but *Johnston* set off first, as he said he had some business by the way; says he set off about an hour after *Johnston*, and travelled on to *Poor's* without stopping, and there found *Johnston*; got there in the evening late; *Poor* was not at home; *Johnston* told him he wanted to go to some of the neighbouring places; upon which examinant, being fatigued, went to bed in *Poor's* bed, and *Johnston* went off. In the morning when examinant wakened, he found *Poor* was come home, and got up and breakfasted with *Poor*. Sometime after they had breakfasted, *Poor* went out (as he said) to look after a steer he had sick, and continued out; that at about eleven o'clock that morning *Johnston* returned and came into the house, and told the examinant that he had met with four *Virginia* gentlemen, with their three servants, who were going to *Wialusing* to look for lands, and that it was as good for him (the examinant) to go along, as it was a good place for his business; upon this he went out with *Johnston*, who led him to the gentlemen, who were about a quarter of a mile from the house, in a thicket of woods by a spring. The gentlemen sat by the spring about two hours, and then left the spring, and went about half a mile or three quarters farther into the woods, and then stopped again and sat down till towards evening, having continued all together from the time that he came to them at the spring; as evening approached he asked *Johnston* if they did not intend to stay at *Poor's* that night, and was answered no, the cool of the evening was the best time to travel. While sitting here in the evening *William Poor* came to them, leading a little mare, (he thinks of a lightish brown colour.) Directly after *Poor* came up he got into conversation with *Johnston*, and some other of the party, and was very busy with *Johnston* in loading the horse which the officers had with them, and his own mare, with the provisions and things which they had brought to the place. As soon as the loads were fixed on the horse and mare, the whole party set off, *Poor* leading his own mare, and one of the servants leading the horse; that *Poor* sometimes led the way, and sometimes *Johnston*; that after they had travelled about a mile and a quarter, they passed by a house within about twenty yards, where a dog barked at them very much; it was now night and dark, and the



family supposed to be in bed. After travelling about five miles, either *Poor* or *Johnston* (he don't recollect which) mentioned that there was a swamp before them, and it would be better to lay by for the night, and pass it in the morning. The party lay by that night without making any fire, and proceeded early next morning. *Johnston* led the way in the morning across the swamp, the horses next, and then the gentlemen and servants with this examinant. They travelled all that day, stopping but once at a spring while they eat some cold ham and bread. Saw no house that day nor for twelve days after. Either *Johnston* or *Poor* were foremost always, and constantly walked next each other. Lay by at dark, and next morning set off again, proceeding through the woods as before, and lay by at night again, *Poor* being still with them. The next morning when the examinant and the party got up, he (the examinant) found that *Poor* was missing, but had left his mare, having travelled and been with them three nights and two days. He says the officers showed no uneasiness at *Poor's* having left them, and knows not whether it was with their knowledge or not. That he (this examinant) travelled with those gentlemen and *Johnston*, as the leader, after this, about ten or eleven days, through the woods, the horse and mare carrying the provision and some cloth, which was used as a tent, till they arrived at *Hickman's*, about twenty-five miles (as he was told) above *Wyoming*. Says that he wanted frequently in the way to leave the party, but *Johnston* told him he would lose himself; that now he determined to do it, and, getting a conveyance in a canoe, came down to *Wyoming*. Upon the way down, the man in the canoe with him, one *Trip*, told him that it was noised abroad that the *English* officers had escaped from *Lebanon*, and he supposed it was them he (this examinant) had been in company with at *Hickman's*; that examinant then told him he was informed they were *Virginians*, and did not know whether they were officers or not. *Trip* then told him they were strict people at *Wyoming*, and if they should ask him about the officers, he should or had better say he had not seen them; that he concluded so to do; that when he came to *Wyoming* he was about engaging to work at the shoemaking business, and some noise being abroad of his arrival there, he was asked by one *Carrigan* if he had seen or been with the officers who had escaped from *Lebanon*; to which he answered, no. The next morning the same *Carrigan* and another man asked him again about it, he told them that he had been with some gentlemen, where he met with them, how he had travelled with them, and where he left them, but did not know if they were officers or not. Upon this they told him he must be examined before the *Shamokin* Committee, and ordered him down there. He arrived there in a few days, and was again examined by the Committee of *Sunbury*; from there he was sent to *John Harris's*; and from thence to *Lancaster*. Says he did not know these gentlemen were officers at the time he first saw them in the woods at *Poor's*, nor at any time after, either by conversation with their servants or otherwise.

## GENERAL MERCER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 29, 1776.]

Perth-Amboy, July 26, 1776.

SIR: There are now on duty, of the *Pennsylvania* Provincial Battalions, and the Associators of the same Province, three thousand rank and file in all, cantoned from *Bergen-Neck*, near to *Middletown*, in *South-Amboy*; these are the only troops who have joined. A battalion from *Maryland* go on to *New-York*. Some shallops passing from *Fishkill* into *Rariton Bay* yesterday afternoon brought on a cannonade. Our field-pieces did little or no execution, and the small-arms were not used, the distance being too great. The enemy fired four, six, and twelve-pound shot very briskly for the space of an hour; we lost one man of the Militia, and had two wounded, not dangerously. Some iron four or six-pounders might be mounted on flats or scows we have here to answer very well against such vessels as passed us yesterday. Some have gone down to-day. I did not think it proper to waste ammunition with so little probability of effect. Some such pieces as are mentioned above are to be had at *Philadelphia*. We have shipwrights and smiths here could mount them. Captain *Dawson* is appointed assistant to the Engineer, who is planning some works of defence for securing

the passage along the *Sound*, and at the mouth of *Rariton River*.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
HUGH MERCER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. We were of opinion that the shallops were sent with flour round to the fleet; but I am this moment informed by the officer of the guard on *South-Amboy* shore that soldiers appeared thick on their decks after getting round *Billup's Point* into *Prince's Bay*. This morning they fell down to *Sandy-Hook*. A flag was seen hoisted this morning on the Light-House, which is an unusual thing.

## GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, July 26, 1776.

SIR: I find by intelligence from our guards at *South-Amboy*, that some shallops (five in number) that passed us yesterday from *Fishkill*, were full of soldiers, who appeared on deck after getting round *Billup's Point* into *Prince's Bay*. As the shallops passed, our field-pieces played on them, but with little effect. The enemy returned the cannonade briskly during the space of an hour, with four, six, and twelve-pounders. One of our Militia was killed, and two wounded, but not dangerously. Two more shallops passed this morning, and one remains up the *Sound* in view. The *Fly* sloop-of-war, Captain *Edgar*, lies at *Brunswick*. I ordered her down yesterday upon the appearance of the shallops, but she is not yet fallen down the river.

I am collecting all the craft, of which a return will be transmitted. General *Heard* is out examining the creeks. I would send *Morgan* to Head-Quarters, were his principles steady enough to resist the arts of *Tryon* and *Skinner*, &c., which I much doubt. This morning a flag was seen hoisted on the Light-House.

The *Maryland* battalion passed *Woodbridge* yesterday. Orders from hence would reach Colonel *Smallwood* this morning, to detain him at *Elizabeth-Town*.

I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,  
H. MERCER.

## GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, July 26, 1776.

SIR: When I mentioned this morning the unusual appearance of a flag being hoisted on the Light-House, I had not then understood that any ships were seen in the offing; but find by a person just now from *South-Amboy* that some have been seen, and now six have come into the *Hook*.

I am, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
H. MERCER.

Perth-Amboy, July 26, 1776, two P. M.

A deserter from the *Asia*, examined at *Elizabeth-Town*, says that ten ships arrived some days ago with two thousand Highlanders.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CAMP AT PERTH-AMBOY, DATED JULY 26, 1776.

Yesterday afternoon we had a smart cannonading with the enemy, occasioned by four or five shallops coming down the *Sound*. The General directed a smart battery, mounting two iron four-pounders, to fire on them; this brought on a heavy firing from the enemy's battery, from an eminence that overlooked ours.

Captain *Moulder*, with his two field-pieces, was ordered to the shore, but being encamped at some distance, before he could come up the shallops had all nearly passed. However, he began a well-directed fire, and though they had got to a considerable distance, hulled one of them.

When the vessels were passed, the firing ceased on both sides. We had the misfortune of losing one of the Second Battalion, and having another wounded. The young man's name who was killed is *Owens*, belonging to Captain *Weed's* company; he was shot right through the heart; the ball, a four-pounder, entering his left side, and coming out of his breast. This morning he was buried with the honours of war. The other, who is wounded, is one *Freeman*, a Sergeant in Captain *Boyd's* company; his wound is not dangerous, the ball having first taken the street, and rebounding

struck the upper part of his right thigh, but has not broken the bone. There was a horse killed which was standing in a wagon near the General's door. The enemy appear to have some heavy field-pieces: they sent some twelve-pound shot among us. It is surprising they did not do more execution, as there were so many of our people on the bank opposite to them without the least covering.

The enemy appear to be very strong, and are constantly reinforcing, as our troops come in. They are throwing up breastworks along the shore to prevent our landing.

LORD STIRLING TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, July 26, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Butler*, of Colonel *Nixon's* regiment, has again called on me to know your determination with regard to his asking leave to resign. From his appearance at present, I do not think he will ever be fit for active duty again.

Colonel *Parke* has frequently mentioned to me the necessity of his having leave of absence for about a fortnight. He has again applied to me this morning by the enclosed letter. I should be glad to know your Excellency's pleasure.

I have been obliged to take a little medicine, which obliges me to stay at home, or I should have been at Head-Quarters this morning.

I am, most respectfully, your Excellency's most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 23d instant is duly received, and I am pleased with the timely notice of your situation, strength, movements, &c., &c., &c., and think time is not to be lost, or expense regarded, in getting yourselves in the best posture of defence, not knowing how soon the enemy may attempt to pass you.

The fire-rafts you mention are not of the best construction, but probably are the best that can be procured with the necessary despatch. Cables and anchors, I should suppose, might easily be procured from the vessels which used to be plying up and down the river, and are now lying idle; saltpetre from the manufactures in the country, as neither are to be had in this place. The necessity of the case will fully justify your taking the former wherever found, and the safety of the people, I should imagine, would induce them to assist you to the latter all in their power.

I have sent up Lieutenant *Machin* to lay out and oversee such works as shall be thought necessary by the officers there, and from your representation of the hill which overlooks the fort, I think it ought to be taken possession of immediately. You, who are on the spot, must be a better judge than I possibly can be. I must leave it with you to erect such works as you, with Colonel *Clinton* and the Engineer, may think necessary.

A proper abstract or pay-roll should be made out, of the wages due the artificers, examined and certified by you or your brother, when it may be sent here, and the money drawn.

Your method of fixing fires, with advanced guards, if they are vigilant, must answer the purposes you intend.

Your dismissing all the *New-England* men to three hundred, is a step I approve of. I hope you may continue to prevent the enemy from obtaining any supplies or intelligence, and committing any ravages on the distressed peasantry on and about the shores. While you are able to keep them in this situation below the forts, they can do little damage. By every conveyance I shall like to hear of your situation and the enemy's manœuvres.

I am, sir, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Brig. Gen. *George Clinton*, at *Fort Montgomery*.

P. S. Since the above, the Quartermaster-General informs me you may be supplied with turpentine here, and thinks he can get saltpetre enough for the present emergency.

G. W.

COLONEL MCDUGALL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, July 26, 1776.

SIR: All the non-commissioned officers, rank and file, of my regiment, are enlisted without time, except one company, recruited before the instructions for raising the four regiments issued from Congress; and I doubt not to be able to engage this on the same establishment.

By the instructions to Colonel *Dubois*, I observe he is authorized to give ten dollars bounty to such soldiers as shall enlist for three years, or during the present troubles. I shall be glad to be informed from your Excellency whether I can be authorized to offer the same bounty; for as the harvest is now near in, I think it probable some recruits may be raised on this bounty.

Regiments engaged without time, are more to be depended on for the defence of the country than those imbodyed for a short period. I therefore submit it to the General's consideration, whether it would not advance the service to enable the regiments raised for three years, or a longer time, to recruit out of the new levies, and those corps raised for a shorter duration.

When your attention to subjects of more importance will permit, I shall be glad to be favoured with your orders on these points.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's humble servant,

ALEX. MCDUGALL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp, Long-Island, Friday, five o'clock, P. M., }  
July 26, 1776. }

DEAR SIR: Lieutenant-Colonel *Chambers*, at *Gravesend*, reports eight sail of shipping standing in for the *Hook*; but they are at too great a distance to discover what they are to a degree of certainty, but they have the appearance of transports.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

N. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

NATHANIEL WOODHULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
July 26, 1776. }

SIR: I am directed by the Convention to transmit your Excellency a copy of the examination of *Balthazar De Hart*, relative to the conduct of the Tories in *Monmouth* County, in *New-Jersey*, and to acquaint you that we have likewise sent duplicates to the President of the Convention of the State of *New-Jersey*, and to the Chairman of the Committee of *Monmouth*, in order that measures may be taken for preventing the pernicious practices of such parricides to their country.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

By order:

NATHL. WOODHULL, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

*The Examination of BALTHAZAR DE HART, of the County of ORANGE, Attorney-at-Law, who has been for some time past in SHREWSBURY, in MONMOUTH County, in NEW-JERSEY.*

He saith that when he left *Shrewsbury*, as he conceives, far the greater part of that place was inhabited, or rather infested, with Tories or persons disaffected to the common cause of *America*, and that he has understood, from information, that their disaffection has been greatly increased by a number of persons who have gone from the city of *New-York* there, and, as he has understood, secretly laboured to deceive the lower set of people, the higher being almost all disaffected; that he knows that *Joseph Wardell*, *John Corlies*, and *George Allen*, went the week before last, or last week, to General *Howe's* camp, on *Staten-Island*, after, as they pretended, two negroes, who had run away from *William Kipping* and the said *John Corlies*; that they stayed some time there; that this examinant has been informed

and indeed believes that those three persons are disaffected, and heard that for that very reason the negroes were delivered to them by *Howe's* order; that he has heard that they had a long conversation with some of *Howe's* officers. And further, he saith that he was informed by Captain *Jacob Dennis*, a Militia officer, who had been ordered to guard *Deal* shore, in that Township, that he could scarce persuade a man to go there with him; and that the examinant knows that his brother, who is another Militia officer there, could by no means prevail on his men to go to defend that shore—the Whigs telling him they expected that if they went there, they would be delivered by the Tories to the enemy on their landing; and that he was informed by the said Captain *Dennis*, that the inhabitants along *Deal* shore told him they did by no means thank him for guarding them, and that they would much rather have the Regulars than the Yankees there; and he (this examinant) was further informed by the said Captain *Dennis*, that there were some vessels of force lying off *Shark River*, which he supposed were landing some men there to get provision, as he observed flat-bottomed boats with them. And further, this examinant saith that he saw some armed vessels off *Deal* shore last *Saturday*, and observed some boats which seemed to be going on board said vessels, and that he verily believes that the inhabitants along that shore have communication with the enemy. And this examinant further saith, that *Isaac Low*, *William Walton*, *Anthony Van Dam*, *John Roome*, *William Kipping*, *Hulet*, a dancing-master, with a number of other persons from *New-York*, are there, whose names this examinant does not recollect. And further this examinant saith not.

The foregoing is a true copy of Mr. *De Hart's* examination, as delivered into the Convention at *New-York* by a Committee appointed for that purpose.

Examined and compared by

ROBT. BENSON, *Secretary*.

RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, July 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your letter to General *Schuyler* I received yesterday evening, and have forwarded it by express this morning.

As soon as the troops arrive from the eastward, I shall advise you thereof by express, agreeable to General *Schuyler's* orders to me, that batteaus may be furnished for them at *Skenesborough*.

I do myself the honour to enclose you an invoice of axes forwarded since the 14th, including four hundred or four hundred and fifty which go this morning. I also send you a small quantity of twenty-four-penny nails and a cask of spikes for the carpenters at *Skenesborough*, and beg the favour of you to order them to be forwarded with all possible expedition.

Colonel *Wynkoop* has sent for a bellows and set of blacksmith's tools. As soon as they can be procured, I shall forward them to *Tyonderoga* to be sent to him.

I have desired the commanding officer at *Fort George* to forward every article to you immediately on its arrival at his post.

We have a report in town that General *Clinton* is killed, and that all his army are killed, wounded, or prisoners, and that his fleet is destroyed by General *Lee*, assisted by a gale of wind, which occasioned his landing. How much this account is to be depended on I know not, though it is believed here that General *Clinton* has met with some disaster fatal to his expedition.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD VARICK.

To the Hon. Major-General *Horatio Gates*.

COLONEL M. OGDEN TO MAJOR A. BURR.

Ticonderoga, July 26, 1776.

DEAR BURR: I have been waiting with the greatest impatience to know what is doing in *York* and *Jersey*. There are twenty different reports that contradict each other relative to *Howe* and his fleet. It has once been generally believed that a *French* fleet had arrived at *New-York*, and blocked up the *British* Army. Independence is well relished in this part of the world. Generalship is now dealt out to the Army by our worthy and well-esteemed General *Gates*,

who is putting the most disordered Army that ever bore the name into a state of regularity and defence. If our friends in *Canada*, commanded by *Burgoyne*, will wait a few days, we shall give them a very proper reception.

The Army are beginning to recruit fast, from the effects of a little fresh meat and some rum when on fatigue. Ten days ago, there were not in our regiment eighty men fit for duty. We have now upwards of two hundred and thirty; and, in a few days, they will be as rugged as *New-Jersey* is firm.

Colonel *Winds* is sent home on a fool's errand by the General, that he may be out of the way of doing any more harm to the regiment. The General assures me that I shall not be troubled with him again. I suppose, by that, he has written to have him detained below. A short history of this man will convince you that he ought to be nowhere but on his farm. He is, in the first place, a professed enemy to subordination, and has an utter aversion to discipline. He is positive, and prefers his own opinion to even the General's, because he was in the service last war. He is not possessed of one qualification that distinguishes a gentleman, nor has he genius or education. His whole study is to gain the applause of the private soldiers, at the expense of every officer in the regiment. He is hated by all his own officers, except two, and despised by every gentleman in the Army.

We are in great want of Brigadier-Generals—three at least; I mean for the men who are now here. General *Arnold* will command the water-craft on the Lake in person. There are three brigades commanded by the Colonels *Reed*, *Stark*, and *St. Clair*. The last of these I sincerely wish was appointed a Brigadier by Congress. There is no better man. The other two have full enough already.

Please to forward the enclosed, with the letter to Mr. *Spencer*. My best respects to Generals *Putnam*, *Greene*, and *Mifflin*, and to Colonel *Trumbull*. Compliments to *Webb*. I wait, with the greatest impatience, some important news from *New-York*. Pray write particulars relative to the conduct of the *Jerseymen*. Should any fall, mention their names.

I am yours sincerely,

MATT. OGDEN.

COURT-MARTIAL ON CAPTAIN WENTWORTH.

At a General Court-Martial held at *Ticonderoga*, the 26th day of *July*, 1776, by order of the Honourable Major-General *Gates*.

Colonel *Poor*, *President*.

Members: The four eldest Colonels, the four eldest Lieutenant-Colonels, and four eldest Majors, of the Northern Army.

Captain *Wentworth* was brought before the Court, and accused of "refusing to go on duty when regularly warned by the Adjutant of the regiment to which he belonged."

The Court having considered the evidences, were of opinion that Captain *Wentworth* was guilty; and sentenced him to be cashiered, and advertised in the publick papers as having wilfully neglected his duty, with a view of being discharged the service.

Agreeable to this sentence, *Jonathan Wentworth*, of *Somersworth*, in *Strafford County*, *New-Hampshire*, late Captain in Colonel *Poor's* regiment, is published to the world as a scoundrel, guilty of neglecting his duty evidently with a design of obtaining a discharge from the service of his country—a crime, till this day, unheard of.

His countrymen, it is hoped, will treat him with the contempt merited by so infamous a conduct.

By the General's order:

JOHN TRUMBULL,

Deputy Adjutant-General of the Northern Army.

Head-Quarters, *Ticonderoga*, August 26, 1776.

All printers in the *United States of America* are desired to publish the foregoing in their respective papers. J. T.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 26, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I send by a boat thirty oars and some boards, with the arms of our regiment, which want repair, and hope that you will be pleased to give directions that they may be immediately repaired, as many men are now

at this post without guns. The arms of the sick we shall make go as far as possible. The oarmakers are going on with their business. I still keep a strong covering party with them. There are some batteaus here which want repairing. I would have them put in order, if I had some pitch and oakum sent here. I have also a small boat which would be very useful, if finished. We want the above materials to complete it.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most humble servant,  
THOS. HARTLEY.

To General Gates.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONVENTION.

Providence, July 26, 1776.

SIR: On Sunday last Lieutenant *Calcott*, of the *Merlin*, came into the harbour of *Newport* with a flag, and brought a letter from Lord *Howe* to the Commander-in-Chief of this State, which I suppose to have been a circular letter exactly of the same tenour with that I have the honour to enclose you. The Lieutenant delivered me two others directed for *Connecticut* and *Massachusetts*, with a request that I would forward them.

I enclose you a copy of my letter to his Lordship, and beg leave to assure you that I am, with great truth and esteem, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,  
NICH. COOKE.

To the Honourable the President of the Convention of *New-Hampshire*.

Eagle, off the Coast of the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, }  
June 20, 1776. }

SIR: Being appointed Commander-in-Chief of the ships and vessels of his Majesty's fleet employed in *North-America*, and having the honour to be by his Majesty constituted one of his Commissioners for restoring peace to his Colonies, and for granting pardons to such of his subjects therein as shall be duly solicitous to benefit by that effect of his gracious indulgence, I embrace this opportunity to inform you of my arrival on the *American* coast, where my first object will be an early meeting with General *Howe*, whom his Majesty hath been pleased to join with me in the said commission.

In the mean time, I have judged it expedient to issue the enclosed Declaration, in order that all persons may have immediate information of his Majesty's most gracious intentions; and I desire you will be pleased forthwith to cause the said Declaration to be promulgated, in such manner, and at such places within the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, as will render the same of the most publick notoriety.

Assured of being favoured with your assistance in every measure for the speedy and effectual restoration of the publick tranquillity, I am to request you will communicate, from time to time, such information as you may think will facilitate the attainment of that important object in the Colony over which you preside.

I have the honour to be, with great respect and consideration, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HOWE.

To the Hon. Governour *Wanton*, &c., &c., *Rhode-Island*, or other Chief Magistrate of the Colony.

By RICHARD Viscount HOWE, of the Kingdom of IRELAND, one of the King's Commissioners for restoring peace to His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in NORTH-AMERICA, &c., &c., &c.

DECLARATION.

Whereas by an act passed in the last session of Parliament to prohibit all trade and intercourse with the Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Rhode-Island*, *Connecticut*, *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the three lower Counties on *Delaware*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, *North-Carolina*, *South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, and for other purposes therein mentioned, it is enacted that "it shall and may be lawful to and for any person or persons appointed and authorized by his Majesty to grant a pardon or pardons to any number or description of persons, by Proclamation, in his Majesty's name, to declare any Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, or any County, Town, Port, District, or place, in any Colony or Province, to be at the peace of

his Majesty; and" that "from and after the issuing of any such Proclamation in any of the aforesaid Colonies or Provinces, or if his Majesty shall be graciously pleased to signify the same by his royal Proclamation, then, from and after the issuing of such Proclamation," the said "act, with respect to such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, County, Town, Port, District, or place, shall cease, determine, and be utterly void."

And whereas the King, desirous to deliver all his subjects from the calamities of war, and other oppressions which they now undergo, and to restore the said Colonies to his protection and peace as soon as the constitutional authority of Government therein may be replaced, hath been graciously pleased, by letters patent under the great seal, dated the sixth day of *May*, in the sixteenth year of his Majesty's reign, to nominate and appoint me, *Richard Viscount Howe*, of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, and *William Howe*, Esq., General of his Forces in *North-America*, and each of us, jointly and severally, to be his Majesty's Commissioner and Commissioners for granting his free and general pardons to all those who, in the tumult and disorder of the times, may have deviated from their just allegiance, and who are willing, by a speedy return to their duty to reap the benefits of the royal favour; and, also, for declaring in his Majesty's name, any Colony, Province, County, Town, Port, District, or place, to be at the peace of his Majesty: I do therefore hereby declare, that due consideration shall be had to the meritorious services of all persons who shall aid and assist in restoring the publick tranquillity in the said Colonies, or in any part or parts thereof; that pardons shall be granted, dutiful representations received, and every suitable encouragement given, for promoting such measures as shall be conducive to the establishment of legal government and peace, in pursuance of his Majesty's most gracious purposes aforesaid.

Given on board his Majesty's ship the *Eagle*, off the Coasts of the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, the twentieth day of *June*, 1776.  
Howe.

Providence, July 27, 1776.

Lieutenant *Calcott*, who came last Sunday to *Newport* with a flag from on board the *Merlin* ship-of-war, and delivered a Letter and Declaration from Lord Viscount *Howe*, returned next morning with the following Answer from his Honour the Governour:

"*Rhode-Island* and *Providence Plantations*, }  
*Newport*, July 21, 1776. }

"MY LORD: I am favoured with your Lordship's letter of the 20th of *June* last, enclosing your Declaration. I have communicated them to the General Assembly of this State, now sitting here, and at their request inform your Lordship, that they will transmit copies of them to the most honourable the General Congress of the *United States of America*, to whom every application respecting the disputes between the said States and *Great Britain* ought to be addressed, and must be referred.

"I have the honour to be, with great respect and esteem, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,  
"NICHOLAS COOKE."

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO WILLIAM WILLIAMS.

Lebanon, July 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I intend to give you the state of our Army from *Canada*. Enclosed is a copy of Major *Ely's* report on the subject of the small-pox, with which he was charged. From others, with some things I learn from him, I think it apparent that our troops went most imprudently into inoculation near *Quebeck*; and when the enemy came out upon them, our Army fled when there was little force to pursue; that discontent, disorder, and confusion, had taken place—clamour for want of supplies of clothing, provisions, and wages—and by degrees discipline and subordination failed; everything was neglected that tended to a reform. When General *Burgoyne*, with the troops under him, arrived, a general dispiritedness appeared; the force at the *Cedars* was very inconsiderable—not more than thirty-seven Regulars, with two or three hundred *Indians*; that the latter were loath to go, and mostly tarried at *Oswegatchie*. Had our men behaved well, that defeat would not have happened; this was occasioned by the same causes that are just before mentioned. Why they were in such manner neglected, and left



without supplies and without their wages, is matter of wonder and astonishment; and last spring there were ten battalions, amounting to about six thousand four hundred men, sent from *New-York* to join this Army. There were at the same time, in *Canada*, two battalions of *Pennsylvanians*, three from *New-England*, and one or two from *New-Jersey*; all of them strong, amounting at least to four thousand men more, which, joined with the others, made the Army upwards of ten thousand strong. There are now three thousand sick, and about three thousand well; this leaves near five thousand to be accounted for; of them, the enemy have cast perhaps one thousand—sickness another thousand; which leaves near three thousand; in what manner they are disposed of, is unknown. Among those who remain, there is neither order, subordination, or harmony; the officers as well as men, of one Colony, insulting and quarrelling with those of another.

This wretched situation of our troops induced the General Officers, in a council of war, to determine on a retreat to *Ticonderoga*, and conclude on occupying a post on the east side of the Lakes, very advantageous; it is a height opposite the old works, which commands the entrance of the Lakes *Champlain* and *George*; it is almost inaccessible, except in two places, where they propose to make roads; the rest is surrounded by rocks and precipices. Supplies may be easily had from *Skenesborough*, at the head of *Lake Champlain*; from hence they expect easily to retire into the country. This, without a naval superiority on the Lakes, they will be obliged to do, notwithstanding the strength of their camp, unless very soon joined by six thousand or eight thousand men. How they will maintain their naval superiority, I must confess myself much at a loss. They build a gondola, perhaps, one in a week; but where are they to find rigging for them—where the guns? To be sure they have a great train of artillery, but very few of them mounted on carriages; at present their materials and conveniences for making them are very slender. They have neither places for them to work in, nor materials in that plenty they ought to have. To oppose the enemy on the Lake, they have a schooner of twelve carriage guns, a sloop of eight guns, two small schooners to carry four or six guns each, and three gondolas; and the large schooner is now in good sailing order, and about to take a trip down the Lake to make discovery. The sloop is a most unmanageable thing; it is impossible to beat up against a head wind in her. The two small schooners are not armed—the gondolas are not armed—and even the carriages of their guns are yet to be made. The enemy are at *St. John's* repairing the works at that place, and building three schooners and two sloops; they have no doubt everything ready to their hands—the rigging made, the guns mounted, and only the wooden work to perform, in which, I fear, they will have the advantage.

General *Sullivan* set off to *New-York* and *Philadelphia* in disgust at being superseded by General *Gates*; the latter was ordered to command in *Canada*; the Army from thence being retreated within the limits of *New-York*, the command devolves on General *Schuyler*. It is justly to be expected that General *Gates* is discontented with his situation; finding himself limited, and removed from the command, to be a wretched spectator of the ruin of the Army, without power of attempting to save them. A truly melancholy scene. General *Schuyler* has gone to the *German Flats*; he writes me July 17th, "I arrived here yesterday, and found very few *Indians*. This day one hundred and fifty *Indians* have come in, and we expect a numerous body of them in a few days. Mr. *Ryckman*, a trader from *Albany*, who has been detained at *Niagara*, by the *British* officer commanding there, since last year, because he was a friend to our cause and had influence among the savages, has found means, by the help of the *Indians*, to make his escape. He arrived here last night, accompanied by twenty-one warriors of the *Seneca* nation. The account he brings of the temper of the *Senecas* (the nation who could distress us most) is very favourable; and he assures me, that he has reason to believe the *Indians* will not attack our frontiers."

You are sensible the extreme busy season retards the filling our regiment going to *New-York*; and to this is added the dread of the small-pox to those inclining to go into service in the Northern Army. Now, as business will soon admit men to leave it without so much loss, and the fear of that infection prevailing in the Northern Army is relieved in so great a measure, I hope the battalions from this State will

all be filled, and march to their several destinations. Nothing in our power will be omitted to promote it. My fears for the Northern Army and frontiers are great, besides what is mentioned above, and Major *Ely's* report. A reform is absolutely necessary; the soldiers are ragged, dirty, and many lousy; clothing greatly wanted—some destitute of sufficiency to make themselves comfortable and decent to appear; to remedy this, shall send from hence, shirts, trowsers, breeches, shoes, stockings, and some woollen clothes, as soon as possible. Subordination and harmony is next to be restored; to do this, the officer that effects it, will meet with great trouble; and when done, will expect to reap the honours of it. To prevent uneasiness and jealousies between the Generals who were to have had the command in *Canada* and *New-York*, why, is it not best, and even just, each command the same body of men as expected, without respect to the place where. General *Schuyler* will have full employment at *Albany*, and below on the river, and at *Tryon* County, &c.; while General *Gates* commands the same Army at *Ticonderoga*, &c., which it was expected he would have had in *Canada*. The good of the general service is the great object. Doth not a regard to what will keep up harmony, and prevent jealousies, come within it?

Captain *Winslow* and his party of ship-carpenters, are arrived, and gone to work. Captain *Lester*, going by water, did not get to *New-York* until the river was invested with the ships, and they were obliged to take to the land. The one thousand felling-axes requested by General *Schuyler*, are provided, and will be sent forward on *Monday*. Your kinsman is come to preach to us. Your family is well. Mr. *Gerry* keeps *Sabbath* here. Mr. *Jay* came here on *Friday* for the loan of cannon to use on the *North River*. The twenty nine-pound cannon for the ships are ready for use, bored and drilled; and we have lent him ten twelve and ten six-pounders. Messrs. *Hobart* and *John Brown* were here yesterday, a Committee from the *New-York* Convention, to ask our assistance. They found we had made provision, that six Western regiments, next towards *New-York*, might be called on by General *Washington*, if needed; this was one chief thing they had to ask.

It is time to break off. This letter may be communicated, as you think fit, with my compliments, to the other Delegates, &c.

With esteem and regard, dear sir, your affectionate,  
JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To *William Williams*, Esq.

P. S. By *Friday's* post, received Lord *Howe's* letter of the 20th of *June* ultimo, and his declaration of pardons to all those who, in the tumult and disorder of the times, may have deviated from their just allegiance, and who are willing, by speedy return to their duty, to reap the benefits of the royal favour; that pardons shall be granted, dutiful representation received, and every suitable encouragement given for promoting such measures as shall be conducive to the establishing legal government and peace, in pursuance of his Majesty's most gracious purposes. In his letter he says, "I have judged it expedient to issue the enclosed declaration, in order that all persons may have immediate information of his Majesty's gracious intentions." He desires me to promulgate it, assured of being favoured with my assistance in every measure to restore the publick tranquillity; and requests such information as will facilitate the attainment of that important object. I shall by next post forward copies of both to Congress; to them I shall refer him. Who began the war? Who withdrew his protection? Who refused to hearken to most dutiful and humble petitions? Who invaded our rights? Is not the appeal made to the Supreme Director of all events? Will not the Judge of all the earth do right? Doth not pardon presuppose guilt? Are we guilty of want of duty and allegiance? Could anything but tyranny, oppression, injustice, cruel war and desolation, have driven us to cast off our mother country?

TIMOTHY NEWELL TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by a letter just now received from the Deputy Secretary, to lay before your Honours the state of the order of the General Court relative to the camp-kettles and canteens. It has given me extreme uneasiness that there has happened any delay; but not in the least

occasioned through any neglect in me, as I assure your Honours the kettles (which was all I engaged) have been ready these ten days past; and the delay is wholly owing to the canteens not coming from *Hingham*. The last parcel of one hundred and two dozen came yesterday, upon which I immediately went in pursuit of a team, and after riding six miles out, I returned without being able to procure one, except accidentally one for *Pittsfield*, which I despatched yesterday. This morning early I prevailed for one of the Continental teams, which set off for *Concord* betwixt ten and twelve o'clock this forenoon, with one hundred and seventy-eight kettles, and one thousand and seventy canteens, which completes the order of the five thousand troops raised for *Canada* and *New-York*.

The last order for the two hundred and fifty kettles, for the fifteen hundred troops, will be ready by *Monday* night next; but unless more workmen are put upon the canteens supplied by *Theophilus Cushing*, Esq., at *Hingham*, I apprehend the same delay will be as heretofore.

I am, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient servant,

TIMO. NEWELL.

To the Honourable Council of *Massachusetts*.

ORDER TO LIEUTENANT GILMAN TO RETURN COAT-MONEY TO SOLDIERS.

Colony of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }  
July 26, 1776. }

To Lieutenant JOHN GILMAN:

Complaints being made to this Committee that you received of the Colony Paymaster last year, coat-money belonging to several persons, soldiers in the same company with you, which you have not paid to them, and refuse to pay, therefore, that justice may be done, you are required to appear before this Committee, on *Wednesday* the seventh day of *August* next, to answer to said complaint.

By order of the Committee:

M. THORNTON, *Chairman p. t.*

In Committee of Safety, August 6, 1776.

The Committee having heard Lieutenant *Gilman* on the within complaint, are of opinion, that he ought, without delay, to pay the coat-money he has received in behalf of any soldier to them respectively.

M. WEARE, *Chairman*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ST. EUSTATIA, DATED JULY 27, 1776.

Since my last we have the agreeable news that Captain *Wickes*, in the ship *Reprisal*, from your place, is safe arrived at *Martinico*, after having an engagement with the *Shark* sloop of war, a ship of about equal force with himself. The story is related as follows: This day week, the *Shark*, lying at anchor in *St. Pierre's* harbour, saw a ship beating in, which she took for an *American*, on which she slipped her cables, bore down on Captain *Wickes*, and fired two shots in order to bring him to; but Captain *Wickes* took no notice of them, and stood on his course till within hail of the *Shark*. On being asked by the Captain, where from, and to what State belonging? he answered, from *Philadelphia*, and belonging to the honourable the Continental Congress; and at the same time saluted him with a broadside, which was returned in course by the *Shark*, without much damage to either that I can find. The engagement continued very hot for fifteen or twenty minutes, when the *Shark* sheered off. Captain *Wickes* stood in, and came to in *St. Pierre's*; the *Shark* followed soon after, when the Captain went on shore and demanded the *American* Rebel pirate, as he was pleased to term Captain *Wickes's* vessel; but the Governour did not think proper to grant his moderate request, and desired he might not attempt to commit hostilities within the bounds of his Government. Captain *Wickes* requested protection, and leave to clean his ship, which was granted, and he has gone to some little distance from *St. Pierre's* to heave down. It appears from every account I can learn, and by the letters of the *French* merchants at *St. Pierre's* to their friends here, who were eyewitnesses of the engagement, that Captain *Wickes* and his ship's crew have acquired much applause by this affair. Captain *Wickes* had taken three prizes on his passage, bound from the *West-Indies*, *English* property, so that he was eighty men short of his complement. He

was across another vessel, and discharged her, finding she was *Irish* property. The colours which the *American* showed were a field white and yellow, with thirteen stripes.

A *French* frigate arrived last *Sunday* at *Martinico*, from old *France*, with despatches as late as 22d of *June*, to the Governours and Commanders of all the different *French* Islands, to put themselves in the best posture of defence, and to aid, assist, and protect all *American* vessels that might put into their ports, as far as possible.

It is confidently reported from *Martinico*, that *Spain* was about or had actually declared war against *Portugal*.

These are good omens of a war between *England* and *France*. God grant it may be soon! It will be the making of *America*, by calling off the attention of the *British* fleet from the coast, and leaving the ports open for trade with all the world.

JAMES CRESWELL TO W. H. DRAYTON.

Ninety-Six, South-Carolina, July 27, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I make no doubt that you are anxious to hear how our affairs stand in this perplexed and unhappy district since the heathen have broke in on our frontier. Fame on such occasions speaks variously, nor is it easy to report only real facts. You may rely on the following.

It is quite evident that the savages were made acquainted with the designs of the *British* fleet against *Charlestown*, and that there was a connected scheme between them against our country. Nor is it less certain that the disaffected party among us knew the intentions of the *Indians*, and were really elated with the prospect. They made no secret of their expectations of safety; and when the time drew near that was appointed for the savages to murder, they refused to muster or obey any officer appointed by their country over them. This insolent behaviour, at such a threatening time, very much alarmed us. At this time, it evidently appears that they were by compact to assist the savages to ruin the country; and had they been in possession of their arms, many of them would have actually engaged in the bloody scheme. But, providentially for us, their arms were scarce, and the savages killed the disaffected in common, without distinction of party. This greatly alarmed them, changed their countenance and tone, and made them look out for safety for their families. Others of them justly supposed that any of their party that were killed must have suffered through mistake. This now appears plain to us, by the *Indians* giving up those of them which they had taken as prisoners.

The savages have spread great desolation all along the frontiers, and killed a great number. On the 14th, they attacked a part of Colonel *Williams's* regiment, at *Lindley's Fort*, but were repulsed by the loss of one lover of his country, who, unfortunately, suffered a cruel death by them. This attack was made by about ninety *Indians* and one hundred and twenty white men. Ten of the white *Indians* were made prisoners, nine of whom were painted. They are now safe at *Ninety-Six*, where they will remain, unless released by their brethren.

Major *Williamson* and the officers under him have exerted themselves in getting our forces together, and arming them as well as could be done among us. Our Army is about one thousand or eleven hundred strong, and has advanced about fifteen miles over the line.

*Ninety-Six* is now a frontier. Plantations lie desolate, and hopeful crops are going to ruin. In short, dear sir, unless we get some relief, famine will overspread our beautiful country. As our Army is now over the line, the dread of savages and the disaffected will deter the lovers of their country from looking after their affairs at home. Fences are thrown down, and many have already suffered great loss. Such of us as are in forts have neither suitable guns nor ammunition for the defence of our wives and little ones, as we were obliged to furnish our Army with our best arms.

By every intelligence we have from *Georgia*, we learn that the *New-Purchase* is in great distress. Should the savages break through the *New-Purchase*, we will then be a frontier in that quarter.

The release of the prisoners at *Charlestown*, at this critical juncture, very much alarmed us. We really dread that party. I cannot express our distress.

Your friendship on our behalf with our Governour to procure us the Rangers, or part of them, to assist us, will be

acknowledged by all with real gratitude, and by none more than by, honoured sir, your very humble servant,

JAMES CRESWELL.\*

To the Hon. *William Henry Drayton*, *Charlestown*.

JOHN PAGE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 5, 1776.]

Williamsburgh, July 27, 1776.

SIR: We had the honour to receive your letter of the 16th instant, by express, enclosing two resolutions of Congress, one respecting the taking the forts and garrisons on our frontiers on the Continental establishment, and the other desiring that a quantity of lead should be sent from hence to *Philadelphia*. The Convention is not sitting, but we cannot doubt that it would highly approve of the former resolution; as to the latter, we have sent off an express to the lead-mines, ordering a large number of hands to be immediately hired, to assist those already employed there. By this means, it will not be long before we shall be able to furnish the twenty tons you require; but at present we have had such demands for lead from *North-Carolina* and our frontiers, on account of an *Indian* war in which we are at present engaged, that it is impossible to procure any for you till more can be extracted from the ore. We have not in our publick magazines two tons of lead and ball, and our cruisers are not yet furnished with that article; so that it will not be in our power to send any from hence. However, sir, we hope to procure you a ton or two; but even this we almost doubt of, since we have reason to believe that the lead which our Delegates have sent to *Fredericksburgh* for, will be all given out to the cruisers on *Rappahannock*, or the Militia now out on the alarm spread by the enemy's fleet in their neighbourhood.

We have enclosed you, sir, a copy of a letter from the President of *South-Carolina*, and another from General *Lee*, with one from the President of the Committee of Safety of *North-Carolina*, enclosing a letter from Brigadier *Rutherford*, from which letters you will see how unavoidably we are engaged in an *Indian* war, and may judge how extensive it may prove, if the *Creeks*, and other nations bordering on the *Cherokees*, should join them. We did not hesitate a moment to adopt the plan recommended by the President of *Carolina* and General *Lee*, and have ordered twelve hundred men to be immediately raised, and marched into the *Overhill* Towns; but this force is, we hear, by no means sufficient, if the other *Indian* tribes should join against us. We are by the *Indian* war daily incurring many and heavy expenses, which we humbly conceive must be a Continental charge.

Written by order of the Council.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN PAGE, President.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Congress, in *Philadelphia*.

Copy of Mr. President RUTLEDGE's Letter to the President of the VIRGINIA Convention.

Charlestown, July 7, 1776.

SIR: I am sorry to acquaint you, that notwithstanding the most friendly appearance is given to the Continental Commissioners at the late Congress by the *Cherokee Indians*, those people have actually begun a war against the Colonies. The Lower towns some time ago suffered *Cameron* (*Stuart's* deputy in the *Overhills*) to leave. Two men (*Hamptons*) who resided there, and were in our interest, were seized and carried to *Cameron*; but they refused to suffer any of our people in their towns, who were in the King's interest, to be taken. They have also made several prisoners, plundered houses, and on the 30th ultimo proceeded to kill several people. These outrages must not go unpunished, but be instantly checked, conceiving that the most effectual way of putting a stop to them, will be to march a considerable force from this Colony and *North-Carolina*, into the heart of the Lower and Middle Towns, and of the Valley Settlements; and at the same time, or as soon as may be, the *Overhills* should be attacked from *Virginia*, from whence alone it can be done to advantage, and may with the greatest ease; and General *Lee* (who writes to you on this subject)

\* Mr. Creswell was a respectable Preacher, residing between *Saluda* and *Broad Rivers*, in *Ninety-Six* District.

and our Council being of the same opinion, I have given orders to Major *Williamson* to proceed with what men he has imbodyed and can raise, which I suppose may amount to about eleven hundred men, and march, as I presume he will within a very few days, against the lower *Cherokees*, and then to carry on a war against them, unless they will submit to reasonable terms. I have written to the President of the Council of *North-Carolina*, to order assistance from that Colony to Major *Williamson*; and I hope that, as the object is of the utmost importance, and there is not a moment to be lost in taking such steps as may prevent future apprehensions of danger from those *Indians*, and others who may be intimidated by their fate, you will immediately cause a considerable force to march from *Virginia*, with the utmost expedition, and wage war with the *Overhill Cherokees*, until they shall be brought to such terms as may be safe and honourable for the Colonies.

Enclosed you will receive an extract of a letter to Major *Williamson*. I shall be glad of your answer by the bearer, as soon as possible, and hope to meet with no difficulty, delay, or disappointment, in this matter, on the part of your Colony.

I am, with great regard and respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

J. RUTLEDGE.

P. S. You will be pleased to forward the letter herewith delivered to my brother as soon as possible, and to acquaint him what will be done by your Colony in consequence of my application, as I think it material that the Congress should be apprized of the disposition of these *Indians*, &c., as soon as may be.

Copy of a Letter from General LEE to the Convention of VIRGINIA.

Charlestown, July 7, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Rutledge* will inform you by this express of the outrages committed by the *Cherokees*, which must be construed as the commencement of a war. As it is now certain that a capital and favourite part of the plan laid down by his most excellent and clement Majesty *George the Third* is to lay waste the Provinces, burn the habitations, and mix men, women, and children, in one common carnage by the hands of the *Indians*, and as this part of his plan, though of apiece in point of humanity, is certainly more big with mischievous consequences than the rest, it appears to me absolutely necessary to crush the evil before it arises to any dangerous height; indeed, if we avail ourselves of the event, it may prove a fortunate one; perhaps in policy we ought to have wished for it. We can now, with the greatest justice, strike a blow which is necessary to intimidate the numerous tribes of *Indians* from falling into the measures of the present Administration; and as these *Cherokees* are not esteemed the most formidable warriors, we can probably do it without much risk or loss. I think, then, sir, without a moment's delay a body of your frontier riflemen should be furnished forthwith, and march into the country of the *Overhill Cherokees*, and make a severe, lasting, and salutary example of them. The *Carolineans* propose at the same time attacking their lower towns, and, with the coöperation of *Virginia*, entertain no doubt of success.

*Clinton's* Army and *Parker's* squadron are pretty much in the same situation as when I wrote last. They daily, indeed, make some alteration in the position of their land troops, from one Island to another, perhaps for new air or water, of which the deserters say they are in great want. They tell us likewise, that considerable sickness prevails in the Army, and greater discontents from hard duty and bad diet. The spirit of desertion begins to show itself. Five soldiers came over these two last nights, who assure us that were they not on an Island, from which it is difficult to escape, two-thirds of their Army would soon be with us. I am myself inclined to believe them. Upon the whole, when I consider the difficulties which the enemy's Generals have to encounter, the temper and disposition of their troops, and the improving spirit of ours, I assure myself that the game is in our hands. God give us more grace than to shuffle it away. I am your most obedient, &c.,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Hon. *Edmund Pendleton*, President of the Convention of *Virginia*.

P. S. I must request, sir, that any letters that I address to the Convention may be forwarded to the Congress when you think them of sufficient importance.

Copy of a Letter from the Convention of NORTH-CAROLINA to Governour P. HENRY, enclosed in a Letter from the Council of VIRGINIA, 27th JULY, 1776.

Halifax, North-Carolina, July 21, 1776.

SIR: We have the honour to transmit your Excellency copies of two letters from Brigadier *Rutherford*, who lives in *Rowan* County, near *Salisbury*, the commanding officer on the frontiers of this Colony, directed to the Board, respecting *Indian* affairs, to which we beg leave to refer you. The contents of these letters you may depend upon the truth of. Brigadier *Rutherford* has been directed by me to have a sufficient force immediately on the frontiers, and to act in conjunction with Major *Williamson*, who commands eleven hundred men, raised by the Colony of *South-Carolina*. It is intended that General *Rutherford* and Major *Williamson* should march into the *Cherokees* Lower Towns; they have their orders for that purpose. We are in full and certain expectation that your Colony will, upon this very alarming and dangerous situation of the frontiers of the southern Colonies, immediately order the commanding officer on the western settlements of it to embody a sufficient number of men to march against the *Overhill Cherokee* towns, so that the lower and upper towns of those faithless savages may be attacked at one and the same time, as nearly as may be. It will be very necessary for your officer to give Brigadier *Rutherford* notice from time to time of his intentions, in order that their future operations may go hand in hand together.

This Colony is in the greatest want of lead; we have to request that you will order from *Chiswell's* Mines a present supply of five tons, as the inhabitants on our frontiers have scarcely any, and are in the most distressed situation; and we have no other means of procuring that article but from your Colony; therefore must once more request your friendly and speedy assistance.

We cannot help mentioning the suspicions many of our western people have with respect to a design the *Indians* have in view of cutting off the persons at *Chiswell's* Mines; and as the savages have many white men now out with them (who are well acquainted with the importance of a lead mine) in scouting parties, there may be some reason for the belief of such an intention.

We congratulate your Excellency on your being appointed to the government of the Commonwealth of *Virginia*; and have the honour to be, &c., your most obedient, &c.

Signed by order of the Council of Safety:

CORNELIUS HARNETT, *President*.

To His Excellency P. Henry.

Copy of Brigadier RUTHERFORD's Letter to the Council of Safety of NORTH-CAROLINA, enclosing the Letter of the Council of VIRGINIA.

July 14, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I am under the necessity of sending you by express the alarming condition this country is in. The *Indians* are making great progress in destroying and murdering in the frontiers of this County. Thirty-seven, I am informed, were killed last *Wednesday* and *Thursday*, on the *Catawba River*. I am also informed, that Colonel *McDowell*, ten men, and one hundred and twenty women and children, are besieged in some kind of a fort, and the *Indians* round them; no help to them before yesterday, and they were surrounded on *Wednesday*. I expect, the next account, to hear that they are all destroyed. Colonel *Backman's* is the frontier of this County. Pray, gentlemen, consider our distress, and send us plenty of powder, and I hope, under *God*, we of *Salisbury* district are able to stand them; but if you allow us to go to the nation, I expect you will order *Hillsborough* district to join *Salisbury*. Three of our Captains are killed, and one wounded. This day I set out with what men I can raise for the relief of the distressed.

I am, gentlemen, in haste, your humble servant,

GRIFFITH RUTHERFORD.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety, North-Carolina.

ELISHA WINTERS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Chesterstown, July 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I gladly embrace this opportunity to inform you I shall have twenty-eight muskets ready to your order

by *Monday*, 3d *August*, making up forty muskets per month, agreeable to my contract.

I remain, with much respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

ELISHA WINTERS.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

CHARLES CARROLL, BARRISTER, TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Mount-Clare, July 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I do not know whether you have received any answer to your letter to *Philadelphia* to your Deputies, desiring them to look out for an Engineer, or whether they may be able to get one to come down. I therefore introduce to you Mr. *Allcock*, of *Baltimore-Town*, who, from the character I have of him, will be able to do you service. He has been, as I am informed, of great help to the gentlemen of *Baltimore-Town* in designing and erecting their fortifications at *Whetstone*. He now, at my desire, waits on you, and will look at all your situations. He keeps a school in this town, and cannot very well spare the time for his journey. I have, however, prevailed on him to ride down, on a promise of a compensation for his time and trouble. You will, on conversing with him, judge whether he can be of any assistance to you as a designer or otherwise. I fancy it will be difficult to get Engineers from the northward, and we must, in my opinion, avail ourselves of the skill of such as we can meet with among ourselves, though their knowledge be not so perfect or complete.

I was yesterday at *Whetstone*, and find Captain *Smith* has five eighteen-pounders to spare, four of them on high carriages, and the other on a low carriage. I think the sooner you get them down to *Annapolis* the better. I intended to come down about the middle of next week, but have had a touch of the fever and ague, which I believe will keep me up here a little longer.

I am, very respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHAS. CARROLL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety, at *Annapolis*.

COLONEL SOMERVILLE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Calvert County, July 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received orders from Colonel *Mackall* (who is now at *St. George's*) yesterday to send a company of our Militia to *St. Mary's*, to relieve the company now stationed there, which I shall do without loss of time. As Captain *John Brooke*, and his First Lieutenant and Ensign, have enrolled the number of men directed by Convention to entitle them to their commissions, I would humbly beg leave to ask if it would not contribute greatly to the ease of our Militia if they were ordered to be stationed either at *Drum Point* or down in *St. Mary's*, in lieu of the companies of Militia now at those places, until such time as your Honours may think proper to order them otherwise?

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

ALEX. SOMERVILLE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CHARLES RUMSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Cecil County, July 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Captain *John Oglevie*, finding Captain *Alexander* had not made up his company by the 20th instant, and being zealous in the cause, proposed to march with his company, or with such a part of them as could, with convenience, leave their homes; upon which, in a few days time, he had the number enrolled, agreeable to his Return. Hope they will be accepted, as they are a parcel of active, stout, willing men.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

CHARLES RUMSEY,

H. HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

We, the subscribers, do hereby enrol ourselves to serve as Militia of *Maryland*, in the Middle Department, that is



to say, from this Province to *New-York*, inclusive, until the 1st day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged by the honourable Congress, according to the resolution of the Convention of *Maryland*, held at *Annapolis*, the 21st day of *June*, 1776.

Capt. John Oglevie,	Samuel Bing,	David Morrison,
1st Lt. Jos. Tanner,	James Hasson,	William Mullen,
2d Lt. Elisha Rodgers,	David M. Guffin,	Hugh McDowell,
Ensign James Boggs,	Alex. Thompson,	James Perry,
William Tilyard,	John Sands,	John Minor,
Thomas Ramsay,	James Connor,	Thomas King,
Eliot Williams,	William Duffield,	Elisha Gatchell,
Oliver Bing,	John Johnson,	James Hindman,
William Smith,	Michael Askin,	Benjamin Moody,
Benjamin McMahon,	James Clendenin, (a	George Robinson,
James McKibbin,	lad.) drummer,	Samuel Thompson,
John Jameson,	Alex. Armstrong,	Alexander Simpson,
George Glass,	Patrick Donnelly,	Josiah Porterfield,
William Streat,	Matthew Morgan,	William Jameson,
George Cunningham,	John Phillips,	James Stevenson,
William Brisland,	James Wright,	Thomas Newell,
James M. Clenshey,	George Day,	Matthew McDowell,
William Brison,	William Bean,	Benjamin Hasson,
Andrew Thompson,	Carbery Cuningham,	William Johnson,
James Morrow,	David Robinson,	James Welch.
	George McClelland,	

The within and above men were viewed, and are able-bodied and effective men.

CHARLES RUMSEY.

July 25, 1776.

#### MAJOR PRICE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Upper Camp, St. George's, July 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The day before yesterday, in the evening, the *Roebuck* and other ships returned down the river, and came to about five miles from this place. At two o'clock yesterday morning, I received a line from Captain *Nicholson*, acquainting me that he intended to attack the fleet at day-break. I immediately despatched an officer, with orders, if possible, to speak to Captain *Nicholson*, and let him know the ships had returned down the river, and were then within nine or ten miles of the fleet, and that I did not think it prudent to attack them. Colonel *Barnes* had sometime before despatched an officer. The one I sent got to his camp, but neither of them could come up with Captain *Nicholson*. I immediately, on the receipt of the letter, ordered the troops under arms, and despatched Captain *Thomas* with about forty on the Island, to alarm the enemy in that quarter, Major *Eden* with about the same number on the Point, with a four-pounder, and I took the remainder, twenty-five in number, on board of two boats and canoes, and went down *St. George's River* as near the enemy as we could with safety, when I left them under the command of Lieutenant *Adams*, with orders, if there should be any confusion in the fleet, to push up with their boats to *Cherryfield Point*, where I would be. I then went across to the Point, where our people from the lower camp had been at work all night, and by the time the sun was rising, had mounted the two largest cannon. About an hour after, we espied the *Defence* making up for the fleet. The *Fowey*, which lay about a mile from the battery, did not see her, or seemed to take no notice of her, for more than an hour, when we noticed boats going ahead of her, as we supposed, to carry out her anchor, in order to warp her out; and in a short time, we observed her hauling out, when I immediately ordered the cannons to be fired at her. We fired four times from the nine-pounder, and twice from the four, one of which (the nine, we think) hulled her; the other struck a boat laying at the stern, with, I believe, men in her. I saw them a very little time before, the *Fowey* all the time hauling out. By this time, observed the *Defence* put about, and stand down the river. I believe she must have seen the *Roebuck*, which was seen some time after standing down after her, the *Fowey* giving chase a very little while before. Upon the whole, the enemy appears to be a good deal alarmed, and I am in hopes will leave this in a short time.

Captain *Boucher* came to camp last night; he left two row-galleys about two miles above this place. I furnished him with a boat and some hands to go back by water; he expects to be down with the galleys this evening. I am collecting all the boats and cannons, to give him all the assistance in my power. The remainder of the Militia here must be discharged to-morrow night. I expected to have had a fresh recruit of them by this time. Shall be very weak—not less than twenty regulars down with fevers at this time. There will be great difficulty in getting the

cannon back by land; should think it best to have them carried by water, if vessels can be had, as soon as the enemy goes off.

Enclosed you have Governour *Eden's* answer to Mr. *Wolstenholme's* letter, which was brought to Captain *Forrest*, who I ordered to that station, in place of Captain *Mackall*, whom I could not so well depend upon. You have also enclosed Captain *Forrest's* letter to me, and Mr. *Wolstenholme's* answer to Governour *Eden*.

This is a shocking country: everything scarce; water we are obliged to haul nearly three miles; no liquor but bad whiskey to drink; everybody fatigued and tired of the place. If the enemy continue here, must certainly have fresh troops. I had almost forgotten to tell you that the nine-pounder turns out extraordinarily good, perhaps none better; all here are much pleased with her.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

THOS. PRICE.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

Roebuck, July 20, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received this morning your letter of the 19th, and the annexed declaration and assurance that any flag sent for you and your effects shall be received with the respect due to it. Commodore *Hammond's* inclination to render any service in his power to any of his Majesty's officers in your situation, has induced him to order a flag to be sent on shore for you on *Monday* or *Tuesday* next; and you shall have as good accommodations for your passage to *England* in the victualler he has been pleased to grant to me, as it will afford. And I am desired to assure you that any flag, or vessel with a flag, that you may employ to bring off your effects and stock, with their provision and water, shall be allowed to return immediately unmolested.

Doctor *Scott* and four other gentlemen, besides myself, take this opportunity of going to *England*; he desires his compliments to you and such of our friends as may be with you, in which I join, and in wishing you health and a good passage.

I am, dear sir, your obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT EDEN.

To D. Wolstenholme, Esq.

SIR: I am much obliged to you for your very kind favour per Lieutenant *Sandys*, and beg that you'll be pleased to pay my most respectful compliments to Commodore *Hammond*, and acquaint him of the high sense I entertain of his goodness in sending for me a flag of truce, and to acquaint him that I have been twice stopped by the commanding officers at *St. George's*; but the first order revoked, and afterwards repeated, with fresh instructions to the officers of the troops stationed at my house, not to permit my embarkation, till the pleasure of the Council of Safety should be known.

The express has returned, which, at present, puts a stop to my embarkation; what may happen from a second express that was sent, and to which no answer is yet returned, I cannot say; though I much doubt their first resolution will not be rescinded.

I think myself much obliged to your Excellency for the kind part you have acted on this occasion, and that you may rest assured that no sinister event whatever shall ever shake those principles of honour becoming an officer in his Majesty's service. I have only now to repeat my most respectful compliments to Commodore *Hammond*, Dr. *Scott*, and all the gentlemen of my acquaintance, and to wish you a pleasant passage, and a happy sight of your friends in *England*; being, very respectfully, sir, yours, &c.,

DANIEL WOLSTENHOLME.

To His Excellency Governour *Eden*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO RICHARD DALLAM.

[No. 83.]

Annapolis, July 27, 1776.

SIR: We received yours of the 22d of *July*, and are glad to hear that you have made as many guns as will reimburse the money already advanced; they may be delivered to Colonel *Carville Hall*, or his order. The price you ask is high for guns, but we want them at present, and therefore will

take any number you may make in six weeks from this time, and give you £4 10s. currency for them completely finished.

We are, &c.

To *Richard Dallam, Esq., Harford County.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GORDON AND PATTEN.

[No. 84.]

Annapolis, July 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you will have a plan of a knapsack and haversack in one, adopted by three Provinces, and which they offer to make, of the materials, dimensions, and in manner described, in *Philadelphia*, at 8s. 6d. If you incline to make two thousand six hundred at that rate, we will agree to pay that price, provided they be made in the space of six weeks at farthest.

We expect your answer immediately, that we may apply elsewhere in case you do not incline to furnish us.

We are, &c.

To Messrs. *Gordon and Patten.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GERARD HOPKINS.

[No. 85.]

Annapolis, July 27, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you will receive an order on the Treasurer for £50, to pay off the debts you have incurred on the account of the knapsacks and haversacks, for girth and diaper web, and what you may want for future purchases of that sort.

I have it in command from the Council to inform you that it is impossible for them to fix the price of making the haversacks, as they cannot be judges of the value of work they have never seen, and haversacks are made in various forms, and of course more work must be bestowed on one kind than another. Knapsacks and haversacks in one, are offered to be made in *Philadelphia*, and all materials found, for 8s. 6d. apiece; you speak only of haversacks; it is not known if you mean haversacks alone, or knapsacks and haversacks together. As soon as the price can be fixed, the cash will be sent you. The Council will pay what the Committee of *Baltimore* shall fix their value at.

It is by no means agreeable to the Council that the officers of the Flying-Camp should have any command over the stores of this Province; and they cannot look upon you as acting in the line of your duty, in disposing of them to any of them, without orders from their Board: they are to be in Continental pay, and no regular account can be kept against the Continent without such commands issuing from the proper place. They will, however, take the eight hundred and fifty haversacks made in consequence of Colonel *Erving's* request to you, which you are to deliver only to the order of the Council of Safety. They again desire to know whether you mean haversacks alone, or knapsacks with them.

Enclosed is a letter open, which you are desired to seal and deliver to Messrs. *Gordon and Patten*. It contains proposals for making a quantity of knapsacks and haversacks, the pattern and price, and they are requested to give an answer speedily.

I am yours, &c.,

GABRIEL DUVAL.

To Mr. *Gerard Hopkins*, son of *Richard*.

DELAWARE ASSEMBLY.

In the House of Representatives for the Counties of *New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex*, upon *Delaware*, at *New-Castle*, Saturday, July 27, 1776, P. M.:

The House, taking into consideration the Resolution of Congress of the 15th of *May* last, for suppressing all authority derived from the Crown of *Great Britain*, and for establishing a Government upon the authority of the People, and the Resolution of this House of the 15th of *June* last, in consequence of the said Resolution of Congress, directing all persons holding offices, civil or military, to execute the same in the name of this Government until a new one should be formed, and also the Declaration of the *United States of America* absolving from all allegiance to the *British Crown*, and dissolving all political connexion between them and *Great Britain*, lately published and adopted by this Government as one of those States, are of opinion that some speedy measures should be taken to form a regular mode of

civil polity; and this House, not thinking themselves authorized by their constituents to execute this important work,

*Do Resolve*, That it be recommended to the good people of the several Counties in this Government to choose a suitable number of Deputies to meet in Convention, there to order and declare the future form of Government for this State.

*Resolved, also*, That it is the opinion of this House, that the said Convention consist of the number of thirty persons; that is to say, ten for the County of *New-Castle*, ten for the County of *Kent*, and ten for the County of *Sussex*; and that the freemen of the said Counties respectively do meet on *Monday*, the 19th day of *August* next, at the usual places of election for the County, and then and there proceed to elect the number of Deputies aforesaid, according to the directions of the several laws of this Government for regulating elections of the Members of Assembly, except as to the choice of Inspectors, which shall be made on the morning of the day of election by the electors, inhabitants of the respective Hundreds in each County.

*Resolved*, That every elector shall (if required by one or more of the Judges of the Election) take the following oath or affirmation, to wit: "I, A. B., will, to the utmost of my power, support and maintain the independence of this Government, as declared by the honourable Continental Congress."

*Resolved, also*, That it is the opinion of this House that the Deputies, when chosen as aforesaid, shall meet in Convention in the Town of *New-Castle*, on *Tuesday*, the 27th day of the same month of *August*, and immediately proceed to form a Government on the authority of the people of this State, in such sort as may be best adapted to their preservation and happiness.

Extract from the Minutes.

Published by order:

JAMES BOOTH, Clerk of Assembly.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

Philadelphia, July 27, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you have a resolution of Congress for the supply of provisions to the frigates in the Eastern Department, out of the stock of provisions in that quarter; and am to request you will, by the next post, issue your orders to your Deputy there to furnish such quantities as shall be applied for by Mr. *Cushing* and others who have the care of the ships.

I have paid all your bills which have been presented. Money will soon be sent to the Paymaster.

I wish you happy; and am, sir, your very humble servant,  
JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To *Jos. Trumbull, Esq., Commissary-General, New-York.*

MARYLAND DELEGATES IN CONGRESS TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, July 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Colonel *Smallwood*, apprehending his battalion would be in want of many necessaries at the camp, applied to us for a sum of money, and we advanced him \$1,335, for which he is to be accountable to the Convention of *Maryland*. We hope this advance will meet with your and their approbation, as not much can be expected from soldiers badly provided; and such is the discretion and economy of Colonel *Smallwood*, that we are persuaded he will make a very judicious application of this money.

The Congress has allowed a regimental Paymaster to each battalion in the Flying-Camp, the appointment of which officer is left to the several States from which those battalions come. In the recess of our Convention, the appointment is in you, and we beg you may appoint one as soon as may be. Colonel *Smallwood* recommended to us for this place Mr. *Christopher Richmond*. We mention this circumstance because we know the appointment of Mr. *Richmond* will be very agreeable to the Colonel.

There are now lodged in Mr. *Shries's* house fifty odd muskets, lately imported for the use of our State; they want repairing and cleaning. We submit it to you whether we shall not keep these muskets here, to arm in part one of our Militia companies passing through this city, on its way to the Flying-Camp; this will save the expense and trouble of sending them to *Maryland*.

We are informed that there are large quantities of flint-stones at the landings on *Wye* and *Choptank* rivers; these were brought by the ships as ballast, and thrown out on the banks. The Congress has desired us to write to you on the subject, and to procure some person who understands flints, to look after them, and to report to Congress whether they are good or not.

We have nothing new from *New-York*: the post is not yet come in: we heard from General *Washington* yesterday: all was quiet. The ten vessels mentioned in the papers appearing in the offing at *New-York* brought over Highlanders—how many we know not. As the harvest is now over, we imagine the Militia will come in fast to compose the Flying-Camp; and we hope the *Maryland* Militia will march with all possible expedition.

We are, with regard, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

SAMUEL CHASE,  
CH. CARROLL of *Carrollton*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*.

GEORGE STEVENSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 31, 1776.]

In Committee of Inspection and Observation of Cumberland }  
County, at *Carlisle*, July 27, 1776. }

SIR: Agreeable to the request of Congress, recommended by our Convention, by their Circular Letter of the 19th instant, by this Committee forwarded to the Colonels or commanding officers of the several battalions of Militia Associators in this County, to hasten the march to *New-Jersey* of as many of their companies as can be armed, the inhabitants have voluntarily and very generally offered their service; and, by the answers which we have received from the officers, it appears to us that eleven companies will be sufficiently armed and accoutred, and the last of them marched from this place, in about a week from this time. Three companies more are preparing, if they can get arms; and many more declare themselves willing to march; but we are well assured arms are not to be got in this County. A considerable quantity of arms were purchased in this County last winter, and sent to *Virginia*, by permission of the Committee of Safety; several chests of arms were sent to the Committee of Safety, and with them fifty-six of the new arms, made here by order of the Assembly; all the companies who have hitherto been raised in this County have been supplied with our arms; therefore there can be but very few arms now in this County.

The money we sent for by our order of the 14th instant, we disposed of to the companies first raised, and we are now obliged to draw for £1000 more in favour of Mr. *John Pollock*, of this place, our express, whom we hope you will not detain, as it is a doubt with us whether we can borrow money sufficient to answer the necessary demands of the companies before they can march; and if that should be the case, some of them will be obliged to wait his return. After the men shall have marched, we shall render an account of the disposal of the money.

If arms and accoutrements are to be had at *Philadelphia* we can send more men. An answer to this and to our former letter, will oblige us much.

We are, sir, your most obedient and humble servants,  
GEORGE STEVENSON, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, July 27, 1776.

SIR: General *Heard* and General *Roberdeau* have considered with me the plan proposed for attacking the posts on *Staten-Island*. Two things we entirely agree in, namely, that the number of troops proposed are by no means equal to the undertaking. We cannot rationally suppose the enemy's force on the Island to be less than ten thousand. Where these are chiefly posted we have no intelligence to be depended on. Several outguards posted along the shores of the Island are in our view, but these we can only regard as necessary to the security of their main body, who may speedily come to the assistance of any one post. The craft necessary to convey a sufficient body for a successful attack on the enemy is not, so far as I can find, to be collected

along the shores here. It is true there are many small vessels, but the greater number ill-constructed for making a descent. It is, therefore, our opinion, that before any grand effort is made, a number of flat-bottomed boats should be constructed for the purpose, as well as those we have, put in the best repair. We have carpenters enough in the troops here; tools, nails, and other materials may be had; and we wait your orders to set about this part of the service. In *Rariton River* are craft of different sizes calculated to transport one thousand men; *Rahway River* three hundred. General *Heard* will be able to inform your Excellency what craft may be ready in *Thompson's Creek*, *Elizabeth-Town*, and *Newark*.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

P. S. No troops have joined since last return.

GENERAL MERCER TO COLONEL DICKINSON.

SIR: In consequence of your favour to-day, I have ordered ammunition for the troops at *Elizabeth-Town*, also two pieces of cannon, with their arrangement of necessary articles. They will be with you to-morrow, and I will do myself the pleasure of then paying you my respects. I am very sorry you do not find people actuated with such a spirit as you wish. General *Washington*, under the dread of leaving this part of the country naked, through the desertion of such numbers, has directed me to send no more men, after Colonel *Atlee's*, to *New-York*.

H. MERCER.

To Col. *John Dickinson*, commanding at *Elizabeth-Town*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 29, 1776.]

*New-York*, July 27, 1776.

SIR: I was yesterday morning honoured with your favour of the 24th instant, with its several enclosures, to which I shall pay the strictest attention. The confidence Congress are pleased to repose in my judgment demands my warmest acknowledgments; and they may rest assured it shall be invariably employed, so far as it shall be in my power, to promote their views and the publick weal.

I have enclosed a letter received from Major *French* two days ago; also, one from him to his lady. Congress will perceive thereby what he says and thinks about his parole, and will be pleased to transmit to me, by the earliest opportunity, the results of their opinion, and such orders as they may think necessary to be taken upon it. The letter for Mrs. *French* they will please to return me. It was only forwarded to show his views more explicitly than what that to me does.

Since my last, nothing material has occurred. Yesterday evening, report was made that eight ships were seen in the offing, standing towards the *Hook*. The men-of-war and tenders are still up the river. They have never attempted to pass the Highland fortifications; and a day or two ago quitted their station, and fell down the river eight or ten miles. The vigilance and activity of the Militia opposite where they were, have prevented their landing, and doing much injury. One poor peasant's cot they plundered, and then burnt.

I would wish to know whether the allowance given to officers the 17th of *January*, of one-and-a-third dollars for every man they enlist, Congress mean to extend to the officers who enlist for the new Army for three years. At first, it may appear wrong, or rather exorbitant, supposing that many will be recruited out of the regiments now in service, and under them; but the allowance will be of great use, as it will interest the officers, and call forth their exertions, which otherwise would be faint and languid. Indeed, I am fearful, from the inquiries I have made, that their utmost exertions will be attended with but little success. It is objected, that the bounty of ten dollars is too low, and argued, that if the States furnishing men for five or six months allow considerably more, why should that be accepted, and when the term of enlistment is to be for three years? I heartily wish a bounty in land had been, or could be, given, as was proposed some time ago. I think it would be attended with salutary consequences.

In consequence of my application to Governour *Trumbull*,

he has sent me two row-galleys, and I expect another from him. None from Governour *Cooke* are yet come, nor have I heard from him on the subject. One is complete here. The fire-ships are going on under Mr. *Anderson's* direction, but rather slowly; and I am preparing some obstructions to the channel nearly opposite the works at the upper end of this Island. When all things are ready, I intend to try, if it shall seem practicable, to destroy the ships and tenders above, and to employ the galleys, if they can be of advantage.

The Militia for the Flying-Camp come in but slowly. By a return from General *Mercer* yesterday, they are but a little more than three thousand. If they were in, or can be there shortly, and the situation of the enemy remains the same, I would make some efforts to annoy them, keeping our posts here well guarded, and not putting too much to the hazard, or in any manner to the risk.

I have the honour to be, with the utmost respect, sir, your most obedient servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

Hartford, July 22, 1776.

SIR: A letter which I saw to Captain *Delaplace*, directing his Majesty's officers, prisoners here, to send their letters under cover to you, occasions my troubling you with the enclosed, which I request you will direct to be sent to his Excellency General *Howe*, by the first flag of truce; and as I am certain there must be many letters for me and the other gentlemen here, we shall esteem it a favour if you will direct inquiry to be made of the flags of truce which may be sent to you. I make no doubt you will grant us this small consolation in our captivity, that we may have the satisfaction of hearing from our friends.

When the parole which I signed to the Committee of Safety at *Philadelphia* was tendered to me, and I had read as far as "that I would not bear arms against the *United Colonies* for twelve months," I refused to sign it for so long a time; but one of the members, (Mr. *Morris*,) observing there was an alternative, viz: "unless exchanged," I agreed, and signed it; from which it is evident, that I, with Ensign *Rotton* and Mr. *McDermott*, who were taken with me, as also Mr. *Goldthorpe*, a private soldier in his Majesty's Twenty-Second Regiment, and *Alexander Allen*, a private soldier in his Majesty's Forty-Fifth Regiment, who came under the same articles, are entitled to our enlargement on the 12th of *August* next, at which period our parole expires, for which I beg you will give orders. I should not have presumed to remind you of this circumstance, which I know would naturally occur, but through an apprehension that the multiplicity of business now on your hands might occasion it to escape your memory.

I am, sir, with all due respect, your most obedient, humble servant,  
CHRISTR. FRENCH.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, Saturday morning, July 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports five ships, one brig, and five schooners, at the *Hook*. One very large vessel came up last evening to the fleet. One other ship sailed about one this morning, but the Colonel don't write whether she went down or up.

I have four prisoners, inhabitants of *Queen's County*, that were taken yesterday, attempting to make their escape to the enemy. I am just going to examine them. If I discover anything worthy your Excellency's notice, it shall be transmitted you immediately.

I received information last evening of there being thirty or forty Tories on a little Island near the entrance of *Jamaica-Bay*. Three boats full of men were seen off there day before yesterday, but they did not land, nor speak with any boats, that the guards could discover. I sent a party of sixty men to scour the Island this morning, and to take all they found there prisoners.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's very humble servant,  
NATHAL. GREENE.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Saturday, twelve o'clock, July 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have examined the prisoners, and find them to be a parcel of poor ignorant, cowardly fellows. Two are

tailors, named *John* and *James Dunbar*; and the other two are common labourers, named *Isaac Pettit* and *Will Smith*. They candidly confess they set off with an intention of going to *Staten-Island*, but not with any intention of joining the enemy, but to get out of the way of fighting here. I believe the true reasons of their attempting to make their escape were, there has been a draught amongst the Militia to fill the new levies, and it was rumored these were a part that were drawn. It was also reported they were to go into the Northern Army, and that almost all that went there died, or were killed. The prospect was so shocking to them and to their grandmothers and aunts, I believe they persuaded them to run away. Never did I see fellows more frightened; they wept like a parcel of children, and appear exceeding sorrowful. One of them is in an exceeding ill state of health, very unfit for any fatigue. I beg your Excellency's direction how to dispose of them; they don't appear to be acquainted with one publick matter; they have been Toryish, but I fancy not from principle, but from its being the prevailing sentiment in the County.

Mrs. *Grant* desires to go on board the fleet to-morrow, and to carry the necessary provision for her passage, agreeable to the order or permit of Congress. Your Excellency will please to signify your pleasure in the matter.

I have the honour to be, your obedient servant,

NATH. GREENE.

COLONEL SHEE TO GENERAL MIFFLIN.

Mount Washington, July 27, 1776.

SIR: I know of no vacancy in the Third *Pennsylvania* Battalion but one, occasioned by the promotion of Lieutenant *Woelpper*, who requested me not to recommend any person in his room, as he was not determined to leave the regiment; of which he promised to advise me on his arrival at *Philadelphia*.

Lieutenant *Knox* has been a long while imprisoned at *Philadelphia*. As it is not likely that he will join the regiment, Congress may probably think proper to deprive him of his commission. Should there be a vacancy in consequence, as well as one on the advancement of Mr. *Woelpper*, I should, as I have already done, beg leave to recommend *John Davis* and *Samuel Dewees*, to fill the post of Ensigns.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

JOHN SHEE.

To Brigadier-General *Mifflin*.

N. WOODHULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

White-Plains, July 27, 1776.

SIR: I am directed to transmit to your Excellency the enclosed Deposition, relative to *William Sutton's* declaration after returning from on board Governour *Tryon's* ship last fall. I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

NATH. WOODHULL, Pres't.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

Committee Chamber, White-Plains, July 12, 1776.

Mr. . . . being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, deposes and says: That some time after *William Sutton* returned home from Governour *Tryon's* ship, he (this deponent) was informed by said *Sutton*, as follows: That our people were to be cut off from *New-York*, and that the King's troops were to land about ten miles from *Mamaroneck*; that *Hudson's River* was to be occupied by them; that the fleet was to be drawn up in a line before *New-York*, with intent to keep the forces there in action, in order to give the transports a better opportunity of running up the *North River* with intent to cut off the communication between the country and city; that the King's standard was to be hoisted, and that the Tories would then have a chance. That said *Sutton* further informed this deponent that *Robert Sutton*, of *Long-Island*, would join the Regulars, with seven hundred men, well equipped; that a proclamation would be issued out by the King's party; that the people would then know what they had to expect, and that there would be forty-five thousand troops sent over to *America* this summer. And this deponent says that he heard *John Sutton*, son of the aforesaid *William*, declare that the Regulars would land between *Mamaroneck* and *Horseneck*, and that he would join them. And this depo-



ment further says that he heard *James Horton* say that he was sure the Ministerial Army would conquer, and that matters would soon be settled; and further says not.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., *Chairman.*

In Committee of Safety, White-Plains, }  
July 13, 1776. }

The within deponent came before this Committee and made oath that he saw *Joshua Gedney*, of *Dutchess County*, have a long list of men's names who would join the Ministerial Army; that the said list of names was delivered to Governour *Tryon* by said *Gedney*, in the presence of this deponent. And this deponent further says that he heard *Caleb Fowler, Jun.*, of *North-Castle*, degrade the service he had been in, and say that if he went again, he would go like a man, and join the Ministerial Army.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., *Chairman.*

#### RICHARD BRUERE (PRISONER) TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

At Mr. Jonathan Tyler's, Bedford Township, }  
New-Purchase, July 27, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: I am very sorry to trouble you so often on the same subject; but as I received my bills for money on *England* by the hands of one of your officers about a week past, and as I have no method of supplying myself with money, think it somewhat strange that the gentlemen of the Committee, if they have received directions from you, have not supplied us with money according to the general resolution of the Congress; but should rather, as to my own part, have been glad to have got money for bills on *England*. However, I will take it as a favour that you will give the necessary directions for the usual allowance as soon as may be.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

RD. BRUERE, *prisoner of war.*

To the Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

N. B. The Committee have been applied to more than once.

#### RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, July 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I send you this morning about twelve hundred weight of spikes, of different sizes, and four hundred weight of twenty-four penny nails, for the carpenters at *Skenesborough*; as also some axes, in addition to the twelve hundred heretofore sent, and some spades and pickaxes, which will be immediately forwarded from *Fort George*.

As soon as the iron and other articles can be procured for the works at *Skenesborough*, I shall forward them.

It is now confidently reported that General *Lee* has repulsed *Clinton* seven times in his attempts to land, with much loss of men and shipping. The remainder of the fleet were supposed to have gone to *Barbadoes* to refit. If this be true, his business is done for this campaign.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

RICH. VARICK.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

#### MARINE COMMITTEE OF RHODE-ISLAND TO THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Providence, July 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Captain *Grannis*, is appointed Captain of Marines on board the Continental ship *Warren*, provided he obtains a dismission from the service of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in which he is now engaged. We think the furnishing of these ships with able officers and good men, is of the greatest consequence to these *United States*; we therefore request that you would be pleased to dismiss the said Captain *Grannis* from your service, and give him permission to enlist a company of men within your territories—permitting such of your people as are willing, and are now in the land service, to go on board the ship with him. We are in hopes to get the ships to sea in about three weeks.

We are, (for the Marine Committee here,) your Honours' humble servants,

NICH. COOKE, *Chairman.*

JABEZ BOWEN, *Secretary.*

The Hon. Council of State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

#### CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, July 27, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Elipht. Dyer, Jr. Huntington, Jed. Elderkin, Nathl. Wales, Jun., and Benj. Huntington, Esquires.*

*Voted*, That the felling Axes purchased in this Colony be sent forthwith, without delay, by trusty wagoners, to *Skenesborough*, to the care of such persons as have a right to receive them, for the use of the Continental Army, as has been requested by General *Schuyler*.

On application of Mr. *Jay*, from the Committee of Convention of the State of *New-York*,

*Voted* to grant the loan of twenty Cannon, viz: ten twelve-pounders and ten six-pounders, now at the Furnace at *Salisbury*, to the State of *New-York*; also, a suitable proportion of Shot for said Cannon—said Cannon to be replaced, and said Shot to be replaced, or accounted for by said State, when requested; and the overseers of said Furnace are directed to cast a sufficient number, or as many as can be, of iron Trucks or Carriage-Wheels for said Cannon, to be loaned to said State, and returned or accounted for with the Cannon aforesaid. All to be delivered to Mr. *Jay*, or order, by said overseers, taking proper receipts for the same.

Copy delivered to Mr. *Jay*, July 27, 1776.

#### JOHN JAY TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Whereas the Convention of the State of *New-York* did, on the 16th day of *July*, 1776, "resolve unanimously that a secret Committee be appointed to devise and carry into execution such measures as to them should appear most effectual for obstructing the Channel of *Hudson's River*, or annoying the enemy's ships in their navigation up the said river, and that the said Convention pledge themselves for defraying the charges incident thereon;" and whereas the said Convention did then resolve and order "that Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, Major *Tappen*, Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, and Mr. *Paulding*, be the said Committee;" of which said Committee, the above-mentioned Mr. *Robert Yates* hath by them been appointed their Chairman.

Poughkeepsie, July 22, 1776.

The said Committee met, according to agreement, at the house of Mr. *Van Kleek*. Present: Mr. *Robert Yates*, Chairman, Mr. *Jay*, Major *Tappen*, Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, and Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*.

It appearing to the said Committee that a number of Cannon were wanting and absolutely necessary for the defence of *Hudson's River*, as well at the forts erected on its shores, as for the armed vessels ordered to be prepared for its defence,

*Resolved unanimously*, That Mr. *Jay* forthwith repair to *Salisbury Iron Works*, and endeavour to procure there twenty of the heaviest Cannon that can be had there, eight Cannon six-pounders, and eight Cannon four-pounders; also, a proper quantity of Shot and Trucks for the said Cannon; (the whole to be sent to Colonel *Hoffman's Landing*;) and that he take with him *Davis Hunt*, a carpenter, to take the dimensions of the said Trucks, in order that Carriages may be immediately made for the said Cannon.

*Resolved unanimously also*, That Mr. *Jay* be authorized to apply to Governour *Trumbull*, and, in behalf of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, to request his aid and influence in the premises; and further, that Mr. *Jay* be, and he hereby is, authorized and empowered to impress Carriages, Teams, Sloops, and Horses, and to call out detachments of the Militia, and generally to do, or cause to be done, at his discretion, all such matters and things as he may deem necessary or expedient to forward and complete the aforesaid business committed to his care.

ROBERT YATES, *Chairman.*

JOHN JAY,

ROBT. R. LIVINGSTON,

GILBERT LIVINGSTON,

CHRISTR. TAPPEN.

Lebanon, July 27, 1776.

The above is a true copy of my instructions from the Committee therein mentioned; and, in pursuance thereof, I

request the favour of his Excellency Governour *Trumbull* to furnish the Convention of the State of *New-York* with as many Cannon for the defence of *Hudson's River* as the State of *Connecticut* can conveniently supply, not exceeding the number in the said instructions specified.

JOHN JAY.

JOSEPH WARD TO JOHN BRADFORD.

Boston, July 27, 1776.

Pursuant to directions from the Continental Congress, and from his Excellency General *Washington*, General *Ward* requests and directs *John Bradford*, Esq., agent to the Continental Navy, to forward to his Excellency General *Washington* all the within-mentioned articles with the utmost expedition and despatch, as they are greatly wanted for the Continental Army at *New-York*.

JOSEPH WARD, A. D. C.

*List of Articles taken in the Transports which his Excellency Gen. WASHINGTON requests Gen. WARD to forward from BOSTON to NEW-YORK as soon as possible.*

From Ship *George*: All the fuses, small-arms, and bayonets, shoulder straps, gun straps, leather bullet pouches, hair and canvass knapsacks, belts, flints, markees and soldier's tents, common tent poles, tin canteens, camp kettles, blankets, watch coats, soldiers' clothing, stockings, and black plumes.

From Ship *Lord Howe*: All the small-arms, bayonets, and cartouch boxes, cask of canteens and kettles, soldiers' blankets, cutlasses, canvass knapsacks, markees.

From Brigantine *Annabella*: All the small-arms, shoes, soldiers' tents, sheet lead, packsaddles, cartouch boxes, leather bullet pouches, shoulder straps, gun straps with lashes, bayonets and belts.

By order of his Excellency General *Washington*:

S. B. WEBB, A. D. C.

COLONEL HURD TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Haverhill, (Cohos,) July 27, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with yours of the 20th instant by Mr. *Atkinson*, and observe your several appointments to raise the men for the protection of this part of the country, which by present appearances may be sufficient; but how long they may continue so is very uncertain.

I am just now informed, by a person from the College, that Captain *Woodward* has raised his men and gone out into the woods to a place called *Royalston*, I suppose about midway between *Connecticut River* and the Lake, to erect some stockade or fortification there, from whence they may keep their scouts going; but they have not thought proper to inform the Committee what their plan may be, or anything of their intention. We hear that Captain *Jeremiah Eames* is upon the road on his way here, and wish he may be able to make up his quota of men, so as to be on duty soon, that the people at *Upper Cohos* may keep about their husbandry, and not lose the advantage of such promising crops as are now on the ground. Colonel *Bayley* will, I believe, enlist his fifty without difficulty, chiefly from those men that have been working on the new road, when he shall immediately employ them on necessary duty.

One of our scouting parties came in from *Onion River* two days ago, by whom I received a letter from Colonel *Wait*, a copy of which I shall enclose, and by which you will observe the change of command at that station, with the complaints he makes. If it be so as there represented, we must have had some cruel enemies, snake-like, in the grass, that have been secretly working out our ruin all in their power, which, it is to be hoped, will by and by come to light. No wonder we have not succeeded better in that department.

As to those persons in this quarter who proposed sending to General *Burgoyne* or into *Canada* for assistance, we have our eyes upon them, and watch all their motions; but at present, think it not prudent to make much stir.

This afternoon, came into *Newbury* four Frenchmen from *Metcalf's*, on the Lake, in six days' travel. Bad weather retarded them, or they would have been here, they say, in three days, with a letter to Colonel *Bayley* from Mr. *Metcalf*, (an extract of which I have also enclosed,) by which it

appears our affairs in *Canada* are not so desperate as we might have imagined. These men give much the same account as the other a few days ago, and having the appearance of open, honest folks, we shall treat them with civility, and forward them along to the Army at *Crown-Point*, where they are desirous of going, as quick as possible, with a pilot and proper guard.

There are also two or three of *Bedel's* soldiers come into town direct from thence, who give very indifferent accounts of our Army there; such as, their being very sickly; that many officers of *Stark's* regiment, disgusted at General *Sullivan's* being superseded, were determined to quit the service; that great part of the Army were drawing off to *Ticonderoga*; Colonel *Bedel* and most of his officers returning home. But we don't give much credit to these stories, as they come from fellows we suppose to be deserters.

I am glad to hear that your powder-mill is in such forwardness, and that we are likely to have a good supply of arms and ammunition, which will give our people fresh spirits.

Your goodness, I hope, will excuse my lengthy epistles. Beg my grateful respects to the gentlemen of the Committee; and am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HURD.

To the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

London, September 2, 1776.

This day arrived Colonel *Maclean*, from *Quebeck*. This officer raised a body of men, chiefly *Scotch* emigrants, in *Canada*, who were of infinite service in the defence of *Quebeck* last winter. He had been promised establishment and rank for this corps, but the promise was not kept. He left *Quebeck* July 27th.

General *Carleton* did not go forward with the Army; he was at *Quebeck*. General *Burgoyne* was at *Chambly*, with six thousand *British* and two thousand *Brunswick* troops. Some of the *Brunswickers* had deserted, and eight of them, retaken, had been hanged. His advanced guard, consisting of Light-Infantry and Grenadiers, were at *Isle-aux-Noix*. The design of sending a party to *Oswego*, and down the *Mohawk River*, was laid aside. Colonel *Patrick Gordon* was killed in a scouting party that had been attacked.

The Provincials were said to have four armed vessels on *Lake Champlain*, each carrying sixteen guns, nine-pounders. General *Sullivan* commanded the *American* Army, consisting of seventeen regiments, (about six thousand men,) at *Crown-Point*, which he was repairing; and it was imagined he would there make his stand. Many of his men are ill with the small-pox. He has with him Brigadier-General *Arnold* and Brigadier-General *Woedtke*. The *Indians*, it was supposed, would be neuter.

The shipwrights at *Montreal* and other places were hard at work building eight schooners and a proper number of batteaus, for crossing the Lakes; but it was not expected that they could be ready to go upon *Lake Champlain* till the 15th of *September*.

Some untoward circumstances are said to have happened, viz: not a good understanding among the officers; an apprehension of a want of provisions, the *French* inhabitants not having sown any corn on account of the war; therefore, unless great quantities of provisions are sent from *England*, with allowance for casualties, it is impossible to subsist so large an Army there. The last year's crop was very indifferently got in, and was nearly all consumed by the Provincial forces while in *Canada*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN PHILADELPHIA, FROM ST. EUSTATIA, DATED JULY 28, 1776.

I have acquainted you, by my former, from *Martinique*, of the good disposition of the *French* towards the Continent of *America*, and how willing they are to admit and welcome all vessels from thence; for which purpose they have now by them, and daily import, all sorts of goods in demand with you, particularly powder and other warlike stores, which you may purchase and ship without any difficulty. And it is more than probable that if the Congress declares its independency to the *European* States, and offers to open their ports to foreigners, your ports will be crowded with them

from all parts; and it seems *France* only waits for that event to assist you in your defence.

We have at present no other news than what is brought by a *Dutch* ship, arrived here within two days from *Amsterdam*, viz: that the *French*, *Spanish*, and *Portuguese*, are making great preparations for war, by land and by sea, as well as the *States General*; that the *Spaniards* had marched an army to the frontiers of *Portugal*, and had sent to sea a fleet of sixteen sail of the line, the destination of which was not known, and that they had sent considerable numbers of troops to their Colonies.

The *States of Holland* had absolutely refused to renew the prohibitions for the exportation of powder, &c., to the Colonies, or to cede to the *English* the four *Scotch* regiments the *States* have in their service, and furnish them with a number of men-of-war which the *British* Court had required of them. The vexation occasioned by this in the *British* Ministry induced them to take several *Dutch* ships, amongst which are two that sailed from this Island, which were carried to *London*, and another to *St. Christopher's*. In consequence of this, the *Dutch* have armed forty ships of war, and ordered sixty more to be built with the greatest diligence in their different ports, and to raise twenty thousand men to augment their land forces, &c. &c.

DR. DAVID MORROW TO COLONEL RUNSEY.

Charlestown, Maryland, July 28, 1776.

DEAR SIR: You will oblige me much if you will inform me, by the return of the post, whether I am appointed one of the Surgeons for the Flying-Camp, or not; and, if I am, how am I to be provided with medicines, &c. I have had an offer from the northward, but must confess I rather choose to go from *Maryland*; I therefore refused the offer until I could have an answer from *Annapolis*.

I some time ago enclosed to the Council of Safety a recommendation from Drs. *Cadwalader*, *Bond*, and *Shippen*, of *Philadelphia*; should be glad if you would enclose it to me, as it will cost me some trouble to obtain a second.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

DAVID MORROW.

To Colonel *Benjamin Rumsey*.

GENERAL CHAMBERLAINE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Talbot County, July 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When it was proposed to me that a magazine should be fixed in our County, I was told that a detachment from the Fourth Independent Company would be stationed there as a guard.

I received from three wagoners, the other day, what is supposed to be six thousand pounds of powder, the greatest part of which, I think it probable, is cannon powder, and such as will be useless with musketry. I send you a sample of it, and hope it will be found better than it looks to be. I made a trial of it in a small cannon that we have, and found it to have equal force and quickness with some *English* powder that I had.

I have directed a guard from our Militia, and shall continue them till I have your directions, which shall be glad to have by the bearer. It is very inconvenient to those now on that service, and if they must continue, you will please to direct the number that shall compose the guard.

Your obedient humble servant,

JAS. LLOYD CHAMBERLAINE.

To the Honourable President of Council of Safety.

CAPTAIN DEAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Kent-Island, July 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeably to your orders, I have marched the company under my command to this place, and am sorry to find no provision made for us. You will please direct whoever you may think proper to find us all that is fit and necessary for a company of men. We expected to have found some pork, which we supposed was left by Captain *Harrison*, but were disappointed. You will please direct attention immediately in this matter, as we live only on what we can borrow.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your very humble servant,

JOHN DEAN.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety of *Maryland*.

BENJAMIN MACKALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Drum-Point, July 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I left the camp at *St. George's* yesterday, and Major *Price* requested me to send to the Council, attended by a subaltern officer, Mr. *Braithwait*, who deserted from the fleet *Thursday* night, and brought with him two trunks, which shall be sent up to you as soon as Mr. *Middleton's* boat returns from the mouth of *Potomack*, where she is waiting upon the *Defence*.

I am, with much respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

BENJ. MACKALL, 4th.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. Lieutenant *Gray*, who comes with Mr. *Braithwait*, desires nothing more for his trouble than his expenses paid by the Province.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL DENT.

[No. 86.]

Annapolis, July 28, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you will receive your commission, omitted to be made out by the last Convention. The greater part of the companies of the Flying-Camp are enrolled, and a number of them arrived here. As we apprehend your presence would greatly contribute to expedite their being properly armed and disciplined, as also accelerate their march, we should be glad to see you as soon as possible.

We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Dent*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 28, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports that the enemy continues as they were. They fired several guns last night different from any custom that has prevailed amongst them since the arrival of the fleet. A considerable noise and movement of the boats was heard after the signal guns, and the hurry and confusion they seemed to be in after the firing, discovered they were alarmed. Perhaps they have heard of the fire-ships. Captain *Talbot*, of Colonel *Hitchcock's* regiment, begs the command of one of these vessels. He is a daring spirit, and I doubt not will execute the command agreeable to your Excellency's wishes. As I am totally ignorant of the matter, I could give him no encouragement until your Excellency's pleasure was known.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

N. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, Sunday, 12 o'clock, July 28, 1776.

Colonel *Hand's* morning report contained nothing material. Lieutenant-Colonel *Chambers* reports this moment that he saw, at ten this morning, ten sail of vessels standing in for the *Hook*, but at too great a distance to discover what they were.

Mrs. *Grant* applies again for permission to go on board the fleet. Should be glad to know your Excellency's pleasure in the matter. She pleads great distress, but it can amount only to a family matter, make the best of it.

The new levies that come in hanker after milk and vegetables. I should think it would benefit the service to allow all the regiments to draw one-third the value of the animal food in money to purchase milk, &c.; and direct, in the most positive terms, the Quartermasters to provide it for the men.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

N. GREENE.

COLONEL RITZEMA TO COLONEL SEVEY.

Sunday, nine o'clock, July 28, 1776.

DEAR SIR: His Excellency the General's answer to my letter this morning has so much weight with it as to make me in some measure ashamed of my hasty request, to which I was induced by the advice of my Lieutenant-Colonel. You'll therefore be pleased just to request of the General, in my behalf, that the matter be determined to-morrow.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

RUD. RITZEMA.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

German-Flats, Sunday, July 28, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 19th instant was delivered me last evening. When I left *Ticonderoga* I made all possible despatch to *Albany*, and, immediately on my arrival, I not only ordered every felling axe which had been collected agreeable to my orders before I left *Albany* to be sent to you, which was accordingly done, but I also took every measure in my power to procure a speedy supply; and, if I am not misinformed, twelve hundred have already been sent up since the 12th instant, as many more are collecting as possible, and one thousand are daily expected from Governour *Trumbull*, to whom I had wrote intreating his assistance in procuring this necessary tool. Of this I advised you in my letter of the 25th instant.

I am astonished beyond imagination to be informed that not one gondola was arrived at *Ticonderoga* in the course of fifteen days—that is, from the time we were at *Skenesborough* to the date of your letter; especially as you cannot but recollect that you, and I believe General *Arnold*, and all the gentlemen with us when we were there, saw one on the stocks and considerably advanced in the timbering, and a stage prepared to erect another upon, a considerable quantity of plank already sawed, and the mill at work in sawing more. I hope, therefore, that when you saw such an important work so shamefully neglected, that you sent a proper person to inquire into the cause, and to push on the business with more despatch. Two gondolas more at least ought to have been finished by the 19th, unless the weather has been remarkably wet.

I very well recollect, sir, that I observed that five gondolas a week could be built when the carpenters I expected should arrive; but neither you nor any person else have ever heard me say that they could be built with what carpenters were there. If I had written so to Congress, I should most certainly not only have deceived them, but wilfully deceived them; and I believe that respectable body will not, upon the most minute examination, find that I ever did or ever intended them so gross an insult. Congress well knows what carpenters I expected; and I well know that few, and I believe none, of these were arrived at *Skenesborough* when your letter was written; and therefore I do repeat, that when they all arrive and get to work, if they are middling good workmen, and do not build five gondolas a week, they will not do their duty.

I am sorry the blacksmith made a mistake in the iron work for the saw-mill. He is a man much accustomed to that work, and perhaps does more of it than any five others now in the County of *Albany*.

I did not point out any particular route for the officer who might take charge of the *Indian* goods, as I know of none for carriages but by the way of *Schenectady*.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,  
PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable General *Gates*.

## GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 28, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: There is an immediate want of some rum at this place, and should be glad your Honour would convey some by first opportunity.

*Wood Creek* is grown so very low that it is almost impossible to pass up or down with the boats; but I am determined to keep it passable, if possible, by constantly keeping a party thereon to clear out the logs and obstructions that are in the creek.

We are very much in want for teams; but we intend to get as much timber by the side of the lake and creek, and bring them to the place they are wanted by fatigue parties, as we can.

A number of grindstones is very much wanted, and I fear the business will suffer by their being so few, as the carpenters are obliged to wait for each other to grind.

I am, with respect, dear sir, your Honour's humble servant,  
DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To the Honourable Major-General *Gates*, commanding at *Ticonderoga*.

P. S. The bullets which were sent down here are all too large for the guns. I should take it as a favour if there could be a pair sent down of small-sized bullet-moulds.

## COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, July 28, 1776.

HONoured SIR: The oar-makers have this day, being *Sunday*, come here. They allege they want some necessary tools, to prosecute the business with more expedition. They were very desirous to go to *Ticonderoga*, to procure some matters they stand in need of, and propose to return to-morrow. My party is ready to cover and guard them whilst at work. There have been spying parties of the enemy near them. There have been several marks; but the place where the oars are to be cut, though eight miles off, is in view of *Crown-Point*. From a proper signal, I could, upon any occasion, support my party in a very short time.

I have sent out a party some miles to the right of this place, to examine the country; they will return to-morrow. Captain *Wilson* is not yet come up. I hope that some of the loose parties of the enemy who have been attempting to come up this way, or the canoe with the two Tories who lately went down to *St. John's*, may fall into his hands or the party which I sent to cover his retreat.

The Lake, I presume, will be pretty well secured by our shipping in a short time, and I think I have taken such steps as to make us pretty safe on the land side. If any enemy appear against this place, we may expect *Indians* or *Canadians* amongst them. The rough ground on this point is so favourable for our Riflemen, I should not be the least afraid of double our numbers. The boats I have always ready, if it be necessary to retreat.

I mount a guard of a subaltern, two sergeants, three corporals, forty-two privates; and a picket of a subaltern, one sergeant, three corporals, and thirty men, daily. One of the Captains acts as officer of the day. I have at least twenty-five sentries every night. I believe I shall not be surprised. I send out parties daily. The men here are recovering in their health fast, notwithstanding their duty.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most humble servant,  
THOS. HARTLEY.

To Major-General *Gates*, at *Ticonderoga*.

P. S. I send you all the oars now made. You will be pleased to direct Colonel *Belding* to deliver the oar-makers such tools as they want.

Ticonderoga, July 28, 1776.

Immediately after divine worship this day, the Declaration of Independence was read by Colonel *St. Clair*; and, having said "*God save the free independent States of America!*" the Army manifested their joy with three cheers. It was remarkably pleasing to see the spirits of the soldiers so raised, after all their calamities; the language of every man's countenance was, Now we are a people; we have a name among the States of this world.

## GENERAL LEE TO PATRICK HENRY.

Charlestown, July 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I used to regret not being thrown into the world in the glorious third or fourth century of the *Romans*, but I am now thoroughly reconciled to my lot. The reveries which have frequently, for a while, served to tickle my imagination, (but which, when awakened from my trance, as constantly I considered as mere golden castles built in the air,) at length bid fair for being realized. We shall now, most probably, see a mighty empire established of freemen, whose honour, property, and military glories, are not to be at the disposal of a sceptred tyrant, nor their consciences to be fettered by a proud, domineering hierarchy. Every faculty of the soul will be now put in motion; no merit can lie latent; the highest offices of the State, both civil and military, will now be obtained, without Court favour or the rascally talents of servility and obsequence, by which Court favour could alone be acquired. Sense, valour, and industry, will conduct us to the goal; every spark of ability which every individual possesses will now be brought forth, and form the common aggregate, for the advantage and honour of the community. The operations of war will be directed by men qualified for war, and carried on with that energy natural to a young people. True unartized knowledge, unsophisticated learning, simple genuine eloquence and poetry, will be carried to the highest degree of perfection. This, to many, I am sensible, would appear rant, but to you, who, I think, have congenial feelings with my own,



it needs no apology. However, I shall now endeavour to deliver myself more like a man of this world.

I most sincerely congratulate you on the noble conduct of your countrymen; and I congratulate your country on having citizens deserving of the high honour to which you are exalted; for the being elected to the first Magistracy of a free people is certainly the pinnacle of human glory; and I am persuaded that they could not have made a happier choice.

Will you excuse me? But I am myself so extremely democratical, that I think it a fault in your Constitution that the Governour should be eligible for three years successively. It appears to me that a government of three years may furnish an opportunity of acquiring a very dangerous influence. But this is not the worst: *Tacitus* says, *Plura peccantur, dum demeremur, quam dum offendimus*. A man who is fond of office, and has his eye upon reelection, will be courting favour and popularity, at the expense of his duty. He will give way to the popular humours of the day, let them be ever so pernicious. In short, his administration will be relaxed in general, or partial to those whom he conceives to have the greatest interest; whereas, were all hopes of reelection precluded till after the intervention of a certain number of years, he would endeavour to illustrate the year of his government by a strict, rigorous, and manly performance of his duty. These notions may, perhaps, be weak and foolish; but such as they are, I am sure you will excuse my uttering them.

There is a barbarism crept in among us that extremely shocks me: I mean those tinsel epithets with which (I come in for my share) we are so beplastered—his Excellency and his Honour, the Honourable President of the Honourable Congress, or the Honourable Convention. This fulsome, nauseating cant, may be well enough adapted to barbarous Monarchies, or to gratify the adulterated pride of the *magnifici* in pompous Aristocracies; but in a great, free, manly, equal Commonwealth, it is quite abominable; for my own part, I would as lief they would put ratsbane in my mouth as the Excellency with which I am daily crammed. How much more true dignity was there in the simplicity of address amongst the *Romans*: *Marcus Tullius Cicero*, *Decimo Bruto Imperatori*, or *Caio Marcello Consuli*, than to his Excellency Major-General Noodle, or to the Honourable John Doodle. My objections are, perhaps, trivial and whimsical, but for my soul I cannot help starting them. If, therefore, I should sometimes address a letter to you without the Excellency tacked, you must not esteem it a mark of personal or official disrespect, but the reverse.

The discontent of the troops, which you mention as

arising from the want of regular payment, might have been remedied by General *Lewis*; his warrant is undoubtedly sufficient for the Paymaster; however, I have written to that gentleman on this subject, and am in hopes that affairs for the future will be more satisfactorily conducted.

An old rice-boat, which we converted the other day into a row-battery, has made a considerable prize—no less than a brig with a whole company of the Royal Highland Emigrants on board, consisting of two officers and fifty men. Although they saw that they were inevitably our prize, they had the impudence to throw their arms overboard, for which they ought to have had their ears cut off, as it was contrary to all the rules of war.

I send you enclosed the state of the enemy's Navy. I think there is no doubt of their Army having steered their course northward. On this presumption I shall direct my course towards *Virginia*, but first must assist to regulate the military affairs of this Province in the best manner I can, though, in fact, that will be doing little; the inconveniences of this complex play we are acting, of Duke and no Duke, are numberless and great. The President is thought by some to be the real commander; I am thought so by others; in short, there must be no troops but Continental. The Council is at present employed in settling a more regular post. We have received none these eighteen days; for my own part, I conclude the mail has been intercepted and carried on board the man-of-war. Seven tons and a half of powder were safely landed four days ago at *Georgetown*.

Adieu, dear sir, and believe me to be, most entirely and sincerely, yours,

CHARLES LEE.

His Excellency *P. Henry*, Jun., Governour of *Virginia*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER, DATED CHARLESTOWN, JULY 29, 1776.

Now at anchor off *Charlestown* bar the *Bristol*, of fifty guns, *Experiment*, of fifty guns, with a small sloop, supposed to be armed, acting as a tender, the *Paliser* transport ship, still having part of the *Experiment's* cannon or stores on board, another transport ship, and a brigantine, which have discharged the *Bristol's* cannon and stores they had on board. Within the bar at anchor, the *Active*, of thirty-two guns, *Sphinx*, of twenty guns, and the *Pigot* hospital ship. Sailed from the bar on *Wednesday* last a frigate of twenty or more guns, which arrived the day before, and steered to the southward. The *Syren*, of twenty-eight guns, yesterday morning steered the same course.

Monthly Return of the Forces in SOUTH-CAROLINA, for July, 1776.

CORPS OR BATTALIONS OF THE BRIGADES.	PRESENT.																							Wanting to complete.		Since last Return.							
	Field Officers.			Commiss'd Officers.		Staff Officers.					Non-Commis- sioned Officers.				Rank and File.																		
	Brigadier-Generals.	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Dep'y Adj. General.	Dep. Q. M. General.	Brigade Major.	Adjutants.	Chaplain.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Quartermasters.	Sergeant Majors.	Q. M. Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Drum Majors.	Fife Majors.	Drummers & Fifers.	Fit for duty.	Sick.							On Furlough.	Recruited.	Total.	
Sergeants.	Drummers & Fifers.	Rank and File.	Recruited.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.																											
First Battalion North-Carolina Continentals .....	-	1	1	1	8	16	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	26	1	-	14	278	88	-	-	366	6	18	207		1	-	68
Sec'd Battalion North-Carolina Continentals .....	-	1	1	1	4	6	8	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	23	-	-	15	244	39	53	-	336	3	9	304		-	-	3
Third Battalion North-Carolina Continentals .....	-	1	1	1	8	16	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	25	-	-	9	272	55	-	-	327	-	-	239	-	-	-	25
Eighth Battalion Virginia Continentals .....	-	1	1	1	9	13	5	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	31	-	-	5	310	150	4	-	464	1	13	147	1	4	45	56
First Battalion South-Carolina .....	-	1	1	1	9	12	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	25	1	-	14	257	94	2	-	353	5	6	397	-	-	-	-
Sec'd Battalion South-Carolina .....	-	1	1	1	10	17	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	-	-	24	-	-	13	319	49	4	-	372	-	-	-	-	11	-	2
Third Battalion South-Carolina .....	-	-	1	1	9	16	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	18	-	-	-	366	18	-	-	384	-	-	-	-	1	-	16
*Fourth Battalion of South-Carolina .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fifth Battalion of South-Carolina .....	-	1	1	1	3	6	3	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	12	-	-	4	262	13	4	-	279	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Sixth Battalion of South-Carolina .....	-	-	1	1	6	12	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	21	-	-	5	247	26	7	-	277	-	-	-	1	2	2	8
Third Company of North-Carolina Horse .....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total .....	2	8	8	9	67	115	35	1	-	1	8	1	7	6	8	3	1	207	2	-	84	2,555	532	74	-	3,194	15	46	1,294	2	21	47	178

\* South-Carolina Battalion of Artillery.

THOMAS BULLITT, Deputy Adjutant-General.

N. B. These battalions were early hurried into a campaign, before several of them had time to form, therefore the Colonels cannot be so correct in their Returns as is necessary. They have assured me they will attend to forming and regulating their battalions, and have promised me to make their Returns as soon as they can get in.

## PROCEEDINGS OF BRUNSWICK (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

Brunswick Committee, July 29, 1776.

The fatal consequences which must inevitably attend the counterfeiting the Paper currency of any of the *Thirteen United Colonies*, render it necessary that the strictest search and most diligent inquiry should be made after those persons who are justly suspected of being guilty of that atrocious crime; and as those who harbour, advise, or countenance such offenders, are, we conceive, as great enemies to their country as the offenders themselves, we shall ever think it our duty to expose to the displeasure and contempt of the publick the conduct of all such persons, whenever the same shall be made known to us. An offence of this nature appearing before this Committee, is the cause of publishing the following facts:

On the 23d day of *June* last, at one of the Churches of *St. Andrew's* Parish, in this County, two strangers appeared, with letters for the Chairman of this Committee, from the Committees of *Hartford* and *Chowan* Counties, in the Province of *North-Carolina*, informing him that indubitable testimony had been laid before those Committees that a certain *Henry Lightfoot* had been concerned in counterfeiting and passing the paper currency of that Province, particularly the four-dollar bills, issued in pursuance of the resolution of the *North-Carolina* Congress, held at *Hillsborough*, the 21st day of *August*, 1775, and that they were informed the said *Lightfoot* was then in this County. The Chairman of this Committee, being then at Church, immediately engaged Captain *John Maclin* to proceed with the messengers after the said *Lightfoot*. The Captain, on his return, represented, that in a very short time after he engaged in this service, he went to the house where he was informed the said *Lightfoot* was, and made diligent search, but to no purpose, and from thence proceeded to a meeting, where he expected to find him; but when he arrived, he was told he had precipitately made off, and that there was reason to suspect a certain *William Wall*, of this County, had given him notice of the business the messengers from *North-Carolina* were upon. On the 22d of *July*, these circumstances were proved before this Committee, and the said *Wall* was, in consequence thereof, ordered to appear before them on the *Monday* following, being the 29th, to answer the same. Accordingly, on that day, he made his appearance, was charged with the fact, and confessed that he was the means of giving intelligence to the said *Lightfoot*, which induced him to make his escape; which confession, together with the testimony of other persons relative to the conduct of the said *William Wall* in this matter, make it appear, to the full conviction of this Committee, that he ought to be exposed as an enemy to his country. And it is ordered, that a representation of the above proceedings be transmitted to the Printer, to be laid before the publick.

By order of the Committee: D. FISHER, Clerk.

Baltimore, July 30, 1776.

Yesterday, by order of the Committee of this Town, the Declaration of Independency of the *United States of America* was read at the Court-House to a numerous and respectable body of Militia, and the company of Artillery, and other principal inhabitants of this Town and County, which was received with general applause and heartfelt satisfaction. At night, the Town was illuminated; and at the same time, the effigy of our late King was carted through the Town, and committed to the flames, amidst the acclamations of many hundreds—the just reward of a tyrant.

## GEORGE WOOLSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your directions, I have examined all the wharves about this place, and find on the most of them a few flint-stones, but I think not of the best quality. I am told by many people here, that there are quantities sunk in the wharves; therefore, if you think proper, I will employ people to search for them. At the same time, I have been informed that there is a flint quarry about two miles from the head of *Elk*. If so, no doubt the flints there would be more easily got. Mr. *Henry Hollingsworth* can give you information respecting it. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,  
GEO. WOOLSEY.

To the Council of Safety.

## CAPTAIN THOMAS TO GEORGE PLATER.

Head-Quarters, St. George's, July 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yesterday, the *Roebuck*, with the fleet under her convoy, arrived here from their cruise up the river. They were watched all the way down by two row-galleys from *Alexandria*. They will be here this evening, and I expect to-night we shall engage the fleet. The *Roebuck* stood down the Bay, and is now out of sight. The *Defence* made her appearance yesterday morning, but on the *Fowey's* wearing out, thought it prudent to stand down again. We are preparing all the boats we can get to assist in boarding all such vessels as are not armed, and I am in hopes we shall be able to give a good account of them. I most sincerely wish the business over. The place is exceedingly disagreeable. Not a drop of water but what is brought three miles, together with the uncomfortable tents that we have, I am afraid will make us all sick. Near half of mine and Captain *Beall's* company are down. The Militia do every duty exceeding ill, and the service is so very unknown to them, that the whole burden lies upon the few regulars that are here. Nearly half of the fleet are gone, and the rest, I suppose, will go in a few days. Whenever they do, I shall proceed to *Annapolis*, on my way to the northward, and shall be extremely obliged to you if you will have the tents, knapsacks, haversacks, camp-kettles, and canteens, completed for my company, ready at *Annapolis*. What I want will certainly be finished in that time. If the tents are large, they will hold eight men, so that, at that computation, I shall want fifteen tents for the whole company, with other things in proportion. I trust you will endeavour to procure them for me by the middle of next week, by which time I shall, I hope, be at *Annapolis*; but I shall necessarily be delayed here a few days, to get on board the cannon, and in providing vessels to transport us; but not one moment shall be lost. Be pleased to present my compliments to Mrs. *Plater*, and believe me to be, dear sir, yours affectionately,

J. A. THOMAS.

To the Hon. *George Plater*, *Annapolis*.

P. S. I forgot to mention that we yesterday morning opened our battery, which played, as it is thought, with success, on the *Fowey*. Numbers of dead bodies come on shore every day, so that we are poisoned with the stench.

## ARCHIBALD BUCHANAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

SIR: Upon application of Mr. *Sewell*, by the desire of Mr. *Cowen* to him, we agreed, if it was agreeable to the Council of Safety, to undertake the building of two or three gondolas; to begin upon them immediately with a number of hands, and finish as soon as possible. We have an opportunity of engaging what hands we want immediately, and will undertake it on the same terms as other carpenters, and will give any bond and security that may be required. Colonel *Hall* and Mr. *Risteau* both promised to wait upon you for a line, but I have not heard from them; if it is approved of, please to write me, and I will begin the work, and come down if necessary; but if my coming a few days hence to enter into the bond would do, it would suit me better. I am at present unwell. It will be necessary for me to hear of your determination, and shall be much obliged to you for a line.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

ARCH. BUCHANAN.

To *Benjamin Rumsey*, Esq., *Annapolis*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 87.]

Annapolis, July 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have directed Captain *Nicholson*, who goes to *Philadelphia* on business of his own, to endeavour to procure some salted provisions for the use of the Navy. Should any difficulties attend the execution of his orders, we must request you will endeavour to remove them, and at the same time to advance him money to pay for what he may engage. We are, &c.

To the Deputies of *Maryland* in Congress.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL SOMERVILLE.

[No. 88.]

Annapolis, July 29, 1776.

SIR: We are willing and desirous to ease the Militia of your County all we can with safety to the Province, and

therefore have ordered Captain *John Brooke* to *Drum-Point*, there to remain until Captain *Beall* returns, or until the further order of the Council of Safety. The contractor is to furnish rations for his men. We are, &c.  
To Colonel *Alexander Somerville*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL KENT.

[No. 89.]

Annapolis, July 29, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety request you will, immediately upon the receipt of this, attend them at *Annapolis*; they want to consult you upon matters relative to the arming, marching, and equipping the battalion under your command.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *James Kent*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL DASHIEL.

[No. 90.]

Annapolis, July 29, 1776.

SIR: We have given to your Quartermaster, Mr. *Severe Hutch*, an order on the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* for the sum of £750 currency, which no doubt he will deliver you. This sum is intended to pay the Militia for their services heretofore, also something to your Quartermaster, the remainder to answer growing expenses of Militia, for which you are to render an account hereafter.

The expense of the witnesses against *Atkinson* is referred to the Board of Accounts; they are not here at present; we shall lay all the accounts before them when they meet again, which we expect will be in a few days. We doubt your account is too general, and that the Board will expect particulars for the lumping charges: that must be left to them. We think the march of one-half of Captain *Watkins's* company somewhat extraordinary; expect to hear more of it.

We have already ordered you more powder. If it does not come down soon, apply to Brigadier *Chamberlaine*, who has the care of the *Eastern-Shore* magazine, and will deliver you five barrels for the use of *Somerset* County.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *George Dashiell*.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a Meeting of the Committee, July 29, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, (Chairman,) W. Lux, (Vice Chairman,) A. Buchanan, J. Cradock, T. Gist, T. Sollers, W. Wilkinson, W. Tolly, Jun., D. Lux, T. Rutter, J. Merryman, J. Calhoun, D. Shaw, E. Talbot, C. Ridgely of William, J. Gittings, J. Smith.

This day, agreeable to the resolve of this Committee of the 22d instant, the Declaration of Independency was proclaimed at the Court-House by Mr. *William Aisquith*, (Mr. *Christie* being out of Town:) Captain *Nathaniel Smith's* Company of Matrosses, Captain *John Sterrett's* Company of Independents, Captain *John Smith's*, Captain *James Cox's*, Captain *George Wells's*, and Captain *William Richardson's* Companies being drawn up under arms on the occasion.

A Letter was received from the Council of Safety, directing security to be taken of *Alexander McGee* for his good behaviour, and directing him to be confined until he gave said security, and paid the expense of taking him to and from *Annapolis*; which the said *McGee* could not comply with, therefore he was ordered to Prison, with the following Commitment to the Sheriff:

"*Baltimore* County, ss:

"Receive from *Benjamin Wood* the body of *Alexander McGee*, and him in your Jail and custody safely keep, until he gives bond in the sum of £300 currency, with good security to be approved of by the Committee of Observation of this County, with condition that he do not in any manner correspond with or give intelligence to the enemies of *America*; and further, that he obey all orders of the honourable Congress and Convention, agreeable to an order of the Council of Safety of this Province; and for your so doing this shall be your sufficient authority.

"Given under our hands and seals, this 24th day of July, 1776.

"S. PURVIANCE, Jun., [L. s.]

"JAMES CALHOUN. [L. s.]

"To *Robert Christie*, Esq., Sheriff of *Baltimore* County."

Mr. *Hercules Courtenay* applied to the Committee for their Instructions in what manner he should act as a Magistrate when any person should be brought before him to give security for a Levy. The Committee, on deliberating the matter and recurring to the Association, wherein we unite, associate, and solemnly engage ourselves to support good order and the publick peace, and to support the civil power in the due execution of the laws, so far as may be consistent with the present plan of opposition, are of opinion, that it be recommended to the Magistrates in such cases to act with lenity, and as they may think most conducive to the good of the community.

The Fines of *William Lavelly* and *George Lavelly*, who prove to be upwards of fifty years old, are remitted.

On the representation of *Thomas Randall*, the Collector is desired to suspend distressing his effects for payment of his fine till the further orders of this Committee.

N. B. Several blank papers for taking a List of the Inhabitants of this County, were given to the persons employed.

Attest:

GEORGE LUX, Secretary.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 29, 1776.

SIR: I have been honoured with your favours of 22d, 25th, and 27th instant. I hope by to-morrow's post to transmit you answers to the whole of your letters which are yet unanswered. The exceeding warm season and the constant attention of Congress to business the last week, induced Congress to adjourn from *Friday* evening to this morning. I shall directly lay your letters before them, and request their immediate attention to them.

Congress having indulged me to make a demand of money from Mr. *Brimer*, who I judge to be with Mr. *Howe* on *Staten-Island*, I have sent the bill to Mr. *Palfrey*, and desired him to apply to you, and I request you will please to suffer him to conduct this matter for me.

I have the honour to be, with much esteem, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 29, 1776.

SIR: Since I sent off my letter of this morning the Congress have met, before whom I laid your letters, and I have the pleasure to inform you the Congress readily agreed to your having another Aid-de-Camp.

I have the honour to be, sir, your humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General *Washington*.

PETITION OF GEORGE NICHOLSON.

[Referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable Congress of the free and independent States of AMERICA:

The humble Petition of GEORGE NICHOLSON sheweth:

That your petitioner has had the honour of serving the honourable Congress as an officer since the 4th of *September*, 1775, in *Canada*; was appointed Aid-de-Camp to General *Wooster*, the 7th of *March*, 1776, which office he continued in till the General quitted the service; and as the corps to which he formerly belonged is in a manner broke, (the men's time being expired, and many of the officers provided for in other regiments,) he hopes this honourable House will continue him in the service, and order him to be paid the trifle that is due to him. As it is the sole ambition of your petitioner to spend his life in the service of his country, he is the more anxious of being speedily placed, on account of the critical situation of affairs, preferring a military life to any other. Should your honourable House grant this request, your petitioner would have no objection to join any of the regiments either at *York* or *Ticonderoga*. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

GEORGE NICHOLSON.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, July 29, 1776.

MY FRIEND: Yours of the 15th instant is now before me, and with you I lament the selfish disposition that is but too prevalent among almost all orders and degrees of men; even the Senate and Army are not entirely free. However, we must not expect perfection in human nature, but must endeavour to correct it in ourselves, and to point it out and oppose it in others.

The retreat of our Army to *Ticonderoga* has no doubt alarmed the western parts of our State, though I think there will be no great danger at present, as there is a very powerful Army there, who are now getting well of the small-pox, and will be soon ready for action, besides the numerous Militia who are marching to join that Army.

Our friend General *Sullivan* is disgusted at the appointment of General *Gates* to be a Major-General, and being sent to the Northern Army. By permission of the Generals *Schuyler* and *Washington*, he (General *Sullivan*) has left the Army, and is now here, and has petitioned Congress for leave to resign his commission. What will be done in the case I cannot say, but hope it will be settled without his dismission.

Brother *Whipple* is here yet, and will not set out for home till the Confederation is settled, which may possibly take a week or ten days' time, as there is a great deal of other business to be done in the mean time, and the sentiments of the members of Congress very different on many of the articles. I should be glad he might hear the whole of the debates here, and be present in our Colony when it is laid before our Legislature for their concurrence, to answer any questions and remarks that may be made upon it. It is a matter of the greatest importance, but the interests and opinions of the several members are so various that I see it will not be settled agreeable to my mind.

It is a very still time as to news here. The fleet and Armies at *New-York* and *Staten-Island* remain in *statu quo*. The Army in the *Jerseys* is increasing very fast, so that there will soon be a powerful body of men there.

July 31st.—I can now inform you that the affair with General *Sullivan* is settled, and he is to return to *New-York*, to be employed by General *Washington* in that department; so hope you will not make many words about it.

I am, sir, your friend and most obedient, humble servant,  
JOSIAH BARTLETT.

P. S. By the enclosed you will see the resolves passed by Congress, and sent to Generals *Howe* and *Burgoyne*, in consequence of the affair at the *Cedars*.

By letters yesterday from *Virginia* we are informed that *Dunmore* with his fleet has gone up *Potomack River*, has burnt some houses near the shores, and has endeavoured to burn more, but was hindered; that the *Virginians* had taken a tender with one of the most infamous Tories in the Province on board; the number of men and guns I have forgot. They have also taken a vessel from *Dunmore*, with linens, &c., said to be worth twenty thousand pounds sterling.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JOHN ADAMS, DATED PHILADELPHIA, JULY 29, 1776.

We have no news. It is very hard that half a dozen or half a score of armies can't supply us with news. We have a famine, a perfect dearth of this necessary article. I am, at this present writing, perplexed and plagued with two knotty problems in politics. You love to pick a political bone; so I will even throw it to you.

If a Confederation should take place, one great question is, how we shall vote,—whether each Colony shall count one; or whether each shall have a weight in proportion to its number, or wealth, or exports and imports, or a compound ratio of all? Another is, Whether Congress shall have authority to limit the dimensions of each Colony, to prevent those which claim, by charter, or proclamation, or commission, to the *South Sea*, from growing too great and powerful, so as to be dangerous to the rest?

Shall I write you a sheet upon each of these questions? When you are well enough to read, and I can find leisure enough to write, perhaps I may.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, July 29, 1776.

SIR: A very great dissatisfaction prevails among the troops here, and all the several posts from hence to *New-York*, on account of the quality of the provisions and the great inattention paid by the Commissaries in serving the rations. We have here three Commissaries of equal powers in this service, namely: Mr. *Lowrie*, Mr. *Dunham*, and Mr. *Ogden*. The services performed by Mr. *Dunham* have fallen more immediately under my notice. By what I have seen, that gentleman is very unfit for any extensive business in this way, insomuch that if we are to depend on his abilities and assiduity, the Army must starve. It is, in my opinion, absolutely necessary that one person be employed here as Commissary-General for the camp, who is to employ and be answerable for the necessary subordinate persons to issue provisions. Mr. *Lowrie*, by all accounts, would suit very well, and would undertake it. It is of equal consideration with me who the person is, so one has the sole direction. I beg your Excellency will please to consider how essential it is that no cause of complaint be given the troops in our present circumstances, and that you will interpose your authority with Mr. *Trumbull* to have this put on a proper footing, and as speedily as possible.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
HUGH MERCER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL MERCER TO COLONEL DICKINSON.

Perth-Amboy, July 29, 1776.

SIR: We have to-day had a Court of Inquiry of the commanding officers of battalions, to rectify, if possible, the disorders in the management of the Commissary's branch of business. I have written to General *Washington*. It will give me pleasure to remove the discontents. In the mean time take what method appears to you most likely to answer that purpose.

H. MERCER.

To Col. *John Dickinson*, commanding at *Elizabeth-Town*.

[Procured the troops stationed here to be satisfied with their provisions.  
J. D.]

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read July 30, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

New-York, July 29, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 24th, I received on *Saturday* evening, and agreeable to your request shall expunge the preamble to the resolution subjecting the property of subjects to the *British* Crown to forfeiture and confiscation.

Our stock of musket powder is entirely made up in cartridges. I therefore request that Congress will order four or five tons more of that sort to be immediately forwarded, it being not only necessary that we should have more for that purpose, but also some stock to remain in barrels.

Yesterday evening *Hutchinson's* and *Sergeant's* regiments from *Boston* arrived; also two row-galleys from *Rhode-Island*. I am fearful the troops have not got entirely clear of the small-pox. I shall use every possible precaution to prevent the infection spreading, and for that purpose have ordered them to an encampment separate and detached from the rest.

By *Saturday's* report from *Long-Island* camp, five ships, a brig, and five schooners, had got into the *Hook*. By yesterday's, two ships more and a sloop were standing in: what they are, I have not been able to learn.

I have transmitted a General Return herewith, by which Congress will perceive the whole of our force at the time it was made.

I have enclosed you an account of sundry prizes, which was transmitted to several gentlemen here by *Saturday's* post. The two last prizes I did not see mentioned in the letters shown me, and I fear the report of the second provision vessel is premature. I was also this minute informed that Captain *Biddle* had taken a ship with sugars for *Britain*, and in bringing her in, unfortunately lost her on *Fisher's Island*.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem, sir,  
your most obedient servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.



*Return of the Army in the service of the UNITED COLONIES, in and near the City of NEW-YORK, commanded by His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief.*

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.												RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.		Since last Return.							
	Commissioned.					Staff.			Non-commissioned.																		
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'nts.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
Colonel Hand's.....	1	1	-	4	7	6	5	1	1	1	1	-	17	12	243	26	9	11	16	305	8	4	335	18	-	-	8
Late Colonel Learned's.....	-	1	1	8	8	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	32	15	224	55	8	254	-	541	-	1	99	-	2	2	-
Colonel Nixon's.....	1	1	1	7	6	4	5	1	1	1	1	1	27	14	276	47	21	87	-	431	2	-	209	5	-	-	-
Colonel Prescott's.....	1	1	1	6	8	6	7	1	1	1	1	1	27	15	296	48	14	52	-	410	-	-	230	-	-	1	2
Colonel Varnum's.....	1	1	1	6	7	5	5	-	1	-	1	1	26	16	282	64	10	41	-	397	-	-	243	1	1	-	-
Colonel Parsons's.....	1	1	1	8	7	7	7	-	1	1	1	1	29	16	307	137	5	136	6	591	-	-	49	-	1	2	1
Colonel Hitchcock's.....	1	1	1	8	8	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	22	15	287	47	9	43	-	386	-	-	254	-	1	1	-
Colonel Little's.....	1	1	1	7	8	8	5	1	1	1	1	1	25	14	319	57	9	79	-	464	-	-	176	-	1	-	-
Colonel Read's.....	1	1	1	8	5	5	7	-	1	1	-	1	29	16	245	108	11	161	-	525	1	-	115	1	1	-	-
Colonel Huntington's.....	1	1	1	7	8	8	7	1	1	1	1	1	31	14	226	134	25	151	2	538	1	-	102	1	-	3	-
Colonel Webb's.....	-	1	1	4	3	3	5	1	1	1	1	1	14	14	233	110	10	197	2	552	-	2	88	-	1	1	-
Colonel Arnold's.....	-	1	1	8	8	7	8	-	1	1	1	1	31	14	314	83	6	129	-	532	-	2	108	-	4	-	2
Colonel Ward's.....	1	-	1	3	8	8	5	1	1	1	-	1	26	12	218	115	1	179	-	513	-	3	127	1	-	-	-
Colonel Wylls's.....	1	-	1	7	4	5	8	1	1	1	1	1	25	15	237	103	6	201	-	547	1	-	93	-	-	1	-
Colonel Bailey's.....	-	1	1	4	6	6	7	-	1	1	1	1	23	9	227	141	9	161	-	538	-	-	102	-	-	-	-
Colonel Baldwin's.....	-	1	1	2	3	6	3	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	187	98	5	196	1	487	-	1	153	-	1	-	-
7 Companies of Col. McDougall's	1	-	1	5	5	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	35	16	254	85	5	113	-	457	1	2	263	5	-	5	4
Colonel Ritzema's.....	-	1	-	4	5	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	21	12	253	122	-	81	3	459	-	1	181	3	-	1	1
Colonel Magaw's.....	1	1	1	8	7	8	7	1	1	1	-	1	32	11	401	53	28	10	3	495	-	5	145	-	-	-	-
Colonel Shee's.....	1	1	1	8	6	9	8	-	1	1	1	1	31	12	435	49	10	2	4	500	1	4	140	2	-	-	4
Total.....	14	17	17	122	127	124	123	14	20	19	17	19	513	272	5,464	1682	201	2,284	37	9,668	15	25	3,212	37	13	17	29

*Return of General Scott's Brigade; sixty-seven men, rank and file, to a Company, and ten Companies in a Regiment, is the establishment.*

Colonel Lasher's.....	1	1	1	10	10	10	-	-	1	1	-	-	30	15	462	42	8	30	13	555	-	5	115	17	-	2
Colonel Malcom's.....	1	1	1	9	9	9	-	-	1	1	1	-	27	16	196	14	14	50	2	276	3	4	394	-	-	10
Colonel Drake's.....	1	1	1	10	10	10	-	-	1	1	1	-	29	17	359	57	12	40	12	480	1	3	190	-	-	8
5 Comp. of Lt. Col. Hardenburgh's	-	1	-	5	5	5	-	-	1	1	1	-	15	9	222	22	-	7	3	254	-	1	81	-	-	-
Total.....	3	4	3	34	34	34	-	-	4	4	3	-	101	57	1,239	135	34	127	30	1,565	4	13	780	17	-	20

*Return of General HEARD's Brigade; seventy-two men, rank and file, to a Company, and eight Companies to a Regiment, is the establishment.*

Colonel Forman's.....	1	1	1	7	8	7	7	1	1	1	1	1	29	15	370	42	-	13	7	432	3	3	144	8	-	6
7 Companies of Col. Hunt's.....	-	1	1	6	6	4	6	-	1	1	1	-	24	11	271	23	-	4	3	301	4	3	203	18	-	5
7 Companies of Col. Martin's.....	1	1	1	7	7	6	6	-	1	1	1	1	28	11	281	55	11	6	3	356	-	3	148	4	1	-
3 Companies of Col. Newcomb's.....	1	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	9	3	90	6	-	3	-	99	3	3	117	-	-	-
5 Comp. of Col. Van Cortlandt's.....	1	1	1	4	4	3	3	1	1	-	1	1	18	6	176	14	-	4	6	200	2	4	160	14	-	-
Total.....	4	5	5	26	26	21	25	3	5	4	5	4	108	46	1,188	140	11	30	19	1,388	12	16	772	44	1	11

*Return of General WADSWORTH's Brigade; eighty-three rank and file to a Company, and eight Companies to a Regiment, is the establishment.*

Colonel Silliman's.....	1	1	1	8	6	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	30	13	245	36	2	92	-	375	2	3	289	-	-	1
Colonel Gay's.....	1	1	-	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	28	16	216	73	-	115	-	404	4	-	260	-	1	1
Colonel Bradley's.....	1	1	1	8	8	7	6	1	1	1	1	-	29	15	398	43	2	28	-	471	-	-	193	-	-	-
Colonel Sage's.....	1	1	1	6	5	3	6	-	1	1	1	1	25	11	155	63	4	79	-	301	7	5	363	-	-	-
Colonel Selden's.....	1	1	-	2	3	3	5	-	1	1	1	1	24	8	153	23	-	70	-	246	8	8	418	-	-	-
Colonel Douglass's.....	1	1	1	6	7	7	6	1	1	1	1	1	25	13	274	57	-	112	-	443	7	3	221	-	-	-
Colonel Chester's.....	1	1	1	5	6	8	4	-	1	1	1	1	26	14	184	44	-	126	-	354	6	2	310	-	-	-
Total.....	7	7	5	43	41	42	43	4	7	7	7	6	187	90	1,625	339	8	622	-	2,594	34	21	2,054	-	1	1

Total of General Heard's.....	4	5	5	26	26	21	25	3	5	4	5	4	108	46	1,188	140	11	30	19	1,388	12	16	772	44	1	11
Total of General Scott's.....	3	4	3	34	34	33	-	1	4	4	3	-	101	57	1,239	135	34	127	30	1,565	4	13	780	17	-	20
Total of the old estab'd Regiments	14	17	17	122	127	124	123	14	20	19	17	19	513	272	5,464	1682	201	2,284	37	9,668	15	25	3,212	37	13	17
Total of the whole.....	28	33	30	225	228	220	191	22	36	34	32	29	909	465	9,516	2296	254	3,063	86	15,215	65	75	6,820	98	15	38

Head-Quarters, July 27, 1776.

*Return of the Regiment of Artillery, commanded by Colonel HENRY KNOX, Esquire, in the service of the UNITED COLONIES.*

	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Capt. Lieutenants.	Lieutenants.	Second Lieuts.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Cadets.	Drums and Fifes.	Matrosses.	Total.
Present, fit for duty.....	1	1	1	5	6	5	10	1	1	1	1	1	20	18	34	35	1	15	178	335
Sick, present.....	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	2	-	1	17	26
Sick, absent.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	6
On command.....	-	-	-	4	4	6	9	-	-	-	-	-	11	13	26	26	1	17	114	221
Total.....	1	1	1	10	10	12	19	1	1	1	1	1	32	31	64	63	2	23	314	588

New-York, July 27, 1776.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

New-York, July 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: At length I have been able to comply with the first part of a resolution of Congress, relative to a return of the vacancies in the several regiments composing that part of the Army under my immediate command. I thought to have made this return much sooner, but the dispersed situation of our troops, the constant duty they are upon, the difficulty of getting returns when this is the case, especially when those returns are (more than probable) to undergo several corrections, and the variety of important occurrences which have intervened of late to withdraw attention from this matter, will, I hope, be admitted as an excuse, and the delay not ascribed to any disinclination in me to comply with the order; as I shall, while I have the honour to remain in the service of the *United States*, obey, to the utmost of my power, and to the best of my abilities, all orders of Congress with a scrupulous exactness.

With respect to the latter part of the aforementioned resolution of the 27th of *June*, I have to observe, that I have handed in the names of such persons as the Field-Officers of the several regiments and their Brigadiers have pointed out, as proper persons to fill these vacancies. I have neither added to nor diminished aught from their choice, unless the following special information, which I considered my indispensable duty to give, should occasion any alterations.

For the Twentieth Regiment, then, (late *Arnold's*), there were two competitors, to wit: Colonel *Durkee*, the present Lieutenant-Colonel, who has had charge of the regiment ever since the first establishment of it, and Lieutenant-Colonel *Tyler*, of *Parsons's* regiment. The pretensions of both, and a state of the case, I have subjoined to the list of vacancies given in by General *Spencer*, as I have also done in the case of Colonel *Learned* to another list exhibited by General *Heath*. If *Learned* returns to the regiment, the vacancies stand right; if he should not, I presume the regiment will be given to the Lieutenant-Colonel, *William Shepherd*, who stands next to *Tyler* in rank, and not second to him in reputation; this change would, in its consequences, occasion several moves.

There is a third matter, in which I must be more particular, as it is unnoticed elsewhere, and that is, the Lieutenant-Colonel of *Wyllis's* regiment, *Rufus Putnam*, acts here as a Chief Engineer, by which means the regiment is totally deprived of his services; and to remove him from that department the publick would sustain a capital injury; for although he is not a man of scientifick knowledge, he is indefatigable in business, and possesses more practical knowledge in the art of Engineering than any other we have in this camp or Army. I would humbly submit it, therefore, to Congress, whether it might not be best to give him (*Putnam*) the appointment of Engineer with the pay of sixty dollars per month; less than which I do not suppose he would accept, as I have been obliged, in order to encourage him to push the business forward in this our extreme hurry, to give him reasons to believe that his Lieutenant-Colonel's pay would be made equal to this sum.

If this appointment should take place, then it makes a vacancy in *Wyllis's* regiment, which I understand he is desirous of having filled up by Major *Henley*, an active and spirited officer, now a Brigade-Major to General *Heath*.

I am sorry to take up so much of your time as the recital of particular cases and some others require; but there is no avoiding it, unless Congress will be pleased to appoint one or more persons, in whom they can confide, to visit this part of the Army once a month, inspect into it, and fill up the vacancies, as shall appear proper to them upon the spot. This cannot be attended with any great trouble nor much expense, as it is only in the part of the Army under my immediate direction that such a regulation would be necessary; the officers commanding in other departments having, I believe, this power already given them.

I have the honour to enclose a list of the officers of the regiments at this place, and long ago directed the like return to be made from the Northern and Eastern troops, which I hope is complied with. I also make return of the Artillery according to Colonel *Knox's* report, and of the ordnance and stores, &c., agreeable to the Commissary's return.

I come now to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 20th instant, with several enclosures, relative to a propo-

sal of Mr. *Goddard*, and beg leave to give it as my opinion, that the introduction of that gentleman into the Army as Lieutenant-Colonel would be attended with endless confusion. I have spoken to Colonel *Parsons* (who is a very worthy man) upon this subject. I have done more, I have shown him the memorial; in answer to which he says, that in the conversation had between him and Mr. *Goddard* the latter was told, that unless Lieutenant-Colonel *Tyler* was provided for, the Major *Prentiss* advanced to a Lieutenant-Colonelcy in some other regiment, and his eldest Captain (*Chapman*) not deprived of his expectation of the Majority, his coming in there would give uneasiness; but, nevertheless, if it was the pleasure of Congress to make the appointment, he would do everything in his power to make it palatable.

If all these contingencies were to take place before Mr. *Goddard* could get into a regiment he had been paving the way to, what prospect can there be of his getting into any other without spreading jealousies as he goes?

With respect to the regiment of Artificers, I have only to observe, that the forming of them into one corps at the time I did, when immediate action was expected, was only intended as a temporary expedient to draw that useful body of near six hundred men into the field under one head, and without confusion. The appointment of officers, therefore, in this instance, was merely nominal, and unattended with expense.

The mode of promotion, whether in a Continental, Colonial, or Regimental line, being a matter of some consideration and delicacy to determine, I thought it expedient to know the sentiments of the General Officers upon the consequences of each, before I offered my own to your Board; and I have the honour to inform you, that it is their unanimous opinion, as it is also mine, from observations on the temper and local attachments of each corps to the members thereof, that regimental promotions would be much the most pleasing. But this, it is thought, had better appear in practice, than come announced as a resolution, and that there ought to be exceptions in favour of extraordinary merit on the one hand, and demerit on the other—the first to be rewarded out of the common course of promotion, whilst the other might stand, and sustain no injury. It is a very difficult matter to step out of the regimental line now without giving much disquietude to the corps in which it happens. Were it, then, to be declared, as the resolution of Congress, that all promotions should go in this way, without some strong qualifying clauses, it would be almost impossible to do it without creating a mutiny. This is the sense of my officers; as also, that the promotions by succession are not meant to extend to non-commissioned officers further than circumstances of good behaviour, &c., may direct.

As the list of vacancies are returned, in consequence of an order of Congress, and would, I doubt not, be referred to your Board, I have sent no duplicate; nor have I written to Congress on the subject. But, that I may not appear inattentive to their commands, I must request the favour of having this letter, or the substance of it, laid before them.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. Board of War, &c., *John Adams*, *Roger Sherman*, *B. Harrison*, *James Wilson*, and *Ed. Rutledge*.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL WARD.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 22d instant I received by post, and note the contents. The company of Artificers you mention are much wanted, and I would have you order them with all convenient despatch. It was necessary the troops, on their march for *Ticonderoga*, should be furnished with powder and ball. I have written several times about the remaining part of the arms, which you have not noticed in your letters. There is yet a deficiency in the carbines, which are not all arrived; these, with the other arms taken in different vessels, I wish you to send on. I am exceedingly anxious to know if you have forwarded the powder I mentioned, what quantity, and where stored. I must beg your answer to these particulars in your next. The pork taken from *Ireland* the Commissary-General requests may all be secured for the use of the Army, and desires you will order the Deputy-Commissary, Mr. *Miller*, to secure it in store till he receives his orders respecting it. Colonels *Hutchinson's* and

*Sergeant's* regiments have arrived, with one man who has the small-pox, but hope to be able to prevent the spreading of that fatal disorder.

The enemy's fleet are daily arriving; it appears they must have been scattered on their passage, as they come in sometimes single, at others three, four, and so on. I hope our cruisers may pick up some of them.

I am, sir, &c.,  
To Major-Gen. *Ward*, or officer commanding in *Boston*.

P. S. We are in distressing want of Artillerymen. If you can make any tolerable shift, I must urge your sending on Captain *Burbeck* with his company as soon as possible.

I am, &c.,

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO DANIEL TILLINGHAST.  
New-York, July 29, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency to inform you that your favours of the 15th and 17th came duly to hand, and that the arms, &c., contained in the invoices therewith transmitted, have been safely received into the Ordnance stores.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,  
To *Daniel Tillinghast*, Esq., Continental Agent, *Providence*.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.  
New-York, July 29, 1776.

SIR: I am to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 27th instant, directing me to supply provisions to Mr *Cushing* and others, who have the care of the Continental ships in *New-England*. It came just in time for me to send the necessary orders to Mr. *Charles Miller*, in *Boston*, per this post, which I have done, and directed him to notice the several gentlemen thereof.

The following is an extract of a letter received per post from Mr. *Charles Miller*, in *Boston*, my deputy there, dated 22d *July*, 1776:

"Yesterday, a large transport came into our eelpot. The fort fired on her. The Captain sent his boat on shore, to know the reason why he was fired at. Our people detained the boat and men, and sent a boat and men of their own on board, and brought her safe to town. She has on board fifteen hundred barrels of beef and pork, a quantity of butter and oatmeal, and several other articles. We have just received advice from *Salem*, that a small letter-of-marque sloop, fixed out there, and bound to the *West-Indies* with lumber, fell in with and took a large ship from *Jamaica* for *London*. She has on board near eight hundred hogshheads of sugar and rum, and twenty-seven pieces of cannon. On their return for *Salem*, they fell in with a sloop bound for *New-York*, loaded with bale goods, which she likewise took. After which, she fell in with and took another small sloop, and all are safe arrived at *Salem, Massachusetts*."

Our people seem in a good way to make up their losses. I have a letter likewise from *Jabez Bowen*, Esq., at *Providence*, informing that their Captain, (*Martindale*), and part of our *Bunker-Hill* prisoners, have made their escape from *Halifax* jail, and got safe home. I hope the Paymaster here and at *Albany* will both be supplied with money soon, as we are all bankrupt at present.

I am, sir, with esteem and respect, your most obedient, humble servant,  
To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress of the *United States of America*, at *Philadelphia*.

P. S. I have ordered Mr. *Miller* to secure the eatables on board the transport, for the Continental service; and General *Washington* has written on the subject to General *Ward*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.  
Camp on Long-Island, July 29, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports nine ships, four brigs, and two sloops, at the *Hook*, that came in last evening. Two brigs came up to the *Narrows*, and one went down.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

*Return of the Officers' Names, their Rank, and the dates of their Commissions, in 1775, in the Continental Service, belonging to the Fourth Regiment of Foot, raised in the Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.*

Names.		Dates of Commissions.	
Field-Officers.			
John Nixon.....Colonel.....		July 1, 1775.	
Thomas Nixon.....Lieutenant-Colonel.....		July 1, 1775.	
Andrew Colburn.....Major.....		Jan. 1, 1776.	
Names.	Dates of Commissions.	Names.	Dates of Commissions.
Captains.		Second Lieutenants.	
Joseph Butler....	July 1, 1775.	John Sawyer .....	Jan. 1, 1776.
Joseph Thompson.	do.	Nath'l Cretonton..	July 1, 1775.
Adam Wheeler ...	do.	Benj. Haywood...	Jan. 1, 1776.
Michael Gleason ..	do.	Abel Holden.....	do.
Ebenezer Winship.	do.	Rich. Buckmaster.	July 1, 1775.
Thomas Barnes...	do.	William Lemont...	do.
Jerom Gilman....	do.	John White.....	Jan. 1, 1776.
Moses McFarland.	do.	(Vacant.)	
First Lieutenants		Ensigns.	
Silas Walker.....	July 1, 1775.	Warham Wheeler.	Jan. 1, 1776.
William Toogood..	Jan. 1, 1776.	Ephraim Wheeler.	do.
Jonathan Hill....	Jan. 1, 1775.	Ephraim Minot....	do.
James Kimbell....	July 1, 1775.	Peter Claves.....	do.
Nathaniel Wheeler	Jan. 1, 1776.	Mason Wattles ...	do.
Silas Bent.....	July 1, 1775.	Isaac Nichols.....	do.
Simon Sartwell ...	Mar. 28, 1776.	William Hutchins.	March 28.
Joseph Wood.....	Jan. 1, 1776.	Dudley Tyler.....	January 1.
Names.		Dates of Warrants	
Staff-Officers.			
Hezekiah Smith.....Chaplain.			
Abel Holden.....Adjutant.....		July 1, 1775.	
John White.....Quartermaster.....		July 1, 1775.	
Benjamin Putnam.....Surgeon.....		March 18, 1776.	
Asa Kingsbury.....Mate.			

N. B. Second Lieutenant vacant in Captain *McFarland's* Company. Ensign *Dudley Tyler* recommended to fill up the vacancy in Captain *McFarland's* Company; and Sergeant *Samuel Frost* recommended to be Ensign of that Company.

JOHN NIXON, Colonel.  
NEW-YORK, July 6, 1776.

*Return of the Officers' Names, their Rank, and the Date of their Commissions in 1776, in the Continental service, belonging to the First Regiment of Foot raised in the Colony of NEW-YORK.*

Names.		Dates of Commissions.	
<i>Field Officers.</i>			
Alexander McDougall... <i>Colonel</i> .....		30 June, 1775.	
Herman Zedtwitz ..... <i>Lieutenant-Colonel</i> ..		8 March, 1776.	
Barnabas Tuttle..... <i>Major</i> .....		30 June, 1775.	
Names.	Dates of Commissions or warrants.	Names.	Date of Commissions or warrants.
<i>Captains.</i>		<i>Second Lieutenants.</i>	
John Johnston....	28 June, 1775.	Henry Tiebout....	24 Feb., 1776.
Richard Varick ...	28 June, 1775.	Arant Van Hook..	24 Feb., 1776.
Benjamin Ledyard	28 June, 1775.	Peter Vergereau..	24 Feb., 1776.
David Lyon.....	28 June, 1775.	Cornelius Beeker..	24 Feb., 1776.
Abm. Van Wyck...	24 Feb., 1776.	William Tapp.....	13 June, 1776.
John Wyley.....	24 Feb., 1776.	William D. Tripp..	24 April, 1776.
Ezekiel Hait....	25 April, 1776.	Joseph De Groot..	25 April, 1776.
Cornelius Steinrod.	27 April, 1776.	Andrew Taylor...	18 June, 1776.
Ambrose Horton...	28 June, 1776.	William Dunn....	30 Mar., 1776.
<i>First Lieutenants.</i>		<i>Ensigns.</i>	
Leonard Bleecker..	14 May, 1776.	Theodosius Fowler	24 Feb., 1776.
William A. Forbes	24 Feb., 1776.	James Fairly.....	24 Feb., 1776.
James M. Hughes.	24 Feb., 1776.	(Vacant.)	
Benjamin Walker.	24 Feb., 1776.	James Bonnell....	26 Feb., 1776.
Abra'm B. Banker.	24 Feb., 1776.	W. W. De Peyster	24 Feb., 1776.
John Johnston....	24 Feb., 1776.	Samuel Young....	24 Feb., 1776.
Caleb Holby.....	25 April, 1776.	Isaac Pioneer....	25 April, 1776.
Isaac Titus.....	27 April, 1776.	Benjamin Jones...	27 April, 1776.
Thomas Le Foy...	28 Mar., 1776.	(Vacant.)	
Names.		Dates of Commissions or Warrants.	
<i>Staff-Officers.</i>			
Israel Evans ..... <i>Chaplain</i> .....		1 June, 1776.	
Andrew Taylor..... <i>Adjutant</i> .....		18 March, 1776.	
Joseph Carr..... <i>Quartermaster</i> ..		1 May, 1776.	
Benjamin Curtis..... <i>Surgeon</i> .....		1 March, 1776.	
Isaac Ledyard..... <i>Mate</i> .....		20 March, 1776.	

ALEXANDER MCDUGALL, Colonel.  
This Regiment is raised during the present contest, the Congress of the Colony having had regard in the nomination of officers to such persons as would probably be able to raise men to recruit the Regiment. The Colonel declines naming persons for Ensigns to fill up the two vacancies.

A Return of the Names and Rank of the Officers of the Nineteenth Regiment, JULY 29, 1776.

The Regiment under my command was raised in the Colony of Connecticut, in July, 1775, to continue in service five months; said service ended December 6, 1775. Said Regiment was ranked in said Colony the Seventh Regiment at the end of said campaign. The Officers set down in the following Roll engaged anew, and raised the Regiment now under my command, to continue until the 1st day of January next, in the Continental service, and is the Nineteenth Regiment in the said service.

Names.	Rank.	Date of Commissions.	
		Colony Commissions.	Continental Commissions.
Charles Webb.....	Colonel.....	July 6, 1775.	Jan. 1, 1776.
Street Hall.....	Lieutenant-Colonel	July 6, 1775.	Jan. 1, 1776.
John Brooks.....	Major.....	June 6, 1775.	July 1, 1775.
Joseph Hait.....	Captain.....	July 6, 1775.	Feb. 1, 1776.
Nathaniel Tuttle...	do.	do.	do.
Edward Shipman...	do.	do.	do.
Isaac Bostwick.....	do.	do.	do.
Peter Perritt.....	do.	do.	do.
Eli Leavenworth...	do.	do.	do.
William Hull.....	do.	1st Lieut. do.	do.
Nathan Hale.....	do.	1st Lieut. do.	do.
Joseph A. Wright...	1st Lieutenant....	do.	do.
Eli Catlin.....	do.	do.	do.
John Yates.....	do.	do.	do.
Samuel Hurlbut....	do.	{ Ensign; do. }	do.
Charles Pond.....	do.	{ last year. }	do.
Robert Lewis.....	do.	do. do.	do.
John Shumway.....	do.	do. do.	do.
(Vacant.).....	(Vacant.).....		
Reuben Scofield....	2d Lieutenant....	-	Jan. 1, 1776.
Jesse Grant.....	do.	-	do.
(Vacant.).....	(Vacant.).....	-	do.
Elisha Bostwick....	2d Lieutenant....	-	do.
Samuel Sandford...	do.	-	do.
Charles Webb.....	Do. and Adjutant..	-	do.
William Clark.....	do.	-	do.
John Elderkin.....	Do. & Q. Master..	-	do.
Stephen Betts.....	Ensign.....	-	do.
Amos Johnson.....	do.	-	do.
Selah Benton.....	do.	-	do.
Amos Bostwick....	do.	-	do.
William Smith.....	do.	-	do.
John Ball.....	do.	-	do.
Charles Whittlesey.	do.	-	do.
George Hurlbut....	do.	-	do.

CHARLES WEBB, Colonel.  
Camp, New-York, July 2, 1776.

N. B. The Colonel is commander of the Ninth Regiment of Militia in the Colony of Connecticut. The Lieutenant-Colonel was a Captain last war, 1775. Major John Brooks was born in Medford, in the Province of Massachusetts-Bay.

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Staff Officers belonging to the Nineteenth Regiment.

Rev. John Gano.....Chaplain.  
Charles Webb, Jun.....Adjutant.  
John Elderkin.....Quartermaster.  
Elisha Ely.....Surgeon.  
Preserve Wood.....Surgeon's Mate.

CHARLES WEBB, Colonel.  
Camp at New-York, July 29, 1776.

PERSONS RECOMMENDED TO FILL THE VACANCIES IN LORD STIRLING'S BRIGADE, JULY, 1776.

Remarks on the Officers and vacant Commissions in the Fourth Regiment, commanded by Col. JOHN NIXON.

There is only one vacancy in this Regiment, which is a Second Lieutenantcy in Captain McFarland's Company; to fill up which, Ensign Dudley Tyler, of the same Company, is recommended; and Sergeant Samuel Frost, of Captain Gleason's Company, to be Ensign to Captain McFarland's Company.

Remarks on the Officers and vacant Commissions in the First Regiment of NEW-YORKERS, in the service of the free UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA.

Lieutenant-Colonel Herman Zedtwitz, a brave good officer; but so disabled by a rupture, occasioned by a fall from a precipice in the attack of Quebec under General Montgomery, that he is unfit for active duty. If some stationary duty, such as the command of some fort, could be allotted him, and another Field-Officer put into this Regiment, it would benefit the service.

Captain Richard Varick. He is Secretary or Aid-de-Camp to General Schuyler, and ought to resign his com-

mission in this Regiment; in which case, William A. Forbes ought to succeed to his Company; Henry Tiebout, Second Lieutenant, should succeed him as First Lieutenant; and Ensign Theodosius Fowler in the room of him as Second Lieutenant.

There will then be three Ensigncies vacant in this Regiment, for which the following are recommended:

Gilbert R. Livingston, who had a warrant in this Regiment, dated February 24, 1776, went volunteer to Canada with Colonel Winds's Regiment, and is now returned to this Regiment.

William Munday, Sergeant in this Regiment.  
Hugh McConn, Sergeant in this Regiment.

Remarks on the Officers and vacant Commissions in the Nineteenth Regiment, commanded by Colonel CHARLES WEBB.

In this Regiment are two vacancies of a First Lieutenantcy in Captain Hale's Company; to fill up which, Charles Webb, Second Lieutenant of Captain Leavenworth's Company, is recommended; and John Elderkin, Second Lieutenant of Captain Hale's Company, to be Second Lieutenant of Captain Shipman's Company.

Ensign Selah Benton, of Captain Shipman's Company, to be Second Lieutenant of Captain Leavenworth's Company; and Ensign Charles Whittlesey, of Captain Hull's Company, to be Second Lieutenant of Captain Hale's Company. Two of these changes are made to avoid having the Adjutant and Quartermaster in the same Company.

Benoni Shipman, Sergeant-Major, to be Ensign to Captain Shipman's Company. Thomas Updike Fosdick, Sergeant, to be Ensign to Captain Hull's Company.

Remarks on the Officers and vacant Commissions in the Third Regiment of NEW-YORKERS, in the service of the free UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA.

Major , vacant.

Captain Andrew Billings, eldest Captain in this Regiment, has done the duty of Major for several months past, served as a Captain last campaign with the reputation of a good officer, is recommended to fill this vacancy; and Adjutant Benjamin Pelton, who served as a Lieutenant in the First Regiment last year, was at the taking of St. John's, and in the attack of Quebec under General Montgomery, returned from thence in May, too late for any other commission, and therefore accepted the Adjutancy on the promise of the first vacant Company,—he is recommended to succeed Captain Billings.

Lieutenant Jonathan Hallet is recommended to be Adjutant in the room of Benjamin Pelton.

RECAPITULATION OF THE COMMISSIONS RECOMMENDED TO BE ISSUED.

For Colonel NIXON's Regiment.

Ensign Dudley Tyler to be Second Lieutenant in Captain McFarland's Company.

Sergeant Samuel Frost to be Ensign in the same Company.

Colonel WEBB's Regiment.

Second Lieutenant Charles Webb to be First Lieutenant in Captain Hale's Company.

Second Lieutenant John Elderkin to be Second Lieutenant in Captain Shipman's.

Ensign Selah Benton, of Captain Shipman's Company, to be Second Lieutenant of Captain Leavenworth's Company.

Ensign Charles Whittlesey to be Second Lieutenant in Captain Hale's Company.

Sergeant-Major Benoni Shipman to be Ensign in Captain Shipman's Company.

Sergeant Thomas Updike Fosdick to be Ensign in Captain Hull's Company.

Colonel McDougall's Regiment.

First Lieutenant William A. Forbes to be Captain, in the room of Captain Varick.

Second Lieutenant Henry Tiebout to be First Lieutenant in Captain Forbes's Company. Ensign Theodosius Fowler to be Second Lieutenant in ditto.

Gilbert R. Livingston to be Ensign in Captain Johnson's Company. William Munday to be Ensign in Captain



*Ledyard's Company.* *Hugh McConnell* to be Ensign in Captain *Horton's Company*.

*Colonel RITZEMA's Regiment.*

Captain *Andrew Billings* to be Major.

Adjutant *Benjamin Pelton* to be Captain, in the room of Captain *Billings*, promoted.

Lieutenant *Jonathan Hallet* to be Adjutant.

The foregoing recommendations fixed with the Field-Officers of the respective Regiments.

STIRLING, Brigadier-General.

July 22, 1776.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED NEW-YORK, JULY 29, 1776.

Yesterday one of our galleys, mounting one thirty-two pounder in her bow, and the other a *New-London* galley, mounting two twelve-pounders in her stern, and two eighteen in her bow, went up the *North River* to *Spiten Devil*, or *King's-Bridge Creek*, with an intent to lay there till the ships come down the river. Should that be the case, I make no doubt we shall be able to give a good account of them.

This moment arrived a sloop, Captain *Hawkins*, from *Rhode-Island*, which gives the disagreeable news of Captain *Biddle's* losing his prize, the ship *Nathaniel and Elizabeth*, Captain *Hoar*, from *Jamaica*, with three hundred hogsheads of sugar and one hundred hogsheads of rum, &c., at *Fisher's Island* reef, just entering the Sound. Captain *Hawkins* says he saw the ship on the rocks last *Friday*, and saw one vessel take up an iron-bound cask, which he took to be a hogshead of rum. There was a great number of people on board, and several vessels alongside; and her masts were cut away. He does not know if any of the cargo is saved or not.

New-York, July 29, 1776.

The fourth man in the Counties of *King's*, *Queen's*, and *Suffolk*, on *Long-Island*, and *Westchester*, *Dutchess*, *Orange*, and *Ulster*, were last week ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning; indeed, many of them are gone to their proper stations already.

An old gentleman, between sixty and seventy, now does duty in the Militia near *Newark*, in *New-Jersey*, is the father of about fifteen children now alive, nine of whom are in the Continental Army, from captains to privates.

Several cannon were fired last *Thursday* afternoon, from our Battery at *Amboy*, at a number of boats from *Staten-Island*, bound to *Sandy-Hook*, supposed to join part of the Ministerial Fleet lying there. This brought on a cannonade from the encampment of the Regulars near *Billop's Point*, on the Island, which continued very hot on both sides for near an hour. The boats got clear, but many of the regulars were seen to fall, and several were carried off, supposed to be wounded. On our side, a soldier belonging to one of the *Philadelphia* battalions was killed, and one wounded; a horse in a carriage had his head shot off in the street, and some damage was done the houses.

General Hospital, at New-York, July 29, 1776.

Wanted immediately in the General Hospital, a number of women, who can be recommended for their honesty, to act in the capacity of Nurses; and a number of faithful men for the same purpose. Any who incline entering the service in this way, will meet with good encouragement, by making application to the Quartermaster of the Hospital at *King's College, New-York*. Wanted also for the use of said Hospital a large quantity of dry herbs, for baths, fomentations, &c., &c., &c., particularly balm, hyssop, wormwood, and mallows, for which a good price will be given; and also old linen for the use of the sick and wounded soldiery. The good people of the neighbouring towns, and even those who live more remote from this city, by carefully collecting and curing quantities of useful herbs, will greatly promote the good of the Army, and considerably benefit themselves. From principles of benevolence and humanity, it is presumed that many will attend to this matter, (which is really of consequence,) and cheerfully contribute to the relief of their sick and wounded brethren, though from any pecuniary consideration they might neglect, as having the appearance of small importance. Those who have already collected any con-

siderable parcel of herbs or rags, may find a ready sale, by applying at the above-mentioned place to

THOMAS CARNES,

Steward and Quartermaster to the General Hospital.

ORANGE COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

Clark's Town, July 29, 1776.

In County Committee on the South side of the Mountains, in the County of *Orange*:

Whereas *Dennis Snyder*, *Jesse Snyder*, *William Snyder*, and *Samuel Snyder*, all living at or near a place commonly called *Snyder's* or *Dobbs's Ferry*, on the west side of *Hudson's River*, in the County of *Orange*, and State of *New-York*, have refused to sign any or either of the Associations that have been put forth, or recommended by our honourable Convention; and as the abovesaid persons are greatly suspected of carrying on a treasonable correspondence with our unnatural enemies, or ships-of-war, belonging to the King of *Great Britain*, lying in the abovesaid river, by the great opportunity afforded them in the privilege they have by keeping ferry, knowing the abovesaid persons to be inveterate enemies to the common States of *America*:

Therefore, Resolved, That the above *Dennis Snyder*, *Jesse Snyder*, *William Snyder*, and *Samuel Snyder*, are hereby forewarned not to keep ferry, or employ any other person to ferry in their room, or employ a craft on the abovesaid river, upon any pretence whatsoever; and all other persons are hereby forewarned against having any correspondence with the abovesaid *Snydens*, or any other person or persons whatsoever, that are in any degree enemies to the liberties of *America*.

And whereas *John Snyder* is advertised in the publick Gazette as pilot of the ships-of-war up the abovesaid river, greatly to the damage of the said *John Snyder*: It is hereby requested, that the said Printer will insert *Robert Snyder*, instead of *John Snyder*, who has always appeared to be a warm friend to the common cause of *America*.

Per order of the Committee:

JOHN COE, Deputy Chairman.

Attested:

JOHN COLEMAN, Secretary.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

German-Flats, July 29, 1776.

SIR: Lieutenant *Welch* has delivered me your and General *Arnold's* letters of the 22d instant, with the *Indian* articles mentioned in a list enclosed in the latter.

General *Arnold* writes me that the greater part was already delivered to the Army before my letter came to hand. I know they were greatly wanted there. We shall be greatly distressed for a supply for the *Indians*; something more than eleven hundred are already arrived, and we this day expect between four and five hundred more.

When there is no fresh or any other beef, there is no alternative left, and the pork must be used, as the Army will not live on bread alone; but I should hope that you received a supply of beef soon after the date of your letter, from what Mr. *Livingston* observes in his to you.

On the subject of the gondolas I wrote you yesterday. If the carpenters had not arrived at *Skenesborough* until the 1st day of *November*, or indeed never, it would not have been my fault. Months are elapsed since my first application, and my last was made immediately after, if not before, the retreat of the Army from *Canada*. What could I do more? I could not create them.

Although I remained only part of *Friday* and *Saturday* at *Albany*, when I returned from *Crown-Point*, I nevertheless thought of the Army letters, and requested the Postmaster to send them all up to you, with a blank commission for a Postmaster at *Ticonderoga*, to be filled up by you. This he promised me would be immediately done. If he has not fulfilled his promise, I am sorry for it. I shall remind him of it. If you or the Army conceive that any letters are stopped at *Albany* by my order, you are mistaken. I am not allowed to interfere in the post office. Colonel *Gansevoort* is not ordered to intercept any letters; at least neither he nor any other person has such an order from me. I should imagine if he took your letter from the messenger that brought it to *Fort George*, it was in order to expedite it; and if he did do that, I cannot possibly discover any criminal intention

in it. It is his duty to forward all letters on publick business with all possible despatch: he has my orders so to do. If he should, therefore, stop any letters going to or from the Army, he would be culpable, and merit punishment.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL GATES TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 8, 1776.]

Tyonderoga, July 29, 1776.

SIR: I am but just now honoured with the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, with the resolves of Congress enclosed. As their resolves will ever be held sacred by me, they may be assured of my implicit obedience to them. I have this day written to General *Schuyler*, to assure him of my entire satisfaction and acquiescence in the resolves of Congress, and of my unalterable resolution to obey his commands. I am confident we shall, as the Congress wish, go hand in hand to promote the publick service. Affairs here begin to wear a less gloomy aspect. The carpenters are all got to *Skenesborough* from the different Colonies, and our fleet is increasing rapidly, as it ought. General *Arnold*, ever active, and anxious to serve his country, is just returned from *Skenesborough*, where he has been to give life and spirit to our dock-yard.

Two schooners and a sloop will be at *Crown-Point* this evening, well manned and armed; four gondolas will follow in a day or two. When what we have finished get to *Crown-Point*, we shall have as many armed vessels there as will carry fifty-two pieces of cannon, with all the swivels we have to mount. More swivels are written for to *New-York*, and we shall collect all the heavy cannon we can from *Albany* and the posts upon the communication thither. I wish they may be sufficient. More should be sent could they be procured. The Militia begin to come to *Skenesborough*, from whence I do not propose to remove them, until all danger of the small-pox is far removed from us. General *Waterbury* remains at *Skenesborough*, and has my orders to exert his utmost vigilance and authority to prevent that pestilence from spreading again amongst us.

The Director of the Hospital complains heavily of a want of medicines. I have, at his urgent request, ordered him to *New-York* to get a supply.

General *Arnold* (who is perfectly skilled in maritime affairs) has most nobly undertaken to command our fleet upon the Lake. With infinite satisfaction, I have committed the whole of that department to his care, convinced he will thereby add to that brilliant reputation he has so deservedly acquired.

I suppose General *Sullivan*, who left us the 12th instant, has made a report to the Congress of the state of this Army upon his leaving it.

Brigadier *Baron de Woedtke* went, by my permission, to the General Hospital, at *Lake George*, about a fortnight ago. His health was indeed so much impaired, that I doubt his recovery. In the mean time, I have appointed the three eldest Colonels to command brigades—Colonel *Stark*, Colonel *Reed*, and Colonel *St. Clair*. Should the conduct of these gentlemen be such as to merit approbation, (of which I have not the least doubt,) I am confident the Congress will show them some honourable mark of esteem.

Independence has been received by this Army with that applause that the great benefit *America* will receive thereby, so justly claims.

A *French* gentleman is just got here from *Canada*, by the way of *Cohos*. He left *Canada* three weeks ago. He says General *Carleton* has summoned all the *Canadians* to be at *St. John's* the last of *August*, to go with his Army of ten thousand men to drive the Rebels before them like sheep, and to meet the Grand Army at *Albany*. Perhaps this may prove a vain boast.

Enclosed is a letter from General *Washington* to me, of the 19th instant, with my answer. I beg you, sir, and the gentlemen of the Congress, will believe, that if the Generals in this department do not act with the same ability and have not the same good fortune, that they will not be excelled in zeal or military virtue by any of your officers, however dignified or distinguished.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esquire.

New-York, July 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I expected ere this to have heard from you. As I have not, I will open the correspondence, by expressing my exceeding great concern on account of the determination of your Board of General Officers, to retreat from *Crown-Point* to *Ticonderoga*, assigning (contrary to the opinion of all your Field-Officers) for reason, that the former place is not tenable with your present force, or the force expected. My concern arises from information, and a firm belief, that your relinquishing *Crown-Point* is, in its consequences, a relinquishment of the Lakes, and all the advantages to be derived therefrom; for it does not admit of a doubt but that the enemy will possess themselves, if possible, of that pass (which is a key to all these Colonies) the moment you leave it, and thereby confine your vessels to the narrow part of the Lake in front of that post; or, by having them in the rear of it, cut off all kind of supplies from, and intercourse between, your camp and them; securing by this means a free and uninterrupted passage into the three *New-England* Governments, for invasion thereof. Nothing but a belief that you have actually removed the Army from the Point to *Ticonderoga* and demolished the works at the former, and the fear of creating dissensions and encouraging a spirit of remonstrating against the conduct of superior officers by inferiors, have prevented me, by advice of the General Officers here, from directing the post at *Crown-Point* to be held till Congress should decide upon the propriety of its evacuation. As the case stands, I can give no order in the matter, lest between two opinions, neither of the places are put into such a posture of defence as to resist an advancing enemy. I must, however, express my sorrow at the resolution of your Council, and wish that it had never happened, as everybody who speaks of it also does, and that the measure could yet be changed with propriety.

We have the enemy full in view of us, but their operations are to be suspended till the reinforcement hourly expected arrives, when I suppose there will be pretty warm work. Lord *Howe* is arrived. He and the General, his brother, are appointed Commissioners to dispense pardons to repenting sinners. My compliments to the gentlemen with you of my acquaintance.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Gates*.

Ticonderoga, July 29, 1776.

SIR: General *Schuyler*, who left us the 10th instant, promised me to give your Excellency a very particular account of the state of the Northern Army; I conclude he has done it, but it might not have reached your hands when the post left *New-York* the 19th instant. Your Excellency's letter of that date is now before me. The Board of General Officers mentioned by your Excellency were assembled by order of General *Schuyler*, who presided at it. They were unanimous in adopting his sentiments; which were, in my opinion, founded in reason and good sense. As to the Field-Officers being all of a contrary opinion, whoever gave your Excellency that intelligence was the author of an assertion contrary to fact. Two Field-Officers did object to it, but those whose judgment and experience entitle them to be the best attended to, acquiesced in the opinion of the General Officers. Colonel *St. Clair* and Colonel *De Haas*, in particular, men whose long service and distinguished characters deservedly give their opinion a preference, your Excellency's Council could not see, nor did not know the circumstances of this Army, when they took upon them to decide that the General Officers here had acted reprehensibly.

My letter to your Excellency of the 16th instant too plainly describes the deplorable state to which death, defeats, desertion, and disease, had most unhappily reduced the Northern Army. Your Excellency speaks of works to be destroyed at *Crown-Point*. Time and the bad construction of those works had completely effected that business long before General *Schuyler* came with me to *Crown-Point*. The ramparts are tumbled down, the casemates are fallen in, the barracks burnt, and the whole so perfect a ruin, that it would take five times the number of our Army, for several summers, to put it in defensible repair.

Your Excellency also mentions the troops expected to reinforce this Army. It would be to the last degree improper to order those troops to *Crown-Point*, or even hither,

until obliged by the most pressing emergency; as that would only be heaping one hospital upon another. Those troops, when they arrive, are all ordered to halt at *Skenesborough*. Everything about this Army is infected with the pestilence: the clothes, the blankets, the air, and the ground they walk upon. To put this evil from us, a General Hospital is established at *Fort George*, where there are now between two and three thousand sick, and where every infected person is immediately sent; but this care and caution has not yet effectually destroyed the disease here; it is, notwithstanding, continually breaking out.

General *Schuyler* assures me he has written to the Eastern Governments, and acquainted them with the precautions taken to purify the Army, and directed the reinforcements still expected to halt at *Skenesborough*. General *Arnold* is just returned from thence, where he has been exerting his utmost diligence in forwarding the vessels constructing there. Our little fleet already built is equipping under his direction, with all the industry his activity and good example can inspire. As fast as they are fitted, they are sent to *Crown-Point*, where the Sixth Battalion of the *Pennsylvanians*, commanded by Lieut. Colonel *Hartley*, is posted. Three hundred men and officers have been draughted from the corps here to man the vessels: one-half seamen, the other to act as marines. As soon as all the vessels and gondolas are equipped, General *Arnold* has offered to go to *Crown-Point* and take the command of them. This is exceedingly pleasing to me, as he has a perfect knowledge in maritime affairs, and is, besides, a most deserving and gallant officer. The command of the water is of the last importance; for, should the enemy ever get a naval force superior to ours upon the Lake, the command thereof is theirs, let who will possess *Crown-Point*. As to their penetrating the Eastern Governments, they may attempt that by *Onion River*, which empties itself into *Missisquoi Bay*, sixty miles below *Crown-Point*.

I must now take the liberty to animadvert a little upon the unprecedented behaviour of the members of your Council to their compeers in this department. They, sir, having every ample supply at hand, make no allowance for the misfortunes and wants of this Army, nor for the delay and difficulty that attend the procuring everything necessary here. Had we a healthy Army, four times the number of the enemy, our magazines full, our artillery complete, stores of every kind in profuse abundance, with vast and populous Towns and Counties close at hand to supply our wants, your Excellency would hear no complaints from this Army; and the members of your Council, our brethren and compeers, would have as little reason then, as they have now, to censure the conduct of those who are in nothing inferior to themselves.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. Enclosed is a letter I received this morning from the Director of the Hospital at *Fort George*. I must beg your Excellency will give Doctor *Morgan* your directions to relieve the pressing wants which Doctor *Stringer* complains of.

Fort George, July 24, 1776.

SIR: My daughter's illness occasioned my being absent from this post a few days; and on my return yesterday evening I found Major *Stewart's* letter of the 18th, also one from Colonel *Trumbull* of the same date, requesting a return of the sick, &c., who I find are greatly increased, insomuch that we are in the utmost distress for both assistants and medicines; which events I foresaw might happen, and took the timely precaution of representing it to General *Schuyler* so early as the 25th of *October* last, and to General *Washington* the 10th of *May*, together with my want of power, which (by the resolve of Congress, a copy whereof is here enclosed) is limited in so positive terms, as to render me incapable either to relieve or guard against them by any other method. Both my letters, the Generals have informed me, were sent to Congress; notwithstanding which, the matter rests as it did.

At the same time that I wrote to General *Washington*, I requested an augmentation of the Hospital Surgeons and Mates, and sent a list for such a supply of medicines as I

thought necessary for the campaign; and, from a letter I received from Mr. *Giles*, Apothecary-General, before I departed, I expected the medicines to be forwarded immediately; but, to my great mortification, except a few that Dr. *Potts* brought with him, none are arrived, not even a quantity that the Doctor informed me were to come from *Philadelphia*, under the care of Mr. *McHenry*. What we are to do, under these shocking circumstances, I know not; I say shocking, because nothing can appear more so than our present situation—men dying for want of assistance that we are not empowered to give. Besides a want of Surgeons, I am not furnished with Clerks or Stewards; one Clerk, that I took upon myself to appoint, with General *Schuyler's* concurrence, is not now capable of going through the business he is obliged to take charge of. As our men's lives are thus wasted, would it be improper (as writing answers no end) that I should leave the care of the sick to Dr. *Potts*, and go to *York* myself, and see the medicines forthwith forwarded by land, until they can be safely conveyed by water, and from thence wait on Congress in person, lay our situation before them, and endeavour to have my powers enlarged, or at least get their consent to provide the number of assistants that are requisite? If, sir, you should approve of such a step, I should be much obliged to you for a letter enforcing the necessity of the application. I should not, at this time of distress, hesitate to engage Surgeons, had not General *Schuyler* received an answer in the winter to the purport of my letter above mentioned, which was contained in a fresh resolve, "that the resolve (now enclosed) was sufficient."

I must beg, sir, that you will not impute it to neglect that you have not received returns of the sick before this time, but let the above relation account for it. Regularity and a strict adherence to duty are what I much admire, and was uneasy when I found we were still so much backward as not to be able to send you a return, a thing that I know, from long service, ought to be done weekly.

Mr. *Potts* wrote this morning respecting Mr. *Mouse*, or the gentleman sent to be examined for the Surgeoncy of the Navy. As he will not answer, you will readily conceive that it will be adding to our distresses to part with any of our gentlemen for that purpose; neither do I suppose that any place on this side of *York* can furnish a person properly qualified; and as it is probable the Navy will be much augmented, I think a couple of Mates, at least, would be necessary.

Doctor *Potts* informed me that there were twenty half-chests of medicines, already put up at *York*, to be sent off by the first sloop, for ten battalions in this department. I made at *Albany* the strictest inquiry about them, and find they are not come. Whence such a dilatoriness arises, I cannot account; but there certainly is a remissness somewhere that ought to be removed, if possible.

Just now Lieutenant *Diffendorff* arrived, and acquaints us that a large number of sick are coming, in addition to what we already have, (about fifteen hundred.) In the name of God, what shall we do with them all, my dear General?

Mr. *Gansevoort*, brother to Colonel *Gansevoort*, and member of the *New-York* Convention, a gentleman of noted character, arrived at *Albany* from *York*, on *Saturday* last, and tells me that it is beyond a doubt that a *French* fleet of fifty ships of force, and fifteen thousand troops, are actually on their way for *Quebeck*; that it was reported, that it was in consequence of the receipt of our Ambassador's letter from *France*, that Independence was so suddenly declared; for which event's taking place, he was obliged to pledge the faith and honour of the Colonies, so soon as his letter should arrive, or he could not have obtained the armament. How will *George* like this, and what will *Burgoyne* now say? No elbow room. They are effectually to prevent succours from getting up, and to spare ships to secure those of our enemy and the country.

The privateers *Schuyler* and *Montgomery* took a store-ship last week; two *Jamaica-men* are also taken. One hundred thousand horned cattle, besides a vast number of hogs and sheep, are driven off *Long-Island*.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAM. STRINGER.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*, *Ticonderoga*.

P. S. We have upwards of fifty thousand men in and about *York*, so far as *Anthony's Nose*, on both sides the river. I must write you something more. Lord *Howe* is

certainly arrived, with three ships; the rest behind. He sent a letter "To *George Washington*, Esq.," which was not received. General *Washington* sent him the Declaration of Independence. The next day he received a letter directed to "His Excellency, &c., &c., Commander-in-Chief of the *United Colonies*;" and it is said expressed a concern that Independence was so suddenly declared; that it was probable there might have been an accommodation, his powers being very extensive. Only two frigates and three tenders are above the town as yet, and lie nearly opposite *Peekskill*. The man that piloted them was a Tory, and on board the *Asia* all winter. He landed at night, in order to go to his family, who lived a little distance from the river, and the inhabitants got knowledge of it, seized him, and tore him into atoms.

## GENERAL ORDERS.

Ticonderoga, July 10, 1776.

(Parole, *Washington*.)(Countersign, *New-York*.)

The boats that came with Colonel *St. Clair's* Regiment to be returned to *Crown-Point* as soon as possible. Colonel *St. Clair* will order a proper detachment from his corps to execute this order.

Colonel *St. Clair's*, Colonel *De Haas's*, Colonel *Wayne's*, and Colonel *Irvine's* Regiments, are to hold themselves in readiness to encamp upon the Heights opposite to the old redoubt. As soon as the Chief Engineer can get the road up the hill finished, those Regiments will be ordered to remove.

Two Captains, six Subalterns, eight Sergeants, eight Corporals, two Drums, and one hundred and ninety-two Privates, to parade to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock, to go on fatigue, under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonel *Baldwin*, Chief Engineer. This party to get their breakfast before they come to the parade, and to take with them a day's provision, ready dressed.

Head-Quarters, July 11, 1776.

(Parole, *Boston*.)(Countersign, *Warren*.)

Captain *Williams*, with all the blacksmiths that came with him from *Crown-Point*, to proceed as soon as possible to *Skenesborough*. Lieutenant *Bowman* and the armourers to remain at *Ticonderoga*. Lieutenant *Beal*, with the house-carpenters, and Mr. *Noah Nichols*, with the wheelwrights, are to remain at *Ticonderoga*, under the direction of Colonel *Baldwin*, Chief Engineer. Mr. *Richard Tillock*, with the thirteen ship-carpenters under his direction, are to proceed immediately to *Skenesborough*. Lieutenant *Curtis*, with his gang of ship-carpenters, are to remain at *Ticonderoga*, under the direction of Commodore *Wynkoop*.

The same fatigue party as was directed by yesterday's orders, to parade to-morrow morning at the same hour, and under the same directions and regulation as therein expressed. This party to be furnished every morning by the *Pennsylvania* Regiments, until further orders.

A Return of each Corps to be delivered to Colonel *Trumbull* to-morrow morning at ten o'clock, that the duty may be regulated.

The Commanding Officer of the *Pennsylvania* Regiments to send a scouting party of one Subaltern, one Sergeant, and twenty men every morning, half an hour before day, who are carefully to examine the ground in the front of the old *French* lines and the Isthmus between the Bridge and the side of the Lake to the northeast of the Fort. The officer to report to the General upon his return.

Head-Quarters, July 12, 1776.

(Parole, *Philadelphia*.)(Countersign, *Franklin*.)

Head-Quarters, July 13, 1776.

(Parole, *Williamsburgh*.)(Countersign, *Virginia*.)

One woman from each Company of each of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions now at this post, to be draughted as soon as possible, and sent to the General Hospital at *Fort George* to nurse the sick. They will have the customary allowance of provision, &c., from Doctor *Stringer*, Director of the Hospital there.

Captain *Stevens*, of the Artillery, will encamp with his Company near the Landing on the east side of the Lake, where all the artillery, stores, &c., are to be landed.

When the batteaus are unloaded, Captain *Stevens* will order them all to be carefully returned, and made fast in the Bay, to the south of the old Fort.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Baldwin* will draw provision twice a week for all the Artificers, and take the whole under his direction.

Head-Quarters, July 14, 1776.

(Parole, *Hartford*.)(Countersign, *Deane*.)

Captain *Mayhew* to send fifty of the seamen he brought yesterday from *Crown-Point*, under proper officers, to bale out the batteaus, and prepare them fit to be returned to-morrow morning to *Crown-Point*.

The Commanding Officer of the Artillery to be indefatigable in landing the cannon and artillery stores at the point directed in yesterday's orders, that the batteaus may be returned.

The Chief Engineer to order the Artificers to get proper necessities made over the rock opposite their huts, that the new encampment may be preserved clean against the troops' arrival.

Captain *Stevens* will do the same in regard to his people.

Lieutenant *John Williamson*, of the Fourth *Pennsylvania* Battalion, is appointed Batteau Master, and is to be obeyed as such.

Head-Quarters, July 15, 1776.

(Parole, *Maryland*.)(Countersign, *Annapolis*.)

The Batteau Master, Lieutenant *Williamson*, is to see forty batteaus put in proper order to be returned to *Crown-Point* as soon as possible.

Colonel *Maxwell* and Colonel *Ogden* will each of them order one Captain, two Sergeants, and sixty men, to parade at one o'clock, to take forty batteaus to *Crown-Point*.

The *Pennsylvania* Regiments to encamp upon the new ground to-morrow. Colonel *St. Clair*, with the assistance of Colonel *Wayne*, will this morning mark out the ground for their encampment.

The General, anxious to preserve the new Camp perfectly clean and free from infection, recommends it in the strongest manner to the Commanding Officers of Regiments to have their necessities fixed upon the brink of the precipices, or in such places as are least obnoxious. If there is a necessity of having any dug in the front of the Regiments, care must be taken to have them frequently covered, and no person to be suffered to ease himself in any other part of the encampment.

The sick of Colonel *Winds's* and Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiments to be immediately sent to *Fort George*.

Head-Quarters, July 16, 1776.

(Parole, *Carolina*.)(Countersign, *Lee*.)

The Court of Inquiry that have set upon Colonel *Bedel*, to sit again as soon as possible.

One Field-Officer, two Captains, eight Sergeants, eight Corporals, four Drums and Fifes, and one hundred and twenty Privates, to mount guard to-morrow at troop-beating. The Field-Officer will receive his orders from the General where to post his guard.

The ammunition wanted to complete the Riflemen, will be ordered to be delivered as soon as the Commanding Officers of the Regiments make a return of the deficiency.

Head-Quarters, July 17, 1776.

(Parole, *York*.)(Countersign, *Saville*.)

The Commanding Officer of Artillery is immediately to be provided with a proper place for a Laboratory, and another for casting musket-ball and buck-shot.

The Commanding Officers of Regiments, and their Surgeons, are to be answerable that the General is immediately acquainted with any persons who are seized with the infection of the small-pox, that they may be immediately removed to *Lake George*.

The state of the men's ammunition to be immediately examined, and the deficiencies reported. The troops will, as soon as possible, be completed to as many rounds as the pouches and cartridge-boxes they are possessed of will hold. A quantity of spare cartridges will always be ready in store, to furnish an immediate supply when more is wanted.



Head-Quarters, July 18, 1776.

(Parole, Hampton.)

(Countersign, Harrison.)

Ensign *Thomas Ryerson*, of Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiment, is appointed a Second Lieutenant in the said Regiment, in the room of Lieutenant *John Higgins*, deceased.

The forty batteaus ordered for *Crown-Point* to set out immediately. The Commissary will send what flour is wanted for that Post.

As Colonel *Reed* and some of the Members of the General Court-Martial ordered at *Crown-Point* are absent, or gone with the sick to *Lake George*, that Court-Martial is dissolved.

A General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, for the trial of Colonel *Hazen*, and such prisoners as shall be brought before them. The Court to be composed of the thirteen eldest Field-Officers in this Camp: that is, the five eldest Colonels, the four eldest Lieutenant-Colonels, and the four eldest Majors. All evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

Captain *Crafts's* Company, of Colonel *Greaton's* Regiment, to be detached to make a quantity of musket-cartridges in the Laboratory assigned for that purpose. The Regiment to be allowed in the roll of duty for this Company.

Colonel *John Trumbull* is appointed Deputy Adjutant-General to the Army. He is to be obeyed as such.

For the Court-Martial: Colonel *Poor*, President; Members: Colonels: *Bond*, *Maxwell*, *Paterson*, *De Haas*; Lieutenant-Colonels: *Gilman*, *Poor*, *Johnston*, *Shreve*; Majors: *Cilley*, *Loring*, *Morris*, *Haussegger*. Captain *Scott* to act as Judge Advocate.

Head-Quarters, July 19, 1776.

(Parole, Wilmington.)

(Countersign, Richmond.)

The weather having been so very wet and stormy all last night, the Commissary is to issue one gill of rum to every non-commissioned officer and soldier now in camp.

The Chief Engineer is to get all the wood-axes helved and ground immediately, that they may be ready for use, when the weather clears up.

As soon as the General Court-Martial now sitting have finished the trial of Colonel *Hazen*, they are to proceed to try Colonel *Bedel* and Major *Butterfield*.

A Return of each Regiment to be given to the Deputy Adjutant-General to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock. Colonel *Trumbull* will give two blank Returns to each Adjutant, which are to be filled up, one for the General, and the other for the Colonel of the Regiment. The Commanding Officer of each Regiment, the Commanding Officer of the Artillery, and the Chief Engineer for the Artificers, will regularly every *Saturday*, at orderly time, send their Returns to the Deputy Adjutant-General.

Head-Quarters, July 20, 1776.

(Parole, Falmouth.)

(Countersign, Norfolk.)

The men who were draughted from the several Corps at *Crown-Point*, to serve with Captain *Mayhew*, on board the Continental armed vessels, are to parade at one o'clock, by the General's Quarters.

Whereas a scandalous and most irregular custom prevails among the soldiery, of firing arms in and near the Camps; any non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall hereafter be detected firing, without order, must be sent to the Commanding Officer of the Regiment to which such delinquent belongs, who is hereby ordered to have the prisoner immediately stripped, and punished with twenty lashes.

A Return of the Names, Regiments, and Companies, of the Ship-Carpenters in this Army, to be delivered to the Deputy Adjutant-General, as soon as possible.

The Army is to be immediately Brigaded in the following manner: the First Brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General *Arnold*, to consist of *Bond's*, *Greaton's*, *Burrell's*, and *Porter's* Regiments; the Second Brigade, commanded by Colonel *Reed*, to consist of *Reed's*, *Poor's*, *Paterson's*, and *Bedel's* Regiments; the Third Brigade, commanded by Colonel *Stark*, to consist of *Stark's*, *Maxwell's*, *Winds's*, and *Wynkoop's* Regiments; the Fourth Brigade, commanded by Colonel *St. Clair*, to consist of *St. Clair's*, *De Haas's*, *Wayne's*, and *Irvine's* Regiments.

Brigade-Major to the First Brigade, *Stoddard*; to the Second, *Rice*; to the Third, *Wilkinson*; to the Fourth, *Scull*.

Head-Quarters, July 21, 1776.

(Countersign, Providence.)

(Parole, Charlestown.)

As the Chief Engineer will have a sufficient number of felling axes ready to employ a large body of men to-morrow, the General desires the Commanding Officers of the three eldest Brigades will send as many men as can be sent from those off duty, to clear the ground for the encampment of those Brigades.

Captain *Romans's* Company will encamp with the Fourth Brigade, commanded by Colonel *St. Clair*. Major *Badlam* will order two twelve and two four-pounders from the guns already mounted in the fort, to be placed in the old *French* lines, under the care and command of Captain *Romans*. Colonel *St. Clair* will order the ground to be marked for Captain *Romans's* Company.

The General recommends it to Colonel *St. Clair* to get platforms laid, as soon as possible, for the guns ordered to his Brigade.

The Commanding Officer of each Brigade will be punctual in reporting, and in obliging the Colonels and Commanding Officers of Regiments to report to him, the persons who are infected with the small-pox.

*After Orders, July 21, 1776.*—The Regiment of *Canadians*, with all the *Canadian* families, now at *Ticonderoga*, to march to-morrow morning, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Antil*, for *Albany*.

Ticonderoga, July 22, 1776.

(Countersign, Alexandria.)

(Parole, St. Eustatia.)

The Commissary will deliver all the soap he has in store in the following proportions to each Regiment:

To Col. Reed's .....	47 ounces.	To Col. Wynkoop's .....	226 ounces.
Col. Stark's .....	187 "	Col. Paterson's .....	303 "
Col. Maxwell's .....	294 "	Col. Burrell's .....	213 "
Col. Winds's .....	306 "	Col. Porter's .....	233 "
Col. Bond's .....	294 "	Col. Bedel's .....	254 "
Col. Poor's .....	371 "	The Companies of	
Col. Greaton's .....	297 "	Artillery .....	144 "
Col. St. Clair's .....	415 "	The Carpenters .....	144 "
Col. De Haas's .....	555 "	The Smiths .....	144 "
Col. Wayne's .....	709 "	The Armourers .....	144 "
Col. Irvine's .....	577 "		

The Chief Engineer, Colonel *Baldwin*, will order that the soap delivered to the Artificers be delivered properly between them.

The three Brigades, commanded by General *Arnold*, Colonel *Reed*, and Colonel *Stark*, will encamp as soon as possible upon the ground allotted them upon the Heights.

Colonel *St. Clair's* Brigade to furnish a guard of a Corporal and six men daily, to guard the batteaus. The Corporal will receive his orders from Lieutenant *Williamson*, Batteau Master.

Head-Quarters, July 23, 1776.

(Countersign, Monckton.)

(Parole, Martinico.)

Whereas it is of the utmost consequence that a well-regulated body of Seamen and Marines should be immediately draughted from the several Brigades of this Army, to the end that the Army of the *United States* may continue to support their naval superiority and command of the waters of *Lake-Champlain*; and for the encouragement of such seamen and marines as shall be so draughted for the important purpose aforesaid, the honourable the Congress of the *United States* have ordered each non-commissioned officer, seaman, and marine, while employed in the service aforesaid, an additional pay of 8s., lawful money, per month, over and above the pay they are entitled to receive in the corps to which they respectively belong.

The following is the detail for the Non-Commissioned Officers, Seamen, and Marines, to be draughted from each Brigade. They are to parade to-morrow morning at eight o'clock, and immediately to be delivered to the Officers appointed to command them. Each Officer will keep a roll of their names, Regiments, and Companies, that their pay-abstracts may be regularly made up and adjusted once a month.

#### Detail for the Seamen and Marines.

First Brigade .....	6 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 4 Drummers, 64 Privates.
Second Brigade .....	6 " " " " " " " " " " " "
Third Brigade .....	6 " " " " " " " " " " " "
Fourth Brigade .....	10 " " " " " " " " " " " "

Total .....

Colonel *Poor's* Regiment is immediately to be removed into the Third Brigade, commanded by Colonel *Stark*; and

Colonel *Wynkoop's* Regiment into the Second Brigade, commanded by Colonel *Reed*.

The Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Reed* was President, is dissolved.

*Samuel Tanners*, of Captain *Trow's* Company, Colonel *Bond's* Regiment, and *William Prudox*, Fifer in Captain *Egery's* Company, the same Regiment, ropemakers, are to be immediately sent to the Captain of the Sloop, to be employed by him. They will receive the same additional pay as the other artificers.

A Court of Inquiry to sit to-morrow morning, ten o'clock, to inquire into the conduct of Captain *Romans* of the Train of Artillery, in a dispute between him and his Lieutenant.

Colonel *Wayne*, President. Members: Lieutenant-Colonel *Irvine* and Major *Fuller*.

Head-Quarters, July 24, 1776.

(Parole, Havana.)

(Countersign, Putnam.)

The Commissary to issue one day's fresh provisions to the Troops now here, to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock.

The Captains of the armed vessels and gondolas to send this evening a signed return to the Deputy Adjutant-General, of the ammunition and military stores wanted for each vessel and gondola.

Head-Quarters, July 25, 1776.

(Parole, The Congress.)

(Countersign, Independence.)

Mr. *John Shreve* is appointed an Ensign in Captain *Brearley's* Company, of Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiment. He is to be obeyed as such.

Head-Quarters, July 26, 1776.

(Parole, Lancaster.)

(Countersign, Armstrong.)

The Commissary for next week to issue four days' fresh, and three days' salt, provisions. As live cattle increase, the Commissary will issue five days' fresh, and two days' salt, a week.

Head-Quarters, July 27, 1776.

(Parole, York.)

(Countersign, Bristol.)

The Commanding Officers of Regiments, the Commanding Officer of the Artillery, and the Chief Engineer, will be very exact in obliging their Surgeons to make an immediate report of every person infected with small-pox.

Sutling has become so frequent and pernicious in this Camp, that it is absolutely necessary every Commanding Officer of a corps should exert himself to suppress it. The General therefore recommends it in the strongest manner to them, to seize all the rum and spirituous liquors from Sutlers who are detected making private sale thereof, and deliver the same to Mr. Commissary *Avery*, who will give his receipt for it.

The twenty-five men who have been draughted from General *Arnold's* Brigade, as shingle-makers, under Ensign *Calkin*, are to be employed in that business till further orders.

Head-Quarters, July 28, 1776.

(Parole, Durham.)

(Countersign, Roxbury.)

The Commissary will issue eight pounds of soap to every hundred men, per week, now in this Camp, upon a proper signed return being delivered to him by the Commanding Officer of each corps. The Commanding Officer of Artillery and Chief Engineer for the Artificers to draw in proportion to their numbers.

Captain *Wentworth*, of Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Poor* was President, for refusing to do his duty when properly called on, was found guilty by the Court, sentenced to be cashiered, and published in the publick papers as having wilfully neglected his duty with a view of being discharged from the service. The General approves the sentence of the foregoing Court-Martial, and orders it to be put in execution accordingly.

Lieutenant *B. Miller*, of Colonel *St. Clair's* Regiment, tried at the same General Court-Martial, for possessing himself of part of the hangings of Lieutenant *Christie's* sword, and on suspicion of having secreted some effects of the late Captain *Watson*; the Court unanimously acquit him with honour. The General approves the sentence, and orders Lieutenant *Miller* to be immediately discharged from his arrest.

(Parole, Rhode-Island.)

Head-Quarters, July 29, 1776.

(Countersign, Newport.)

Captain *Young*, of Colonel *Bedel's* Regiment, tried at a late General Court-Martial, "for deserting his post, at *St. Ann's*, on the Island of *Montreal*." The Court, after considering the evidence in the case, adjudge that Captain *Young* is not guilty of the charge, and do acquit him from his arrest.

Captain *Newland*, tried at a late General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Poor* was President, for damning and otherwise abusing Colonel *Stark*: The Court are of opinion, upon examination of the evidences, that the charge is fully supported, but judge, at the same time, that the satisfaction offered Colonel *Stark* at the time of the abuse was sufficient, and therefore acquit Captain *Newland* from his arrest.

The General approves both the above sentences, and orders that Captain *Young* and Captain *Newland* be immediately discharged from their confinement.

Ensign *Steel*, of Captain *Austin's* Company, and Colonel *Burrell's* Regiment, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Greaton* was President, for leaving the Army and going on to *Crown-Point* with a batteau and men, contrary to orders; the prisoner pleads guilty: The Court therefore adjudge Ensign *Steel* to be cashiered and dismissed the service. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to take place immediately.

GENERAL GATES TO RICHARD VARICK.

Tyonderoga, July 29, 1776.

SIR: I send you, under the care of the bearer, the chain requested by General *Schuyler's* letter to me of the 25th instant, and have enclosed Colonel *Baldwin's* (the Chief-Engineer's) invoice of the pieces and links that the whole consists of. It will be all in the boats, on the other side of the camping-place, this evening, and will not, I hope, be delayed in its passage to you. I must desire you to assist the bearer in getting it forward to *Poughkeepsie*, as the Committee seems so anxious to have it there.

I am, sir, &c.

HORATIO GATES.

To Captain *Richard Varick*.

JOHN DEWITT TO GENERAL GATES.

Ticonderoga, July 29, 1776.

HONoured SIR: I make bold to return your Honour my most grateful thanks for your goodness in granting me a Court of Inquiry.

Captain *Romans*, in his return of the company to the Brigade-Major, the 26th instant, has entirely left me out. I inquired of the Conductor, who draws the return, the reason of the omission; who told me he had positive orders from Captain *Romans* so to do. This I thought my duty to inform your Honour of.

Although a stranger to your Honour, I flatter myself were you to know the man I had to deal with, you would not disapprove my conduct. He has neither honour, honesty, nor true valour in him.

If I am to receive no further satisfaction for the injury done me, I would most ardently request your Honour's leave to resign and quit the service; and that your Honour will order me to be paid off and give me a pass for that purpose.

I assure your Honour I sacrificed everything that was pleasing to me for the sake of serving my country, and now would cheerfully undergo the greatest hardships for sake of the same, were I to be used with common decency.

All which is most humbly submitted to your Honour by him, who, with the greatest respect, begs leave to subscribe himself, honoured sir, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN DEWITT.

To Major-General *Gates*.

COMMITTEE OF POULTENEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Poultenev, July 29, 1776.

To His Excellency General *GATES*:

We understand that several of the frontier towns have applied to the Continental store for powder and lead; we, being one of the frontier towns, do now apply to his Honour, by Lieutenant *Josiah Grant*, for fifty weight of powder and one hundred and fifty weight of lead, for a town stock. We

are upwards of fifty, able to bear arms when called for. We are for liberty in general, and don't know that there is one dam'd Tory in this town. Your compliance will much oblige us, the Committee of Safety.

This from us, true Sons of Liberty,

NEHEMIAH HOW,  
WILLIAM WARD,  
HEBER ALLEN,  
Committee of Safety.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM TICONDEROGA, DATED JULY 29, 1776.

We are hard at work every day repairing the old *French* lines, that have once already been very fatal to the *British* Army; and if they will but let us alone for two weeks, I think they will meet with as warm a reception here as ever they did. We have a General that is at once the soldier and the gentleman, and a parcel of men that are determined to defend this place; so that let the enemy come when they will, they will get what they little expect.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, July 29, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency that last evening Captain *Bucklin*, in a privateer from this place, returned from a successful cruise, in which he took five valuable prizes, bound from the *British* Islands in the *West-Indies* to *Great Britain*. He informs me that on the 25th instant, in latitude 40° 20', S.S.E. from *Nantucket Shoals*, upon the clearing up of a fog, he found himself in the midst of twenty-six sail of ships, two of which appeared very large, and were all standing about west. He also tells me that on the 27th of *June*, in latitude 35°, longitude 52°, he spoke with the ship *Morris* in the Continental service, Captain *Thomas Bell*, from *Havre-de-Grace* for *Philadelphia*, with a lading of duck, powder, lead, &c. Captain *Bell* informed him that the *Portuguese* had seized all the *American* vessels in their ports.

A prize which arrived here this day, on *Thursday* last spoke with two schooners from the eastward, bound on a cruise, who, the day before, had taken a large ship laden with provisions for the enemy's Army at *New-York*.

I am, with great esteem and respect, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

NICHs. COOKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Newport, July 29, 1776.

The *Jamaica* ship lately taken by the brig *Andrew Doria*, Captain *Biddle*, was last *Friday* chased ashore near *Watch-Hill*, by the *Cerberus*, Captain *Symons*, who had almost got within gunshot of her, but being afraid to risk his ship any nearer, was obliged to stand off again and leave her. The prize, we hear, is a little bilged, but by the assistance of the *Cabot* and *Connecticut* brig, and a number of small craft, the cargo is likely to be nearly all saved, and it is thought the vessel may be got off.

Yesterday the privateer *Montgomery*, Captain *Bucklin*, of *Providence*, went in at the east side of this Island, and carried with him a fine large snow, Captain *Gooding*, from *Antigua*, loaded with three hundred hogsheads of sugar, and one hundred hogsheads of rum. And we hear Captain *Bucklin*, in company with another privateer, has taken five other considerable prizes, viz: three ships, one snow, and one brig, which were but about one day's sail behind him, two of which, with the other privateer, were to make some port to the eastward.

Last *Saturday* night, as the *Cerberus* was lying about three miles from *Block-Island*, *Frank Gould*, a mustee lad, of this place, swam from the ship to the Island, where he got a cedar boat with two sails, in which he came off, alone and naked, and landed at the fort on *Brenton's Point* yesterday in the afternoon. He is one of the hands Captain *Biddle* put on board one of the *Scotch* transports some time past, and which was retaken by the *Cerberus*, and again taken by a *New-York* privateer. He says Mr. *James Josiah*, Captain *Biddle's* former Lieutenant, who was prize-master on board the transport, is treated very ill on board the *Cerberus*, as are some others, for refusing to act against

their country; that there are about forty *Americans* on board said ship, her whole number of men being now about one hundred and sixty; she has taken on this station eighteen vessels, mostly small sloops and schooners, sixteen of which have been burnt; and that about a week ago they spoke with seven sail of transports, with *Scotch* troops on board, bound to *New-York*, who had been in *Boston Bay*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

Lebanon, July 29, 1776.

SIR: I have not received any of your letters. On the return of Major *Ely*, I am informed of the care taken to prevent the spread of the infection of the small-pox, which I hope will succeed.

From other intelligence I am become acquainted with the wretched condition of the Army retreated from *Canada*, where you were to have commanded them. I wrote fully to Congress by last post, which goes from *Hartford* this day, what I had heard concerning that Army, "their sick, ragged, and dirty condition; that they were in want of clothing, shirts, trowsers, stockings, and shoes; that there would be some quantities sent from hence soon; and next, subordination and harmony are to be restored. To do this, the officer that effects it, will meet with great trouble, and when done, will expect to reap the honours of it. I have mentioned to them, that to prevent uneasiness and jealousies between the Generals who were to have had the command in *Canada* and in *New-York*, why is it not best, and even just, that each command the same body of men as expected, without respect to the place where? General *Schuyler* will have full employment at *Albany*, and below on the river, and at *Tryon* County, &c.; while General *Gates* commands the same Army at *Ticonderoga*, &c., which it is expected he would have had in *Canada*. The good of the general service is the great object. Doth not a regard to what will keep up harmony and prevent jealousies, come within it?" I wish to cast in my mite for that end.

General *Schuyler* wrote to me to send a number, not exceeding one thousand, felling axes to *Albany*, for the use of the Army. On advice, I have sent them the same route the soldiers march, by *Bennington*, and so on to *Skenesborough*, that the same may be in use sooner than they would be if sent by *Albany*. I have written to Brigadier-General *Waterbury*, or in his absence, to Colonel *Swift*, to see them properly delivered, and receipts given for them. The accounts of numbers, &c., come with each parcel.

I wish for direction, when clothing is forwarded, which way it is best to send it, and to whose care, as I know not your Quartermaster, or the proper channel in which it is to pass.

Since Major *Ely's* report, I have reason to hope our two battalions—Colonel *Swift's* and Colonel *Mott's*—will soon fill and come on. The former, I conclude, is got to *Skenesborough*; the latter, one company marched last *Thursday*; the rest will march to-morrow. I learn about seventy men in a company; leaving subalterns to recruit, which I trust will fill soon.

I am, with great regard and esteem, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major General *Gates*.

P. S. *August 1, 1776*.—SIR: This serves to confirm the foregoing, sent by Mr. *Hyde*, the wagoner, and to inform that there is fresh intelligence of four thousand *Hessians* near on our coast.

I am, *ut supra*,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

STEPHEN BUCKLAND TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, July 29, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: On the 14th of the current month, I left *Crown-Point*, where Captain *John Bigelow's* company, of the Train of Artillery, then was, consisting of about thirty-six privates, which was much less than any other company of the Train in the Northern Department; and it has been proposed by General *Arnold* to augment that company to the number of sixty, by new recruits, if possible; and as I was Captain-Lieutenant of the company, and about to come home for the purpose of regaining my health, which had been much impaired, I was

directed by General *Arnold* to call, in my way, upon General *Schuyler*, who was then supposed to be at *Albany*, and request his orders and directions how, and in what manner, to effect the inlisting a number of recruits, sufficient to fill the company; but when I arrived at *Albany*, I found General *Schuyler* was absent, on a journey to the *German-Flats*; so have obtained neither orders nor directions in the matter. Would therefore beg the favour of your Honour's advice and direction with respect to the same.

I am, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,  
STEPHEN BUCKLAND.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

Hartford, July 29, 1776.

The following is a true state of the situation of the Northern Army, with respect to the small-pox, given by a gentleman sent by the Governour and Council of this Colony to make inquiry into the state of said Army, viz:

"All infected with said disorder are removed to *Fort George*. The main body of the Army are at *Ticonderoga*, at which place a stand is to be made. The greatest care is taken to prevent the further spreading of that fatal disorder, as the Generals have taken every precaution necessary, and have left no infected person with the main body, which, together with the stations assigned for the two battalions now raised in this Colony for the Northern Army, viz: at *Skenesborough* and the east side of *Ticonderoga*, will effectually render the campaign safe as to the above disorder."

N. B. The health of the Army is much recruiting. Provisions are now plenty, both fresh and salt.

JAMES BOWDOIN TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Boston, July 29, 1776.

SIR: I had the honour of your letter per the post, enclosing Lord *Howe's* Circular Letter and Declaration to this Government, together with a copy of your answer to a like letter from his Lordship. I shall immediately transmit them to the Council at *Watertown*. Your answer to Lord *Howe* expresses the mind, I believe, of every one of the *United States*. I am sure it does of this. If he has no further powers than appears by these papers, he is probably, before this time, convinced that his commission is very inadequate to the effecting the business he proposes to have come upon—the reëstablishment of peace between these States and *Great Britain*.

I have the honour to be, with most perfect regard, your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN.

To the Hon. *Nicholas Cooke*, Esq., Governour of *Rhode-Island*, at *Providence*.

JAMES BOWDOIN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, July 29, 1776, 1 o'clock, P. M.

SIR: The enclosed declaration is this moment sent to me by the Sheriff, which I thought necessary to be communicated to your Excellency.

The ship *Peggy*, mentioned in it, was taken by two of the Continental cruisers, and sent into *Marblehead*. The passengers on board, who fled from *Boston* last *March*, came to town this morning, and are now in jail here, who, I understand, have been, or will be, examined by General *Ward*. It is probable you will have, by this post, the result of that examination; but if you should not, the enclosed may give you some necessary information.

I cannot be more particular, as the post is just setting out. I have the honour to be, with the most perfect regard, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Examination of Captain JAMES KENNEDY, Master of the Ship *PEGGY*, taken by two Privateers.

Boston Jail, July 29, 1776.

I, *James Kennedy*, Master of the ship *Peggy*, in the merchant service, declare that I left *Halifax* about the first instant, under convoy of the *Renown*, of fifty guns, with a

fleet of sixteen transports, containing the Forty-Second and Seventy-First *Scotch* Regiments, and *Frazer's* new-raised regiment, about three thousand in all, and three large ships with *Hessian* troops on board, about six hundred in all, and one ship with five companies of *English* Foot-Guards, and four victualling ships—the whole fleet bound for *New-York*. Off *Nantucket-Shoals*, we fell in with the *Flora* frigate, of thirty guns, and four transports, with Highland troops. These had been in *Boston-Bay*, where they got information from a fisherman that the town was evacuated, on which they stood for *Halifax*, until they met with us. They then joined our fleet for *New-York*. The *Scotch* troops were all to be of Colonel *Campbell's* division of the grand Army in *America*, the whole of which Army, I was informed, would, by the last of *July*, amount to fifty thousand. The *Hessian* troops left *England* about the 12th of *May*. Some of the officers informed me that they came out with three hundred and four sail, under the command of Commodore *Hotham*, on board of which were ten thousand foreign troops, and some *English* troops, number unknown. Last *Friday* night, in a gale of wind and thick weather, I lost the fleet, and on *Monday*, I fell in with two armed schooners, Captains *Skinner* and *Tucker*, to whom I surrendered, after a short engagement, in which I had only one man wounded. The day after the fleet left *Halifax* I saw from my deck forty sail of ships standing in for that harbour, and which I suppose to be part of the fleet under Commodore *Hotham*.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, July 29, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday the armed schooners *Franklin* and *Hancock*, commanded by Captains *Skinner* and *Tucker*, sent into *Marblehead* a ship from *Halifax*, bound to *New-York*, with refugee Tories and Tory goods on board. The invoices which Mr. *Glover*, the agent, sent me, I have enclosed. The same day Captain *Burk*, in the armed schooner *Lee*, came into *Marblehead* to refit, having a few days since engaged a ship and a schooner, (supposed to be transports,) and was likely to have taken them both, but, by some unhappy accident, a quantity of powder took fire and blew up part of his quarter-deck, killed two men and wounded several more, by which accident he was obliged to leave the vessels he had engaged, and come into port to refit.

All the articles your Excellency wrote for which I could procure of the Agents, I have forwarded to *Norwich*. Invoices of them, which I received from Mr. *Bradford* and Mr. *Glover*, are enclosed. Mr. *Glover* informs me he let Colonel *Glover* have the arms taken in the ship *Anne*, for the use of his regiment; and he being at *New-York* can give an account of them.

Mr. *Bradford* informs me he has a prospect of collecting the most of the arms he parted with, which, if he accomplishes, I will have them forwarded immediately.

The agent for the *Connecticut* brig *Defence*, which assisted in taking three of the *Scotch* ships, protested against sending the articles written for until the decision of the Court of Admiralty was obtained and a division made; but I thought, in the present circumstances, I should be justified in ordering them to be immediately forwarded.

I am your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. I have enclosed a *Halifax* newspaper, which was found on board the prize.

Boston, July 29, 1776.

Yesterday was carried into *Marblehead*, taken by the privateers *Hancock*, Captain *Tucker*, and the *Franklin*, Captain *Skinner*, the ship *Peggy*, commanded by *James Kennedy*, mounts six three and two two-pounders, bound from *Halifax* for *New-York*. She is one of the fleet of twenty-four sail which came out with transports, under convoy of two men-of-war, the *Renown* of fifty and the *Flora* of twenty guns, having on board a number of troops. The cargo consists of seventy-five dozen hose, one hundred and eighty yards of *Irish* sheeting, two boxes cord, seventy-four dozen porter, eighty-three dozen strong beer, three hundred and eleven tierces salted beef, six barrels herring, twenty-four camp-kettles, five dozen canteens, two dozen kettles with covers,



candlesticks and spoons, two thousand six hundred and forty-eight mutton hams, forty dozen rappee snuff, one hundred gallons of rum, three thousand eight hundred and eighty-four yards osnaburghs, twelve dozen claret, four barrels flour, two kegs barley, two hundred and thirty dozen red port wine, fifty dozen sherry, fifty-three dozen white port wine, sixteen dozen strong white beer, amounting to £1,509 1s. 9d. sterling, and some cash. Also the following Tory gentlemen and ladies, viz: *Patrick Reed, Thomas Frazier, Robert Semple* and wife, *Elizabeth Burns, John Burns, Abigail Pecit, Thomas Semple*, and the pious *Benjamin Davis*, and son *Benjamin Davis, Thomas Pamp*, and *John Witehead*.

The privateer *Warren*, Captain *Burk*, engaged with another of the fleet, and was near taking her, when, by some accident, she had three of her men blown up and seven wounded, which obliged them to put into port.

*Tuesday*, 2d of *July*, put into *Halifax* a transport-ship, having on board a number of the *Hessian* troops.

The above Tories were brought to town in a *Marblehead* schooner early this morning, and escorted up to jail. They say they left *Halifax* near a month ago; that three transports, with *Hessian* troops, sailed in company with them, bound to *New-York*, and that the day they left *Halifax* they saw a fleet of forty sail, which they supposed to be transports with *Hessian* troops.

#### GENERAL WARNER TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, July 29, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: I have been directed by Major-General *Warren* to muster the Militia in my brigade, and draught from them every twenty-fifth man, agreeable to orders issued by your Honours; whereupon I immediately ordered the several Colonels under my command to make such draught in their respective regiments, and meet me, together with all the other Field-Officers, at *Worcester*, with the number and names of the men thus draughted, for the purpose of forming them into companies, and choosing Captains and subaltern officers, agreeable to your Honours' direction; who met me accordingly. And the amount of all the returns from the several regiments is two hundred and sixty-four men, which is sufficient to form three companies; and accordingly the Field-Officers proceeded, and chose for Captain *Ezekiel Knowlton*, First Lieutenant Barrister *William Tafts*, Second Lieutenant Ensign *David McClalland*, for one Company; and *Benjamin Richardson* Captain, *Samuel Baldwin* First Lieutenant, *Robert Kelly* Second Lieutenant, and *Jonathan Mason* Ensign for another; *Manasseh Sawyer* Captain, *Moses Harrington* First Lieutenant, *Samuel Sowin* Second Lieutenant, and *Josiah Carter* Ensign. But the said Field-Officers, on finding that your Honours had so far superseded their command in the Militia as to appoint others not now in actual commission to take the field command of their men thus draughted when they arrive at *Dorchester Heights*, unanimously agreed to hold the names of the men thus draughted in their own hands, until a proportionable part of the men from among themselves should be called upon to take such field command. They say it seldom or never was known that there was a detachment from any army, brigade, or regiment, without a proper proportion of officers out of them to command the same. They conceive that the Militia Act knows no new creation of officers for any such detachment of Militia.

I am, your Honours' humble servant,

JONA. WARNER.

To the Honourable Council.

IN COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL, July 31, 1776: Read, and ordered that the within Officers be commissioned agreeable to their respective ranks.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

#### RICHARD DERBY TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Salem, July 29, 1776—eight o'clock, Evening.

SIR: I sent the Captain of the Colony brig *Massachusetts* to *Boston*, to endeavour to purchase twelve pieces of their duck for making small sails for said vessel, and he informs me that he very luckily met with that quantity on board the *French* vessel lately arrived there, and which the Commissary-General has purchased, and only waits to see orders

from the Board to deliver it. The bearer of this waits on you for that purpose; and as the duck is much wanted, I hope he will not be detained.

A master of a vessel of mine, who had been taken and carried to *Halifax*, is just arrived from thence, which place he left about fifteen days ago. He informs that thirty sail of transports, with the *Hessians*, had arrived there and sailed again for *New-York*; and as he came out he saw another considerable number of ships, which he supposes were the remainder of the fleet, which, they told him, consisted in the whole of seventy sail. He was on board the man-of-war at the time when the *Yankee-Hero* was taken: one man only was wounded. He was also on board, and in *Nantasket*, when the boats attacked Captain *Mugford*: they went in five boats; the Admiral's Lieutenant was killed, and seven men, and nine wounded. The people in *Nova-Scotia* in general wish well to our cause, &c., &c.

I find great difficulty with *Obrian's* crew, and am apprehensive I shall not be able to prevail on them to go to sea; they want their wages, which I shall not give them, and without them I think they will not go. His other matters I could have delivered him this day; but until matters are made easy with the crew, it is not worth while to expend anything on the vessel.

The Court of Captures sits here on the morrow, when the justice of the capture of some vessels are to be tried in which the Colony is concerned. I think it best I should attend, and therefore shall not be at Council till *Friday* morning, when I hope to attend. In the mean time I am your Honours' most obedient servant,

RICHARD DERBY, JUN.

To the Hon. the President of the Council in *Watertown*.

#### MARITIME COURT FOR CAPTURED VESSELS.

MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, Middle District, ss:

To all whom it may concern: Notice is hereby given, that the Maritime Court for the Middle District of the *Massachusetts-Bay* will be held at the Court-House in *Salem*, on *Monday*, the 19th day of *August*, 1776, at the hour of ten in the forenoon, to try the justice of the capture of the ship named the *Queen of England*, of about two hundred tons burden, (lately commanded by *James Arnot*,) and of her cargo and appurtenances; against which a libel is filed before me (the said ship having been taken and brought into the Middle District aforesaid) by *Caleb Hopkins*, commander of the armed ship called the *George*, in behalf of the Officers, Mariners, and Marines on board the same ship, the owner or hirers thereof, and of himself. And the owners of the said ship *Queen of England*, or any persons concerned, may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the same ship and her cargo and appurtenances should not be condemned.

TIMOTHY PICKERING, Judge of said Court.

Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, LINCOLN, ss:

Libels are filed before me against the sloop *Nancy*, burden about eighty tons, commanded by *Peleg Crooker*; against the sloop *Betsey*, burden about eighty tons, commanded by *Jonathan Blodget*; against the sloop *Endeavour*, burden about thirty tons, commanded by *James Tattersall*; against the sloop *Beaver*, burden about seventy tons, commanded by *Nathan Phillips*; and against the schooner *Dolphin*, burden about fifty tons, commanded by *Jonathan Carleton*; which vessels are said to be improved in carrying supplies to the Fleet and Army employed against the *United Colonies*, and taken and brought into the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Lincoln*; and the Court erected to try and condemn all vessels that shall be found infesting the sea-coast of *America*, and brought into either of the Counties of *York*, *Cumberland*, or *Lincoln*, will be held at the Meeting-House in the East Precinct of *Pownalborough*, on *Tuesday*, the third day of *September*, 1776, at the hour of ten in the forenoon, to try the justice of said captures; of which this notice is given pursuant to the laws of this Colony, that all persons claiming in said vessels or cargoes, or are any way concerned therein, may appear and show cause (if any they have) why the said vessels, or either of them, with their appurtenances and cargoes should not be condemned.

TIMOTHY LANGDON, Judge of said Court.

## TURBUTT WRIGHT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Observation, July 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We take the liberty to inform you that Captain *Dean's* company are armed, and have marched to *Kent Island* agreeable to their orders; and that Captain *Darnes's* company is full, but we are clearly of opinion that arms cannot be got for them in this County. We believe between twenty and thirty firelocks may be had on *Kent Island*, on loan, for the defence of any part of this County, but the people will not part with them to go out of the County; and, indeed, these are the terms upon which the chief of the arms lent to Captain *Dean's* company have been procured. We thought it necessary to give you this information relative to Captain *Darnes's* company, that you may take such steps as may be in your power to furnish them with arms.

Captain *Darnes* is in a very disagreeable situation with his men, who are continually complaining to him of the want of employment, and of the necessity they have been under of boarding themselves out until they receive orders to march.

By order of the Committee. I am your obedient servant,  
TURBUTT WRIGHT, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## GENERAL HOOPER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Head-Quarters at Cambridge, July 30, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: Since my last I have received from Major *Follen*, who is stationed at *Hooper's Straits*, an account of the guard there under his command having taken a small schooner belonging to the enemy, in a creek making out of *Holland's Straits*. Major *Follen* having received intelligence of the schooner being in the creek, sent a detachment of thirty men, who took her and the cargo, consisting of a hoghead and a half of rum, thirty barrels of salt, the sails and rigging of a sloop, a large quantity of old iron, a few guns, swords, and cartridge boxes. The schooner had four men, three of whom were just out of the small-pox, and are now sent you by the Committee of this County, to be dealt with in such manner as your Board may judge proper.

I informed you a few days since of the draughts I had ordered to be made out of the several battalions in my brigade, which I have since ordered to be stationed at the following places: Colonel *Richardson*, with one hundred and twenty-five privates of his battalion, at this place; ninety privates of Colonel *Fiddiman's* battalion, together with thirty privates of Colonel *Ennall's* battalion, at *Cooke's Point*, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Stainton*; Captains *Robson* and *Stephen Woolford*, with fifteen privates each, at *Taylor's* and *James's Islands*; Captain *Keene*, with a party of fifteen privates, at *Meekin's Neck*; Captain *Travers*, with a party of fifteen privates, at *Hooper's Island*; Captain *Wheatley*, with a party of fifteen privates, on *Ascom's Island*; Lieutenant-Colonel *John Ennalls*, with a party of forty-five privates, at *Hungar River*; Colonel *Murray* with a party of one hundred and thirty privates of his battalion, and Major *Fallen* with thirty privates of *Travers's* corps, at *Hooper's Straits*. The draughts from Colonel *Dashiell's* and Colonel *Hayward's* battalions, consisting of two hundred and seventy privates, are stationed at *Nanticoke-Point*, *Dammed Quarter*, and *Animessex*.

The Colonels of the several battalions in *Somerset* and *Worcester* Counties having consulted together, were of opinion that the Militia of *Somerset* County would at present be sufficient for the defence of that County, and requested permission for the *Worcester* Militia, who had marched to *Princess Anne*, to return home; which I have granted them, upon the assurance of the officers that they will hold their men in readiness to march on the shortest notice, if occasion should require it. I cannot, in justice to the brigade, omit to inform your Board of the alacrity with which the officers and privates have stepped forth on this occasion. We have scarcely in a single instance been obliged to draught to make up our numbers, and in several companies there has been no small contention for the privilege of being permitted to march; and indeed the spirit and alacrity shown by the whole brigade has been such as does them great honour, and has given me great pleasure. To induce the privates to enter cheerfully into the service, I ordered the Colonels to direct a Captain,

Ensign, Sergeant, and two Corporals, to march with the draughts of each company; and though the number of officers was greater than I deemed necessary, yet I incline to think the men would not have marched with the same alacrity had they not been accompanied by their Captains. After the troops had arrived at their several places of rendezvous, I discharged the supernumerary officers in every instance when I could do it without breeding great discontent among the troops, both officers and privates being in general averse to the measure.

I have further to inform your Board, that I have taken such steps as will put it in the power of every officer and private now on duty to attend and give their votes at the ensuing elections without leaving our coast exposed to the attacks of the enemy, which it is not at all improbable they will make, under an idea that our people are taken off to attend the elections.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

HENRY HOOPER.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety.

## JOSEPH W. HARRISON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Port-Tobacco, July 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have the happiness to inform you that the *Molly*, Captain *Thomas Conway*, is once more safely arrived in *Great Wicomico, Virginia*, with a fine cargo of arms and ammunition. The enclosed papers will furnish you with particulars. Captain *Conway* will remain at *Port-Tobacco* till the express returns, waiting for your orders. My brother adventured in this vessel to the amount of £211 7s. 6s., *Maryland* currency. He writes the customary freight is ten per cent. If so, the amount shall be remitted by the first safe conveyance. The goods consist of twenty bolts of osnaburgh, nine barrels of powder, and seven small swords.

I am, very respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOS. W. HARRISON.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

N. B. Captain *Conway* had a passage of fourteen days.

## GERRARD HOPKINS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, July 30, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 27th instant, wherein you enclosed me an order on the Treasurer for £50, which I am much obliged to you for.

You desire me to inform you whether I have the knapsacks and haversacks made in one. When Colonel *Ware* requested me to have the five hundred made, he desired I would have haversacks made, and did not mention knapsacks. I also showed him a pattern before they were made. Colonel *Ewing's* are made without knapsacks also. I think they cannot cost altogether, finished off, more than 3s. apiece. They are made out of cruder out of the magazine. I have advanced myself, as the women were in want of cash, as far as 9d. apiece; which, I make no doubt, is within bounds. They think, as they found thread, they ought to be allowed 1s. apiece. I shall pay all attention to what you say in regard to the delivery of the stores. You desire to know

I can inform you I have not yet received any, but make no doubt but that I shall receive it soon.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GERRARD HOPKINS, *son of Rd.*

To *Gabriel Duwall, Esq., Annapolis*.

P. S. I have received the linen sent by *Alexander Brown*, and delivered it to Mr. *Johnson*, who will make the tents as soon as possible.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COL. HOLLINGSWORTH.

[No. 91.]

Annapolis, July 30, 1776.

SIR: We should be obliged to you, if you would inform us by letter how soon you can comply with the enclosed resolve.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ARCHIBALD BUCHANAN.  
[No. 92.] Annapolis, July 30, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you have a copy of the agreement made between the Council of Safety and Messrs. *Galloway* and *Stewart*.

Two galleys are not yet contracted for; and as a favourable representation has been made of the skill and diligence of the workmen in your yard, and we place great confidence in you, if you can contract to build them by the 15th day of *November* next at farthest, and will enter into a similar engagement with the enclosed, we are inclined to give you a preference.

You are desired to attend the Council, to enter into a contract and receive a draught of the row-galleys, as soon as possible. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Archibald Buchanan*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JACOB SCHLEY.  
[No. 93.] Annapolis, July 30, 1776.

SIR: The publick service requires that you should send to this place, with all the expedition you can, the rifles by you made for the use of the Province; also, the ten large rifles contracted by you to be made and delivered on the first day of *August* next. We therefore earnestly request you will comply with your engagements; and are yours, &c.  
To Mr. *Jacob Schley*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GUN-LOCK COMMISSIONERS.  
[No. 94.] Annapolis, July 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As a considerable time has elapsed since your erecting your gun-lock manufactory, we are in great hopes you have made a number for the use of this Province. The Province is in great distress for arms. Few of the troops raised for the Flying-Camp are supplied with them, and the Militia will not lend theirs. There is an absolute necessity, therefore, that you immediately send down what locks you have. We expect fire-locks from *John Yost*. They may come from thence, if you continue them there. We desire also to know how many locks you make per week. We have barrels enough here and in *Kent* for the locks you can make. We are, &c.

To the Commissioners of Gun-Lock Manufactory.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MAJOR PRICE.  
[No. 95.] Annapolis, July 30, 1776.

SIR: We have given orders to Captain *Mantz* to march down to *St. Mary's*, to take the place of Captain *John Allen Thomas's* company, until further orders. You will be pleased to station him in such manner as may be most for the publick service. And we request that Captain *Thomas's* company may immediately march to the northward, according to the order of Convention.

The cannon that were sent down, will be wanted here. Should the men-of-war be gone off, which we expect either is or soon will be the case, we request you would order the cannon to the mouth of the *Patuxent*, and let them be brought up here by water, if the passage appear safe, otherwise you are to order them up by land.

Nothing new from *New-York*, only that the Highlanders not taken by our cruisers, are arrived.

When all is quiet below, we expect to have the pleasure of seeing you here. And are yours, &c.

To Major *Thomas Price*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL CHAMBERLAIN.  
[No. 96.] Annapolis, July 30, 1776.

SIR: We shall esteem it a particular favour if you will have an examination made of the powder in your magazine, and give us an account as well of the number of barrels of cannon as musket; and when we receive the account, we shall take care to make such regulation as will leave a sufficient quantity of each kind to answer every purpose.

You must continue your Militia guards over the powder until the place of Captain *Hindman's* company is supplied by a Flying-Camp company. When they will be raised, armed and equipped for that or any other purpose, you can

ascertain full as well, if not better, than we can. As to the number of men requisite for a guard, you must certainly be a more competent judge than we are. We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Chamberlain*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAINS BARNES AND ELLIOTT.  
[No. 97.] Annapolis, July 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You are requested to furnish Captain *Dean* with as much ammunition and flints as will be necessary for his company, while it continues upon that Island, out of the powder, lead and flints, delivered to you by the Council of Safety. We are, &c.

To Captains *Barnes* and *Elliott*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ISAAC GRIEST.  
[No. 98.] Annapolis, July 30, 1776.

SIR: We received the several patterns of wooden bottles, alias kegs. We should be much obliged to you to bespeak two thousand of them, of the sort marked at 2s. 7d. We approve of it, and imagine you can engage a quantity much cheaper than a single one. We desire you will bespeak them immediately. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Isaac Griest*.

#### BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a Meeting of the Committee, *July 30, 1776*:

Present: William *Lux*, (Chairman,) J. Merryman, B. Griffith, J. T. Chase, W. Aisquith, J. Calhoun, J. Cockey, J. Boyd.

A Plan of a Magazine was offered by Mr. *Benjamin Griffith*, of forty feet long, twenty-six feet wide, divided in the middle, so as to make two rooms of thirty-two feet by six and a half wide, and sufficient to hold five hundred barrels of powder; which the Committee agrees to adopt, instead of the one exhibited the 18th instant, that being, on calculation, too small. They accordingly agreed with Mr. *John Cockey* to furnish the scantling, at 13s. 6d. per hundred, delivered on the spot; the inch-plank at 8s., and the one-and-a-quarter-inch at 9s., also delivered on the spot.

Ordered, That advertisements be put up, desiring any person willing to contract for the Carpenter's work of the said building, to apply, on *Wednesday* next, the 7th *August*, to Mr. *Benjamin Griffith*, and leave their Proposals, in writing, with him.

The Chairman is directed to answer the Letters from the honourable Council of Safety relative to building the said Magazine.

The Chairman being informed by Mr. *Robert Christie*, Sheriff of this County, that he had reason to be apprehensive of violence being offered to him, the said Sheriff, on account of his not attending to read the Declaration of Independence on *Monday* last, agreeable to the desire of the Committee; and that from these apprehensions, he would be under the disagreeable necessity of retiring to the country, and withdrawing himself from the publick service; whereupon,

Resolved, That the Committee do declare their utter disapprobation of all threats and violence being offered to any persons whatever, as contrary to the Resolves of Congress, and the sense of the Convention of this Province; that they conceive themselves bound to protect (as far as is in their power) the Civil Officers in the discharge of their duty; that they do expect of, and call upon every good citizen and friend to his country to assist them in their endeavours to preserve the peace and good order of society, and to prevent all riots and tumults, and personal abuse or violence to individuals; that the good people of *Baltimore*, having hitherto been so respectfully attentive to the Resolves of this Committee on all occasions, they flatter themselves that due regard will be paid to this recommendation.

Attest:

Geo. *Lux*, Secretary.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the pleasure to enclose, at this time, sundry resolves of Congress, relating principally to new appointments and promotions in the Army.

The return of Colonel *Elmore's* Regiment (which you will please to give orders to join you) I now transmit, together with blank commissions, to be filled up with the names of such officers as appear with their respective companies in the regiment. I shall deliver commissions agreeably to the enclosed resolves, as soon as possible, and order the gentlemen to repair to their respective departments.

The regiment raised in *Connecticut*, under Colonel *Ward*, you will order wherever the service, in your judgment, shall require it.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the highest esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. I return you the letter from Mrs. *French*. Your favour of the 29th this moment came to hand. I shall send the blank commissions this evening, by *Fessenden*. Several resolutions are passed in consequence of your letters. I will send by *Fessenden*, and not longer detain the post. \$500,000 will be on the way to you to-morrow; \$60,000 also to the Flying-Camp.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1776.

SIR: Monsieur *St. Martins* having been recommended to Congress as a gentleman conversant with the Engineering branch, they have been pleased to appoint him in that department with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. I have delivered him his commission, and directed him to repair to you, at *New-York*, to receive orders, and you will employ him where you judge the service will be best promoted.

I have the honour to be, with much esteem, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO CAPTAIN MORRIS.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of an application from General *Mercer* for six Lighthorse to be sent to him at the Flying-Camp in *New-Jersey*, as soon as possible, I am to request, by order of Congress, you will give the necessary orders to Mr. *Randolph*, and the party who are engaged with him in that service, to repair to the Flying-Camp immediately. You will please to lose no time in complying with this requisition.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Captain *Samuel Morris*, commanding the Lighthorse, *Philadelphia*.

SAMUEL CHASE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I this moment received the enclosed letter from Colonel *Stricker*, and send it to you for your orders to him.

If you think proper to grant him the liberty of inlisting into the *German* battalion from the companies raised for the Flying-Camp, it might promote the service, as the former are inlisted for three years, and the latter only till *December*. I am sensible difficulties will occur.

Arms and blankets are as necessary as men; but an account should be transmitted to your Board. Unless you give orders as to the quantity and mode of subsistence, I am afraid great extravagance will happen. No news from *New-York*, except that a sail, supposed part of Lord *Howe's* fleet, arrived at the *Hook* the 27th.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your obedient servant,

SAML. CHASE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

THOMAS STONE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We shall endeavour to procure the instruments desired by yours of the 25th; but they are not easily procured, the demand for the Continental Army being very

great, and many of the cutlers of this city having gone to *Jersey* with the Militia.

The powder and arms were sent some days ago to *Annapolis*, which we hope will be attended with no inconvenience. We have not the least doubt but everything in your power will be done in the best manner for the publick service, and the preservation of every part of the *United States*. *Maryland*, to be sure, must be a principal object of your attention; and we hope, considering the spirit and alacrity which all ranks of men have shown, whenever occasion required their services, that our coast will be secure against the ravages of *Dunmore* and his rascally gang of Pirates.

We have nothing lately from *Ticonderoga*. The enemy do not stir from *Staten-Island*. Eight ships arrived there a few days ago; but whether they brought men or not, we have not heard. General *Washington* has now a considerable strength at *New-York*; but there are only three thousand men in *Jersey*, where there ought to be at least ten thousand. Colonel *Smallwood* is at *New-York*. We have no doubt but the subsistence money will be readily paid, and we wish every necessary which can be had may be furnished the Militia before they march. Money will be advanced to them now if they need it. Hunting-shirts will be a convenient and good uniform, if they can be had. We shall at all times give you the earliest information of all important occurrences, and shall with pleasure execute your commands.

And have the honour to be, your most obedient servant,  
T. STONE.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. My brothers are engaged in other business, and the post is going, so that their signatures must be dispensed with.  
T. S.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO JOHN BRADFORD.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1776.

SIR: We take the liberty to enclose herein some despatches for Messrs. *Samuel* and *J. H. Delap*, merchants in *Bordeaux*, which you will please to deliver into Captain *Cleveland's* own hands, with a strict charge to take the utmost care of them, and follow the orders also enclosed herein directed to him, which you will be pleased to deliver, and enjoin his punctual obedience, on which will depend his future employment and advancement in the publick service. Mr. *Morris* informs us of the alacrity with which you have executed his commission in the purchase of the brigantine *Despatch*; and anything further of this kind offers, this Committee will claim the liberty of troubling you again; being very respectfully, sir, your obedient servants.

To *John Bradford*, Esq.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN CLEVELAND.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1776.

SIR: We have been regularly informed by *John Bradford*, Esq., of his purchasing, loading, and fitting the brigantine *Despatch*, in consequence of our orders; and we approve of his having appointed you to the command of that brigantine, in the Continental service, as he gives you an extremely good character, of which we hope and expect to find you very deserving. The honourable Continental Congress, of which we are members, authorized us, as a Committee, to purchase the brigantine, and to order her on such voyage as would best answer certain purposes to the States of *America*. You will receive this by the hands of *John Philip Merkle*, Esq., and are to be governed by the following instructions during the present voyage, or until you receive others from Congress, or from this or some other Committee of Congress:

Mr. *Bradford* will require bills of lading from you for the entire cargo on board the *Despatch*, consigned to the above-mentioned *John Philip Merkle*, Esq., (who is to go passenger in the brigantine,) at her discharging port in *Europe*. Such bills of lading you are to sign; receive Mr. *Merkle* on board; assist him in providing sea-stores; and then proceed with the utmost diligence to the coast of *France*, avoiding most carefully all vessels at sea, and put into the first convenient port you can make in that Kingdom, (*Nantz* or *Bordeaux*, perhaps, may be the safest,) and you must there deliver to Mr. *Merkle* any part of the cargo he may find it convenient to sell, or the whole if he chooses it. We enclose to Mr.



*Bradford*, by this conveyance, a packet directed for Messrs. *Samuel* and *J. H. Delap*, merchants in *Bordeaux*. Mr. *Bradford* will deliver that packet to you, and we require your utmost care of it. Should you have the misfortune to be taken, you must throw it overboard slung with a weight that will sink it, for on no account must this fall into the hands of our enemies. On the contrary, if you get safe into *Bordeaux*, deliver it yourself to Messrs. *Samuel* and *J. H. Delap*, merchants, there. If you go into any other port, forward it to them by post or special messenger, as you may be advised is safest and best. You must also advise these gentlemen what other ports or places Mr. *Merkle* intends to order you for, and for this purpose inquire of him, and desire them to write you a few lines telling you how to direct letters to *Silas Deane*, Esq., so that they will certainly fall into his hands. We expect Mr. *Merkle* will direct you to proceed from *France* to *Amsterdam*, and you must obey his orders, delivering to him the rest of the cargo at any port or ports he may desire. He is not to pay any freight; but will supply you with all things necessary for the brigantine, and money to pay charges. For all you receive in money, stores, outfit, &c., you will grant him proper receipts; and when you have discharged entirely the present cargo, you are to receive from him all such goods, merchandise, arms, and ammunition, as he may think proper to ship, granting him bills of lading for what he puts on board. We also give you liberty to arm the brigantine in the most complete manner, with as many four-pounder cannon, swivels, blunderbusses, muskets, cutlasses, &c., as may be proper for such a vessel. You may also ship as many good seamen as you can conveniently accommodate, obtaining them on the best terms in your power; lay in a suitable stock of provisions, a sufficient quantity of ammunition, &c.; the cost and charges of all which, Mr. *Merkle* will defray, taking your receipts.

Whilst this business is transacting, you will write, immediately after your arrival at the port where it is to be done, to Messrs. *Samuel* and *J. H. Delap*, of *Bordeaux*, and also to *Silas Deane*, Esq., if you obtain from them in time his address. Tell them how to direct letters to you, and when you expect to sail, and we expect you will receive back from them letters and packets for us. If you do, the utmost care must be taken of them. Don't let them be seen by any person whatever. Sling them with a weight ready for sinking; and if taken, be sure to let them go overboard in time. But we hope you will have better fortune, and bring them safe. When your vessel is completely fitted, the cargo on board, and you have received your despatches from Mr. *Merkle*, you are then to put out to sea, and make the best of your way back to *America*. We think it best not to fix on any particular port for you to aim at; but leave you at liberty to push into the first safe harbour you can make in any of the *United States of America*; and on your arrival, apply to the Continental Agent, if there be one at or near that place; if not, to the persons in authority there, desiring their advice and assistance to forward, with the utmost expedition, to us all the letters, packets, &c., you bring. You will also write us the state and condition of your vessel, and we shall return orders for your proceedings. We send you herewith a commission, a book of regulations respecting captures, &c., and a list of the Continental Agents, for your government, if you should take any prizes. But you are to remember prizes are not your object; we wish you to make an expeditious and safe voyage, and for this reason desire you will make all possible despatch, both at sea and in port. We expect you will be careful of the brigantine, her stores and materials. Allow your people plenty of good provisions; but suffer no waste, and be as frugal as is consistent with true economy in your expenses and charges. These things duly observed will recommend you to the governing powers in *America*, and in time your utmost ambition may be gratified, provided merit leads the way to promotion. If any *American* masters or mates of ships, or seamen, want passages, you may accommodate them free of any charge or expenses. Probably Mr. *Merkle* may find it proper to make your vessel a *French* or *Dutch* bottom, and clear you out for the *West-Indies*. In such case, you will do what is needful on your part to answer his views; and we hope you will be attentive to accommodate and please him during this voyage.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

To Captain *Stephen Cleveland*.

#### MARINE COMMITTEE TO MESSRS. DELAP.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We must frequently give you the trouble to receive and forward our despatches to *Silas Deane*, Esq. As you will be possessed of his address, and from the nature of his business, which requires him to move from place to place, we cannot, you will therefore hold us excusable, and he will pay any charge that arises by postage or otherwise. We send this by Captain *Cleveland*, of the brigantine *Despatch*, which will put into some port in *France*. If it should happen to be yours, he will deliver these despatches himself; if any other, he will forward them by post or special messenger, as may be thought best by those he consults. A *John Philip Merkle*, Esq., goes passenger, and to him this vessel and cargo is addressed. If they call at *Bordeaux*, we beg to recommend Mr. *Merkle* to your attention.

We have desired Captain *Cleveland* to inform you, either in person or by letter, where he is to land his cargo, when he expects to sail from thence, and how you can direct to him with a certainty of your letters reaching his hands. We also desired him to ask of you Mr. *Deane's* address; for as we have a good opinion of this proving a safe conveyance, we wish to hear from you and Mr. *Deane* by Captain *Cleveland*, who will take particular care of the letters, and you will gratify us very much by transmitting us all the publick news, newspapers, commercial intelligence, &c., that you think can be any ways useful.

We are, sirs, yours, &c.

To Messrs. *Samuel* & *J. H. Delap*.

#### SAMUEL CHASE TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 14th instant followed me to this city, and your other favour, of the 21st, was delivered by yesterday's post. I hurried to Congress, to give my little assistance to the framing a Confederacy, and a plan for a foreign alliance—both of them subjects of the utmost importance, and which, in my judgment, demand immediate despatch. The Confederacy has engaged our close attention for a week. Three great difficulties occur: Representation, the mode of voting, and the claims to the *South-Sea*. The whole might, in my opinion, be settled, if candour, justice, and the real interests of *America* were attended to. We do not all see the importance, nay, the necessity, of a Confederacy. We shall remain weak, distracted, and divided in our councils; our strength will decrease; we shall be open to all the arts of the insidious Court of *Britain*, and no foreign Court will attend to our applications for assistance before we are confederated. What contract will a foreign State make with us, when we cannot agree among ourselves?

Our Army at *Ticonderoga* consists of six thousand men, of which three thousand are in the Hospital, from the small-pox and other camp disorders. Our Army at *New-York* contains fourteen thousand, of which only ten thousand are effective. Our Flying-Camp in the *Jerseys* has but between three and four thousand troops. No news from General *Washington*. He writes, 27th, that eight sail, supposed to be part of Lord *Howe's* fleet, arrived at the *Hook* that day. I shall always be glad to hear from you; and am, with great esteem, your affectionate friend and obedient servant,

SAMUEL CHASE.

To the Hon. *Richard Henry Lee*, Esq.

#### LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, Inspection, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, 30th July, 1776:

Present: Edward Shippen, William Atlee, William Bowman, Lodwick Lowman, Henry Dehuft, Jacob Krug, Christopher Crawford, John Miller, Adam Reigart:

*William Atlee* in the Chair.

It is the sentiment of the Committee, that *Christian Werger*, of *Leacock Township*, Gunsmith, and his Apprentice, *Martin Micksell*, ought to continue at home at that business, and ought not to be marched with Captain *Bare's* or Captain *Roland's* Company into the Camp in the *Jerseys*, it being contrary to the Resolves of the Congress and Committee of Safety to march tradesmen of that kind with the

troops; and those officers, and the Field-Officers of the Battalion to which those Companies belong, are requested to leave those persons at home, at the said trade, agreeable to the said Resolves.

The Chairman is directed, by a line to Captain *Scott*, of Colonel *Crawford's* Battalion, to request he will not march *Robert Knox* with his Company to the Camp in the *Jerseys*, his foot being in a condition which renders him unfit for duty as a soldier, his brother having lately, by accident, hurt himself so as to render him incapable of labour, and two of his sisters now lying in the small-pox, and no person remaining about the house or farm but himself who can in any manner assist them.

*Jacob*, a Mulatto, belonging to Mr. *Thomas Douglass*, *Peter*, a Negro, belonging to *John Hopkins*, *Irey*, a Negro, belonging to *Lionel Ellmaker*, suspected and charged with intending to injure the inhabitants in the absence of the Associators, are brought to Town by Mr. *Isaac McCammont*, a member of the Committee for *Salisbury Township*, and ordered to be confined in Jail for examination, &c.

*Hugh Knox*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *Hann*, Tailor, he here, in Committee, engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the Resolves of the Committee.

*William Sutherland*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *Michael Shindel*, Tailor, Mr. *Lodwick Lowman*, here in Committee, engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the Resolves of this Committee.

The Committee requests Colonel *Slough* will order *William Waggoner*, a journeyman Hatter, in the employ of Captain *Klatz*, and an Associator in Captain *Klatz's* Company, to attend constantly to his business, and excuse him from guard duty, that he may the better attend Captain *Klatz's* business in his absence.

*Nathan Wood*, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with *Nicholas Messersmith*, Tailor, he here, in Committee, engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the Resolves of this Committee.

#### CAPTAINS MARTIN AND ADAMS TO LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

Hinckel-Town, July 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Since there have been two companies marched to this place yesterday, and they are not willing to march from here until they receive the month's pay according as the Committee hath promised, we would be glad if you would send down money sufficient to pay off the men; after which they will be ready to march whenever the Colonel sees proper to march the battalion, which he thinks to do as soon as the battalion is all together.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble, obedient,

ALEXANDER MARTIN, } Captains.  
ISAAC ADAMS, }

#### GENERAL MERCER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Perth-Amboy, July 30, 1776.

SIR: Within these two days, we have observed sixteen ships pass from *Sandy-Hook* to the *Narrows*, but no new movement of the enemy on *Staten-Island*. Some more shallops have come down the *Sound*, from *Fishkill*, into *Prince's Bay*. To give us the entire command of the *Sound*, as well as to prevent the approach of tenders or armed sloops to this place, permit me to recommend to the honourable Congress, that some row-galleys be built in *Rariton River*, to mount eighteen-pounders, or any heavier metal. The cannon, I am told, may be sent from *Philadelphia*, and our artificers in the Army would construct the vessels at no great expense. I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

P. S. I have this moment heard from the *Blazing-Star*, that our field-pieces have obliged one of the shallops to return into the *Kill*.

#### GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, July 30, 1776.

SIR: I am this moment favoured with yours of yesterday, and shall set about preparing boats with all possible expedition. Your favours by Major *Ross* were extremely accept-

able. Since his arrival Colonel *Griffin* has joined me, very much to my satisfaction. Only four companies, intended for the Flying-Camp, have arrived since my last, and a battalion of Associators, consisting of three hundred and fifty. These last I have sent on to *Newark* and *Elizabeth-Town*, for the purpose of relieving such of the troops as are to form the Flying-Camp, that we may have our men who are to remain in service brought into proper order as soon as possible. It will contribute greatly to this end, if, now the harvest is secured, General *Livingston* were desired to call out into service such a number of the *New-Jersey* Militia as would guard the different posts from *Bergen*, along the *Jersey* shore. Not less than two thousand would be required for this purpose. His Excellency the General will please to consider how far such a measure is necessary.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

#### GENERAL MERCER TO COLONEL DICKINSON.

Perth-Amboy, July 30, 1776.

SIR: I enclose you a copy of what the officers determined on yesterday, relative to the rations. I have this morning received instructions from Head-Quarters, to have proper boats built for the purpose of transporting troops with safety and expedition. I am told that Captain *Manuel Eyres*, of your regiment, would be a proper person to direct this business. We should have at least twenty of them prepared. The service requires that we should as speedily as possible set about this matter. After consulting with Captain *Eyres*, you will be able to furnish me with such hints as may greatly expedite the service.

I am, sir, your most respectful, and your obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To Col. *John Dickinson*, commanding at *Elizabeth-Town*.

[Thus endorsed by me:—July 30, 1776, I took all the necessary steps on this letter—collected a dozen of the most proper persons—conferred with General *Livingston* and them—procured all the information I could, and sent Captain *Eyres* and Mr. *Joshua Mercereau*, July 31st, to General *Mercer* for his final orders; wrote so to him at large, with some material intelligence I had received concerning the weak guard on *Newark-Bay*; sent him the best map of *Staten-Island* that has yet been made, which I procured Mr. *Mercereau* to make.

[The design was an attack on *Staten-Island*.]

J. D.]

J. D.]

#### GENERAL ROBERDEAU TO PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Amboy, July 30, 1776.

HONoured SIRs: Within these few days past the enemy have been collecting shallops and small craft, which makes me apprehensive they are planning a descent somewhere, probably in this place, as the present condition of it seems to afford such an opportunity.

*Amboy* is parted from *Staten-Island* by a Sound about four hundred yards wide. The river *Rariton* is on the south side of the town, from which, to a marsh on the north side, the bank is high, and I conceive easily defended. The marsh is in some places impassable; where it is not so, guards are planted; but as the enemy have the command of the water, they have it in their power to go up the *Rariton*, and, by landing their men some miles above us, to attempt at least to intercept the communication between this place, which is on a point of land, and the country; in which case we should soon be distressed, as we have no magazine of provisions, and the small circle we should be enclosed in, not sufficiently stored to supply any considerable number of men any length of time. This appears to me the most probable scheme they can attempt here, while, from the best observations I can make, I am of opinion that a few row-galleys in the river *Rariton* would be the best means either to prevent their landing, or to destroy their craft after they had landed, and by that means retaliate their scheme, by cutting off their retreat.

I observed while at *Philadelphia*, several pieces of cannon, in several parts of the city, which, though not sufficiently sightly for a man-of-war, would be serviceable in this case, and might, with a few carriages, be easily conveyed here, as the land carriage would be but thirty miles from *Trenton* to *Brunswick*. Here are some scows, and a large kind of flat-bottomed boats, called *Wild-Cats*, which might be expeditiously fitted up for temporary galleys, until others can be supplied, as we have several carpenters and ship-carpenters, but are in want of tools.

I can see many advantages we shall receive from the service of a few armed boats, the want of which distresses us greatly, our cannon on the bank being too light to give the enemy any material obstruction on the water; who, notwithstanding our fire, have passed from day to day through the *Sound* without receiving much injury.

I am, honourable sirs, your most obedient and very humble servant,

DANIEL ROBERDEAU.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 1, 1776.]

New-York, July 30, 1776.

SIR: I was this morning honoured with your two favours of yesterday's date; and agreeable to your request have given Mr. *Palfrey* liberty to negotiate your claim with Mr. *Brimer*, and wish it may be satisfied agreeably to you.

I last night received a letter from General *Schuyler*, [dated *German-Flats*, July 24,] a copy of which I do myself the honour to transmit to you. You will thereby perceive his reasons for leaving *Crown-Point* and preferring the post the Council of Officers determined to take opposite to *Ticonderoga*. I am totally unacquainted with these several posts and the country about there, and therefore cannot determine on the validity of his observations, or think myself at liberty to give any direction in the matter. Congress will please to observe what he says of their distress for money. From hence he can have no relief, there being only about three or four thousand dollars in the Paymaster's hands, according to his return this morning, and all but two months' pay due the Army, besides many other demands. I could wish that proper supplies of money could be always kept: the want may occasion consequences of an alarming nature. By a letter from him of a prior date to the copy enclosed, he tells me that a Mr. *Ryckman*, who had just returned through the country of the *Six Nations*, reports that the *Indians* who were at *Philadelphia*, had gone home with very favourable ideas of our strength and resources. This he heard in many of their villages. A lucky circumstance, if it will gain either their friendship or secure their neutrality.

In my letter of the 27th, I informed Congress of my views and wishes to attempt something against the troops on *Staten-Island*. I am now to acquaint them, that by the advice of General *Mercer* and other officers at *Amboy*, it will be impracticable to do anything upon a large scale for want of craft; and as the enemy have the entire command of the water all round the Island, I have desired General *Mercer* to have nine or ten flat-bottomed boats at *Newark-Bay* and *Elizabeth-Town*, with a design principally to keep up the communication across *Hackinsack* and *Passaic Rivers*, which I deem a matter of great importance and extremely necessary to be attended to.

Since I wrote you yesterday, eleven ships more, four brigs, and two sloops, have come into the *Hook*. I have not yet received intelligence what any of the late arrivals are, but I suppose we shall not long remain in a state of uncertainty.

Having reason to believe that Lord *Howe* will readily come into an exchange of such prisoners as may be more immediately under his command, and that something will be offered on this subject within a day or two, or rather come in answer to the propositions I have made General *Howe*, I shall be glad to have Congress's interpretation of the resolve of the 22d instant, empowering the Commanders to exchange, &c., whether by the word "sailor," they mean sailors generally, as well those taken in the vessels of private adventurers by the enemy, as those belonging to the Continental cruisers or vessels in the Continental employ, or whether they only design to extend the exchange to the latter, those in their particular employ. I would also observe, that heretofore sailors belonging to merchant ships that have fallen into our hands, and those employed merely as transports, have not generally been considered as prisoners. I submit it to Congress, whether it may not be now necessary to pass a resolve declaring their sentiments on this subject, and in general who are to be treated as prisoners of war that are taken on board vessels belonging to the subjects of the *British Crown*, &c. The result of their opinion upon the first question proposed you will be pleased to transmit me by the earliest opportunity.

I have enclosed for the consideration of Congress a me-

morial and petition by Captain *Aldridge*, praying to be relieved against the loss of money stolen from him, not conceiving myself authorized to grant his request. The certificate which attends it proves him to be a man of character, and his loss is hard on his state of it. Whether making the loss good may not open a door to others, and give rise to applications not so just as his may be, I cannot determine. That seems to be the only objection to relieving him.

I am informed by General *Putnam* that there are some of the *Stockbridge Indians* here, (I have not seen them myself,) who express great uneasiness at their not being employed by us, and have come to inquire into the cause. I am sensible Congress had them not in contemplation when they resolved that *Indians* might be engaged in our service. However, as they seem so anxious, as they were led to expect it from General *Schuyler* and the other Commissioners, as we are under difficulties in getting men, and there may be danger of their, or some of them, taking an unfavourable part, I beg leave to submit it as my opinion, under all these circumstances, that they had better be employed.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 22, 1776.

(Parole, *Richmond*.)

(Countersign, *Savoy*.)

The Orderly Sergeants who attend at Head-Quarters, are hereafter to bring their dinners, and wait till they are regularly relieved.

As it is much to be feared the state of the necessary houses in the city may endanger the health of the Troops quartered there, it is recommended to the officers and men to guard against it as much as possible; and if any method can be fallen on to remove or lessen the inconvenience, to apply to the Barrackmaster for that purpose. The General has noticed with pleasure the care of the Troops in the encampments, on this subject. He hopes they will continue it for the sake of their own health, and the credit of the Army.

It being represented to the General that many Regiments would at this season choose to lessen their rations of Meat, and supply it with Vegetables, if they could be permitted; his concern for the health of the Troops, and desire to gratify them in every reasonable request, induces him to direct that the Colonels of such Regiments as choose to adopt this plan, signify it to the Commissary-General, and in two days afterwards the Quartermaster of such Regiment be allowed to draw one-quarter part of the usual Rations in money, to be laid out in Vegetables for his Regiment.

Passes from Colonel *Knox* for the Officers and Soldiers of the Artillery only, to be sufficient to pass the Ferries.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 23, 1776.

(Parole, *Trenton*.)

(Countersign, *Upton*.)

Lieutenant *Fuller*, of Captain *Keyes's* Company, Twentieth Regiment, tried by a General Court-Martial, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *Hobby* was President, for "inoculating, and disobedience of orders," is honourably acquitted and discharged from his arrest.

It is with great astonishment and surprise the General hears that soldiers enlist from one corps to another, and frequently receive a bounty, and that some officers have knowingly received such men. So glaring a fraud upon the publick, and injury to the service, will be punished in the most exemplary manner; and the General most earnestly requests and expects of every good officer who loves his country not only to oppose such practices, but to make the offenders known, that they may be brought to justice.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 24, 1776.

(Parole, *Virginia*.)

(Countersign, *Wales*.)

Each Brigadier, with the Colonel and Commanding Officer of the several Regiments in his Brigade, are to meet and estimate the quantity of Paper absolutely necessary to serve a Regiment for Returns, and other publick uses, for a month, and make report thereof to the General at Orderly time on *Friday* next, that the Quartermaster-General may be directed to provide and deliver the same monthly to the Colonels for the use of their respective Regiments.

The General being sensible of the difficulty and expense of providing Clothes, of almost any kind, for the Troops, feels an unwillingness to recommend, much more to order, any

kind of uniform; but as it is absolutely necessary that men should have Clothes, and appear decent and tight, he earnestly encourages the use of Hunting-Shirts, with long breeches made of the same cloth, gaiter-fashion about the legs, to all those yet unprovided. No dress can be had cheaper or more convenient, as the wearer may be cool in warm weather, and warm in cool weather, by putting on under-clothes, which will not change the outward dress, winter or summer; besides, it is a dress justly supposed to carry no small terror to the enemy, who think every such person a complete marksman.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 25, 1776.

(Parole, Abingdon.)

(Countersign, Bedford.)

Care to be taken in future, that the Provost Marshal's Guard be properly officered, there having been a complaint made on that head.

*Henry Davis*, tried for "Desertion," is sentenced to receive twenty lashes. *Patrick Lyons*, for "Drunkenness, and sleeping on his post," thirty lashes.

It is with inexpressible concern the General sees soldiers, fighting in the cause of liberty and their country, committing crimes most destructive to the Army, and which in all other Armies are punished with death. What a shame and reproach will it be, if soldiers, fighting to enslave us for two pence or three pence a day, should be more regular, watchful and sober than men who are contending for everything that is dear and valuable in life.

The honourable Continental Congress, in consideration of the Sergeant-Majors, Quartermaster Sergeants, Drum and Fife Majors not having pay adequate to their service, and hoping it will excite them to vigilance and industry, have been pleased to increase the pay of them—officers having no other appointment, one dollar per month, to commence the 16th instant.

Those soldiers who have entered on board the row-galley commanded by *Cook*, are to repair immediately on board; and the officer of the regiment to which they respectively belong, are to forward them as much as possible, as the service is of the most important kind.

*Peter Gusten*, Esquire, is appointed Major of Brigade to Brigadier-General *Heard*, and is to be obeyed and respected as such.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 26, 1776.

(Parole, Cambridge.)

(Countersign, Darby.)

The General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow for the trial of *Ensign Bryant*, now under arrest for "sending some soldiers to take away old iron, and other materials, from the ships now fitting for publick use."

A guard at *Harrison's Brewery*, to be mounted, consisting of one Subaltern, one Sergeant, one Corporal, and twenty-four Privates, every evening, and sentries to be posted at proper distances from the *Air Furnace*, along the shore, till they come opposite to Colonel *Baldwin's* Quarters.

General *Greene* being particularly engaged at present, passes signed by Lieutenant *Blodgett* are to be allowed sufficient to enable persons to cross the Ferries.

Complaints having been made that some of the soldiers ill treat the country-people who come to market, the General most positively forbids such behaviour, and hopes the officers will exert themselves to prevent it. Good policy, as well as justice, demands that they should have all possible encouragement, as the health of the soldiers much depends upon supplies of vegetables. Those who have been guilty of such practices will do well to consider what will be our situation, at this season, if we drive off the country-people, and break up the market: the healthy will soon be sick, and the sick must perish for want of necessaries. No favour will be shown to any offenders hereafter.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 27, 1776.

(Parole, Effingham.)

(Countersign, )

Complaints are made, that officers who are to attend the men upon fatigue and other duty grow remiss. The General hopes they will consider what the effects of so bad an example might be to the men; and as he believes it proceeds rather from inattention than design, flatters himself there will be no occasion to remind them of their duty hereafter.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 28, 1776.

(Parole, Gravesend.)

(Countersign, Hungary.)

*William Peck*, Esq., who has for some time past done the duty of Brigade-Major to General *Spencer*, is appointed to that office, and to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Some of the Adjutants have, of late, been very remiss in making up their returns by eleven o'clock, on *Saturday*, not sending their detachments properly officered, or relieving their Orderly-Sergeants at Head-Quarters. These gentlemen will, in future, be pointed out in the General Orders, and after that put under arrest, if they are not more attentive.

The General, finding the number of sick to increase, and being desirous to have them as well accommodated as possible, directs that the Barrack-Master, under the direction of the Colonel or Commanding Officer of each regiment, fix on some house convenient to the regiment, to be improved as an Hospital for the reception of patients just taken down, or whose disorder does not require any special assistance beyond that of their own Regimental Surgeon. One of the Surgeons of the Hospital will occasionally visit these Hospitals, and determine when the nature of the case requires the patient to be removed to the General Hospital, which will hereafter be kept in different houses contiguous to each brigade. The Regimental Surgeons are to receive directions from, and be responsible to, the Director-General, so far as respects the furnishing their Regimental Hospitals with conveniences for their sick. The Regimental Surgeons are also to keep a register of their sick, and make a weekly return to the Director and Commissary-General, severally, of the sick in their respective Regiments.

As the rations issued for men in health are very improper for those who are sick, the following regulations are to take place: Whenever a person is taken sick, he is not to be borne on the provision return; but the value of his rations be obtained in suitable supplies from the General Hospital, to be drawn by the Surgeon of the Regiment, who is to conform to the rules of diet established in the General Hospitals, and to account with the Director-General.

The Quartermaster of each Regiment to apply for necessaries at the Quartermaster-General's, for the sick. Guards to be on the parade every morning before eight o'clock.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 29, 1776.

(Parole, Jersey.)

(Countersign, Kingwood.)

The Quartermaster-General is directed to furnish twelve quires of Paper to each Regiment, per month, viz: one quire to the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, one to each Company, and one to the Adjutant; the remaining two quires to be kept by the Colonel, as a reserve for special occasions, exclusive of Orderly books and blank Returns.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 30, 1776.

(Parole, Lancaster.)

(Countersign, Medford.)

The Quartermaster-General is to provide canteens as soon as possible, and to have the water in the several works, in casks, examined, that there may be a fresh supply, if necessary.

It is represented to the General, that the pump-water in the city is very unhealthy. The Troops are therefore cautioned against the use of it; and the Quartermaster and Commissary Generals are to consult together, and fix upon some mode of supply of fresh water for the Troops in the city.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 31, 1776.

(Parole, Norwalk.)

(Countersign, Oxford.)

*Ensign Bryant*, charged with "embezzling publick property," having been tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Webb* is President, is acquitted of any fraudulent intention, but censured by the Court for indiscretion, in permitting some of the soldiers taking away old iron from the shipping. The General approves of the sentence, and orders him to be discharged from arrest.

It is with astonishment and concern the General finds that the precautions used to prevent the countersign being made known to any not entitled to it, are defeated by the ignorance or misconduct of those to whom it is intrusted. In order that none may plead ignorance hereafter, the officers and soldiers are to know that the following rule is established:

The Adjutant General, at six o'clock, P. M., will deliver



the parole and countersign to the Majors of Brigade and Adjutant of Artillery; they, at Retreat-beating, and not before, are to deliver them to the Adjutants of their respective Brigades. The Adjutants are to deliver them to the Field-Officers of their respective Brigades, if required; then to the officers of the advanced guards; then to the officer of every other guard in and about the city or camp. And the General flatters himself, that when the importance and necessity of secrecy upon this head is considered, every officer and soldier will pride himself in his fidelity, prudence, and discipline.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL HOWE.

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 30, 1776.

SIR: Lieutenant-Colonel *Patterson*, Adjutant-General of the Army under your command, at the interview between us, having proposed an exchange of Mr. *Lovell* for Governour *Skene*, I am authorized to inform you, that the Congress have not only approved of this proposition, but, judging that a general exchange of prisoners will be attended with mutual convenience and pleasure to both parties, have empowered their commanders in each department to negotiate one, in the following manner: "Continental officers for those of equal rank either in the land or sea service, soldier for soldier, sailor for sailor, and citizen for citizen." They have also particularly mentioned the exchange of Colonel *Ethan Allen* for any officer of the same or inferior rank.

You will be pleased to signify the time and place for that of Mr. *Lovell* and Governour *Skene*, that I may give direction for the latter to be ready, who is now at *Hortford*, about one hundred and twenty miles from hence; also, to favour me with your sentiments, as well on the proposition respecting Colonel *Allen*, as on the subject of a general exchange.

I have the honour to be, with due respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant-General *Howe*.

BARON DE CALBIAC TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, July 30, 1776.

MY GENERAL: I cannot express to you how humiliating it is to a man who thinks that his sentiments are of the purest kind, to be the sport of evil-minded men, who, I am informed, have said many things to my prejudice to your Excellency. To convince you of the purity of my intentions, and to give you a just idea of my views in coming to this country, I have enclosed you the copies of letters which I have written to the Minister in *France*, having sent a duplicate to Colonel *McKean*, having also communicated it to General *Mifflin*.

I also enclose you my second commission, which I have found among my papers. I desire to be favoured with one minute of your Excellency's precious time.

Assuring your Excellency of my most respectful attachment to you and the glorious cause in which you fight,

I am your Excellency's most obedient,

LE BARON DE CALBIAC.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 30, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Since my last, there are several companies arrived, and I intend immediately to post one company at *Cheshire's*, to clear the roads as fast as possible. I here send you a few peas, which is all I could get at present. I sent three or four miles round to get some butter to send to your Honour, but could not get one pound on any account whatever. Every man here is employed to the best advantage for the publick good; the chief of our men are obliged constantly to be on fatigue in assisting the carpenters.

I hope your Honour will excuse the gondola not coming sooner. The reason was they had much more to do than they expected to complete the platform for the mortar.

Axes and spades are very much wanted here, but shall endeavour to do with what we have until a supply comes.

I am, sir, with respect, your Honour's humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*, *Ticonderoga*.

CAPTAIN WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, July 30, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I have sent you one gondola more down, which the carpenters have named after me. I hope you will send a good officer on board of her. I have had her made as strong as she could be made, which you will see by the work done in her. I also send you one sailor out of my regiment down. I would be glad you would order him on board immediately, or I am afraid he will run off and leave you. I will get one gondola and the row-galley finished this week, and send them down to you. As for boards, the General allows the soldiers and carpenters to use them as fast as I can possibly get them down as yet.

I am, dear General, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

CORNELIUS WYNKOOP.

To Major-General *Gates*, at *Ticonderoga*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Ticonderoga, July 30, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 20th instant, I received last night. I am sorry to hear your treaty with the *Indians* is so long retarded. You must have an infinite deal of trouble with them, which I am fearful will prejudice your health; and your presence is much wanted both at *Skenesborough* and this place. I wrote to you from the former place, the 25th instant, at which time only two companies of carpenters were arrived—one from *Philadelphia* and the other from *Connecticut*; since which, the whole have arrived, to the number of two hundred. I left them such directions as I thought necessary, and orders to begin four row-galleys, nearly of the construction of those built in *Philadelphia*, to carry four pieces heavy and two pieces light cannon each.

The two largest schooners are at *Crown-Point*. The sloop goes this morning, and four gondolas will follow in two or three days. I intend to visit *Skenesborough* on *Monday* next. I shall be happy to accelerate the business all in my power, and to take as much trouble from off your hands as possible, as I am sensible you have more than your share of it.

A *Frenchman*, who arrived here in fifteen days from *St. François*, confirms the intelligence respecting the *Indians*, and adds, that all the tribes in *Canada* were determined on a neutrality; that the troops were busy in building batteaus and several large vessels at *St. John's*; that General *Carleton* has given the *French* inhabitants notice of his intention of crossing *Lake Champlain* the last of *August* or beginning of *September*, and that he should depend on their joining him. If we were supplied with the articles I have written for, we shall soon be in a condition to give him a proper reception.

Enclosed is a return of the ordnance stores, shot, &c., &c., by which you will observe there are many articles wanting to complete the same; as also a great deficiency of shot, in particular grape, double-headed, chain, and round, which will be very serviceable among vessels and batteaus. More heavy cannon will be wanted for the row-galleys; the four now building will carry eight twenty-fours and eight eighteens; four others will be set up soon, and will require an equal number of guns. To supply the row-galleys and lines, we have only eleven pieces and ten twelve-pounders, which may answer, though not so well as heavier guns. If they are substituted, eleven pieces will still be wanting, with shot, &c., which I wish may be sent up, if they can possibly be procured. With the approbation of General *Gates*, I sent to *Connecticut* for three hundred seamen. The express had orders to call on you (if returned) and take your instructions in the matter. As it was uncertain if you were returned, I wrote Captain *Varick*, desiring him to give the express a warrant on the Paymaster-General for £1,000 to pay the bounty of the seamen. As the treasury was empty, he has proceeded on to General *Washington*. We are informed, that of the four regiments coming from *Boston*, there is a very considerable number of seamen, who are daily expected.

I am, &c.,

B. ARNOLD.



thought of Mr. *Hops* as a fit person for First Lieutenant among them. He was commissioned. I had not an opportunity of consulting him first. He has, upon consideration, thought proper to make his resignation. He apprehends the land service will suit him best, especially as he cannot have the men he could wish with him. He holds an Ensigny in the Sixth Battalion, which he prefers for the present. His wound is not cured yet: salt provision might be injurious to it. He hopes his conduct will not give offence.

Mr. *Calderwood*, an officer in this battalion, who is a scholar, and has been three years and a half in the sea service, part of which as a Midshipman on board a man-of-war, is desirous of serving as an officer of Marines on this Lake. He is a person of courage, and will show himself worthy of an appointment. I beg leave to recommend him to your Honour to be appointed a First Lieutenant of Marines on board the schooner *Royal Savage*, in the room of Mr. *Hops*. I would be very glad that his commission should bear the same date with that to Mr. *Hops*.

Mr. *Calderwood* is a good draughtsman, and may be useful in this particular also on the Lake.

I am afraid my writing so often may give you offence, but I shall not be so troublesome for the future.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your humble servant,  
THOS. HARTLEY.

To Major-General *Gates*.

#### CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, July 30, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour; *Elipt. Dyer, Jz. Huntington, Richd. Law, Titus Hosmer, Jed. Elderkin, Wm. Hillhouse, Nathl. Wales, and Benj. Huntington, Esqs.*

Voted and allowed to *Prosper Wetmore, Esq.*, Sheriff of the County of *New-London*, the sum of £12 2s. 10d., for his expense and trouble in supporting and guarding twenty-two Continental prisoners, taken by Commodore *Hopkins*, and transporting them, with their baggage, to *Windham Jail*, as per bill.

Also voted and allowed to said *Wetmore* the sum of £11 4s., for transporting Dr. *Church*, by order of Congress, from *Norwich* to *Boston*, and from thence to *Watertown*, as per bill.

Also voted and allowed to said *Wetmore* the sum of £9 5s., for his trouble and expense with Dr. *Church* whilst a prisoner in his care, from *November* 1775, until the 27th of *May*, 1776, and for his trouble in waiting on Dr. *Church* abroad for his health, at sundry times, during his imprisonment, as was ordered by Congress; amounting, in the whole, to £32 11s. 10d., lawful money.

(Order drawn and delivered Mr. *Wetmore*.)

Voted and allowed to *Ebenezer Backus, Jun.*, of *Norwich*, the sum of £12 2s. 8d., for victualling nineteen prisoners and their guards five days, as per bill 30th *July*, 1776.

(Order drawn on the back of the bill, and delivered Mr. *Wetmore*.)

Voted to draw an order on the Pay-Table for a £1000, in favour of Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw, Jun.*, for the Colony use, and to render account.

(Order drawn 30th *July*, and delivered to Colonel *Huntington*.)

Voted the following Instructions to his Honour Colonel *Huntington*, from his Honour the Governour and Council of Safety:

You are directed to proceed to *New-London*, with all possible despatch, and there, in behalf and for the use of the Colony, in conjunction with your son Mr. *Andrew Huntington*, to purchase necessary clothing for the Troops of this Colony, as you can procure upon the most reasonable terms. You are also to treat with the owner of the *Bermudian* sloop, brought into said port by the Continental fleet, for the purchase thereof, and to find out his terms, conditions, &c., and report make; and in the mean time to lay an injunction against the said sloop's leaving said port till further orders from this Board be had thereon. And you, with your son, are to purchase all the swivel-guns and the shot belonging to them, one-third of the cannon and

shot, and also one hundred stand of arms, and all the lead-shot lately brought into said port by a *French* sloop.

*Memorandum*.—There is a quantity of timber, plank, &c., at *Hayden's Yard* in *Saybrook*, which belongs to the Colony, and must, at some seasonable time, be taken care of.

#### WORCESTER (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

Worcester, July 30, 1776.

Agreeably to a Resolve of the Continental Congress, the Committee of the Town of *Worcester* having liberated *Alexander Gardner* and *John Thornhill*, two prisoners of war, that they might support themselves by their labour; and on the 28th day of *July* instant they went from this town together, and have not since returned. *Gardner* had on, when he went away, a red coat lappelled with buff, buttons marked 10; he has been a drummer in the Twenty-Third Regiment of Fusiliers. *Thornhill* has been a sailor, had on a sailor's blue jacket, speaks something slow, pretty tall. Whoever will take up and return the said prisoners to the Committee of Safety, &c., for the Town of *Worcester*, shall receive four dollars reward, and all reasonable charges, or two dollars for either of them.

NATHAN BALDWIN, *Chairman*.

#### MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO THEOPHILUS CUSHING.

In Council, July 30, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Committee of Council to inform you that there are many complaints from different parts of this State for want of camp-kettles, canteens, &c., which you, as one of the Committee, were to provide. I need not press the necessity of forwarding them immediately, when I inform you that the men are now waiting on the road for those articles, and are very uneasy, to the great detriment of this State; therefore the Committee of Council earnestly request that you forward them without further delay.

By order of Council: JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Secretary*.  
To *Theophilus Cushing, Esq.*

#### MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO JOSEPH NYE, JUN.

In Council Chamber, July 30, 1776.

SIR: In answer to your request of the 26th instant, we would have you proceed to muster and form your men into companies, agreeable to the resolve of Court for raising the men, and make return thereof to Council as soon as possible; upon which you will receive further orders.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM DOVER, IN ENGLAND, DATED JULY 31, 1776.

The *Zachary Bayley*, from *Jamaica* for *London*, and the *Creighton*, from *Antigua*, with rum for the Army, were taken by the *Yankee* privateer, Captain *Johnson*, carrying nine four-pounders, sixteen swivels, and forty-three men. The prizes were sent to *New-England*, and the masters, together with a Midshipman of the *Experiment*, man-of-war, who was a passenger, and eleven seamen, were taken on board the privateer. On the 3d of *July* they seized the privateer without bloodshed, and have brought her to *Dover*. They were chased by two sloops, whom they imagined to be *American* privateers, but durst not engage them because of the number of prisoners they had on board.

Captain *Johnson* (the *American* commander of the privateer) complained of the illiberal treatment he received, by being insulted frequently while at sea, calling him by the most opprobrious names, and threatening him with the cruellest and most savage punishments; and also for suffering many people to come on board after the privateer arrived in the river to insult him in the grossest terms, though he was then a prisoner. And when his brother came to see him, after a three years' absence, they were not permitted to talk together one minute in private.

The prisoners on board the *Yankee* privateer having petitioned not to be closely confined, but that they might be put to some employment, upon which it was agreed that they should be placed on board the guardships. The vessel was afterwards ordered to be sold, and the money to be given to the captors.

To His Excellency General LEE, Commander-in-Chief, &c.:  
The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Parish of St. GEORGE, and St. PAUL, including the ceded lands in the Province of GEORGIA, most humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners, living on the frontiers of the western parts of the Province of Georgia aforesaid, are much exposed to the barbarous attacks of the Creek Indians, and more especially from the intercourse which necessarily must subsist between them and the Indian traders, whilst an Indian trade is carried on, as it tends to bring those savages down into the settlements, and they seldom return without either committing murder or robbery, and generally both, upon the white people. That this trade is of the utmost prejudice to your petitioners, and the rest of the Province, excepting only a few men immediately concerned in it. And we would further represent to your Excellency, that at the treaty held between Sir James Wright, Bart., and John Stuart, Esq., on behalf of George the Third, and the Headmen and Warriors of the same nation, in the year 1774, the Indian traders, from self-interested views, then recommended it to the said Sir James Wright and John Stuart to reject a certain offer made to them by the said Headmen and Warriors of a most valuable cession of a tract of land lying or being on Oconee River, being a fork of the Alatomaha, and by nature formed for the benefit and advantage of the inhabitants, in giving them an opportunity of sending and exporting their produce to market. And your petitioners can with truth assure your Excellency, that if the Indian trade was banished, it would be not only the means of restoring peace and tranquillity to this back country, but likewise would encourage people to come and settle therein. That your petitioners submit to your Excellency's wise consideration how far prudent it might be to make an attempt to exterminate and rout those savages out of their nation, as it appears to your petitioners that a sufficient force might (with your Excellency's assistance) now be raised against them; and in such case your petitioners will be ready, at the hazard of their lives and fortunes, to unite together for so desirable a purpose. May it, therefore, please your Excellency to take the premises into mature deliberation, and to grant such relief to your petitioners as your Excellency may think most proper. And your petitioners will ever pray.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH-CAROLINA, DATED JULY 31, 1776.

We are just setting out for the burning sands of Georgia. An expedition is planned against part of East-Florida. Two brothers of Governour Wright, with many others, are intrenched on St. Mary's River, which divides Florida from Georgia. Besides the great number of negroes they have of their own, others flock to them. Colonel Somers's regiment from North-Carolina, and Major White, of North-Carolina, with two companies of volunteers, have marched; and Colonel Muhlenberg's regiment only waits for wagons to transport their baggage.

GENERAL HOOPER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Dorchester County, July 31, 1776.

SIR: The conduct of Lieutenant Levi Willen and Ensign Job Todd, both of Captain Lake's company of Militia, has of late been such as to give great reason to suspect their principles are unfriendly to American liberty, and which I think renders them unfit to hold their commissions. I therefore make this representation of them to your honourable Board, that you may take such order therein as you think necessary.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,  
HENRY HOOPER.

To Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, President of the Council of Safety.

CAPTAIN SMITH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fort at Whetstone, July 31, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: There is a soldier belonging to Captain Bowie's company (formerly Colonel Ewing's) who deserted, and was taken up two days ago, and put into the prison in Baltimore. Colonel Ewing desired I would send his men to join their company as soon as I had an opportunity. I

should be glad you would let me know, as soon as convenient, whether the Sheriff must be allowed what is common for taking up servants, and the prison fees. You will observe he is committed by the name of Samuel Johnson; his name is John Montgomery.

I should be glad to know who I am to apply to as doctor in Mr. Weisenthal's absence. If it would be agreeable to you, would apply to Doctor Coulter, who I think the most skilful in this place, and will do it as cheap as any one.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

NATH. SMITH.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of Maryland.

DORCHESTER COUNTY COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Observation, Dorchester County, }  
July 31, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: We herewith send, under a guard to your Board, Joseph Wheeland, Junior, John Evans, and Robert Howith, who were lately taken in Hooper's Straits, in the service of Lord Dunmore, by a party of Major Fallen's men, and sent by the Major to us, as by his letter, which we have enclosed for your perusal, will appear. The depositions of Joseph Mareman, and Moses Yell, which are mentioned in the enclosed letter, we have since received from Captain Eccleston, the Magistrate who took them, which we have also enclosed. We have not seen Captain Eccleston since he took the depositions, but are informed Mareman and Yell have returned home, on a promise that they will attend your Board on notice. We apprehend the prisoners will not deny their being in the service of Dunmore; but if they should, and any further evidence should be necessary to prove that fact, on your informing us of it we believe such may be easily had.

Wheeland is the man who, the last Convention (as we are told) were informed, served as pilot to Dunmore's vessels up to Nanticoke Point, and he confesses to us he was with the party who took cattle from Hopkins's Island.

We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants.

Signed per order of Committee:

EDWARD NOEL, Chairman.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety, Annapolis.

Joseph Mareman, being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposes and saith: That about the 15th day of this instant, he, with Moses Yell, left the mouth of Hungar-River, in a vessel bound to Potomack, loaded with plank and tar; but being a hard gale and a large swell, they were obliged to put back; but on their attempting to put back, the tide headed them. They afterwards hove about, and stood for the mouth of Potomack again; and about daybreak they espied Lord Dunmore's fleet, at the distance of about a mile. They then hove about, and stood for Smyth's Island, and there came to anchor. They staid there about two or three hours. The wind moderated. This deponent went ashore to Smyth's Island, in order to buy some fish, and to seek for a canoe he had lost the night before, and to inquire if there was no inlet there to make a better harbour, and to get some fire to cook with. Before he got ashore, he saw two men in a canoe, making towards him, which he understood afterwards were Joseph Wheeland, Jun., and one Lazarus, a Mulatto; and by the time he got ashore, they came up with him. This deponent says, they then asked him from whence he came, and what he had in. His answer was, they had plank and tar; that they were from Potomack, loaded in Hungar-River, and bound to Potomack again. Wheeland then asked this deponent if he did not belong to the fleet? This deponent asked, what fleet? They answered, the English fleet. This deponent answered, he did not. He then asked, who he was for, either the country or the King? This deponent told him, he did not choose to intermeddle with either side. He then asked him, how many men he had on board? This deponent told him, there was but one person besides himself. He then asked him, (this deponent,) if he was a Tory or not? He then told him he could not tell. The said Joseph Wheeland then told him he belonged to the English fleet, and he must go along with him. He then asked him if he was willing to stay with the fleet. He then told him, (the said Wheeland,) no; for he had a wife and children, and wanted to get home as



soon as possible. The said *Wheeland* said he would not detain any person that had a family against their will; but if they had no family, they should go. He then asked him for some victuals, for he was very hungry. He then ordered him to get into the canoe with the Mulatto fellow, *Lazarus*, and go up to the three schooners that lay in the creek, and tell some person to give him some victuals; and while he was giving orders, there came two other persons in a canoe, with a case of gin and rum, and gave him a dram. He then got out of his canoe, and sent one of the other persons with him, and he, the said *Wheeland*, and one of the persons in the other canoe, proceeded on board Captain *Yell*. We went some part of the way in the canoe, till they came to an anchor. They then took it in, and ordered him to keep along shore. As this deponent was going along, he met with one of the Islanders, and had some conversation with him, till the said *Joseph Wheeland* came up with the said Captain *Yell*, and then took him aboard said canoe, and carried him, the said deponent, with the said *Yell*, on board the schooners that lay in the creek's mouth aforesaid, in *Smyth's Island*, where there was likewise a sloop dismasted, as they understood, which belonged to one *White*, up *Nanticoke*; and when they came aboard, they saw about twenty persons sharing of plunder, and as they understood were all county born, except one. This deponent, with Captain *Yell*, requested the said *Joseph Wheeland* to go on shore. He then told them they might, but that *Yell* must leave his clothes on board. They then went on shore, and got some victuals at *Richard Evans's*. After some time, *Marmaduke Mister*, and sundry persons, came to the said house, and took supper. Some time after supper, *Marmaduke Mister* told this deponent and Captain *Yell* that they must go aboard, for they could not keep guard aboard and on shore too. They then ordered them on board. As they were going along, he said, *God damn you! do you go before the guard?* *John Evans* said it would make no difference. He, the said *Mister*, said, they should not go before the guard. When they got on board, they ordered them down into the cabin, where they remained all night. There were several on the guard, viz: *Joseph Wheeland*, *John Evans*, *John Price*, *Robert Howith*, and one *Dial*, and several others that he did not know, which said persons, as mentioned above, are under guard at *Hooper's Straits*, except the said *Dial*. The next morning, *Joseph Wheeland* ordered three hands to bring up the vessel. They informed, when they returned, that she was between two bars, and they could not get her off. *John Evans* then persuaded the said *Joseph Wheeland* to let the men have the vessel again, as she would not be of any use to them. *Wheeland* then told this deponent, that Captain *Yell* might have the vessel if they would get her off. This deponent and *Yell* then went down to the vessel; and when the said deponent and *Yell* returned, the said *Yell* told the said *Wheeland* that he could get her off, and wanted his said clothes and money. He then refused him his clothes and vessel, and said he must have the tar; but if he would wait till he was gone to the fleet, he might have the residue of his cargo and vessel. The said deponent and *Yell* went to unloading the said vessel, and took out six barrels of tar, and put them on board *Richard Evans's* boat, and told the said *Wheeland* that he should have the residue as soon as he could come at it. *Wheeland* told the said deponent that he had just received orders to come immediately to the fleet, and to burn that vessel that was understood to be *White's*. The said *Yell* then asked him for his clothes and money. He then gave him part of his clothes, and told him some person had stolen his money, and that he might have his vessel and all his load. This deponent says that he heard the said *Joseph Wheeland* tell the said *Marmaduke Mister*, that if he would see the aforesaid sloop that belonged to *White* burnt, he might have the iron of said vessel; upon which, said vessel was burnt; that the said *Joseph Wheeland* went off immediately.

The said *Yell* and this deponent hired hands, and got off their vessel, and carried her to the creek aforesaid, in order to take in the remainder of her load; and before he had got her loaded, two tenders came in with the Island, and the said deponent and Captain *Yell* went on shore; and as soon as they got on shore, two persons came down the creek, and went on board the said vessel, and carried her over to the fleet. One of the persons, as this deponent was informed, was *Isaac Summers*, from *Little Annamesick*, the other a lad

unknown. The aforesaid *Joseph Wheeland* was, as this deponent understood, esteemed the commanding officer of the said vessel; and further saith not.

Sworn before

HUGH ECCLESTON.

*Joseph Mareman* lives in *St. Mary's County*, near *Leonard-Town*, on *Breton's Bay*.

*Moses Yell*, being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, depose and saith: That some time about the 15th instant, this deponent was going in a vessel to *Potomack River* with tar and plank; but on seeing *Dunmore's* fleet, this deponent returned, and anchored under *Smith's Island*. About two or three hours after he had anchored, *Joseph Wheeland*, with one other man unknown to this deponent, came on board the vessel this deponent was in. *Joseph Wheeland* asked this deponent if he saw the fleet. This deponent answered that he had seen the fleet, and returned in consequence of it. *Joseph Wheeland* then asked this deponent whence he came, and where he was bound, and who he was for. This deponent answered, he had not a design to kill any person, but was a friend to his country. *Joseph Wheeland* then asked this deponent who he thought was right—the King, or the Shirtmen. This deponent answered that he thought the *Americans* were right. *Joseph Wheeland* then told this deponent he was for the fleet, and had orders from Lord *Dunmore* to take any vessel belonging to the Rebels, and destroy such as he thought proper, and carry the rest to the fleet. The said *Wheeland* then demanded a sight of this deponent's papers, which this deponent gave him. The said *Wheeland* then took the papers, a pocket-book, about forty shillings cash, and all the clothes belonging to this deponent that were in the vessel, except what he had on, and carried this deponent, together with the clothes and money, on board a tender which he informed this deponent he had the command of; and likewise the said *Wheeland* informed him he had the command of the other two vessels that were with the one this deponent was put on board of.

This deponent saith, the said *Wheeland* told him he had taken a vessel belonging to *White*, in *Nanticoke*, and that he (*Wheeland*) intended to fit her out with four four-pounders and twelve swivels to guard the Islands, and keep the Shirtmen from going on to abuse the inhabitants. The aforesaid *Wheeland* told him he must take out the mast from his vessel, (*Yell's*) and put it in the vessel he had taken from *White*, which was then driven aground, and had lost her mast; but before he had got her over the bar, he (*Yell*) understood from an old man on board the tender, that *Wheeland* had received an express from the fleet ordering him to come up to *Potomack*, to assist the fleet in getting water, as quickly as possible, as orders were come to the fleet to go out as soon as they could—part to *Martinico*, to fight the *French*, (as they expected a war there,) and a part to *New-York* or *Halifax*. *Wheeland* soon after ordered fire set to *White's* vessel, and one other which he had not got over the bar; and put this deponent on shore, gave him part of his clothes, and told him he might take his boat again. This deponent saith that *Marmaduke Mister* was one of the persons that kept guard over him one night while he was on board the tender. The aforesaid *Mister* asked this deponent who he was for, whether King or country. This deponent answered, he was friend to every person that behaved well. The aforesaid *Mister* then commanded, in the King's name, to tell him the truth. This deponent then told him he was born in this country, and had a right to defend his liberty. *Mister* then said, what them damned Rebels call liberty, I call slavery, and so the people will find it. This deponent further saith, that *Marmaduke Mister* set fire to one of the vessels that was burnt, and was to have the iron for doing it. This deponent saith that *John Evans*, *Robert Howith*, and one *Price*, were likewise on board the same tender, under the command of the aforesaid *Joseph Wheeland*, (he supposes,) as he often heard them call him Captain. This deponent saith he heard *John Evans* say he was determined to have several of the principal people on the Islands, either dead or alive, or get some of their negroes. This deponent saith he has seen *Joseph Wheeland*, *John Evans*, *Robert Howith*, and *Price*, the four persons above mentioned, since they have been under guard at the Straits, and that they are the same persons that he saw on board of

the tender above mentioned. This deponent further saith, on his asking *Joseph Wheeland* for his clothes, *Wheeland* threatened to put him in irons in the vessel's hole. This deponent likewise saith, that *John Evans* told him not to be uneasy about his clothes and money, for that *Wheeland* would give them to him after he was ready to go from the Island, for the paper money would be of no more use to him than blank paper.

Sworn before

HUGH ECCLESTON.

July 27, 1776.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MAJOR PRICE.

[No. 99.]

Annapolis, July 31, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Mantz*, who commands a company of the *Frederick* battalion, well armed and accoutred, this day marches to relieve Captain *Thomas* and his company, whom you may thereupon order up to this place in his way to the camp to the northward. He may leave his pots to Captain *Mantz's* company to cook with, and may be supplied here with camp-kettles or pots more portable than those he has now in possession. Captain *Mantz* will occupy the posts and places where Captain *Thomas's* company were stationed, until further orders.

The officers despatched by you to give Captain *Nicholson* notice, not being able to overtake him, had very nearly occasioned a loss of the *Defence*. She was becalmed, and obliged to come to an anchor, tide against her. The *English* fleet had a wind, which brought them down *Potomack* within three miles of her, where she lay becalmed, when fortunately a breeze sprung up, which enabled her to escape. They heard no firing at your camp.

We are glad to hear the cannon proves good, as it will be advantageous to the Province, and a greater encouragement to those who use them in time of engagement, as they will put the more confidence in the rest. We are also well pleased on the account of *Mr. Hughes's* succeeding in the way to satisfaction.

We received copies of *Mr. Eden's*, *Mr. Wolstenholme's*, and *Mr. Forrest's* letters, and still retain the opinion communicated to you in our last, and of which we informed Colonel *Barnes*, in answer to his packet, that it is unsafe, at this period of time, to permit *Mr. Wolstenholme* to depart this Province, and the more especially as he would not engage secrecy with respect to our movements and present situation; and his letter to *Mr. Eden*, of the 20th *July*, so far from removing, has impressed it more forcibly on our minds.

We are sorry for the fatigue and hard fare you have met with, and would alleviate it as much as lies in our power; it is only the fortune *de la guerre*. Another time, we hope you will have quarters more agreeable. We doubt not your humanity will interest you so far in favour of the sick as to have all the care taken of them you can. We have heretofore written you about the cannon coming up by water, after the departure of the enemy.

We are, &c.

To Major *Thomas Price*.

P. S. We have some powder and small-arms arrived at *Wicomico*, in *Virginia*, as you will see by the enclosed receipt, and should be glad of your opinion how we could contrive it across in the safest manner to the *Maryland* side of *Potomack*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THOMAS JONES.

[No. 100.]

Annapolis, July 31, 1776.

SIR: We thank your Committee for the care they have and intend to take of the *Molly's* cargo belonging to our Province. We are not yet certain whether we shall order wagons from *Alexandria*, or send a vessel to the mouth of *Potomack* for it. This will depend upon the information we may receive from Major *Price*, who has the command of our troops stationed on *St. Mary's River*. Should he think that it may be transported across the river without risk, either above or below *St. Mary's*, it is probable we shall adopt what he may recommend.

We are, &c.

To *Thomas Jones*, Esq., Chairman of Committee of Observation for *Northumberland* County.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN CONWAY.

[No. 101.]

Annapolis, July 31, 1776.

SIR: Our Council would be very glad to see you immediately at *Annapolis*, to consult you about another voyage for the *Molly*, and also to be informed of the particulars that have happened relative to her last. We are, &c.

To Captain *Thomas Conway*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOSEPH GILPIN.

[No. 102.]

Annapolis, July 31, 1776.

SIR: *Mr. Woolsey*, of *Baltimore-Town*, informs us that he has heard there is a good flint quarry about two miles from the head of *Elk*, and of course, we are told, must be near your house, on your land.

The Congress, foreseeing the necessity of having gun-flints manufactured among us, have requested the strictest search to be made after, and earliest intelligence given them of the discovery of any such quarry in any of the Independent States. We request you will make inquiry, and acquaint us of the success of the inquiry with all the speed in your power. We are, &c.

To *Joseph Gilpin*, Esq.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ALEXANDER MCFADON.

[No. 103.]

Annapolis, July 31, 1776.

SIR: There is an immediate demand for tenting and shirt-making linen for the troops raised by this Colony in the Continental service. It would be extremely serviceable to the publick, and agreeable to us, that you would exert yourself all in your power to furnish this Province with what quantities you can, and send it directly to this place.

We are, &c.

To *Mr. Alexander McFadon*, *Georgetown*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, July 31, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The service at the Flying-Camp requiring some pieces of artillery, I have it in charge from Congress to request you will immediately send to General *Mercer* ten six-pounders, and an equal number of four-pounders. If you cannot furnish them out of the stores of the State of *Pennsylvania*, I am to request you will procure them with all possible despatch, and forward them to *Amboy* in *New-Jersey*. Whatever number you can spare, you will please to forward immediately, and procure the remainder as soon as possible. Your ardour and zeal in the cause of your country will, I am persuaded, supersede the necessity of arguments to induce you to an immediate compliance with this requisition.

I have the honour to be, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 31, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed resolves, which I do myself the honour of transmitting, are so explicit that I need only refer your attention to them.

You will please to give such orders with regard to building boats for the service of the Flying-Camp as you shall judge necessary. A copy of General *Mercer's* letter to Congress on this subject you have enclosed.

I have written to the Council of Safety of this State to forward to General *Mercer* ten six-pounders and an equal number of four-pounders, with the greatest expedition. Your favour of the 29th came safe to hand, and was immediately laid before Congress. I have forwarded to Generals *Schuyler* and *Mercer* a copy of the enclosed resolves, as far as they relate to their respective departments.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the greatest respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. Upon conversing with General *Sullivan*, and stating

to him the reasons of Congress's promoting General *Gates* over him, he desired me to move for leave to withdraw his application to resign, in which the Congress have acquiesced. He has now orders to repair to *New-York*, where you will please to assign him such post of duty as you shall think proper.

A Continental ship arrived at *Chester* with three hundred and sixty-six pigs of lead, fifty-four boxes musket balls, one thousand stand of arms with bayonets, one barrel flints, one hundred and ninety-three whole barrels powder.

[Endorsed on cover of Letter by J. H., Esq.:  
Also, a privateer has brought in a *West-Indian* bound to *London*, having on board, besides produce, eleven hundred johannes, seven hundred guineas, &c.]

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO BENJAMIN FLOWER.

Philadelphia, July 31, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed commission of Commissary of Military Stores for the Flying-Camp has been ready for you ever since the date of it. I should have forwarded it sooner if I had known where to send it. It was not till yesterday I heard you were with Colonel *Dickinson* at the Flying-Camp.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To *Benjamin Flower*, *New-Jersey*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL MERCER.

Philadelphia, July 31, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour of transmitting the enclosed resolves, by which you will perceive that your application to Congress relative to building boats for the use of the Flying-Camp, is referred to General *Washington*, to whom I have written on the subject, by this conveyance, to give such directions as he shall judge necessary. I have also written to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, to forward to you immediately ten six-pounders, and an equal number of four-pounders. The Congress have allowed you a Secretary as long as you shall continue to act in a separate command. The sixty thousand dollars for the use of the Flying-Camp will be sent as soon as possible.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Brigadier-General *Mercer*, *New-Jersey*.

P. S. The appointment of a Brigade-Major resting entirely with yourself, you are authorized to nominate one as soon as ever you shall think proper.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, July 31, 1776.

SIR: I am so extremely hurried that I have only time to forward the enclosed resolves of Congress, which are indeed so explicit, that there is not the least occasion to enlarge. I must therefore request your attention to them, and beg leave to conclude, by assuring you that I am, with sentiments of real respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Schuyler*, *Albany*, or elsewhere.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

Philadelphia, July 31, 1776.

SIR: The Continental troops being ordered from *Boston* to *New-York*, and the *Massachusetts-Bay* left to depend entirely on their Militia, I am to inform you, that should the Assembly of that State think proper to call any of them into the field, you will in that case take care that they are supplied with rations, making the enclosed resolve of Congress the rule of your conduct.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., Com'y General, at *New-York*.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, July 31, 1776.

SIR: This morning two Negroes were brought to me who made their escape last night from *Staten-Island*, and were

taken up by our guards at *South-Amboy*. Their examination contains nothing new, but is sent enclosed for your perusal.

By the report of the commanding officer at the above mentioned post, it appears that thirty-nine sail of square-rigged vessels, three of them men-of-war, have come in from sea within these three days.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

Examination of two Negroes, Deserters from *STATEN-ISLAND*, JULY 31, 1776.

The Examination of *Joshua*, a Negro slave, belonging to *Peter Peleyon*, of *Richmond County*, on *Staten-Island*, taken at *Perth-Amboy*, July 31st, 1776, before *Hugh Mercer*, Esq., Brigadier-General.

Saith he hath lived on the south side of *Staten-Island*, in *Richmond County* aforesaid, for the space of nine years; that having gone to see the fleet on *Sunday* last, his master threatened him with a beating; that at the Watering Place there is a large encampment with many soldiers. He has heard of no other large encampment on the Island, except at the post at *Billop's Point*. He has overheard discourses among the enemy, of attacking *New-York*, when Lord *Howe's* fleet shall arrive, before which time they should not have a sufficient number of men to pursue their design with; that the troops on the Island are almost all *Irish* and *Scotch*; that the *English* regiments are to come over with Lord *Howe's* fleet; that said fleet was to consist of two hundred sail; that the enemy have yet a plenty of provisions. This ex-  
aminant overheard an officer threaten to come over to the *Jerseys*, for stock, by-and-by. The Tories are well treated by the *British* troops; Governour *Tryon* has set a price on provisions; the soldiers are divided among the plantations within his knowledge on the east side of the Island.

*Lawrence*, another Negro slave, belonging to the above mentioned *Peter Peleyon*, being examined, in like manner as the above named *Joshua*, saith: He has lived with *Peleyon* eight years; that an officer and fourteen soldiers live at his master's house. He believes the greatest number of soldiers to be on the shore near the place where the fleet lies.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 5, 1776.]

New-York, July 31, 1776.

SIR: This will be handed you by Captain *Marquesie*, with whom I have no other acquaintance than what is derived from the enclosed letter from General *Schuyler*. He says he has lost his baggage and all he had in our service. I have advanced him twenty dollars, and he is now going to wait on Congress, to whom I suppose he means to make his pretensions known.

I have the Honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

EPHRAIM ANDERSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, July 31, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave just to inform you that I have been for some time past very assiduous in the preparation of fire ships. Two are already complete and hauled off in the stream; two more will be off to-morrow, and the residue in a very short time. In my next I hope to give you a particular account of a general conflagration, as everything in my power shall be exerted in the demolition of the enemy's fleet. I expect to take an active part, and be an instrument for that purpose. I am determined (*God* willing) to make a conspicuous figure among them, by being a "burning and shining light," and thereby serve my country, and have the honour of meeting the approbation of Congress.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

EPHRAIM ANDERSON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President of the Honourable Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

P. S. The bearer, Captain *Marquesie*, Engineer, I have been acquainted with, in our service in *Canada*, and recommend him as a deserving officer.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, July 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favours of the 14th, 17th, 20th, and 24th, have been duly received, and I am extremely happy to find that you have discovered and apprehended some of the ringleaders of a dangerous plot you say was forming in the neighbourhood of *Albany*; nor do I hear with little pleasure of the harmony and good agreement between you and General *Gates*, knowing how essential they are to the service.

Agreeable to your request, I communicated to Mr. *Trumbull* that part of your letter respecting Mr. *Livingston*, and your apprehensions of his resigning in case any person should be appointed to act independently of him in the business he usually managed. Upon this occasion I must observe, that as Mr. *Trumbull* has the supreme direction given him by Congress of supplying the Northern Army, and is the person that is to be accountable if it is not done in a proper manner, his appointment should and must be regarded, or things in this instance will never proceed in a regular channel, and fatal consequences will otherwise ensue. Mr. *Trumbull*, I believe, has written to Mr. *Livingston* on the subject, and I imagine has mentioned in what manner he would have him to act; and also given necessary instructions to his deputies.

It gives me great satisfaction to hear that taking post at *Fort Stanwix* has not given umbrage to the *Indians*; and also that those who were at *Philadelphia* and this place, have returned to their several nations with such favourable ideas of our strength and resources. From this circumstance I am hopeful you will be able to engage them in our interest, and, with the assistance of the reward allowed by Congress, to excite their efforts to make prisoners of our enemies. I would have you press the matter strongly in both instances; and though you should not succeed, I flatter myself you will secure their neutrality. That will be an important point to gain.

I conceive it will not only be proper, but absolutely necessary, to request General *Howe* to deliver up the officers, who, regardless of their paroles, have escaped from *Pennsylvania*, and all other that have acted in the same manner, pointing out the impropriety of such conduct, and the difficulty it lays us under as to the line of treatment to be observed to others. In a conversation with the Adjutant-General of the King's Army, I touched upon this subject, and he assured me all complaints of this nature would be strictly attended to by General *Howe*, and those who gave rise to them be handled with severity. Lord *Howe*, too, I am confidently informed, has expressed his great disapprobation of such behaviour, and said that those who were guilty of it should be severely noticed if they came into his hands. Every thinking and sensible person must see the impropriety of it, and the consequences that must attend it. I should suppose the requisition will claim General *Burgoyne's* attention, and be readily complied with.

The swivels you mention cannot be had; but if the experiments of a person who has undertaken to cast some three-pounders should succeed, perhaps after some time you may be furnished in part with a quantity of these. Colonel *Knox* seems to think they will be far superior to swivels. The man supposes that after he begins he will be able to complete twenty every week. Neither are there any hand-grenades. We have a large number of 4½-inch shells, which might be a good substitute. But I do not know how things of this sort can be forwarded to you, as the water communication with *Albany* is entirely cut off. The difficulty will be great if not almost insuperable.

I observe your reasons for quitting *Crown-Point*, and preferring *Ticonderoga*. My knowledge of the importance of the former was not properly my own; it arose from the information I had from gentlemen and persons who were, or said they were, well acquainted with it, and the situation of the country about it. Being founded on that, I cannot say anything myself upon the subject. Your representation of it most certainly lessens its consequence in a capital degree. However, I am fearful the observation of the Field-Officers, "that the *New-England Governments, &c.*, will be thereby exposed to the incursions of our cruel and savage enemies," will be but too well verified. If that post could not have been maintained, this evil, with others greater, must have happened.

In respect to the privilege you have given the officers who hold double commissions to retain which they choose, I cannot object, if the authority giving them was the same, and such as was exercised usually and approved. I see no cause for it, and suppose the officers have that right. As to Lieutenant-Colonel *Buell's* case, I cannot give any direction about it, not having authority to appoint officers generally.

It is not in my power to spare you any money from hence. Our chest is all but empty. Congress would be informed by your letters of your situation, doubtless; I mentioned it in mine; and have suggested, as I often have, the expediency, nay the necessity, of keeping regular supplies.

Nothing of moment has occurred here lately. The enemy are growing stronger. For some time past ships, &c., have been coming in to them more or less. All the eastward accounts say that three or four captures have been made lately, among them a provision vessel from *Ireland*, which of herself came into *Boston* harbour. In the Southern Department we have been still more lucky: Sir *Peter Parker* and his fleet got a severe drubbing in an attack against our works on *Sullivan's Island*, just by *Charlestown, South-Carolina*. A part of their troops at the same time attempting to land were repulsed. The papers, I presume, have reached you announcing this fortunate event, where you will see the particulars transmittted by General *Lee* to Congress.

I am, &amp;c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

MEMORIAL OF THE REGIMENTAL SURGEONS TO CONGRESS, JULY, 1776.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the United Free and Independent States of AMERICA:

The Memorial of the Regimental Surgeons in the Army commanded by his Excellency General WASHINGTON, most respectfully sheweth:

That, immediately after the battles of *Lexington* and of *Bunker's Hill*, the 19th April and 17th June, 1775, the inhabitants of the country rising in defence of their lives, liberty, and property, an Army was suddenly collected in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, from that and the neighbouring Colonies: that Surgeons and Mates were appointed to take charge of the several regiments, and furnished at that time with such supplies of Medicines, Bandages, and Chirurgical Instruments, as could be procured on that emergency from the respective Colonies in which the regiments were raised, for the use of the sick and wounded in the several regiments to which they belonged: that the honourable Continental Congress, having afterwards appointed a Director-General and Physician-in-Chief, with power and instructions to establish a General Hospital for the reception of the sick and wounded, under certain regulations, agreed and fixed upon by the Congress, with Surgeons, Mates, and other officers to take care of them, no mention was then made of, or any orders given for, the regulation of the Regimental Surgeons and Mates, or allowance of Regimental Hospitals, which are thought necessary in regular Armies. That the said Regimental Surgeons and Mates were thus left destitute of necessities and conveniences for taking care of their sick, not knowing where to apply for them in any regularly established method, to the great injury of their patients; some of whose cases not requiring them to be sent to the General Hospital, if they could be supplied with a few refreshments under their proper Regimental Surgeons, and the cases of others rendering them unfit patients for a General Hospital, as patients labouring under dysenteries, the itch, hectic patients, and those having fevers likely to be rendered infectious by crowding many of them together, with other sick patients, into one large Hospital. That the Regimental Surgeons have no means of providing the sick with wine, cordial, or any variety of refreshments in the dietetic way, as in the General Hospital: that they never have been provided with medicines (except from the General Hospital) since the first supplies from the Colonies were expended: that they are wholly destitute of Surgeons' Instruments, except a very few, which are private property, and have never had any allowance made them whereby to enable them to provide themselves with the necessary bandages and implements of Surgery, by which they are left to depend on the General Hospital for those articles, contrary to all military rules; nor does it appear that the General Hospital can



furnish instruments to the Regimental Surgeons, even if they had an allowed right to demand them. That on application to the Colonels of these regiments for a supply of what they want for these purposes, they are constantly told they have no orders to furnish them; and no assurance, if they were to advance money for these regimental purposes, that they should be repaid. That, in consequence of this unsettled state of affairs, they have applied to the Director-General of the Hospital, and, at a conference on the subject, have agreed with him upon certain *pro tempore* regulations, if approved of by the Commander-in-Chief, (a copy of which are annexed,) for the occasional establishment of Regimental Hospitals, the direction of Regimental Surgeons and Mates, and settling the proper subordination of them to the Director-General, and ascertaining the dependance they are to have on the General Hospital for supplies of necessary refreshments; and, by his advice, have thus represented their situation to Congress, praying that the honourable Representatives will take their case into consideration, and appoint in what method they would in future have them apply for Medicines, Instruments, and other implements of Surgery; and in case further necessities and refreshments may hereafter be wanted, over and above what is already settled by the foregoing rules, for the recovery or preservation of the men, whether the expenses will be allowed by Congress, and who is to defray the same; or whether the Congress may think fit, on any future regulation of the Army, to subject the soldiery to such small stoppages in their pay as may answer that purpose, according to the usage and custom observed in the *British* and other Armies, for the support of the General and Regimental Hospitals, (it being only an appropriation of part of their pay, by their own consent, at enlistment, and for their own good, where no other fund is provided.) And lastly, that as the Regimental Surgeons are wholly destitute of Chirurgical Instruments for the immediate assistance of the wounded of their corps, in case of action, and they cannot leave camp to procure them, they are constrained to entreat that the honourable Congress will be pleased to give some immediate directions for furnishing them with the necessary articles and implements of Surgery; and that, in all cases in which there are no orders given them for the government of themselves and the sick under their care, the usages and customs observed in the *British* and other *European* Armies may be allowed to direct them, till more perfect rules of conduct are established by the authority of Congress. And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

## MEMORIAL OF THE REGIMENTAL SURGEONS.

To His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United Free and Independent States of AMERICA:

The Regimental Surgeons of the Army, stationed at *New-York*, commanded by your Excellency, considering themselves aggrieved by the Regulations issued by your Excellency on the 28th of *July*, and having the strongest assurances that your ear is ever open to the just complaints, and that you are ever ready to redress the injuries, of those under your command, beg leave, with the utmost respect, to remonstrate: That by those orders the sole right of judging and determining of the fitness of removing a patient from the Regimental to the General Hospital, is vested in the Surgeon of the Hospital, to the exclusion of the Regimental Surgeon, who must be supposed to be under equal, if not superior advantages to determine with regard to his own patient, of the propriety of doing it. That we conceive the orders are expressed in such terms, and are in fact so understood by the officers of the respective regiments to which we belong, as represent your remonstrants in a very contemptible light, and their services of less importance in the Army than we humbly conceive they deserve. While your remonstrants reflect on their assiduity and constant attendance on the sick, the great numbers they have had under their care, in proportion to those admitted into the General Hospital, and the almost inconceivable disadvantages which they have laboured under till the present period, being almost wholly destitute of suitable supplies, they cannot, on the present occasion, see themselves considered by the publick, and especially by your Excellency, in so disagreeable a point of light, without feeling it in the most sensible manner. While we complain to

your Excellency on a very tender point, (a point in which we think our usefulness and honour are deeply concerned,) we beg leave to inform you, that we shall, with the greatest cheerfulness, submit ourselves, our Hospitals, and the whole of our conduct, as it respects the good of the Army, to the inspection and regulation of the Director-General.

Confiding in your justice and equity for a redress of our grievances, we willingly leave it to your Excellency to remedy our complaints; and your remonstrants, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

James Cogswell,	John Hart,	Samuel Richards,
Percival Hall,	David Jones,	William Adams,
Elisha Story,	Lemuel Cushing,	Samuel Tenny,
Jared Potter,	John Condict,	John Crocker,
Thomas Ewing,	John Crocker, jr.	Elisha Eley,
Gibbons Jewell,	Josiah Hart,	Ithur'1 Pell.
Benjamin Putnam,	John Waldo,	

*New-York*, July 31, 1776.

## WILLIAM PALFREY TO FRANCIS LEWIS.

*New-York*, July 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Agreeable to your directions I presented to Messrs. *Murry & Sanson* the two drafts for £100 sterling each, for which I received one thousand dollars in payment; which sum I shall apply to the publick service, and credit the *United States of America* accordingly.

Any other commands that you may have, either publick or private, shall be executed with the greatest pleasure by, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

WM. PALFREY.

To *Francis Lewis*, Esq., Member of Congress.

## GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, July 31, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports two ships that came in late last evening at the *Hook*. Nothing material has occurred in this camp since yesterday.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

## COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Long-Island, July, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed is a true state of the three detached companies of Colonel *Clinton's* regiment, stationed at the east end of *Long-Island*. We have two field-pieces mounted on field-carriages, but no ammunition for them. If we had a supply of that article, also ladles, rammers, and worms, for them, I fancy they would be of service to us, if the enemy should ever take it in their heads to visit us. The Committee have fitted up these two pieces, and requested me to write to your Excellency for a supply of ammunition for them. I have with much difficulty prevailed on them to remove the cattle from some of the Islands, and to prepare boats to remove them from *Shelter-Island* as soon as a fleet shall appear in sight. They have furnished us with five whale-boats since my arrival, and promise to procure a sufficiency for us, which will be a great advantage to us, as the companies can much more expeditiously assist each other by water than by land. There are a prodigious number of cattle here, more than three companies can possibly protect. *Montauk-Point* or *Neck*, about eighteen miles in length and two in breadth, contains sixteen hundred head of horned cattle, five hundred horses, and ten thousand sheep. Should the communication be cut off between this neck and the country, it would be a fine supply for our enemies.

I remain your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. One of the companies is stationed on *Montauk-Point*, another on *Shelter-Island*, about twenty miles from *Montauk*, another at *Oyster-Pond Point*, about seven miles from *Shelter-Island*, and twenty-four miles from *Montauk*.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

German-Flats, July 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Indeed I give you much trouble, but I cannot avoid it. I am this moment informed that only seventy

sailors can be procured out of our Northern Army, and that we shall want two or three hundred more, and that they may possibly be procured in *Connecticut*; and it is conjectured that Captains *Samuel Chew* and *Francis Brown*, of *New-Haven*, Captain *Amos Green*, of *Stamford*, Captain *Whittlesey*, of *Saybrook*, and Captain *Seth Warner*, of *Haddam*, would, if not employed, be willing to engage as Captains to command vessels on *Lake Champlain*. I am a stranger to all these gentlemen; permit me, therefore, to beg the favour of you to send them, or such others as you may think proper, to engage forty men apiece, and to make the best contracts you can with them for the men's monthly wages and allowances, which will be strictly complied with.

I am greatly chagrined at the tedious delay of the *Indians*, as well on account of the very heavy expense in sending them, as that I am kept from the Army. Our misfortunes in *Canada* have made them somewhat assuming; but I have great hopes that they will not engage against us, although very little, if any, except the *Oneida* nation, will take an active part with us.

I am, sir, most sincerely and respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull*.

COLONEL GANSEVOORT TO JOHN McKESSON.

Fort George, July 31, 1776.

SIR: I have only time to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 13th instant, which came to hand this morning; and in answer thereto, inform you that the companies of Colonel *Wynkoop's* regiment which were here, are gone, some to *Ticonderoga* and some to *Skencesborough*.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

PETER GANSEVOORT,

*Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding Fort George.*

To *John McKesson, Esq.*

COLONEL GREATON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Ticonderoga, July 31, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received your kind letter of the 13th *June*, which gave me great pleasure to think you had not forgotten your friend, though at a distance. You inform me you had not received a line from me since I left *New-York*. I have written to you but once, which I am very sorry you did not receive. I had not time, hardly, to write to my family when I was in *Canada*.

Our fatigues and hardships have been very great; they are too tedious to enumerate at this time; but I hope I shall have an opportunity some winter's evening to inform you of what we have undergone. We have got out of *Canada* very well, considering the situation we were in, but happy would it have been for us if we had retreated three weeks sooner than we did; we should have saved three hundred men by it, and got to *Crown-Point* soon enough to have fortified there, and not have come to this sickly place. We are fortifying here as fast as we can. The men are in very low spirits. You would hardly know my regiment now, they are so altered in every shape.

We have various accounts from *St. John's*. The best intelligence we can get here is, that they are building vessels, batteaus, &c., as fast as they can. They have seven thousand Regulars, and about five thousand *Canadians*, dressed in Regular clothing and armed by the Regulars. They expect to be ready to cross the Lake the last of next month. The above news we have from a *French* Captain of Militia, who left his family for fear of being hanged, and came across the woods to this place.

I hope we shall have the start of them. We have three schooners and one sloop ready to sail, and in a week or ten days we shall have fourteen row-galleys and gondolas ready, which will mount three cannon apiece, from twelve to twenty-four-pounders.

General, I should take it as a great favour if you would let me hear from you, every opportunity you can, how affairs are in *York*. You wrote me about Major *Sherburne's* getting great honour to himself amongst you; it is not so here; you will hear more about it. I would have written you more particularly, but the post is waiting, and I am in great haste.

I subscribe myself your Honour's sincere friend and obedient servant,

JNO. GREATON.

To the Hon. Brigadier-General *Heath*, at *New-York*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WATERBURY.

Tyonderoga, July 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am glad to hear that the Militia begin to arrive at *Skencesborough*. You must be careful to prevent their straggling to camp, as there will be the utmost danger of their carrying the small-pox back with them.

Let me hear by every opportunity the state of your post, and what number of the Militia arrives there, and every *Saturday* send me an exact return. That of the 28th is now before me—I am much obliged to you for it.

I thank you for the peas. Vegetables and butter would be extremely welcome, as there are scarce any to be had in this part of the country.

General *Arnold* has my directions to write to you; his letter goes by this conveyance. I am, &c.

HORATIO GATES.

To Brigadier-General *Waterbury*.

P. S. Let me know the state of your provisions and rum. Do the Militia bring ammunition? What shall you want? I am told a number of cattle are ordered to *Skencesborough*? Do any arrive?

JOHN TRUMBULL TO LIEUTENANT-COLONEL GANSEVOORT.

Ticonderoga, July 31, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Major *Hubly*, late Major of Brigade to General *Woodtke*, comes to take an inventory and appraisement of the late *Baron Woodtke's* goods. This you will permit him to do, and to bring such goods, &c., as he shall think proper, with the will, to this place, where Colonel *D'Haas* proposes to administer on the estate.

It has been told the General that some officers at your post (not yourself) have presumed to give furloughs to the sick, when discharged from the Hospital. You will inquire into this, and let any gentleman who may have done it heretofore know, that if he is found guilty of a conduct so unprecedented and so prejudicial to the service, he will be immediately put in arrest, and tried for his presumption and breach of orders by a general court-martial.

You will assist Ensign *Hallenbach* in forwarding the chain he has in charge to *Albany*.

I am, sir, your very obedient servant,

J. TRUMBULL, *Dep. Adj. Gen.*

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Gansevoort*.

PETITION OF CAPTAIN YOUNG.

*The Petition of SAMUEL YOUNG, Captain in Colonel BEDEL's Regiment, humbly sheweth:*

That your Honour's petitioner, from a true zeal for the *American* cause, and an utter abhorrence to slavery and oppression, engaged in the honourable Continental cause, on the earliest notice of the unhappy disturbance, for the defence of an injured country, in which I have endeavoured to do all in my power to serve the publick cause, and have left my interests at home under great disadvantages for the same. My last command in said service being at *Fort St. Ann's*, my conduct in the same being called in question, General *Arnold* put me under arrest. As for my behaviour at said Fort, I declare on honour, if I did anything worthy of confinement or punishment, it was done ignorantly, and not for want of zeal in the cause, as at that time I looked upon myself to be in a defenceless posture. Of my proceedings I presume your Honour is acquainted, as I had a legal trial by a Court-Martial at *Crown-Point*, on the 13th instant.

I would humbly observe to your Honour the situation of my company. My First Lieutenant did not join me till lately, and has been on command great part of his time since, and at this time is on scout, from which he is not expected to return soon. My Second Lieutenant has likewise been on command, and sick the whole of his time, and now remains sick; so that I have no officer except the Ensign to take care of the company, and he frequently on command. That the company suffers much for the want of an officer; which company is the largest in said regiment, and has chiefly been under these disadvantages during my confinement, which is now fifty-nine days.

I humbly beg your Honour may take the same into consideration, and order that the determination of the Court-Martial may be known, and that I may know my destiny:

if to command the company, I shall do it with the greatest pleasure, and exert every faculty in order for the publick good; if otherwise, I shall submit to the honourable Court's decision, and, as in duty bound, ever pray, &c.

SAMUEL YOUNG.

To Major-General *Gates*.

New-Haven, July 31, 1776.

A few days since Captain *Packwood* arrived at *New-London*, in nine days from *Cape François*, and has brought fourteen tons of powder, some blankets, arms, &c., on account of the States.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, July 31, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 17th instant was duly received, and I am now to thank you for your attention to *Winslow* and *Lester*, and our carpenters, and also for the intelligence you give me concerning the state and temper of the *Indians*, more especially the *Senecas*, who could most distress us. It gives me great concern to hear that dissensions prevail in the Northern Army, and that they are inflamed and kept up by Colonial distinctions. I have, agreeable to your request, recommended to the troops from this Government to cultivate harmony and a good understanding with the troops from other States as well as among themselves, and have pressed it upon them with all the earnestness the nature and importance of the subject requires. I shall be very happy to find anything I have done, or can do, may contribute towards eradicating this evil.

The felling axes are mostly provided. About three quarters of the number requested are on their way to the Army. The residue will be sent forward very soon. Being persuaded they might be sent to *Skenesborough* at a cheaper rate than they could by the way of *Albany*, and thinking they might come sooner to the use of the Army by that route, I have ordered them by *Bennington* to *Skenesborough*, and have written to Brigadier-General *Waterbury* to receive and forward them where they may be wanted, agreeable to such orders as you may give, or he may receive from the Commander-in-Chief of the Army in your absence.

Not long since, I received a resolve of Congress directing that clothing for the Continental Army should be procured in this Government, and proper persons are employed for that purpose, who are using their best endeavours to procure a sufficient quantity; and as I am informed that our troops from *Canada* are now in great want of that article, I shall send what can be immediately procured to the Quartermaster-General for that department, without waiting for further orders, as soon as may be, and wish to be advised by what route it will be best to forward it, and who is the Quartermaster-General to whom the same must be consigned. Persons are likewise employed to procure materials for tents, which will be made up and forwarded as soon as may be.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, July 31, 1776: Present: His Honour the Governour; *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Richard Law*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Wm. Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

*William Nichols*, of *Hartford*, is appointed Paymaster of Colonel *Heman Swift's* Regiment.

*Nehemiah Hubbard*, Jun., of *Middletown*, is appointed Paymaster of Colonel *Charles Burrell's* Battalion.

*Samuel Champlain*, Jun., of *New-London*, is appointed Third Lieutenant on board the Colony ship, under Captain *Coit*.

*Azariah Whittlesey*, of *Saybrook*, is appointed Master of the Colony ship, under command of Captain *Coit*.

Voted, To draw an order on the Pay-Table for £250, in favour of Captain *William Coit*, to enable him to inlist his men, and advance their first month's pay; and that said Captain *Coit* lodge a bond, with surety, with the Pay-Table, in

common form, for his faithful performance of the trust of Paymaster.

Order drawn 31st, and delivered Captain *Coit*.

Voted, That Mr. *Law* is desired to compile a code of Laws for the Naval service of this Colony, as much in conformity to the Laws of the Naval service of the *United Colonies* as may consist with the service of this Colony, and lay the same before this Committee at their next meeting, for their consideration.

Voted, That Captain *Coit* be ordered to bring the Colony ship round to *New-London* as soon as possible.

Voted, That Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*, Junior, is desired to provide supplies of Provisions, Arms, Hammocks, Cabouses, Rigging, and every other needful article, to furnish the Colony ship fit for the seas as soon as possible.

*Eliphalet Roberts*, of *Hartford*, is appointed Captain of Marines, on board the Colony ship under command of Captain *William Coit*.

*John Prentice*, 2d, of *New-London*, is appointed First Lieutenant of Marines, on board the Colony ship under command of Captain *Coit*.

, of *New-London*, is appointed Second Lieutenant of Marines, on board the Colony ship under command of Captain *Coit*.

Voted, That six Midshipmen shall be allowed on board the Colony ship under command of Captain *Coit*.

Voted, That Captain *Coit's* men on board the Colony ship shall be inlisted to be held in service until the first day of *May*, 1777, unless sooner discharged.

Received *Gurdon Saltonstall*, Esq.'s, Account of sundry expenses in building the Fort in *New-London*, examined the same, and allowed a balance of £176 12s. 10d. due thereon, as per account on file, and voted to draw an order on the Pay-Table for the same.

Order drawn and delivered Colonel *Saltonstall*.

Voted, To direct *Joshua Elderkin* to purchase what *Raven's Duck* is now to be had at *Providence*, at as reasonable a rate as he can, for the Colony use. Copy delivered.

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table, in favour of *Jedediah Elderkin* and *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., Esqs., for £250, to be on account for their making Gunpowder for this Colony.

Order drawn and delivered Colonel *Elderkin*.

Received, examined, and allowed the Account of *Asa Spafford*, of *Windham*, for £2 4s. 11d., for repairing sundry arms of soldiers in the service of the *United States of America*, as per bill, and voted to draw on the Pay-Table for the same.

Order drawn and delivered Colonel *Elderkin*.

MAJOR HAWLEY TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Northampton, July 31, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: In these parts we have not been able to learn in what state the act called the Test Act at present is. But the general voice here is, that a resolve, or order, very similar to what is passed lately by the Governour and Committee of Safety of *Connecticut*, respecting travellers, is absolutely necessary for this Government. There are, most certainly, extraordinary and unaccountable communications carried on and upheld between the disaffected in this County and the County of *Worcester*, and the people of the same character on *Hudson's River*, and so up this river, with the people in the new County in the Colony of *New-York*. As there is now a recess of our General Assembly, we are generally looking and wishing that some such order or resolve might without delay issue from your Honours, as the great Committee of Safety of this State in the recess of its Assembly. Such a measure will be more favourable to government, and in that view I consider it of importance. It will be more likely to be temperate; but if some effectual order, in great part like that of *Connecticut*, is not issued by the Council, the people hereabouts will not run the risk of waiting till our Assembly meets, but every town will take their own plan; and in some places they are so incensed, that I believe they will proceed with a very high hand. They insist on it, that we cannot be safe till some of the big Tories are hung. Your Honours' resolve might steer them a milder course.

The day before yesterday (by some strange mistake) all

the kettles and canteens used for the *Berkshire* men were brought and delivered at my house, which ought this moment to be at *New-York*. The *Berkshire* men all marched about the middle of last week, very uneasy, and complaining that they were not supplied with those articles. The Quartermaster of the battalion was here last *Sunday* in quest of the articles, but as I could not give any account of them, he went on to seek them; and as they came here by the way of *Brimfield*, I find that he has missed them, and suppose that he will go on to *Boston*. Alas! the ruinous fashion of leaving business to execute itself.

I have the honour to be your Honours' most obedient servant,

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To the Honourable Council.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO THE GOVERNOUR OF RHODE-ISLAND.

In Committee of Council, July 31, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Committee of Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 27th *July*, and to acquaint you that the Committee would have willingly complied with your request relative to Captain *John Grannis*, but think themselves not sufficiently authorized as acting in the capacity of a Committee of Council; therefore must defer this matter till the General Court meets, which will be soon.

In the name and per order of the Committee,  
JNO. AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

To *Nicholas Cooke, Esq., Providence*.

GENERAL PALMER TO BENJAMIN LINCOLN.

Hull, July 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am just returned from the Armourer's; he has but little iron, no steel, and no files, and but little coal. Very little work can be done without tools and materials. There is another forge, but no bellows to it; and as a blacksmith is much wanted for sharpening pick-axes, making spikes, mending wheelbarrows, &c., which is not in the Armourer's way, I would advise that a pair of bellows be sent, and, if agreeable, I will endeavour to obtain a blacksmith from *Weymouth*.

Mr. *Knox* is just arrived; by him received the well rope, paper, and a letter with news; thank you; I shall attend to contents. Here are two hogsheds of lime, the hogsheds are bursting; pray send a mason to make it up into mortar. Candles are wanted. Colonel *Johnson* says there are none in the store.

The Colonel wants one set of rules, &c., for the Army. At *Dorchester*, I observed some *chevaux-de-frise* used as common fence. May we not have them, if suitable, for our embrasures? I regret the loss of poor *Robinson*. I hope that all our other friends are past danger.

Adieu, and believe me to be yours and the Committee's friend and humble servant,

J. PALMER.

To the Hon. *Benjamin Lincoln, Esq.,* Chairman of the Committee of Fortifications, *Boston*.

[Endorsed: Mr. *Devens*, or Mr. *Chase*, will supply the bellows and the coal.  
B. LINCOLN.]

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO RICHARD DERBY.

Watertown, July 31, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of Council have directed me to write to your Honour, that you would, as soon as possible, procure a carriage at *Salem*, that will carry the four *Indians*, and the person whom the Board sends to accompany them, to General *Washington*, at *New-York*; and that you will be pleased to agree for the said carriage and drivers at the lowest rate, and order them here immediately. You will please to observe the owner of the carriage who brought the *Indians* here from *Salem*, mentioned, when here, his inclination to carry them to *New-York*.

I am, &c.

To the Hon. *Richard Derby, Esq.,* or, in his absence, to the Hon. *Daniel Hopkins, Esq., Salem*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO ABSENT MEMBERS.

Council Chamber, July 31, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of Council that now sit, being fully convinced from every intelligence from *Boston* that the small-pox is very infectious, and as most of them have not had the distemper, they are apprehensive that they are in very great danger, and are fearful of tarrying any longer; and as they are necessitated to leave some business that may very essentially affect the interest and safety of this State unfinished, have sent the bearer to request your immediate attendance, and they earnestly desire you would not fail.

In the name and per order of the Committee:

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

To the several absent Members of Council.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

In Committee of Council, July 31, 1776.

Whereas repeated applications have been made to the Council of this State, by Committees of Safety, &c., in several towns, for direction and assistance, respecting such persons as are called Tories:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That all Magistrates, Sheriffs, Committees of Safety, and all other officers within this State, do exert themselves with vigour in carrying the laws and orders of said State into execution, so that the good people of the *United States of America* may not be exposed to such inimical persons. A true copy:

Attest: JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Committee of Council, State of Massachusetts-Bay, }  
Watertown, July 31, 1776. }

SIR: The bearer, Mr. *William Shaw*, waits on your Excellency, with four *Indians* of the *Mickmack* and *St. John's* tribes, who have agreed to join you in the war. The Honourable Mr. *Bowdoin* (President of the Council) has, or will soon write to your Excellency particularly on *Indian* affairs, enclosing the conference with the *Indians*, and the treaty made with them, to which we refer you.

In the name, and behalf of said Committee, I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN WINTHROP, *Chairman*.

To His Excellency General *Washington, &c., New-York*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Watertown, July 31, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: The bearer hereof, *Newell Wallis*, one of the *St. John's* tribe of *Indians*, has applied to the Council for a commission, as he says he has had one under the *French* commander; but have referred him to your Excellency, to grant him such commission as you may think proper.

Per order of the Council:

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

To His Excellency *George Washington, Esq.*

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Watertown, July 25, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the honourable Board to transmit to you copies of the Talks with the Chiefs of the *Penobscot* Tribe, and the concluding Answer of the Board to their requests; and the Board desire that you would send to General *Washington* copies of such parts of these papers as you judge proper.

JOHN AVERY.

To Honourable *James Bowdoin*.

Memorandum of sundries received by order of the Honourable Council.

From the Honourable THOMAS CUSHING, *Esq.*

Fifteen m. wampum, ten wampum belts, and ten shell gorgets, for the Truck House at *Machias*.

From the Committee's stores at BOSTON, viz:

Nine hats, and yards lace, for *St. John's Indians, Mickmack*.  
Two hats, and 3½ yards lace, for *Penobscot Indians*.  
One piece pink tammy, No. 2, and six yards white bunting, to make their flags.

Received by order:

FRA. SHAW, JUN.

Watertown, July 25, 1776.



STEPHEN SMITH TO THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

Machias, June 22, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: When your Honours were pleased to appoint me Truckmaster for the *Indians*, I was not apprized of the task I had to perform; the numbers of them far exceed my expectations; and the offers they have from the factors of *Nova-Scotia* cause them to be very troublesome.

The sum of £400, lawful money, granted by your Honours, to supply at least one thousand men, exclusive of their families, is but small. Your Honours can't expect I can satisfy them and keep friends with that sum, as I was obliged to credit near £200 for their spring hunt, which they have not yet paid. The news of the defeat at *Quebeck* has reached them. That, with the advice of General *Washington*, obliges me to put up with many insults.

I have given the bearer, Major *Francis Shaw*, Jun., a power of attorney to receive any further sum your Honours may be pleased to grant, with directions to purchase such articles as are most wanted. As soon as they come in from their spring hunts, I shall send the fur up. In the mean time, I am in much want for articles for them.

With Major *Shaw* come up ten chiefs of the different tribes. Knowing the trouble and expense they would be at, we endeavoured, with all our art, to detain them, without effect. As they had letters from your Honours and his Excellency General *Washington*, they were determined either to proceed, or rely on the assistance of *Nova-Scotia*. Of the two evils, I have endeavoured to choose the least, and have accordingly prevailed on Major *Shaw* to take the charge of them, which I hope will meet your Honours' approbation.

The *Indians* that were at Court last winter have received a supply, and one has since refused to pay, as he says his Excellency General *Washington* told them they should be paid for coming up, as well as carrying letters to the *Mickmack* tribe.

I am likewise much troubled with the inhabitants supplying them with rum, &c., as it makes them very troublesome and quarrelsome. I should be glad your Honours would give some orders that they may not have liberty to sell or give, as they take their furs for much less than their value, and detain them longer than needful.

I have hitherto given eight shillings for beaver, to hinder them from trading with *Nova-Scotia*, and shall do it until I hear from your Honours. This I do, as I am sensible, from the best accounts from *Nova-Scotia*, that they take every measure to defeat your Honours' plans, and to bring them against the *New-England* settlements in this country.

As Major *Shaw* has been here, and witness to their proceedings, I refer your Honours to him for any further intelligence; and remain, with much respect, your Honours' much obliged, humble servant,

STEPHEN SMITH.

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives for the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress or General Assembly of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of JACOB BARKER, ISRAEL PERLEY, PHINEAS NEVENS, DANIEL PALMER, MOSES PICKARD, EDWARD COYE, THOMAS HARTT, ISRAEL KENNEY, ASA KIMBALL, ASA PERLEY, HUGH QUINTON, and OLIVER PERLEY, a Committee chosen in behalf of the Inhabitants of the River St. JOHN'S, in NOVA-SCOTIA, humbly sheweth:

That we, your petitioners, have for some time past beheld with grief, the calamity brought on this nation and land by a ruinous and destructive civil war. Our situation being somewhat remote from the seat of these troubles, and our land producing most of the necessities of life, we have not been so immediately affected as many parts on the Continent, and therefore have taken no part in the present unnatural quarrel, but have quietly suffered a suspension of trade, hoping that *God*, in his Providence, would point out a way for the amicable settlement of these unhappy disputes; but our hopes have hitherto proved abortive, and troubles are rather increased. Our Governour hath thought proper effectually to prevent our being supplied with arms and ammunition, by ordering a large penalty. Many of those articles being shipped (or water-borne) in the Province,

at the same time requires us to assemble in military array, and by force of arms to repel all invaders. Martial law is published throughout the Province, and civil authority made subordinate. Exorbitant taxes are required of us to support the war against you. Under these circumstances we find it is impracticable for us to continue as neutrals, and to subsist without commerce.

We now, in behalf of the inhabitants, openly declare, that we could never see any shadow of justice in that extensive claim of the *British* Parliament, viz: the right of enacting laws binding on the Colonies in all cases whatsoever. This system, if once established, (we conceive,) hath a direct tendency to sap the foundation not only of liberty, that dearest of names, but of property, that best of subjects. And as tyranny ought to be resisted in its first attempts, we are convinced that the United Provinces are just in their proceedings in this regard. The inhabitants of this place, after mature consideration, have thought fit to submit themselves to your government, and desire your protection, and that you would esteem the river *St. John's* as a part of your Province, which would add thereto a valuable extent of territory, though at present but few inhabitants. And we promise, in behalf of the inhabitants, to adopt such measures as you shall propose for our future conduct; and we are ready, with our lives and fortunes, to share with you the event of the present struggle for liberty, however *God*, in his Providence, may order it.

We, therefore, humbly ask your protection as a defenceless people, and that you would grant us such relief and assistance as you in your wisdom shall think proper, hoping that you will not tamely see us butchered or plundered for showing ourselves friendly to your cause.

That *God* would speedily restore peace to *America*, and that you will be led to such measures as will be most to His glory and the good of His people, is the earnest desire of your humble petitioners.

Maugerville, on the River *St. John's*, May 21, 1776.

JACOB BARKER,	ISRAEL KENNEY,
PHINEAS NEVENS,	HUGH QUINTON,
DANIEL PALMER,	OLIVER PERLEY,
EDWARD COYE,	ISRAEL PERLEY,
ASA PERLEY,	MOSES PICKARD.
THOMAS HARTT,	

#### Letter of Agency.

Whereas the inhabitants on the River *St. John's*, in the County of *Sunbury*, and Province of *Nova-Scotia*, being regularly assembled at *Maugerville*, in said County, on the 14th day of *May*, 1776, did then and there make choice of us, *Jacob Barker, Phineas Nevens, Israel Perley, Daniel Palmer, Moses Pickard, Edward Coye, Thomas Hart, Israel Kenney, Asa Kimball, Asa Perley*, and *Hugh Quinton*, a Committee in behalf of the inhabitants of said County, to make immediate application to the Congress or General Assembly of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, for relief under their present distressed circumstances:

Now know ye, That we, the Committee above named, have, by these presents, constituted and appointed two of said Committee, viz: Messrs. *Asa Perley* and *Asa Kimball*, to act as Agents for the body of said Committee, to go personally to the said Congress or General Assembly, and there present our petition; also to act and transact, determine, accomplish, and finish all matters touching the premises, as fully, finally, and effectually as the body of said Committee might or could do; and we do, in behalf of the inhabitants of said County, allow, ratify, and confirm whatsoever our said Agents shall do or cause to be done in and about this matter.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals, at *Maugerville*, in said County, this 20th day of *May*, 1776.

ISRAEL PERLEY,	[L. S.]
THOMAS HART,	[L. S.]
ISRAEL KENNEY,	[L. S.]
OLIVER PERLEY,	[L. S.]
HUGH QUINTON,	[L. S.]
JACOB BARKER,	[L. S.]
PHINEAS NEVENS,	[L. S.]
DANIEL PALMER,	[L. S.]
MOSES PICKARD,	[L. S.]
EDWARD COYE,	[L. S.]

All officers, civil or military, in the United Provinces, and all others, are desired not to molest or hinder the within *Asa Perley* and *Asa Kimball*, in their progress; on the contrary, to encourage and assist them, as they would merit the esteem of all lovers of their country's liberty, and the thanks of this Committee.

#### Copy of Resolves.

The inhabitants of the County of *Sunbury*, in the Province of *Nova-Scotia*, being regularly assembled at the Meeting-House in *Maugerville*, in said County, on *Tuesday*, the 14th day of *May*, 1776, to consult on some measures necessary to be taken for the safety of the inhabitants:

1stly. Chose *Jacob Barker*, Esq., Chairman.

2dly. Chose *Jacob Barker*, *Israel Perley*, *Phineas Nev-ers*, Esquires, and Messrs. *Daniel Palmer*, *Moses Pickard*, *Edward Coxe*, *Thomas Hart*, *Israel Kenney*, *Asa Kimball*, *Asa Perley*, *Oliver Perley*, and *Hugh Quinton*, a Committee to prepare a draught proper for the proceedings of the Assembly.

The meeting then adjourned till three of the clock in the afternoon.

Being again met, the Committee reported the following Resolves, which were read; and after a second reading, the Resolves were severally put, and passed in the affirmative, unanimously:

1st. *Resolved*, That we can see no shadow of justice in that extensive claim of the *British* Parliament, viz: the right of making laws binding on the Colonies in all cases whatsoever. This system, if once established, we conceive, hath a direct tendency to sap the foundation not only of liberty, that dearest of names, but of property, that best of subjects.

2dly. *Resolved*, That as tyranny ought to be resisted in its first appearances, we are convinced that the United Provinces are just in their proceedings in this regard.

3dly. *Resolved*, That it is our minds and desire to submit ourselves to the Government of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and that we are ready, with our lives and fortunes, to share with them the event of our present struggle for liberty, however *God* in his Providence may order it.

4thly. *Resolved*, That a Committee be chosen, to consist of twelve men, who shall immediately make application to the *Massachusetts* Congress or General Assembly for relief; and that said Committee, or the major part of them, shall conduct all matters, civil or military, in this County, till further regulation be made.

5thly. *Resolved*, That we, and each of us, will most strictly adhere to all such measures as our said Committee, or the major part of them, from time to time prescribe for our conduct; and that we will support and defend them in this matter at the expense of our lives and fortunes, if called thereto.

6thly. *Resolved*, That we will immediately put ourselves in the best posture of defence in our power. That to this end, we will prevent all unnecessary use of Gunpowder, or other Ammunition in our custody.

7thly. *Resolved*, That if any of us shall hereafter know of any person or persons that shall, by any ways or means, endeavour to prevent or counteract this our design, we will immediately give notice thereof to the Committee, that proper measures may be taken for our safety.

8thly. *Resolved*, That we, and each of us, will pay our proportion of all such sums of money as may be necessary for carrying these matters into execution; and finally, that we will share in, and submit to, the event of this undertaking, however it may terminate, to the true performance of all which we bind and obligate ourselves firmly each to the other, on penalty of being esteemed enemies and traitors to our country, and submitting ourselves to popular resentment.

The whole Assembly subscribed to the foregoing Resolves.

The Body then voted:

1stly, That the above-named Committee shall be a Standing Committee; to make application to the *Massachusetts* Congress; also, to conduct all matters, Civil or Military, in the County, till further regulations be made.

*Voted*, That we will have no dealings or connexions with

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any person or persons for the future that shall refuse to enter into the foregoing, or similar regulations.

A true copy from the Minutes:

ISRAEL PERLEY, Clerk.

Dated at *Maugerville*, on the River *St. John's*, *May* 21, 1776.

MEMORANDUM.—By desire of the Committee, represent the conduct of the *Indians*; that General *Washington's* letter had set them on fire, and they are plundering all people they think are Tories; and when that is done, perhaps the others may share the same fate. We think it necessary that some persons of consequence be sent among them.

If it be asked what lands are granted on the River, it may be answered, that there are four towns and a half granted to sixty-eight gentlemen, mostly officers in the Army. The towns are a hundred thousand acres each. There are several other large tracts of land granted to particular gentlemen. Those townships and other lands have but few settlers on them.

If it be asked, what proportion of the people signed the Resolutions, it may be answered, there are one hundred and twenty-five signed, and about twelve or thirteen that have not, nine of whom are at the River's mouth.

#### PORTSMOUTH (NEW-HAMPSHIRE) INSTRUCTIONS.

Portsmouth, July 31, 1776.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and others, inhabitants of said *Portsmouth*, per adjournment, among other things,

*Voted*, That the Representatives of this Town at the General Assembly be instructed for the following purposes, viz:

1st. That they do their utmost endeavours to procure the enactment of a law, that, from and after the dissolution of this present Assembly, no Member of any future Assembly hold any place in Government than his seat in said Assembly; and that when any such shall be chosen, and accept of a place, his seat shall become vacant, and a new writ issued to his Constituents for a new choice.

2d. That they do not consent that any person should hold more than one place in Government at the same time.

3d. That they do, in the most effectual manner, secure to the people of this State their inherent right of being judged and governed in the least prejudicial manner.

4th. That they, nor any future Representative, in future shall consent to any alteration, innovation, or abridgment of the constitutional form that may be adopted, without first consulting their Constituents, in a matter of so much importance to their safety.

A true copy. Attest:

JOHN PENHALLOW, Town-Clerk.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ST. PIERRE, DATED AUGUST 1, 1776.

Captain *Wickes* has added much glory to the *American* flag, when entering this harbour. He fell in with the *British* ship *Shark*, Captain *Chapman*, a fine new vessel of equal force, that was despatched, we hear, for the express purpose of intercepting him. An engagement immediately commenced with spirit on both sides for about thirty minutes, when it terminated in the disgraceful and precipitate flight of the latter. *Wickes* then triumphantly entered this port, and landed amidst the acclamations and caresses of a multitude of people, who had been anxious spectators of the combat. There was not a man killed, in this action, on our side. On the other, we know not what damage was sustained. The very friendly and polite treatment Captain *Wickes* experienced from the Governour, will, I doubt not, be highly pleasing to the Congress.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PENSACOLA, IN WEST-FLORIDA, DATED AUGUST 1, 1776.

Our Governour (as well as Governour *Tonyn*, of *East Florida*) has published a proclamation, offering an asylum to such who, from the present distracted situation of affairs in *America*, may choose to come and settle in this Province, with an offer of one hundred acres of land for the master, and the same for the mistress of every family, and fifty acres

for every child and servant, and free of quitrent for a certain number of years, and even more land than the above, provided it shall appear that they are able to cultivate it. He has offered to any person, gratis, to cut down timber from his Majesty's woods, for the making of lumber for the service of the *West-India Islands*, provided that security be given that it really and *bona fide* is intended only for their service. Every other encouragement is offered by the Governour to such settlers, and those who may think proper to furnish our Islands with lumber; and indeed here is enough in conscience, if we had but ships to transport it. Some vessels from *Jamaica* have been here; but our want of hands to prepare it is a great hinderance to that business. Being but an infant colony, we are in want of people. However, even this might be remedied if a trade was carried on, as we should soon get slaves if we had customers to take off the lumber when made. This country is much more healthy than I had been informed, and, instead of being a desert, has some good pasturage, and grows *European* corn of several sorts.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN WOOLSEY.

[No. 104.]

Annapolis, August 1, 1776.

SIR: The vessel you and company have on the stocks, the Council of Safety are now desirous of purchasing, provided they can have her on reasonable terms. Let us know, therefore, whether your company will sell, and what price they ask. We expect your answer as soon as possible, when Mr. *Stewart*, our agent, will attend to complete the contract, and give directions. We are, &c.

To Mr. *George Woolsey*.

GENERAL DENT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles County, August 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have my commission as Brigadier for the Flying-Camp, which I return for the same reason as that I don't doubt you have received ere this, viz: that you have a controlling power therein, under which I am resolved never more to act.

I am, gentlemen, with due respect, your humble servant,  
&c., JNO. DENT.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

THOMAS SMYTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Chester-Town, August 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: My son waits on the Council for his and his officers' commissions, and for such orders as they may think necessary to give him. I am afraid the Companies raised in this County will be delayed a good deal for want of arms. Those that are tolerably good are very difficult to get. Most people that have guns will rather sell than lend, and are very pressing for their money. It will be necessary to send some money to the Committee, to pay for guns and blankets. The latter, I believe, will be furnished without much difficulty.

The Committee, in pursuance of your Honours' request, have employed a cooper in making wooden bottles, a sample whereof you will receive by the bearer. The price is 2s. 6d. each. You will please to say how many you will have made, and the time when they must be finished.

I am, with much respect, your most humble servant,

THO. SMYTH.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

JOHN YOST TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Georgetown, August 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL: I have received your letter dated the 23d of *July*, and finding you desirous to know what complement of arms I had ready for the publick, I have them all ready of the first contract, including the bayonets, which I expect this day with an express which I have sent for them. I have also been much detained in the last contract, by repairing old arms for the Militia, the Colonel finding it very necessary. If I am not deceived in receiving the bayonets, I hope I can despatch all by the latter end of this week.

I am, gentlemen, in duty bound,

JOHN YOST.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of the *Western-Shore*.

PETITION OF MARY GIDDINS.

To the Honourable the Marine Committee: The Petition of MARY GIDDINS humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner is the widow of *John Giddins*, late Boatswain's Yeoman on board the *Alfred*, who was killed on board said ship in her action with the *Glasgow*, as appears by a regular certificate which she now produces to your Honours. That your petitioner is in very distressed circumstances, and having confidence in the publick faith, has applied to the honourable the Navy Board for the bounty of two hundred doliars promised by Congress to the widows or children of seamen who fall in the defence of *America*; that the honourable the Navy Board do not think themselves authorized to pay this bounty without an order from your Honours, declaring that the fund out of which the bounty is directed to be paid is not in their hands. That your petitioner doubts not but that your Honours will consider the irreparable loss she has met with, and order her that temporary relief for which the Congress have pledged the sacred faith of the Continent, and not suffer their good intentions to be frustrated on account of any little irregularities of office, which it is not in the power of your petitioner to remedy. The whole is submitted to the justice and humanity of your honourable Board; and in hopes of the interposition of your power in her behalf,

She will, as in duty bound, ever pray.

MARY GIDDINS.

GENTLEMEN: Were it in my power to support myself and family I should not have troubled this honourable House so often as I have done; necessity is the motive that compels me to this my first Petition, and all the rest of my returns before so honourable a body. I know it is the multiplicity of business that causes me to be thus neglected, but I hope that these lines will again bring the widow and family of him who died in the cause of liberty once more afresh in your memory, and order her a part of the dowry that your bountiful clemency has set apart for the poor widows and fatherless; and in so doing, your poor petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

MARY GIDDINS.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

This is to certify whom it may concern, that *John Giddins*, Boatswain's Yeoman on board the ship *Alfred*, was killed on board said ship in the engagement with the *Glasgow* the 7th day of *April*, 1776.

By order of *Esek Hopkins*, Esq., Commander-in-Chief.

SAML. LYON, Secretary.

Philadelphia, August 1, 1776.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, DATED AUGUST 1, 1776.

Last night arrived an account of the capture of the brig *Richmond* by the sloop *Congress*, (fitted out of this place;) she was bound from *London* and *Nevis* for *Halifax*, and had on board the following articles, viz: one thousand and seventy-eight joes, six hundred and seventy-two guineas, fifteen moidores, forty-one hogsheads rum, six hogsheads five tierces and five barrels sugar, one hoghead loaf-sugar, twenty-four hogsheads prize molasses, three cases drugs, and a trunk of *Irish* linen. The brig is safe arrived at *Egg-Harbour*; the gold they had in the water-cask. The cash and several *London* passengers are on board the privateer, which was left in chase of a three-decker. They took several *London* letters directed for people in *New-York*; also some newspapers—one of the 23d of *April*, which is the only one we have not seen before; it contains very little, except advices from *Jamaica*, by which they seem alarmed at the arrival of the *French* troops at *Hispaniola*, and that some of the merchants had forbid their orders for goods, expecting a visit from them. That seven ships, one of them the *Hancock and Adams*, with wheat, had arrived at *Lisbon* from *Philadelphia*, and that two tobacco and one wheat loaded ships were arrived in *France*.

Mr. *Gibbs's* ship, Captain *Robinson*, is below, from *Marseilles*, with eleven hundred arms, thirty-seven tons of lead, fifteen tons of powder, flints, &c. I have just seen the supercargo, who tells me they are seven weeks out; that they could not procure a newspaper, although he offered a guinea for one; but saw one as late as the 25th of *May*.

He says the first embarkation of troops sailed with Lord *Howe* about the 12th of *May*; that the second detachment of foreigners had not left *Holland*, and that it was reported that they had refused sailing till a cartel was established; that *France* had two formidable fleets at sea, which were to join off *Cape St. Vincent*; that the Duke *De Chartres* was to command the whole, and was cruising off that Cape, where he had retaken an *American* vessel from an *English* man-of-war; that the carpenters in the *French* ship-yards were kept close at work, *Sundays* and holydays not excepted; that all the naval and military stores were engaged for the King's use; that all the seamen were ordered immediately to be registered, and everything bore the appearance of war; that the *Spaniards* had marched a large body of troops to the environs of *Portugal*; that the *English* Parliament and the *Irish* were dissolved, and that a ship and brig from *New-York* were arrived at *Marseilles*.

#### PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION.

In Convention for the State of Pennsylvania, }  
Tuesday, August 1, 1776, A. M. }

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition and Memorial from *Northumberland* County, reported that the facts therein set forth are well supported by evidence; and therefore recommend the immediate consideration thereof to this Convention.

And the House having deliberated thereon, it was

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Convention that the inhabitants of the said County and of the County of *Northampton* are greatly exposed to *Indian* incursions, without being able to make a proper defence, on account of the scattered situation of the inhabitants, they being settled in such a manner as to be unable to afford each other necessary assistance.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Convention that it will be proper to raise and keep up a body of troops for the defence of the frontiers, not only of the County of *Northumberland*, but also of the County of *Northampton*, the latter County being equally exposed to *Indian* incursions.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Convention that the defenceless situation of those parts of our frontiers be made known to the Congress by the Delegates of this State, and that they further inform them that the Battalion ordered to be raised for defence of the western frontier can afford no assistance to those two Counties, and that the quota of Militia of *Northampton* first required for the Flying-Camp, is already marched, and the residue of the Militia is about to march, agreeable to the late request of Congress; by which means they will be without the least defence, and request Congress to take these matters into their consideration.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN MORRIS, Jun., *Chairman*.

#### *An Ordinance for securing the Arms of the Non-Associators of the State of PENNSYLVANIA.*

Whereas the Non-Associators in this State have either refused or neglected to deliver up their Arms according to the Resolves of the honourable Continental Congress and the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*; and effective measures have not been yet taken to carry the said Resolves into execution:

*Be it therefore ordained by the authority of this Convention*, That the Colonel or next officer in command of every Battalion of Militia in this State is hereby authorized, empowered, and required, to collect, receive, and take, all the Arms in his District or Township nearest to such officer which are in the hands of Non-Associators, in the most expeditious and effectual manner in his power, and shall give to the owners receipts for such Arms, and the amount of the appraisement; and such as can be repaired shall with all possible despatch be rendered fit for service, and the value, according to appraisement, of all such Arms, together with the repairs and transportation, shall be paid to the officer by the Treasurer, on the order of the Council of Safety, for the use of the owners.

*And be it further ordained*, That the same Arms shall be appraised by any three reputable freeholders appointed

by the Commanding Officer. But if the owner of any Arms shall neglect or refuse to apply for such money within six months, the same shall be applied towards the repairs of the Arms. And the Colonels are hereby authorized to draw for the necessary sums of money, for the purposes aforesaid, on the Council of Safety.

*And it is further ordained*, That the Colonels aforesaid shall arm the Associators with the said Arms, and keep an account to whom they are delivered, and return the same to the Council of Safety. And every Associator shall be answerable for such Arms or the value, unless lost or destroyed by some unavoidable accident, or in actual service.

*And be it further ordained*, That in case any Arms so collected shall not be worth repairing, the same shall be laid by until such time as may be thought proper by the Committee of the County to return them to the owner.

A true extract from the Minutes:

JOHN MORRIS, Jun., *Secretary*.

#### *An Ordinance to prevent the Counterfeiting the Paper Money issued by the honourable the Continental Congress, or by this, or any other of the UNITED AMERICAN STATES.*

Whereas great mischiefs may arise to the *United States of America*, and the property of the good people, inhabitants thereof, rendered precarious and insecure, by wicked and designing persons counterfeiting the paper Bills of Credit issued by the honourable the Continental Congress, or by any of the *United States of America*:

For remedy whereof—

*Be it Ordained and Declared, and it is hereby Ordained and Declared, by the Representatives of the Freemen of the State of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Convention met*, That if any person or persons shall presume to counterfeit any of the Bills of Credit issued, or hereafter to be issued, by the honourable the Continental Congress, or by and under any laws or resolves of the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, or by the Legislatures, or Conventions, or Assemblies, of this or any other of the *United States*, by printing, or procuring the same to be printed, in the likeness of the said genuine Bills of Credit, and also, if any person or persons shall forge the name or names of the signers of the true Bills of Credit to such Counterfeit Bills, whether the counterfeiting of the bills or names be done within this State or elsewhere, or shall utter such bills, knowing the same to be so counterfeited as aforesaid, and being thereof legally convicted, by confession, standing mute, or by verdict of twelve men, in any Court of Oyer and Terminer hereafter to be erected within this State, he, she, or they, shall suffer death. And the discoverer or informer shall have, as an encouragement for his or her discovery, the sum of fifty pounds, to be levied out of the goods and chattels, lands and tenements of the person convicted; and if no such goods or chattels, lands or tenements, can be found, a reward of twenty pounds shall be paid out of the publick treasury. And if any person or persons shall counterfeit any of the said Bills of Credit, by altering the denomination of the said bills, with design to increase the value of such bills, or shall utter such bills, knowing them to be so counterfeited or altered as aforesaid, and shall be thereof legally convicted in any Court of Record hereafter to be established in this State, such person or persons shall be sentenced to the pillory, and have both his or her ears cut off and nailed to the pillory, and be publicly whipped, on his or her bare back, with thirty-one lashes, well laid on; and, moreover, every such offender shall forfeit the sum of one hundred pounds, to be levied on his lands and tenements, goods and chattels, the one-half to the use of the State, and the other half to the use of the discoverer; and the offender shall pay the party double the value of the damages thereby sustained, together with the costs and charges of prosecution: and in case the offender hath not sufficient to satisfy the discoverer for his or her damages and charges, and pay the forfeiture aforesaid, in such case the offender shall, by order of the Court where he or she shall be convicted, be sold for any term not exceeding seven years, for satisfaction; and in such case the Treasurer of this State shall reward the discoverer of such insolvent offender to the value of five pounds, out of the publick moneys in his hands. And every such counterfeit bill shall be delivered to the said Treasurer, to be burnt and destroyed.

*And be it further Ordained and Declared*, That the proper



Bills of Credit issued by the honourable the Continental Congress, or under the late laws, or by the resolves of the late Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, shall be legal tender in all cases whatsoever within this State.

By order of the Convention:

GEORGE ROSS, *Vice President*.

Passed August 1, 1776.

Attest: JOHN MORRIS, Jun., *Secretary*.

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY COMMITTEE.

August 1, 1776.

In consequence of a Resolve of the Committee of Safety for proper persons to be appointed to distribute Money for the support of poor women and children, who are left destitute by means of their husbands and fathers being now in actual service,

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be appointed to that service, and that they be requested to draw upon the Treasurer, Mr. *Joseph Mather*, for such sums as they may think necessary for their different districts, viz: *Philip Price, James Jones, John Price, Lindsay Coates, Isaiah Worrell, James Dungan, William Tiller, Peter Rush, John Collin, John Wilson, Peter Evans, Edward Burke, James Brookes, Alexander McMichael, Jeremiah Jordan, David Shottz, Henry Hise, George Hertzell, John Yost, Sen., John Rox, Joseph Ferree, Augustine Neiser, Nathan Levering, William Wilson, Jonathan Robinson, Richard Bisbing, James Stroud, John Chain, John Bean, Israel Jacobs, John Weigel, Alexander Major*.

Extract from the Minutes: Enoch EDWARDS.

GABRIEL DAVIS TO LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

August 1, 1776.

SIR: We, Committee-men of *Earltown*, having received orders from Colonel *Peter Grub* to collect wagon cloths and to have them at *Hinkletown* against Monday night, it was done. As there was no regular order from the Committee for these proceedings, *George Rine* sent me word this morning that he went yesterday to Colonel *Grub* and Captain *Martin*, and demanded a receipt for the wagon cloths which were delivered to them, which they refused.

Sir, I would take it as a particular favour if you would lay this matter before the Committee, and let me know, by a few lines from you, whether or no they will assist in getting money for the payment of these wagon cloths. You have, likewise, enclosed, a copy of a certain resolve which I happened to stumble over.

Sir, your humble servant, GABRIEL DAVIS.  
To Mr. *William Atlee*, Chairman, *Lancaster*.

GENERAL HOWE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Staten-Island, August 1, 1776.

SIR: I have received the favour of your letter of the 30th of July, and shall accordingly direct that Mr. *Lovell*, who is now at *Halifax*, be brought to this post, of which I shall have the honour of advising you, that the proposed exchange between him and Governour *Skene* may take place.

The extent of my command having no relation to *Canada*, it is not in my power to give you the satisfaction I could wish respecting the enlargement of Colonel *Allen*; it must therefore depend upon General *Carleton's* determination. But wishing sincerely to give relief to the distresses of all prisoners, I shall readily consent to the mode of exchange you are pleased to propose, viz: officers for those of equal rank, soldier for soldier, citizen for citizen; the choice to be made by the respective commanders for their own officers and men. You must be sensible deserters cannot be included in this arrangement; and for the mode of exchange in the naval line, I beg leave to refer you to the Admiral.

I cannot close this letter without expressing the deepest concern that the unhappy state of the Colonies, so different from what I had the honour of experiencing in the course of the last war, deprives me of the pleasure I should otherwise have had in a more personal communication.

I am, with due respect, sir, your most obedient servant,  
W. Howe.

To General *Washington*, &c., &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, August 1, 1776.

SIR: Congress having been pleased to empower me to order Colonel *Ward's* regiment wherever I might think it necessary, I take the liberty of requesting you to direct him to march it immediately to this place, where I am of opinion the service requires it, and their aid may be extremely material, especially as the levies come in very slowly.

Since my last, nothing of importance has occurred, or that is worthy of notice, except an augmentation of about twenty-nine ships and brigs, with seven or eight smaller vessels, to the enemy's fleet. I have not learned certainly what they bring; however, some troops were seen landing yesterday, which the gentlemen who observed them took to be Artillerymen. It is not improbable that they were some of the guards, whose dress is pretty much like that of the Artillery.

I have the honour, &c., GO. WASHINGTON.  
To Governour *Trumbull*.

P. S. The three galleys which you were kind enough to order, are safely arrived; as are two from *Rhode-Island*. With these, and one that we have finished here, we propose attempting something against the ships above, and are preparing for it.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, August 1, 1776.

SIR: Having just received from Congress a return of Colonel *Elmore's* regiment, now in your State, with directions that it shall join this Army, I request the favour of you to order him to march immediately to this place. They have appointed *John Brown*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of it, and *Robert Cochran*, Esq., Major. Commissions for such officers as appear with their respective companies, I am to fill up.

I am, &c., GO. WASHINGTON.  
To Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*.

P. S. Half-past twelve o'clock.—I this moment received intelligence that thirty ships more were coming into the *Hook*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL ELMORE.

New-York, August 1, 1776.

SIR: Having just received from Congress a return of your regiment, now in the State of *Connecticut*, with directions that it shall join this Army, I request the favour of you to march immediately to this place. They have appointed *John Brown*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of it, and *Robert Cochran*, Esq., Major. Commissions for such officers as appear with their respective companies, I am to fill up.

I am, &c., GO. WASHINGTON.  
To Colonel *Samuel Elmore*, in *Connecticut*.

GENERAL WADSWORTH TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, August 1, 1776.

HONoured SIR: In consequence of your orders received the 23d June last, I immediately issued orders to the Colonels commanding the several regiments in my brigade, for raising and for sending those men, when mustered and equipped, agreeable to my instructions. On the 29th of June last, I received a letter from General *Washington*, requesting, in the most pressing manner, not to lose a moment's time in sending forward the regiments designed for *New-York*; with which I immediately acquainted the Colonels, and directed them to give all possible attention in carrying the same into execution; and on the 3d of July last, in *New-York*, I received it in command from the General to send an express immediately to *Connecticut*, to forward the regiments designed for this department, the *British* fleet being then in sight of this city. In this situation of affairs, many of the men marched (as I am informed since my last) without being first mustered; a circumstance which I mentioned to the General on my first knowledge of it, who then informed me that they must be mustered here by the Mustermaster; but no order has been issued for that purpose. Must, therefore, beg your Honour's directions, whether to have the men mustered by a Mustermaster appointed here, or by one from *Connecticut*.

*ticut*, or any other mode of procedure which you shall think proper. By the last returns, it appears that about three thousand of the troops from *Connecticut* have arrived, including officers, more than three hundred of whom are returned sick. Colonel *Bradley's* regiment is at *Bergen-Point*, in the *Jerseys*, and Colonel *Gray's* going to *Long-Island*. Many of the *Connecticut* officers have not yet joined: three Captains of Colonel *Selden's* regiment only are present. I sincerely wish all, except those who have leave from their Colonels to recruit, were present, as we have reason to believe some of the foreign troops are arrived. The post is just now setting out.

I am, with great truth and regard, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,  
JAMES WADSWORTH, Jun.

To Hon. Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, August 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports thirty sail of ships standing in for the *Hook*. Perhaps this may be part of the foreign troops.

I detached for the galleys between forty and fifty men yesterday. Two companies that have been with Colonel *Foreman's* regiment are gone from this post to join their regiment under General *Heard*. The troops in general are exceeding sickly, great numbers taken down every day. If the state of the Army will admit of a reinforcement at this post, perhaps it may be prudent. If it does not, I will do the best I can with what I have got.

I am, all with due respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

N. GREENE.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, August 1, 1776, }  
4 o'clock, P. M. }

DEAR SIR: The fleet reported coming in this morning consists of about forty sail, tenders and all. They are now off *New-Utrecht* shore. Pilots have gone down to bring them up.

The dispute subsisting between an officer in Colonel *Little's* regiment and Colonel *Varnum's*, I hope is in a fair way to be accommodated.

In to day's orders a regiment of General *Wadsworth's* brigade is ordered on this Island. If they can have tents, it will be much the best.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

N. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *New-York*, Headquarters.

SYLVESTER SALISBURY TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Kingston, August 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: According to a resolve of Congress, the Militia in this County are to raise a regiment of men to be stationed on the west side of the *North River*, in order to prevent the enemy from penetrating into the country. Pursuant to that resolve the Militia was called together, as was also my company of Horse. The quotas of the different companies of Foot were soon raised according to your directions. My company of Horse was also called upon to raise their quota of men, but unanimously objected to their turning out as footmen. They think it is not the intent and meaning of Congress that horsemen shall be turned into footmen: that after having properly equipped themselves as horsemen they should now again be obliged to equip themselves as footmen.

I did all in my power to persuade them to comply with the request of the Colonel, though at the same time did not think it your intent and meaning. The bearer of this letter can more fully inform you about my company, if required. I should be glad to know your sentiments concerning this matter; that is, whether we are obliged to turn out as horsemen or footmen. They say they are willing to turn out as horsemen at any time when called upon. You will much oblige me if you will give me your opinion by the bearer of

this letter, as soon as possible, because Colonel *Pawling* is to march with his regiment from here the beginning of next week.

If we are obliged to turn out as footmen, my company of Horse will be dissolved immediately, because they think it very unjust that they should serve both as horsemen and footmen, and then, of course, I shall resign my commission.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

SYLVESTER SALISBURY.

To the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

COLONEL SNYDER TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Kingston, August 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Whereas by virtue of a resolve of Congress it is ordered to raise the one-fourth of the Militia of the several Counties therein mentioned, to guard *Hudson's River* on both sides; and whereas I have the honour to command the First Regiment in *Ulster County*,—I have, in compliance with said resolve, ordered the Militia under my command to turn out the fourth man of each company, as well the troop of Horse as the rest of the Militia, to go into immediate service under the command of Colonel *Levi Pawling*. And whereas I find the Militia all ready and willing to go in said service except the troop of Horse, and as I have just understood that the Captain of the troop of Horse will appeal to your honourable Board for advice whether he is to deliver his quota of men or not, and if so, he will resign his commission and dissolve the company; and whereas I conceive that it is a matter of no doubt but it was the sense of Congress, in plain terms, by the resolve of Congress passed the 22d day of *August*, 1775, to regulate the Militia, that the troop of Horse should be subject to commands and duties the same as the rest of the Militia: Now if they should be exempted from doing duty equal with the rest of the Militia, it will effect a mutiny among us; reason, because it has been the general rule, as long as the troop has been known in our County, they have always delivered their quota of men as the rest of the Militia; and if they now should be excused, particularly in these critical times when all and all is at stake, we might rather have no troop at all, for the troop are chiefly the principal people, and ought of course to step forth to defend their liberties as well as any of the Militia. So, gentlemen, I shall rest the matter to your consideration; and remain your most obedient humble servant,

JOHS. SNYDER.

To the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

P. S. Gentlemen, favour me with an answer by the bearer, that a mutiny may be prevented.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 8, 1776.]

German-Flats, August 1, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday afternoon I had the honour to receive your favour of the 24th *July*, with the resolutions of Congress it enclosed, which shall claim the most immediate attention I can possibly give them; but as I may not be so soon with the Army as I could wish, I shall transmit a copy to General *Gates*, and recommend the execution of them.

The pain I experienced in finding that so much unbecoming and dangerous jealousy prevailed in the Army is not easily described. What little I could do in my short stay at *Crown-Point*, towards eradicating an evil which strikes at the very existence of an Army, I did; and I doubt not but General *Gates* has directed much of his attention to so capital an object, and that in a little time we shall in a great measure be purged of the evil.

I do not recollect that any complaints have been made that the persons intrusted with the disposal of the publick stores have made overcharges against the soldiers, as the resolution of the 19th ultimo intimates. The idea I meant to convey in one of my letters to Congress, or to his Excellency General *Washington*, (I forget which, as I have not the copies here,) was, that the soldiers complained of the very high price of all kinds of necessaries, and that they were not on a footing with those in the more interior parts of

the country, who could purchase at much easier rates, and therefore wished an abatement on the first cost.

Yesterday some of the *Cayugas* arrived, and the remainder are expected to-day. The *Senecas*, it is said, will be here to-morrow; if so, the conference will begin on the next day. I sincerely wish it was ended. The consumption of provision and rum is incredible; it equals that of an Army of three thousand men, although the *Indians* here are not above twelve hundred, including men, women, and children.

Two trusty *Oneidas*, whom we sent last week to *Cayuga* and the *Senecas* to inquire the reasons of their delay, informed us on their return that Colonel *Butler* had called another meeting at *Niagara*, and that the consideration of the answer to his message had occasioned the delay. They also advise us that they heard from *Indians* returned from *Canada*, that the *British* troops are making a strong fortification at *St. John's*, but could say nothing of their numbers. Our emissaries amongst the *Indians* advise us that an account of our misfortunes in *Canada* has been industriously propagated amongst them; that our conduct in demanding a neutrality only, in all the former treaties, has been greatly applauded at all their councils; that they believe a deviation from that line of conduct will terminate greatly to our disadvantage. We are still at a loss what to do, and wait for further information. At any rate we are resolved in our first speech to point out, in the strongest terms, the faithless conduct of some of them, and to threaten them with revenging the insults we have received.

General *Arnold*, in a letter of the 24th ultimo, from *Ticonderoga*, advises me that only seventy sailors could be draughted out of the Army, and that three hundred would be wanting, and entreated that measures should be taken to procure them. I have accordingly written to Governour *Trumbull* on the subject; and as General *Arnold* suggested that they could not be got for the wages allowed seamen by Congress, (as these would have no prospect of making prizes,) I have therefore ventured to entreat the Governour to engage them on the best terms he can, as Congress will perceive by the following extract of my letter of yesterday's date:

"I am this moment informed that only seventy sailors can be procured out of our Northern Army, and that we shall want two or three hundred more, and that they may possibly be procured in *Connecticut*; and it is conjectured that Captains *Samuel Chew* and *Francis Brown* of *New-Haven*, Captain *Amos Green* of *Stamford*, Captain *Whittlesey* of *Saybrook*, and Captain *Seth Warner* of *Hodddan*, would, if not employed, be willing to engage as Captains to command vessels on *Lake Champlain*. I am a stranger to all these gentlemen. Permit me to beg the favour of you to send them, or such others as you may think proper, to engage forty men apiece, and to make the best contract you can with them for theirs and their men's monthly wages and allowances, which will be strictly complied with."

I hope this measure will meet the approbation of Congress, as the necessity of having sailors is evident, and as there can be no doubt but that Governour *Trumbull* will make the most favourable contract for the publick that he can.

Since writing and despatching my letter, I am informed by my Secretary, who is at *Albany*, that Captain *Bacon* was sent on this service by General *Gates*, with orders to call on my Secretary for £1000 lawful; but the Paymaster having no money, he was disappointed, and has proceeded to *New-York*. Every department suffers greatly for want of a supply of cash. I hope, however, that a little time will remove the difficulties we labour under on this account.

I am, sir, with sincere esteem and respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

German-Flats, August 1, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I received despatches from Congress enclosing, amongst other papers, certain resolutions; copy of which I enclose you. I dare say that whatever you can do in the premises, will be effected.

In consequence of General *Arnold's* letter of the 24th ultimo, I despatched an express to Governour *Trumbull*, to

procure five companies of sailors, of forty men each. Uncertain on what terms they might be procured, I entreated him to engage them on the best he could, and that his contract with them would be punctually fulfilled. Since which, Captain *Varick* advises me that you have sent Captain *Bacon* on the same errand. I am happy that you have done it, as by the joint exertions of the Governour and him, it is probable the business will be much expedited. It was unfortunate that the Paymaster had no money to furnish Captain *Bacon*. Why we are so long left without a supply of that necessary article, I cannot conjecture. My applications have been frequently repeated.

By an express whom I despatched yesterday with Governour *Trumbull's* letter, I also directed that a proper person should be instantly sent to *Connecticut* for the said cloth and cordage mentioned in General *Arnold's* letter.

As I fear that the pitch some time since written for from *New-York* may not be sent, I have directed tar-makers to be sent to *St. George*, and there employed in procuring a quantity of it, which is easily reduced to pitch.

Congress has, I believe, mistaken the idea I meant to convey about the price of goods for the soldiers. I have explained the matter in a letter of this date.

All the fatigues I have endured at the opening of the campaign cannot equal what I suffer from the uninterrupted importunity of the *Indians*. They now exceed twelve hundred, and all the *Cayugas* are not yet arrived, and very few of the *Senecas*.

It is reported that some *Indians* from *Canada* say that the *British* troops are making a large fortification at *St. John's*. I cannot learn anything of vessels, although they are doubtless building.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable General *Gates*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

German-Flats, August 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: General *Arnold*, in a letter of the 24th ultimo, from *Tyonderoga*, advises me of the necessity of sending ten or twelve gunners, and as many gunners' mates, for our armed vessels, as none can be spared from the Artillery. They are not to be had at *Albany* or its vicinity, and I know not of any place nearer than *New-York* where they can be procured. Will your Excellency be so good as to order them up with all possible despatch?

I have written to Governour *Trumbull* for seamen, as only seventy are to be got out of the Army, and three hundred are wanted. As it will not be possible to procure them on the Continental allowance for seamen, there being no prospect of making prizes, I have ventured to desire the Governour to engage them on the best terms he can. I hope this will meet with your Excellency's approbation.

Part of the *Cayuga Indians* arrived yesterday; the remainder are expected to-day, and the *Senecas* to-morrow, and we are in hopes of opening the treaty on the next day. We have advice by *Indians* returned from *Canada*, that the enemy are employed in erecting a large and strong fortification at *St. John's*. I can learn nothing from them about any vessels building there.

*Fort Stanwix* is repairing, and is already so far advanced as to be defensible against light artillery. It would already have been furnished with six months' provisions, if the necessary supply of the *Indians* had not prevented. These people consume an amazing quantity of provisions—at least better than twice as much as so many troops. They now consist of about twelve hundred, including women and children.

I am, dear sir, with the greatest respect and esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 1, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Since my last, there are four companies of the *Connecticut* troops arrived; and instead of sending one company, as I wrote in my last, I yesterday sent off two to be posted at *Cheshire's*; and gave orders to the com-

manding officer to use his utmost endeavours to forward the repairing the roads, and in lending his assistance in getting logs for the saw-mill, and hope I shall not be disappointed in his fulfilling his orders.

We are constantly sending boats for boards, but cannot get them half so fast as they are wanted. The troops suffer much by not being covered from the weather; but I shall use my utmost endeavours to cover them as fast as I can.

I must once more trouble your Honour about a set of bullet-moulds, which is much wanted. The bullets are all too large, and for that reason have not made up any cartridges, but have dealt out a little, in case they should want it, to every company.

There are so many oars sent off with the gondolas, and none sent back, that we can scarcely furnish out any boats. In case we should, we would be glad there might be some returned.

We have great success in getting our timber by the creek side, and in getting it in by rafts, that it saves team-work greatly. And I hope the carpenters will make considerable show soon in their building, as they seem to be spirited in their undertaking.

And am, in haste, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

#### HARMANUS SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 1, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: We are entirely out of oakum, and I have sent two expresses to *Albany*, and have none as yet. I would be very glad, if there is any oakum or iron at *Ticonderoga*, that your Excellency would please to send it by the boat that brings you this letter.

We are also in want of several other articles, such as spades, axes, and ropes, which, if the General pleases to send, will be of great use.

We have our third express to *Albany* now for all those articles, and are as yet destitute.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,

HARMANUS SCHUYLER,

A. D. Q. M. General.

To Major-General Gates.

#### GENERAL GATES TO CUMBERLAND COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

Tyonderoga, August 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your petition of the 24th ultimo I was favoured with yesterday by Colonel *Barret*.

The Congress have ordered a regiment to be immediately raised under the command of Colonel *Warner*, for the defence of the frontier most exposed to the enemy, in which your County is comprehended. I therefore think the one hundred and twenty-five men you mention, can be more usefully employed for the publick service in building a bridge over *Otter Creek*, and cutting and repairing the road from *Number-Four* to the foot of *Mount Independence*. Colonel *Barret* has the necessary information upon this head, and would, in my opinion, be a proper person to superintend the work.

I beg your Committee will give all possible discouragement to the scandalous desertion that has prevailed in this Army, by seizing and sending under a proper guard all stragglers, and persons who are not supplied with a written pass under my hand or the hand of some publick officer authorized by me. I must likewise entreat you, gentlemen, to acquaint all officers commanding regiments and companies, who have directions to march to this post, that it is my positive orders not to loiter upon the way, but to march without delay to the place of their destination.

#### NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN., TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-London, August 1, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Dr. *Wolcott*, will deliver you a turtle, which was taken in a ship bound from *Jamaica* to *London*, by Captain *Biddle*, in the brig *Andrew Doria*, and was sent into this port, but unfortunately was lost on the rocks off *Fisher's Island*, being chased by a man-of-war. We saved about ninety puncheons of rum; the sugar, two hundred and fifty hogsheads, all lost, and the ship; and as the turtle was

intended for the support of our enemies, we thought best to send him to Head-Quarters, to be dealt with.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

NATHL. SHAW, Jun.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander of all the Forces of the *United States*, in *New-York*.

Per Dr. *Wolcott*, with a turtle.

#### THOMAS MUMFORD TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Groton, August 1, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I have, per last post, received a letter from Congress, requesting me to deliver to your order the quantity of powder lent General *Washington*, as you will see by a quotation from their letter below: ("We request you will apply to Governour *Trumbull* for an account of the powder lent by your Colony to General *Washington* when before *Boston*. We don't know exactly the quantity, but believe it was about four tons. The Governour, or some officer of your Government, have a receipt or certificate, either from the General or Commissary, which you will please to take up, paying the powder, and transmitting the same to us, with a receipt for the powder you so repay;") in which they desire me to take your receipt for the said powder, and also to take up General *Washington's* or the Commissary's receipt, which they gave when said powder was delivered belonging to this Colony. I have three tons and upwards of their powder now here, which I conclude is as much as was delivered here. The remainder is at *Providence*, where some part that you lent General *Washington* was received. I am ready to deliver to your order the quantity of powder at *Norwich*, which was received in this Colony, and the remainder I will give orders to be delivered at *Providence* when you please, but shall expect the receipts as directed by Congress in their letter to me as above. I shall be glad to have duplicates of your receipts, as I want one to send to Congress and the other to keep, to warrant my charging them with said powder.

I am, with much esteem and respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

THOS. MUMFORD.

P. S. I have twenty tons of powder lately arrived in several bottoms.

#### ENOS STONE TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Whereas a complaint is carried in against us the subscribers by the Committee of the town of *Lexington* in said State, respecting our conduct with one *John McAlpine*; and whereas the said complaint is set forth in a colour most odious, we, in justice to ourselves, and in our own defence, beg leave to set forth the whole proceedings to your Honours in a fair point of light, which is as follows:

Some time in *January* last past, the above said *McAlpine* was found at one *Smith's*, in *Stockbridge*, in this State, a house for some time suspected to harbour unfriendly persons; whereupon several of us immediately went to said *Smith's*, and apprehended said *McAlpine*; and some of the captors being the Committee of *Lenox*, thought proper to consult with the Committee of *Stockbridge*, and, on a close examination, judged the said *McAlpine* inimical to the *United States*, and in their wisdom thought prudent to send him to the Committee of *Salisbury*, in the State of *Connecticut*; upon which the prisoner was delivered into our care, with directions to the *Salisbury* Committee, and accordingly we delivered the prisoner with our directions to *Salisbury* Committee, and from them we received orders to proceed with said *McAlpine* to the Committee in the *Little Nine Partners*, with which orders we complied, and, on our arrival there, but two of the Committee were to be found. We presented the prisoner, with the writing we had received from the two former Committees; but they declined receiving the said *McAlpine* till the whole of the Committee was present; and by this time the evening was far spent; we resolved to keep a good watch over the prisoner; and about eleven o'clock at night, the Committee not being met, there entered the house by surprise about thirty Tories, and with a retinue without, and to appearance seemed determined to retaliate and revenge for said *McAlpine's* suffering, and all in confusion, cried Kill, kill the Rebels, and then demanded the surrendering of our arms, and, crowding upon us in a savage manner, extorted from us a



very valuable cutlass and two pistols, and sundry writings of value, which never were returned, and immediately after bound us both; and after they had insulted and abused us, to the satisfying of their savage dispositions, demanded *McAlpine's* money; but I was determined to divest myself of and secrete the money, let the consequence be what it might: accordingly, I did, at the time they were seeking of me; but they, finding the money was not about me, concluded we had left it back about ten miles. They then threatened our lives, and solemnly declared, if we would not promise to return the money of said *McAlpine* to his brother and sister, after we had satisfaction for our damage and expense, (if there was any left,) they would sacrifice us there; accordingly we promised the money should be returned, and upon that they relieved us from our confinement, also exchanged horses with me, but my horse made his escape from them, and returned the next morning to my quarters, so I have both horses in custody. At my return the captor demanded an equal right in the plunder, but we refused, and submitted it to the judgment of men, and they were only to have their expenses paid for assisting in apprehending the said *McAlpine*; but said captors demanded said moneys, that they might make an equal distribution, not that the publick should be benefited thereby. I myself being one of the Committee of the town, supposed that I had a right to keep it until I should have directions from the honourable House of Assembly or elsewhere, that I might be secure. Must beg that I may not be condemned without a proper hearing; and I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

ENOS STONE.

To the Honourable General Court of *Massachusetts* State.

Amherst, August 1, 1776.

State of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, County of HILLSBOROUGH:

Pursuant to orders from the Committee of Safety for said State, to the Sheriff of said County, requiring him to proclaim Independency in *Amherst*, the shire-town of said County, the Sheriff, attended by the Militia, a great part of the Magistrates of the County, and several hundreds of other spectators, met at the Meeting-House in said Town, and, after attending prayers, were formed into a circle on the parade, the Sheriff in the centre, on horseback, with a drawn sword in his hand. The Declaration was read from an eminence on the parade; after that was done three cheers were given, colours flying and drums beating. The Militia fired in thirteen divisions, attended with universal acclamations. The whole was performed with the greatest decorum.

Charlestown, South-Carolina, August 2, 1776.

We hear that about three weeks ago two armed vessels from *St. Augustine* cut a sloop and schooner, loaded with rice, out of *Ogeechee River*, in *Georgia*. A party from the same place have been employed in building a fort at *St. Mary's*. A boat belonging to them, with Captain *Peter Bachop* and seven others on board, was taken about a fortnight since, after some shot being exchanged. Three of them were killed, and Captain *Bachop*, with the other four, brought prisoners to *Savannah*.

GENERAL LEE TO RICHARD PETERS.

Charlestown, August 2, 1776.

SIR: I wish I had been informed how I am to address myself in writing to the Board of War—whether to the Board in general, to the first members on the list, or to the Secretary. I have ventured on the last mode: if it is wrong, I hope I shall be excused and corrected.

The irregularity and tardiness of the post are now become a matter of my serious concern. We never receive a letter from *Philadelphia* in less than six or seven weeks. That from the members of the Board of War and Ordnance is only just now arrived, though dated the 12th of *June*. I have been pressed, sir, by several members of the Convention of *Virginia*, to establish a post for this district; but I am apprehensive that it might interfere with the Continental post. However, the consequences arising from the irregularity of the post are so very serious, that all other considerations must be waived. In the mean time, I am constrained to the necessity of putting the Continent to the expense of an express on almost every occasion.

I am extremely rejoiced at the establishment of a Board of War; for the business of Congress was so complex and heterogeneous, that it was impossible they should give the necessary attention to the affairs of any one distinct department. Their regulations, with respect to returns, &c., shall be punctually observed. I have ordered General *Armstrong* to collect the returns from different corps, to digest them into one, and transmit them immediately to the Congress.

I am myself busied in arranging matters for an expedition into *East-Florida*. It is much to be lamented, that these Southern Colonies suffered the whole of last winter to pass over their heads without preparing the means either of offence or defence. Not a single row-galley or armed boat was furnished by *Virginia*, *North* or *South-Carolina*. Were we provided with a moderate fleet of these sort of vessels, I think I could ensure the reduction of *East-Florida*; an object, though not equal with *Canada*, is certainly of very great importance. Here the measures of the Southern *Indians* are concerted and planned, their treaties negotiated and concluded; here they receive their bribes, for their murderous operations, and from hence they are supplied with all the means and instruments of war. From hence they have lately made some alarming incursions into *Georgia*, carried off a considerable number of negroes, and not less than two thousand head of cattle. They have likewise thrown up a post on the river *St. Mary's*, which, if suffered to remain, may prove extremely troublesome to *Georgia*, by affording a ready asylum to negro deserters.

From these considerations, although I cannot think of laying siege to *Augustine*, having neither boats, horses, wagons, nor any other means of conveying cannon, ammunition, or provision for the purpose, I think it both a prudent and necessary measure to attempt breaking up the whole Province of *East-Florida*. It will be a security to *Georgia*, occasion infinite distress to the garrison of *St. Augustine*, but, above all, make a salutary impression upon the minds of the *Creeks*, who are now thought to stand wavering. They profess a good disposition towards the *American* cause; but if, by a strong predatory expedition into the province of the enemy, we give an idea of our prowess and superior strength, they will be riveted in our interest. If I were sure Mr. *Clinton* and his Army had steered their course to *New-York*, as the deserters all agree, and a letter which was left in *Long-Island* confirms, (a copy of which is here enclosed,) I should, as I have nothing immediately else to do in my district, march in person with this party; but the bare possibility of his being gone to *Virginia* will detain me. Every ship of the enemy has now repassed the bar. It appears by this same enclosed letter, that they were more roughly handled than even the deserters represented.

The Congress, I make no doubt, have been informed of the incursions made, and the ravages committed, by the Upper and Lower *Cherokees*. An expedition, I understand, is furnished forth by *Virginia* against the Upper Nations; another, by this Province, against the Lower. The success or miscarriage is of the last consequence. I am therefore desirous of forming a second line, or *corps de reserve*, and detaching, for this purpose, a regiment of Regulars, but have not, as yet, been able to procure wagons sufficient for two companies. It will be necessary that Congress should make some regular establishment for wagons. I should think one wagon, at least, if not two, should be purchased and appointed to each company of the whole Army, and regiments made responsible for theirs respectively. We should then be able to march when occasion requires expedition. At present, it is sometimes as much impossible to march an hundred miles, although the fate of a Province depended upon it, as if the soldiers wanted legs.

I hope the Congress and Board of War will excuse my giving an opinion on a subject on which it has not been asked; but I conceive it to be my duty not to remain silent on any affairs of such a moment.

I find, sir, that representations have been made that many inconveniences would arise from putting the troops of this Province on the Continental establishment. I can assure the Congress, that it is almost impossible to carry on the service if they remain on the Colonial establishment. The difference of the laws, the distinction of rank, occasion so much confusion, and the ridiculous farce of Duke and no Duke we are playing, the officers not always comprehending

who is their proper commander, whether the President or the Continental General, occasions very dangerous distractions. But there are other matters, of more serious consideration, of which I shall not trouble you with a detail. Nor do I find that the officers of this Province object to a Continental establishment; on the contrary, all those I have conversed with seem desirous of it. Upon the whole, I think it absolutely essential to the publick service that these regiments should immediately be put on the same footing, and be governed by the same laws, with the rest. Nor am I singular in opinion. The two brigades, all the officers of every rank, and the greater part of the gentlemen of the country, concur with me.

Colonel *Muhlenberg*, of the Eighth Battalion of *Virginians*, has been made very uneasy by some letters he has lately received, with respect to the rank of his regiment. These letters intimate that it was never the intention of the Congress to consider the Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Battalions of the *Virginians* on the Continental establishment, until they were entirely complete; that his regiment never was entirely complete; and that, consequently, after having so long thought himself on the Continental establishment, and, on this presumption, having marched five hundred miles from his own Province, under the command of a Continental General, he now, at last, finds himself only a Provincial officer.

I have ventured to assure him, and his officers, who are equally uneasy, that there must be some mistake in this affair. In fact, the hardship would be so great, that I cannot believe their apprehensions are well founded. It was, if I remember right, notified in *April*, by the Committee of Safety in *Virginia*, that they were then taken upon the Continental establishment, and, though in this I may be mistaken, without the proviso of their being complete.

It happened at this time, though not complete to a man, (for no regiment is ever complete to a man,) that *Muhlenberg's* regiment was not only the most complete of the Province, but I believe of the whole Continent. It was not only the most complete in numbers, but the best armed, clothed, and equipped, in all respects, for immediate service. I must repeat, that I cannot conceive that it was ever the intention of Congress that the establishment should be filled to a man; but that they should be competent to service, in or out of their Province. In most services, when new levies are raised, one-half of the proposed complement entitles them to establishment. *Muhlenberg's* regiment wanted only forty at most. It was the strength and good condition of the regiment that induced me to order it out of its own Province in preference to any other. I certainly considered them at that time as Continental troops; otherwise, I could have had no authority to order them out of the Province.

I must now submit it to the consideration of the Congress, if it would not really be the greatest cruelty that their strength and good condition should be turned against them. It was their strength and good condition which carried them out of their Province, where, had they remained and known that it was a necessary condition of their establishment to be complete to a man, they certainly could have accomplished it in three days. I do, therefore, most sincerely hope, and confidently persuade myself, that *Muhlenberg's* regiment will at least date their rank from the day I ordered them to march out of their Province. Not only justice, but policy requires it, for you will otherwise lose a most excellent regiment.

I often represented to Congress how difficult or impossible it would be to engage, or retain after they were engaged, any engineers of tolerable qualification on the wretched pay established. The two appointed to my district have, as I expected, quitted the service. It was, indeed, impossible for them to exist. *Stadler*, I hear, has entered into the service of *Virginia*. *Massenbaugh* is retained by this Province at fifty-four dollars per month, a servant, rations, and his travelling expenses. He formerly begged his dismissal from me, assuring me, and I believe sincerely, he was zealous in the cause of *America*; that he would willingly, if I chose it, enlist as a common soldier; but that to ride about the Continent from North to South, find horses, and appear like a gentleman, was impossible. I could, not, in conscience, force him to starve; so consented to his engaging in this service. I am now without a single Engineer, and

really know not how to carry on the business. I hope the Board will consider the necessity of supplying me.

I shall now, sir, conclude, with assuring them that I am, with great respect, their obedient, most humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary to the Board of War and Ordnance.

#### TURBUTT WRIGHT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Observation, Queen Anne's County, }  
August 2, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: Complaint has been made to us by Lieutenant *Hawkins*, that Captain *Dean's* company, stationed on *Kent-Island*, are greatly in want of water at their station, and informed that a sufficient quantity may be had at *Blunt's* Warehouse, on the said Island, or at Captain *Thomas Marsh's* plantation, adjoining their station; and further complained, that Mr. *Cummins*, the Commissary, has neglected to make the necessary provision for the company, and that the company are in want of a physician.

We have applied to Captain *Marsh* for his permission to Captain *Dean* to station his company, or a part thereof, on his plantation, and have received his absolute refusal; in consequence of which we have ventured to advise Captain *Dean* to remove his company, or such part thereof as he may judge necessary, from the present station to *Blunt's* Warehouse, and to fix such and so many guards, and at such places, as he may think proper, to promote in the best manner the service in which he is engaged, until he shall receive the further orders of your Board.

By order of the Committee.

I am your obedient servant,

TURBUTT WRIGHT, *Chairman*.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### CAPTAIN GRAYBILL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, August 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Please to pay unto Captain *George Keepot* £400, to be applied for purchasing arms and blankets for my company of *German* troops, and you will very much oblige your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP GRAYBILL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL HOOPER.

[No. 105.]

Annapolis, August 2, 1776.

SIR: Since our last, we have had advice from Major *Price*, our commanding officer in *St. Mary's*, that the *British* fleet lay near the mouth of *Smith's Creek*, in *Potomack*; that they were very weak in land forces, not exceeding three hundred men; that they were so sickly that fifty dead bodies had appeared on the shore, chiefly negroes; and that having gone up the river *Potomack* to take in water, and returned, he imagined they would soon sail from that quarter.

Their forces appear so inconsiderable and contemptible to him, that he has dismissed all the Militia, and keeps only two Independent companies to oppose them, one of which, Captain *Thomas*, we have this day ordered to march to the northward, and Captain *Mantz*, of the *Frederick* battalion, marches to supply his place.

Captain *Dean's* company is stationed at *Kent-Island*, and Captain *Goldsborough's* is to supply the place of Captain *Hindman's*, if the latter can get arms, which we cannot doubt the Militia will lend them for their defence, until the Province can supply them. These, with the two Independent companies, will make a company of near five hundred men. We therefore think that three-fourths of the Militia under your command may return to their habitations, and keep themselves in readiness to march in case of an attack, as the above force will be more than sufficient to repel an invasion from the fleet. We do not expect, from their weak state, that any attempt will be made, except to plunder; and we think the five hundred regular troops, together with the two hundred Militia, a sufficient force to protect your shore until the fleet sails, which we daily expect to hear of; and if some of them go to sea, and only a few remain at our Capes, and in *Virginia*, to destroy our trade, as it is suggested to us will be the case, the remainder of the Militia also may be discharged.

If the schooner you have taken would answer to make an armed boat or vessel for the defence of this Colony, we should be glad you would send her over, that she may be put in repair, and fitted for the service, if she is unfit. An account of her size, value, and stores, will be agreeable to us. We are of opinion that a Court-Martial ought to be held on the conduct and opinions of the two military gentlemen you mention, and a representation made from it to our Board, as a foundation for their being deprived of their commissions.

The spirit and order with which your brigade has acted on this occasion has been exceedingly agreeable to us, and we are possessed of the pleasing prospect that they will continue to distinguish themselves on every future occasion by an animated affection to their country, leading them to brave every fatigue and peril to preserve her liberties inviolate.

We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General Hooper.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COMMITTEE OF DORCHESTER COUNTY.

[No. 106.]

Annapolis, August 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The prisoners sent up by you we have not, by reason of the great deal of business now before us, been able to examine; but shall, when we do, apply to you to send up the witnesses, if they deny the facts with which they are charged.

We send you a couple of barrels of musket gunpowder, and weight of lead. The cannon powder may remain with you. We rely upon you for taking especial care that they shall not be wasted, as you know our safety depends upon our economy in this point. We are, &c.

To the Committee of *Dorchester County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 107.]

Annapolis, August 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have received yours of the 27th *July*, many parts of which are already answered, as you will perceive by recurring to our last. The advance of \$1,335 to Colonel *Smallwood* we approve of, upon presumption he had occasion for that sum, and that he will lay it out in providing necessaries for himself and battalion with economy and discretion. We enclose you Mr. *Christopher Richmond's* appointment to be Paymaster of the battalion, according to Colonel *Smallwood's* desire and your recommendation. We have set on foot inquiries in several places with regard to flints, and shall hereafter let you know whether any stone can be found for manufacturing them here. Since our last, we have received two letters from Major *Price*, copies of which are enclosed. From them you will hear the situation of the enemy below. Our pilot-boat came up last night, and informs they are not yet gone off. Several vessels are dismasted, and on shore at the point of *St. George's Island*, with intention to burn them. *Middleton* thinks they are going off down the Bay, and we hope soon to be able to write you to that effect, although we apprehend a visit to the *Eastern-Shore*, and are preparing accordingly. We have the satisfaction to inform you that the report of a landing at Colonel *Smallwood's* was not true. Mr. *Brent's* houses were burnt, and a good deal of damage done. We hear of no particulars of any other mischief up above.

We send you also, enclosed, a copy of a letter from Captain *Deakins*, as a sample of the many applications we have from almost all the Captains in the Flying-Camp. They are in want, not only of guns, but of almost everything else. We expect to be able soon to arm a number equal to that of the Regulars who have marched to the camp, and that we shall be able to send forward some companies (perhaps a battalion or more) by the middle of this month. To enable us to do this, we shall be obliged to advance more than the £5,000 given by the Convention to purchase arms. Few or none can be borrowed. The companies, many of them, not yet complete.

We expect the Convention will approve our advancing a further sum to furnish arms for the Flying-Camp. Without so doing, they would not have been in condition to march at all. We think it advisable to purchase for all the companies, rather than suffer them to remain here on expense, or be disbanded, which must have been the case.

We have ordered Captain *Mantz* down to *St. Mary's*, and given Captain *Thomas* positive orders to march, so that

we hope he will soon be with you on his way to *New-York*. We congratulate you on the safe arrival of the *Molly*, Captain *Conway*, in *Great Wicomico, Virginia*, with twenty-one thousand weight of gunpowder, and two hundred and seventy stand of small-arms, for the use of this Province. We shall get the cargo up here as soon as we can with safety. We send you a letter for the commander for the *North American* troops, which came by *Conway*, which please to forward to General *Washington*.

One of the wagons that came with powder from *Philadelphia* met with an accident that is likely to prove fatal to a Sergeant of Captain *Cox's* guard. Coming down the road, not far from *J. Hammond's*, a bridge over a deep gutter that runs through his old field gave way, and wounded two of the people, shattered the wagon, and stove some of the powder. The loss of one barrel of powder is trifling to the life of the Sergeant. He is not dead as yet, but it is apprehended cannot live. Another man slipped his shoulder, but is got better. The powder and arms are safe at the magazine, except part of two barrels, making, in all, about one barrel lost. We cannot but admire at what you say, that there are only three thousand Militia in *Jersey*. Permit us to ask, what are become of all the Militia that we read in the papers are marched from *Pennsylvania, Jersey, &c.*? Be pleased to explain how it has happened that no more have as yet marched to their station in that Province.

By the southern post, we have intelligence that the *Cherokees* have committed some outrages on the borders of *Carolina*; that the squadron of *Parker* and *Clinton* are moving frequently from Island to Island, and are growing sickly.

Yesterday, our election for this County began, and is not yet ended. We are sorry to inform you that Messrs. *Johnson* and *Paca* and *Carroll* of *Carrollton*, from present appearances, will not be elected. *Worthington, Carroll*, (barrister,) *Chase*, and *R. Hammond*, are greatly beyond any others on the poll. Very few people from *Elk-Ridge*, or the lower part of the County, have as yet attended.

We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL DENT.

[No. 108.]

Annapolis, August 2, 1776.

SIR: At the time we wrote you first to take the command, Major *Price* was on the *Eastern-Shore*. We knew your attention must be engaged with the Flying-Camp. Had he been here, we should not have troubled you at all, but sent the Major immediately down to take the command. Upon his return, and understanding that the enemy were landing at *St. George's Island*, and that cannon would be necessary to repel them; hearing also that some of the fleet were preparing to move up the river, we came to the resolution of sending Major *Price* down to *St. George's*, expecting you might be usefully employed higher up the river, and occasionally with the Flying-Camp. These were the motives for sending Major *Price*, and not any intention of giving you offence. We tell you candidly that we have no reason to believe that you were not equal to the task, or that you were deficient either in military knowledge, assiduity, or personal courage, and that we are surprised you should entertain any such idea.

We had never any insinuation to your prejudice; therefore, there could be no foundation for appointing any hearing. We thought it would be of advantage to the publick cause to send down Major *Price*. The service was likely to be extensive, and a commander wanted in more places than one. We know you must be called off soon to the Flying-Camp, and accordingly wrote you the 28th, enclosing your commission, and requesting to see you. We now repeat that request, and are convinced that we are able, by personal conference, to satisfy you that we intended no affront or indignity to you, unless you think the Convention have acted improperly in adjusting the rank between the Regulars and the Militia.

We wish to stand fair with yourself and all other worthy men; and whatever you may determine upon, be assured that we had nothing to allege against your conduct, and that we were actuated by no other views than those of service to the publick, and taking effectual measures to repel the common enemy. We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Dent*.

## CHRISTOPHER PELISSIER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, August 2, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I have received the commission [of Engineer, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel] which the honourable Continental Congress has been pleased to point out for me; and shall take it as a very particular favour if the honourable House will order me two months' pay advanced, to equip myself for the service.

I am, with great respect, sir, your very obedient, humble servant,

PELISSIER.

To the Honourable John Hancock, Esq.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, August 2, 1776.

SIR: I am particularly instructed by Congress to answer that part of your letter of 29th ultimo, directed to the Board of War, which relates to the filling up vacancies in the Army. The Congress are concerned to find that an opinion is entertained that greater confidence has been placed in, and larger powers given to, other commanders in that respect, than to yourself. They have in no instance, except in the late appointment of General Gates to the command in Canada, parted with the power of filling up vacancies. The great confusion and many disorders prevalent in that Army, and its distance, induced Congress to lodge such a power in that General, for the limited space of three months, and only during his continuance in Canada. Should Congress ever empower its Generals to fill up the vacancies in the Army, they know of no one in whom they would so soon repose a trust of such importance as in yourself; but future Generals may make a bad use of it. The danger of the precedent, not any suspicion of their present Commander-in-Chief, prompts them to retain a power, that, by you, sir, might be exercised with the greatest publick advantage.

I do myself the honour to enclose sundry resolves, and to request your attention to them. They relate principally, as you will perceive, to some new regulations with regard to Paymasters, Commissaries, and Quartermasters, in the American Army, and are intended to prevent confusion and disorder in those several departments.

The Congress approve of your employing in the service of the States the *Stockbridge Indians*, if you think proper.

The enclosed resolve, for taking into the pay of the States such of the seamen as may fall into our hands on board of prizes, will, I trust, be attended with the good effects Congress had in view when they passed it.

I have the honour to be, with perfect respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General Washington.

N. B. Your favour of 5th instant, just come to hand, will be replied to by to-morrow's post.

## GEORGE MEASAM'S PETITION.

[Read August 7, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable Members of the Continental Congress, &amp;c., &amp;c., &amp;c.

The Memorial of GEORGE MEASAM, late of MONTREAL, in CANADA, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist was well known by the late Brigadier-General *Montgomery* to be a true friend to the American cause by sundry circumstances, both before and after the capitulation of *Montreal*, and in consequence thereof the General thought proper to recommend your memorialist as a person in whom confidence could be put to repose the trust and care of the Post-Office for that Province; and he was honoured with a commission from the Postmaster-General for that purpose, and did direct the same, and support it with his own proper moneys, until the American Army was obliged to retreat from thence.

And further, the General was pleased to desire your memorialist, with Major *Lockwood*, to superintend the landing of the stores taken by Colonel *Easton*, commencing the 20th of November, 1775; and on the 10th of December following, your memorialist was put in publick orders to superintend all the stores, except Artillery stores; and he has a small account of disbursements unsettled, contracted by order of the com-

manding officer at *Montreal*. That no rate, rank, or salary, hath been stipulated to the said office; and that your memorialist humbly conceives it highly necessary an officer should be appointed to superintend the issues of the publick stores of the Northern camp at and about *Ticonderoga*.

That your memorialist had entered into the *Indian* trade pretty largely at four different posts above *Montreal*, and was possessed of other property, land, trade, and dealings, in that country; all which your memorialist has been obliged to abandon upon the retreat of the American Army from thence.

Therefore, your memorialist prays your Honours will be pleased to confirm his appointment, and extend it to the Northern Army, or elsewhere, with such rate, rank, or salary, as your Honours shall judge proper; and your memorialist shall pray, &c.

GEO. MEASAM.

Philadelphia, August 2, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Mr. *Measam*, was a merchant of good reputation at *Montreal*; but having engaged warmly in the American cause, has been obliged to abandon that country to the great detriment of his affairs.

He was appointed by General *Wooster* a Commissary of Stores there, and apprehending such an officer to be at this time necessary in our Northern Army, he has applied to Congress for a continuance in that office. I understand that his memorial is referred to the Board of War. As I have had occasion to know Mr. *Measam* as a good accountant, a man of method, and very correct in business, I cannot but think that if such an officer is wanting, he is extremely well qualified for the employ, and as such beg leave to recommend him to the favour of the Board.

With great respect, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

B. FRANKLIN.

To the Hon. John Adams, Esq.

## JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Perth-Amboy, August 2, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: This serves to notice you, that I have this day drawn on you for \$20,000, at four days' sight, in favour of Mr. *Azariah Dunham*, to be improved in supplying the Continental troops in *New-Jersey* with provisions.

I am, most respectfully, dear sir, your most humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. John Hancock, Esq., President of the Congress of the United States of America, at Philadelphia.

## ESTATES OF NEW-JERSEY REFUGEES.

In Convention of the State of New-Jersey, }  
Brunswick, August 2, 1776. }

*Resolved*, That the several County Committees within this State do cause Inventories and Appraisements to be made of the Estates, real as well as personal, of all such persons within their respective bounds as have, or shall have absconded from their homes, and joined themselves to the enemies of this State; causing all perishable articles to be sold, and the moneys arising therefrom, and all other the goods and estates of such persons, that they keep in safe and secure custody, until the further order of this Convention, or the determination of other proper judicature: *Provided*, That the said Committees be empowered to leave any part of the said Estate in the hands of the relations or friends of such absconding persons, taking such security as they may think proper for the return thereof, or of the value.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 5, 1776.]

New-York, August 2, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 30th ultimo, with its several enclosures, I was honoured with by *Wednesday's* post.

Congress having been pleased to leave with me the direction of Colonel *Ward's* regiment, I have written to Governour *Trumbull*, and requested him to order their march to this place, being fully satisfied that the enemy mean to make their grand push in this quarter, and that the good of the service requires every aid here that can be obtained. I have also written to Colonel *Elmore*, and directed him to repair hither with his regiment. When it comes, I shall fill up



commissions for such officers as appear with their respective companies.

Colonel *Holman*, with a regiment from the *Massachusetts* State, is arrived. Colonel *Cary* from thence is also here, waiting the arrival of his regiment, which he hourly expects. He adds, when he left *New-London* he heard that the Third Regiment from the *Massachusetts* was almost ready, and would soon be in motion.

The enemy's force is daily augmenting, and becoming stronger by new arrivals. Yesterday, General *Greene* reports, about forty sail, including tenders, came into the *Hook*. What they are, or what those have brought that have lately got in, I remain uninformed. However, I think it probable they are part of Lord *Howe's* fleet with the *Hessian* troops. It is time to look for them.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. I am extremely sorry to inform Congress our troops are very sickly.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

Head-Quarters, August 2, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 16th ultimo, in behalf of the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*, is duly received. The contents have been attended to; and I have the pleasure to inform you there is a prospect of an early exchange of the prisoners taken in the *Yankee Hero* privateer. As Mr. *Tracy* negotiated this matter, and had an interview with Lord *Howe* on board the *Eagle* man-of-war, I must refer you to him for particulars. Congress authorized me to comply with General *Howe's* request of giving Governour *Skene* for Mr. *Lovell*. I have written informing General *Howe* thereof, and expect soon to have Mr. *Lovell* sent to some part of the Continent.

Assure the members of your honourable body, it gives me particular pleasure that I have it in my power to relieve one of their citizens from a long and tedious imprisonment, and shall esteem myself happy in complying with any request they may make consistent with the important duties of my office.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, their and your most obedient, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esq., *Boston*.

August 5th.—P. S. On the 11th ultimo, I wrote your honourable body, respecting the *St. John's*, *Nova-Scotia*, and *Penobscot Indians*. Since which, I have heard nothing from them. It is a matter of the greatest consequence. Must therefore beg an answer, acquainting me what steps they have taken, by the first post.

Since the above, I have a letter from General *Howe*, acquainting me he has sent for Mr. *Lovell* for the proposed exchange. I am, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, August 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports nothing worthy your Excellency's notice this morning.

I was at the *Narrows* last evening, and find the fleet that came in yesterday consisted of thirty-six ships, four brigs, and five sloops: one ship and a sloop still at the *Hook*. I could not learn with any degree of certainty who they are; but I believe, from their uniforms, they must be the Guards and Artillery. If your Excellency has leisure, perhaps it may be worth while to pay a visit to the *Narrows*, to reconnoitre and view the fleet.

With respect to the tents I wrote about yesterday, I can easily dispense with them, if there are barracks to be got for the regiment. I wrote to the Quartermaster-General to send over his Barrackmaster, to look up quarters for the regiment this morning. Shall notify your Excellency the result of the Barrackmaster's inquiry.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's obedient servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *New-York*.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Committee-Chamber, New-York, August 2, 1776.

Resolved, That no Lambs be killed and exposed to sale in any Market of this City and County, (of which all Butchers and other inhabitants are desired to take particular notice,) until further orders from the Convention of this State or this Committee.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOSEPH WINTER, Secretary.

GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Montgomery, August 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I take this opportunity by my brother (now on his way to *New-York* to settle some affairs of his regiment) to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's favour of the 26th ultimo, and of informing you of our present situation, and that of the enemy. On *Thursday* last the shipping and tenders fell down to the mouth of *Croton's River*, where they have since continued at anchor near the east shore; since which, they have made one attempt to land on this side the river, with their barge, but were repulsed by our Militia. On *Saturday* last, the three hundred *New-England* Militia left *Peek's Kill*, &c., and returned home without giving me the least notice of it, though I believe they had the consent of the Committee of Congress, who expected in the new levies from *West-Chester* and *Dutchess* Counties to supply their place. They did not arrive. The shore, of course, was unguarded, and the very same evening the enemy came up the river in their barges, above six miles from where their shipping lay, went upwards of a mile in the country and took off a yoke of oxen, a steer, a cow, and ten sheep, from the farm of one *Baily*, a noted Tory, who, it is said, is on board the *Phoenix*, and I suppose was their guide.

On receiving this account, I thought it was my duty to send a part of our men to protect that shore, until the new levies in those Counties can be raised to relieve them, and have done so accordingly, though contrary to the resolves of the Provincial Congress, which fixes their station on this side the river; but trust the necessity of the case will justify my conduct in this; for to leave that side without protection would in a great degree render our care on this useless and idle. I have taken possession of the hill mentioned in my last, and the proper works are laid out there by Mr. *Machin*, and which shall be executed with the greatest despatch and economy.

The fire-rafts are not yet completed. The difficulty of procuring the necessary materials has occasioned much delay. They are, however, in such forwardness as to be used to some advantage, should the shipping attempt passing us.

The gentleman from *Philadelphia* to assist our Secret Committee, was here yesterday, and is gone forward to *Poughkeepsie*. Think it not best to proceed on the rafts until he returns here, as he don't altogether approve the method we have taken of fixing the combustible matter in them. The mode directed by your Excellency for drawing the Artificers' pay, &c., (with which I was entirely unacquainted,) will prevent any future uneasiness on their account, and answer better than money here.

I am, with the highest esteem, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE CLINTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *New-York*.

COLONEL HAY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Haverstraw, August 2, 1776.

SIR: I find my own apprehensions that the banks of *Hudson's River* would become the chief theatre of the war, confirmed by the opinion of the Congress; and I feel therefore vast satisfaction in the provision they are making for a proper defence on this great line of communication, as well as in the report that your Excellency is at the same time concerting measures totally to obstruct the navigation below the capital.

The vessels under Captain *Parker's* command, on their departure from our Bay, brought to in an hour after my last letter was despatched, between *Tellers's Point* and the *Werdlinge Hook*, where they still continue, and have, since they changed their ground, received some supplies from the

*West-Chester* shore. On this side our watch is so strictly kept up that they have had nothing from us since the day on which they destroyed *Halsted's* house.

By the late act of our Congress for establishing river guards, I observe that the appointment of the Deputy Commissaries is left to your Excellency; and if the burden of the service will not fall too heavily upon the undertaker, I stand ready to perform it on this side of the river; and being conveniently situated, and having an extensive acquaintance in the surrounding country for the facilitating the necessary supplies, I now offer myself for that trust, with hopes of your favour and approbation. The bearer will wait for your Excellency's answer; for I propose, upon his return, and your acceptance of my services, instantly to wait upon you for your further commands. The obstruction of all intercourse by water between the Highland forts and Head-Quarters, renders it so difficult to give and procure intelligence which may be of the utmost moment to the inhabitants on the borders of the river, that I beg leave, in compliance with their wishes, to entreat your Excellency's attention to the proposal of setting up a post to ride once or twice in a week between these stages. I think I could procure a rider at thirty or forty shillings a trip, and that the letters and carriage of small articles wanted from the capital, all along the road, and now not to be obtained by water, would pay, if not overbalance the expense.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

A. HAWKES HAY.

P. VAN CORTLANDT AND Z. PLATT TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, mouth of Croton, August 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enemy's ships lie off here, and their barges row up and down the river o' nights; and notwithstanding our utmost exertions, some infamous rascal must have given them information that the *New-England* troops went off on *Saturday* last; and not a sufficient number coming in to guard the shore, they landed at one *Bailey's*, on *Sunday* night, and went back half a mile and drove off one pair of oxen, two cows, one calf, one heifer, and eleven sheep. No doubt had the assistance of some Tories on shore. We have since got some assistance from General *Clinton's* brigade, and several companies have come in, and more are hourly expected, that we are in hopes soon to have such an arrangement as will effectually cut off all kind of communication. Hope there may be soon some discreet smart officer appointed to take the command, and a proper Commissary, that the business may be conducted with spirit and regularity. We must confess, gentlemen, that as yet things have not been so well regulated as we should have been glad to have seen; but the many difficulties and disadvantages we had to encounter only must apologize. We considered our appointment as only pro tempore, and, cautious of assuming too much authority to ourselves lest it might give disquiet to some of the military corps, and having such an extensive shore and frequent movements, were obliged to deal out provisions in different places; and not being able to give any man assurance that he should continue any considerable time in office, has made it difficult to get proper persons to act in different departments. Added to this, having to deal with new raw troops every few days, by reason of their frequent changes, (and sorry to see many of them very refractory,) that on the whole our station has not been the most desirable; however, are willing to serve in any department that may be for the good of our country.

Remain, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT,  
ZEPHA. PLATT.

To the Representatives of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

ISAAC NICOLL TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Haverstraw, August 2, 1776.

SIR: I am appointed by General *Clinton* to take the command at this place; we have now three companies, and expect daily a reinforcement of one or two more companies. We are without a Commissary to provide for the troops, and have no store of provisions, powder, and ball. I must, therefore, request that the Congress will give orders that we may

be speedily supplied. It will also be very agreeable to the regiment I have the honour to command if a Surgeon was also appointed.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull, Esq.*, President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

WILLIAM BEDLOW TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fort Constitution, August 2, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you last week by Captain *Cook*, in which I enclosed the accounts of this post, from my last settlement to the time of my dismission as a Commissioner under the Provincial Congress, requesting you would be so kind as to lay them before the Committee of Accounts for their inspection. I have now to desire the favour of the honourable the Congress of the State of *New-York* to order the amount of those accounts to be paid to Colonel *James Clinton*, who will bring it up to this post with him, by which means I shall be enabled to settle with the artificers and others, who are continually pestering me for their money.

I am, sir, with respect, your humble servant,

WILLIAM BEDLOW.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull, Esq.*

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

German-Flats, August 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 29th ultimo was delivered me within this half hour. As I wish that to Congress should reach them the soonest possible, I will not detain an express that is already at the door to carry it to *Albany* any longer than to assure you that I experience the finest feelings from your friendly declaration. You will never, my dear sir, outdo me in acts of friendship. There I will always vie with you. To-morrow I will write you more at large, and enclose you copy of a letter from General *Washington*, (though I believe you have it before this, for I ordered Captain *Varick* to send you copies of all letters that concerned our affairs to the northward,) on the same subject with that of his to you, and with copy of my answer, which I wish may meet your approbation.

Adieu until then; and believe me, dear sir, your most faithful and obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 2, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received your favour of the 31st ultimo, and your Honour may depend upon my compliance with every order, as far as lies in my power. I have done but very little at the fort as yet, the call has been so great from the carpenters for the men. I have ordered, some part of the time, one gill of rum per man for fatigue-men, but our growing short, I give half a gill. The carpenters will insist upon having their full complement of rum; there are but two and a half barrels, and should be glad your Honour would send me a supply soon.

I herewith send some peas, and have sent out after butter, and have encouragement of having some the beginning of the week, which I shall send as soon as I can get; and am, with the greatest esteem, your Honour's humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To Major-General *Gates*.

SAMUEL SQUIER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Fairfield, August 2, 1776.

SIR: According to the request per your letter of the 17th of last month, I have made inquiry, and find I can procure the greater part of the clothing, &c. I have agreed for all the hats and shoes, and I expect I shall be able to procure the shirting; but as our people are but now spinning the wool, I don't expect it will be ready before the first of *October*; and as to the tow-cloth, I have purchased some and am making it into tents, although at a vastly higher price than last year. I imagine the tents are now wanted, so that I

shall get them ready as soon as possible. I hope to get cloth enough for about fifty tents, and could have procured enough for two hundred if I had had orders but a little sooner. As to the cloth for the coats and waistcoats, I find some difficulty. I shall get a part of homespun cloth, but I suppose not enough, and hope to make up the complement in coarse cloth, which I find to be sold amongst us at a reasonable rate. The blankets I find still more difficult, but have procured some, and shall endeavour to procure the rest, if possible. If the shirts and other clothing are to be made up here, I desire you will let me know it, and I will have it done as fast as I collect the cloth.

I find it will be very necessary to have money to pay for those articles whenever they are brought in. You will therefore please to inform me where I may draw the money for that purpose.

I am your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,  
SAMUEL SQUIER.

To the Hon. Jonathan Trumbull, Esq., at Lebanon.

#### CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of Connecticut, August 1st, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer, Jr. Huntington, Richard Law, Titus Hosmer, Jed. Elderkin, Nathaniel Wales, Jun., Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, (upon application of the Selectmen of Windham,) That Lieutenant *Wales* have twelve Guns, and Bayonets and Belts, to be delivered him by Mr. *David Trumbull*, for the use of Captain *Stedman's* company.

Sent Circular Letters to all the respective Towns in the Colony, urging the necessity of forwarding the Inlistments, &c.

Sundry Letters from the Convention of *New-York*, by Mr. *Depuyster*, relative to the Prisoners sent from thence to *Litchfield* Jail, read, taken up, and considered, and thereupon,

*Voted*, That the Mayor of *New-York* be brought down to *Hartford*, and there confined; two of said Prisoners, viz: *Gilbert Forbes* and *William Forbes*, to be confined at *Litchfield* Jail, and the other ten to be brought down to *Norwich* Jail; and warrants thereon granted, directed to the respective Jailers.

*Voted*, That an order be drawn on the Pay-Table for £600, in favour of Mr. *Andrew Huntington*, for the purchase of Clothing, Tents, &c., for the Continental Army, to be paid out of the money lodged in the Colony Treasury by Mr. *Sherman*, if lodged for said purpose, otherwise to be out of the proper Treasury of the Colony, and to render his account therefor.

Order given 1st August; delivered Colonel *Huntington*.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Friday, August 2, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer, Jr. Huntington, Richard Law, Titus Hosmer, Jed. Elderkin, Nathl. Wales, Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

Colonel *Pettibone* applied to this Board for direction and instruction relative to bringing down the Cannon, &c., from *Salisbury* Furnace.

*Voted*, That an order be given to Colonel *Pettibone*, on Colonel *J. Porter*, to deliver to him, for the use of this Colony, forty tons of pig Iron, also one or two tons of nine-pound Shot, to be by him transported to *Connecticut River*.

Order given, &c.

Whereas the Continental Congress did order Clothing to be provided in this State for the use of the Continental Army, and proper persons are employed for that purpose; and whereas this Board have been advised of the great and pressing necessity of the Army at *Crown-Point* and *Ticonderoga*, for an immediate supply of the Clothing, which will admit no delay:

*Resolved*, That the necessity of the Northern Army for an immediate supply of Clothing is so great, that such part of what articles is procured in this State, in pursuance of such order of Congress, ought to be forwarded to said Army, with-

out waiting for particular orders to that purpose. And his Honour the Governour is desired to give orders to have the same forwarded to said Army accordingly.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That Captain *John Deshon* and Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw, Jun.*, be, and they are, instructed to purchase the *New-Providence* Sloop belonging to Mr. *Charles Walker*, now lying at *New-London*, for the use of this Government, to be fitted as an armed vessel, at the easiest and cheapest rate in their power, and to execute proper contracts on the part of this Colony for that purpose, and receive suitable writings of conveyance to pass the property of the same to this State; and that thereupon Captain *Seth Harding* do immediately proceed to alter and fit up said Sloop as an armed Brigantine, with the greatest despatch; and that he make use of the masts, sails, rigging, guns, and other implements of furniture of the Brigantine *Defence*, now under his command, for that purpose, and that he employ the officers, sailors, and marines, of said Brigantine *Defence*, in fitting said Sloop as aforesaid. And said Mr. *Shaw* is directed to furnish Captain *Harding* with what shall be necessary for that purpose.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That the Hon. *Eliphalet Dyer* and *Richard Law, Esqs.*, immediately repair to *New-York*, and there confer with his Excellency General *Washington* upon further measures proper and necessary to be pursued by this State, for the defence and security of this and the rest of the *United States*, and to frustrate the designs of our enemies against them.

*Voted*, To draw an order on the Pay-Table for £200, in favour of Dr. *Joshua Elderkin*, to enable him to purchase Tents and Clothing for the Continental Army, to be paid out of the money lodged by Mr. *Sherman* in the Treasury, if lodged there for that purpose, otherwise to be paid out of the proper Treasury of this Colony, and to render his account.

Order drawn this day; delivered *W. Wales, Jun.*, Esq.

August 5, 1776.

The Governour drew an Order on the Pay-Table for £1000, in favour of Mr. *Chauncey Whittlesey*, to enable him to go on in purchasing Tents and Clothing for the Continental Army, to be paid out of the money lodged in the Treasury by Mr. *Sherman*, if sent for that purpose, otherwise out of the proper Treasury of this State; and said *Whittlesey* to render his accounts.

The above order was approved by a vote of the Governour and Council of Safety, at their meeting, August 15, 1776.

Attest: BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk, P.T.

#### MIDDLETOWN (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection, Middletown, }  
August 2, 1776. }

It was resolved by this Committee that no Sheep be killed in this town; that is to say, Ewes under five, nor other Sheep under four years old.

Mr. *John Birdsey* was cited before this Committee on a charge of depreciating the Continental Paper Currency, and also Mr. *Gershom Birdsey* was cited to appear for the same offence; but the said *Gershom* showed contempt in refusing to appear, and the charge appearing very probable, it was resolved by this Committee that the said *John* and *Gershom Birdsey* are guilty of a breach of a late law of the honourable Continental Congress. Therefore,

*Resolved*, That they be advertised in the *Hartford Courant*, as enemies to their country, and excluded from all trade and intercourse with the inhabitants of the *United States of America*.

Mr. *Elijah Burr* was brought before this Committee upon a charge of selling Bohea Tea for more than three-fourths of a dollar per pound; which he confessed, and offered the following confession, viz:

"Whereas I, the subscriber, was brought before the Committee of Inspection for *Middletown*, upon a charge of selling Bohea Tea at a higher rate than three-fourths of a dollar per pound, and found guilty: I am sorry for my offence, and will restore to all persons from whom I have taken more the overplus, if they will appear to demand the same within one month from this date, and for the future will demean myself

in all things, agreeable to the resolutions of the honourable the Continental Congress. Witness my hand in *Middle-town*, the 2d day of *August*, 1776.

"ELIJAH BURR."

Which was voted satisfactory, and the said *Burr* recommended to the favour of the publick.

Extract from the Minutes of the Committee.

Test: BENJAMIN HENSHAW, *Clerk*.

PITTSFIELD (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

As it appears in the present struggle between *Great Britain* and *America* that every man is by this time fixed and acts from principle, so it becomes every true friend to his country to discover himself on the side of liberty, not only in opposing the *British* Administration, but also in opposing internal enemies among ourselves.

From these principles the Committee of the Town of *Pittsfield*, in the County of *Berkshire*, have acted, in setting forth to publick view the conduct of Captain *Charles Goodrich*, of said *Pittsfield*. Said *Goodrich*, in the beginning of our contest with *Great Britain*, appeared friendly, and spoke highly in favour of Committees; but as soon as an opportunity presented, he procured to himself a commission in the King's name to exercise authority over the people as a Justice of the Peace; and because the people were not willing to submit to *British* authority, said *Goodrich* rose up in a rage, plead the legality of his commission, threatened the Town and County to bring the Militia upon them. He opposed the Committee, saying "he would as soon be judged by a pack of Pirates," refusing to comply with any of their orders. He violated his former contracts by force and arms, and horsewhipped a man for not tamely submitting to the wanton exercise of his power. He has fully joined himself with the most ancient Tories and implacable enemies among us, taking their counsel and advice, and with all his power set himself against the Town and County, and the cause of his country; and in the prosecution of his infernal designs, remonstrated to the General Court against the Town, County, and Committee, but missed his aim, the Court paying no regard to his remonstrance. Moreover, when the General Court, in *July* last, ordered the raising two regiments for the *Canada* service by a bounty and draught on the Train Band and Alarm List, said *Goodrich*, being draughted, refused to comply with the order of Court in any way or manner, showing his most implacable hatred and envy to the union of the people and defence of the country.

The Committee of Safety, therefore, after much labour and great patience, *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that said *Charles Goodrich* is an enemy to his country, and that he, with his conduct, be published as such in the publick newspapers, and that all connexions and commercial intercourse be withdrawn from said *Goodrich* till he give satisfaction for his unfriendly conduct.

Signed by order of the Committee:

VALENTINE RATHBUN, *Chairman*.

Pittsfield, August 2, 1776.

RICHARD DERBY, JUN., TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Council Chamber, Watertown, August 2, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed letter I have this day laid before the Council of this State, who have directed me to enclose it to your Excellency, desiring, (if you think proper,) when a convenient opportunity offers, it may be forwarded agreeable to its directions.

I have the honour to be your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

RICHARD DERBY, JUN.

COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

In Committee of Council, Watertown, }  
August 2, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: The bearer hereof, Captain *Jonathan Edy*, has brought us a Petition from the town of *Onslow*, in *Nova-Scotia*, representing their distressed situation, and praying relief, either by sending them forces, or vessels to bring them away. We are truly concerned for their unhappy condition, and should be glad to afford them assistance were it in our power; but as the General Court is not sitting, we conceive that we are not authorized to do anything in the matter;

we must therefore refer Captain *Edy* to you. He will give you a particular account of the circumstances of that Province, and what he thinks may be done for their relief and the service of the common cause. We leave it with you, gentlemen, to take such steps in the affair as you may judge best.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN WINTHROP, *Chairman*.

To the Hon. Delegates of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in Congress.

S. MCCLINTOCK TO WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

Greenland, New-Hampshire, August 2, 1776.

SIR: The only consideration which has restrained me from writing you before now, is the weighty and important business in which you are engaged. Perhaps no body of men, in any period of time, ever had objects of greater magnitude, or more various and complicated, to engage their attention than the grand *American* Congress have at the present day; and I believe I speak the sentiments of people in general, when I add, never did men act with more wisdom, prudence, and fidelity, than they have hitherto done in the discharge of the great trust committed to them by their country. I rejoice that we have such able politicians and true patriots at the helm in this convulsed, critical, alarming state of our publick affairs. The wisdom, the justice, and publick spirit discovered in all their resolves and proceedings, have acquired them the entire confidence of the people, excepting a few restless, disappointed, malignant Tories, or venal wretches, bought with *British* gold, or the hope of making themselves great on the ruin of their country, who are not inactive in propagating falsehoods and slanders to discourage people and prejudice the common cause. But I believe they are so few that their influence is like the drop of the bucket to the ocean. I will not say what a gentleman in conversation with me the other day said, with some warmth, that people have a greater veneration for the resolves of the Congress than for the laws of the Almighty; but I will say, from my observation, that their resolves are observed by people in general with as much reverence as ever were the laws of *Solon* and *Lycurgus* by the *Athenians* and *Spartans*, and much better than laws enforced by Royal authority. People in general will be quiet and obedient so long as they see that their Rulers are pursuing the true end of Government, the good of the governed.

While some few among us are showing their enmity to the country in every way they dare, it is merry to observe the conduct of some others who seem to be in a state of suspense, waiting to see which side is like to prevail—are half Whigs one day and half Tories the next, according as the events that turn up are for or against us. They are not governed by a regard to the justice of the cause, but by a regard to consequences—in other words, by selfishness. Their conduct puts me in mind of the old *Scotchwoman* in the time of a competition between a *Popish* and *Protestant* Prince for the Throne, who used to say her prayers both in *Latin* and *Scotch*; being asked the reason, she answered, "I dinna ken which side I shall gang to at last, and let the Lord tak which he wull." Sorry I am that there are any among us, who drew their vital breath in *America*, and have all their connexions here, so totally void of that noble and divine virtue, the love of their country, as to be unfriendly to the common cause. But I promise myself that the wisdom, justice, moderation, and firmness of the honourable Congress in their proceedings, will finally silence all opposition. The eyes of all *America* are looking up to them, under *God*, as the guardians of the Commonwealth, and reposing the greatest confidence in them that they will frame such regulations as effectually to secure her liberties against the future encroachment of tyrants, and place them on a permanent basis.

It is said virtue is the basis of a Republick, and some express their fears that there is not publick virtue enough in the country for such a form of Government; or if there is at present, it will not long be the case—that we shall soon become so corrupt that anarchy and confusion will take place, and we shall be in a worse state than if we had remained as we were, or submitted to absolute power. I hope not; as the abilities, virtue, and publick spirit of the gentlemen who compose our Congress are unquestionable, so they



have the advantage in framing a Constitution for *America* of the experience of past ages. They know the rocks on which other States have been shipwrecked, and I trust, like good pilots, will steer clear of them. Can no regulation be made to guard more effectually against that corruption which has proved the ruin of all States that ever have existed, and to counteract the tendency of vice, and in some measure to supply the want of publick virtue? To oblige people to preserve and retain their liberties?

What do you think of the Agrarian law to prevent subjects from engrossing too much property, and of consequence acquiring too much power and influence, dangerous to the liberties of the people? What of a Rotation act, to oblige those who make laws, in their turn to experience the operation of them? Would it be a wise measure to oblige the elected to clear themselves by a solemn oath when chosen, from having, directly or indirectly, used any influence to obtain their election, and to make outlawry and an incapacity ever to serve their country afterwards in any publick post, the punishment of perjury in such cases? Would it prevent the abuse of that power by which the *British* Parliament made themselves Septennial to make it an express rule of the Constitutions, that Representatives shall be considered as reduced to private station at the expiration of the term for which they shall be chosen; and that if they should presume to make any laws after the constitutional term of their existence, such laws shall have no binding force on the people in any case whatsoever, and that such an attempt shall disqualify them for being reelected? Can no method be found out to restrain and counteract that spirit of domination, which in all ages has spread desolation and misery in the East, and drenched it in human blood? Above all, I trust that Spiritual tyranny, the worst sort of tyranny, will be guarded against. Civil power in the hands of domineering Priests, of every denomination, ever hath been, and while human nature remains what it is, ever will be a source of infinite mischief. In my apprehension, it is clearly inconsistent with the nature of *Christ's* Kingdom for his Ministers to have any share in the civil power, and with the idea of religious liberty, the natural rights of mankind, and the design of Government, for the civil power to be employed to propagate or establish any particular persuasion in opposition to others. As all men have an equal right to think and judge for themselves in matters of religion, and to worship *God* in that way that is agreeable to their own consciences, and cannot be amenable for their religious opinions to any earthly tribunal, I could heartily wish, that in framing a Constitution for *America*, care might be taken to secure these rights inviolate to all, without exception, and to lay an effectual bar against persecution for conscience sake; that there might be no civil establishment of any particular persuasion, but that all denominations might enjoy equal liberty and protection so long as they behave in a manner becoming good and loyal subjects, and that the line between civil and religious power drawn by that wise, judicious, and upright Magistrate, *Galio*, might be carefully observed. But perhaps I have need to ask pardon for offering these hints on a subject which I confess does not belong to my province. However, I persuade myself your candour and friendship will not impute it to a conceit of my ability to afford you any assistance, but rather to a warm and honest zeal for the common cause.

That you and the respectable gentlemen, whom I regard with veneration and gratitude, as, under *God*, the guardians of our inestimable privileges and the saviours of their country, may have a double portion of the Spirit of Wisdom to guide you in your deliberations, and may enjoy the reward of your fidelity and patriotism in the applause of your grateful country, the approbation of your own conscience, and of your Supreme Judge, is the ardent wish of, sir, your most obedient servant,

S. McCLINTOCK,

#### NORTH-CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

North-Carolina, in the Council of Safety, }  
August 3, 1776. }

Whereas this Board, anxious to detect all persons concerned in counterfeiting the Currency of this State, and influenced by reports injurious to Mr. *William Edwards's* character, and, by misinformation, ordered Mr. *Edwards* to be brought before us for examination, and he was brought and examined accordingly: We, in justice to injured inno-

cence, and to prevent that imputation of guilt which might arise from the circumstance of apprehending Mr. *Edwards*, do, with infinite pleasure, declare, that, after the strictest scrutiny into his conduct, the charge was found totally groundless, and he was most honourably acquitted.

By order:

CORNELIUS HARNETT, *President*.

JAMES GREEN, *Secretary*.

#### JOHN PAGE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 12, 1776.]

Williamsburgh, in Council, August 3, 1776.

SIR: We have your letter of the 22d ultimo before us, written to his Excellency the Governour, informing him of a resolution of Congress directing General *Lewis* to order two battalions from *Virginia* to join the Flying-Camp under Brigadier *Mercer*, in *New-Jersey*, and that the Congress had resolved to take an equal number of Minute-men, or Militia, on Continental pay, should an invasion be apprehended. We must observe, sir, that from the dispersed situation of our troops, the number of navigable rivers, exposing our country to the ravages of the enemy's fleet, the great demand of men and arms on our frontiers, on account of the *Indian* war, and from the present state of General *Clinton's* Army near *Charlestown*, which we conceive might be employed to greater advantage here, we have reason to apprehend an invasion, and have therefore ordered a number of Minute-men and Militia into duty, to supply the want of our two regiments ordered to the *Jerseys*. We look upon them, however, as very inadequate to that purpose, and beg leave to refer you to a letter written on this subject to our Delegates.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN PAGE, *President*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

#### GENERAL LEWIS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 12, 1776.]

Williamsburgh, August 3, 1776.

SIR: By yesterday's post I was honoured with the order of Congress, by which I am to send to the Flying-Camp in *New-Jersey* two battalions of the Continental troops in this State. This shall be done as expeditiously as in my power, though, from the dispersed condition of the troops in affording a general protection, it cannot be so soon as I could wish. Should this State be attacked by a large body of the enemy in the absence of those two battalions, I shall not be able to give them the reception I could wish. With our whole force, (as it now stands,) it would be difficult, considering the many rivers that give them entrance to any or as many parts of this country as they could wish. Another circumstance, too, will (I doubt) weaken us: the First and Second Battalions were inlisted for no more than twelve months, which is nearly expired, and they have as yet refused to inlist for a longer time. I shall use my best endeavours to have them inlisted on Continental establishment. I shall do myself the honour to write you more fully the next post.

I am, honourable sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ANDW. LEWIS, *Brigadier-General*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

#### COURT-MARTIAL ON LIEUTENANT JONES.

At a General Court-Martial held at Camp at *Springfield*, the 3d day of *August*, 1776, by order of the Honourable Brigadier-General *Lewis*, for the trial of Lieutenant *Peter Jones*, of the Sixth Regiment, arrested by Colonel *Buckner* for neglect of duty and insolent behaviour:

Major HENDRICKS, *President*.

Members: Captain *Davis*, Captain *Towles*, Captain *For*, Captain *Johnson*, Captain *Crochan*, Lieutenant *Pettus*, Lieutenant *Curd*, Lieutenant *Crump*, Lieutenant *Clayton*, Lieutenant *Murray*, Ensign *Burnet*, Ensign *Smith*.

The Court being duly sworn, Lieutenant *Jones* appeared, and was made acquainted with the charge. Colonel *Buckner* also appeared, and said, that between nine and ten o'clock in the evening of *Saturday* last, he was going home to his tent; that he was stopped by a sentinel who had the

wrong countersign; that he sent for Lieutenant *Jones*, who was officer of the Guard, and inquired of him the reason of it, who said, that he had given the sentinel the countersign himself, which was of his own make; that he asked the said Lieutenant why he did not wait on the commanding officer for the countersign, and was answered that he did not know it was his duty to do so, as the officer he had relieved had given a countersign, and he thought he might do it as well as other officers. Colonel *Buckner* told the Lieutenant that it was owing either to neglect or contempt, and was answered it was intended as neither.

Lieutenant *Rose* was sworn a witness; said, that when he was officer of the Guard, he had no countersign given him, but made one himself; that he was applied to by Lieutenant *Jones* to know how he (*Jones*) could get the countersign, and that he informed him that when he was on guard, he made the countersign himself.

Lieutenant *Jones*, in his defence, says that he received no countersign from the officer of the day, and did not know it to be his duty to wait on the commanding officer for it, as he had been informed by the officer whom he relieved, that the officer had made the countersign; that he did not intend the least insult or insolence to Colonel *Buckner* in what he said to him on *Saturday* evening.

The Court having considered the case, are of opinion, that Lieutenant *Jones* is not guilty either of neglect of duty or insolent behaviour, and that he be therefore released from his arrest.

Major *HENDRICKS*, *President*.

Brigadier-General *Lewis* agrees with the Court so far as to release Lieutenant *Peter Jones*, but begs Lieutenant *Jones* to make himself more acquainted with his duty as an officer, that in future he may not be guilty of such mistakes.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THOMAS SMYTH AND THOMAS RINGGOLD.

[No. 109.]

Annapolis, August 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your separate favours of the 1st instant, by Captain *Smyth*, and transmit by him, for the Committee, the sum of £500, for the purchase of blankets and arms. The Continental money which Mr. *Ringgold* has, we would have sent to us by the first safe conveyance. We should be fond of permitting Captain *Smyth* to go beyond £4 10s. for extraordinary guns, was it not that we are apprehensive of dangerous consequences from such license. As soon as a price is offered for anything above what is customarily given, there is no purchasing at the price which was before usually allowed, though the particular article bought in reality was worth considerably more; and therefore we cannot accord to his request, but hope, as the number of arms which are wanting are very few, that they may be collected at not more than £4 10s., by the time other necessities can be procured for their marching. Rifles we will allow £5 for.

We shall give orders to the Colonel of the *Eastern-Shore* Battalion of Flying-Camp Militia to march his men in companies to the northward, when they are ready. As soon, therefore, as Captains *Smyth* and *Perkins* are prepared, they will apply to him for orders; but we shall be obliged to you if you will procure proper carriages for their baggage, and afford them other assistance which may be wanting.

We have sent by Captain *Smyth* twenty pieces of cruder, and request you will engage proper persons to make them into tents immediately. A sample shall be furnished from *Baltimore*.

Your Committee will be pleased to have five hundred wooden bottles made as soon as possible for the use of the Province, agreeable to the sample delivered Captain *Smyth*. We also send to your Committee thirty camp-kettles for the use of the Flying-Camp. Knapsacks with haversacks are already contracted for, and we expect will be completed in a very little time. Captain *Smyth* has our orders to take with him from *Baltimore* four hundred cartouch-boxes and slings, six hundred and eighty-eight bayonet-belts, and six hundred and eighty-eight gun-slings, which are to be lodged with your Committee. We request they may be delivered by them, with the wooden bottles, to the Flying-Camp Militia on the *Eastern-Shore*, when armed.

The Council are very glad to hear Mr. *Smyth's* business is so circumstanced as to admit his coming over; the earlier

in the week the better, as we are much thronged with business, and some of our Board are anxious to see their families before the meeting of Convention.

We are, &c.

To *Thomas Smyth* and *Thomas Ringgold*, Esqs.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GEORGE SCOTT.

[No. 110.]

Annapolis, August 3, 1776.

SIR: Linen fit for shirting or tents is wanted—seven or eight hundred—and tow linen. You have not informed us of either the quality or price of yours. Our manufacturers bring us in linen of the first kind at 3s. 6d., and of the latter at 2s. 3d. If you can let yours go at that rate, and it is good in quality, you may send it down to this place.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *George Scott*.

RICHARD THOMPSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Georgetown, August 3, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: Not having known of my appointment by the honourable Convention as Quartermaster to the regiment now raising in *Frederick* County for the Flying-Camp before the 1st of this instant, renders it impossible for me to enter on that service on so short a notice, although my inclination leads me to it. I know not who can, or whether any one ought to be blamed, for neglecting to afford me timely intelligence, but I can assure your Honours it will always give me the highest pleasure to act in any situation wherein my poor, though willing, services can be of use in the common cause of the *United States of America*. I have only to lament its being out of my power, for the reasons afore-mentioned, to accept the appointment allotted me, and to request you will tender my acknowledgments to the Convention, in any manner the most acceptable, for the honour intended me.

I am, may it please your Honours, with great respect and esteem, your most obedient and humble servant,

RICHARD THOMPSON.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

JOS. EARLE TO J. NICHOLSON.

August 3, 1776.

SIR: I yesterday received a commission from the honourable the Council of Safety contrary to my expectation. I had repeatedly said I had resigned my commission, and was determined not to accept it, as I was solicited by many respectable people in this County to resign, and offer myself as a candidate, for the reasons set forth in the application. I am truly sensible of the honour intended by the Convention; and am, with the greatest respect to your honourable Board, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOS. EARLE.

To the Hon. *J. Nicholson*, Esq.

MEMORIAL OF WILLIAM STONE.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of the State of MARYLAND:

The Memorial of WILLIAM STONE, of BALTIMORE-TOWN, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist, some time in the month of *January* last past, requested Mr. *Hercules Courtenay* to endeavour to obtain license of the honourable Council of Safety to load your memorialist's brigantine with *Indian* corn, to be exported for the purpose of importing salt; but the said Mr. *Hercules Courtenay* not being able to procure such license, did charter the said vessel to the Council on account of the said State; that the said vessel was valued at £1,000, when in truth she cost your memorialist £1,500; that your memorialist left instructions with Mr. *Courtenay* to have the further sum of £500 insured on the said vessel at *Philadelphia*, to indemnify your memorialist in case of loss.

Your memorialist further sheweth, that after the delivery of your cargo, Captain *Martin* proceeded in the said brig to *St. Eustatia*, in order to receive the net proceeds of two cargoes shipped by your memorialist last *October*, when she was attached by Mr. *Richard Jennings* for a debt of £300, or thereabouts, due from your memorialist to him; that the

said *Richard Jennings* rendered your memorialist no account of the sale of the brig, and retained the sum of £450 in his own hands; that Mr. *Harrison* loaded the said vessel, and called on Mr. *Jennings* for a bill of sale, who refused to give one; that Captain *Martin* (who was not authorized by me to make any sale or transfer of said vessel) was induced and prevailed on to give a bill of sale for said vessel to Mr. *Harrison*, in consideration of the sum of £900, and to accept an order drawn by Mr. *Harrison* on the honourable Council of Safety for the sum of £450; that the vessel was sold for much less than her real value, she being worth £1,500. Your memorialist further sheweth, that at the time his vessel was attached, he was possessed of property in *St. Eustatia* and *St. Kitts* sufficient to discharge the debt due to the said Mr. *Jennings*; that the said Mr. *Jennings*, being displeased with your memorialist for not consigning the vessel to him last *October*, acted in the manner above shown, to injure and oppress your memorialist.

Your memorialist, esteeming the actings and doings of the said Mr. *Richard Jennings* and Captain *Martin* unjust, illegal, and oppressive, beg your Honours will take his case into consideration, and not suffer any advantage to be taken of him by the sale of the said vessel to Mr. *Harrison*, your agent, but allow your memorialist to have the vessel, on paying the money advanced by your agent to *Richard Jennings*.

And your memorialist will ever pray, &c.

WILLIAM STONE.

August 3, 1776.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO OFFICER COMMANDING COL.  
HASLETT'S BATTALION.

Philadelphia, August 3, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby directed to order the company of your battalion posted at *Lewis-Town* as soon as possible to march to *Philadelphia* and join their battalion now stationed at the barracks in this city.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Officer commanding the Battalion of Continental Troops now in this city, Colonel *Haslett's* Battalion.

JOHN ADAMS TO GENERAL HEATH.

Philadelphia, August 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 20th ultimo is before me. I am much obliged to you for it, and most heartily wish for a more free and intimate communication of sentiments upon the state both of our Councils and arms. I should be happy in a few hours' conversation; but as this cannot be, I must be content with a letter.

We have now a nation to protect and defend; and I can easily see the propriety of the observations you quote from the *Prussian Hero*, that the prosperity of a State depends upon the discipline of its Army. This discipline reared the *Roman* empire and the *British*; and the *American* will stand or fall, in my opinion, as it adheres to or deviates from the same discipline. If there is not wisdom and vigour enough in the civil Government to support the military officers in introducing and establishing such a discipline, it must be owing to the advantages of soil and climate and our extreme distance from our enemies, not to our own strength, virtue, or wisdom, if we do not fail.

The Army must be well officered, armed, disciplined, fed, clothed, covered, and paid; in these respects, we do as well as we can. Time, I hope, will assist us; and every officer of the Army would do well to suggest to his friends and correspondents in Congress and in the Legislatures of the several States every defect and every improvement in those particulars which occurs to him. I am in more anxiety for clothes and tents than anything, because the health as well as the discipline of the Army depends much upon them.

We shall never do well until we get a regular Army; and this will never be until men are enlisted for a longer duration; and that will never be effected until we are more generous in our encouragement to men. But I am convinced that time alone will persuade us to this measure; and in the mean time, we shall very indiscreetly waste a much greater expense than would be necessary for this great purpose, in temporary calls upon Militia, besides risking the loss of many lives and much reputation.

Congress has not determined to have no regard to the line of succession in promotions, but only that this line shall not be an invariable rule; *ceteris paribus*, the line will be pursued; but they mean to reserve a right of distinguishing extraordinary merit or demerit. This rule may be abused; but is it not necessary? All good things are liable to abuse. I am afraid, nay, I know it will be abused in particular instances; but if we make the succession an invariable rule, will not the abuse be greater? Is it not common in the *British Army* to promote junior officers over the heads of their superiors—nay, even officers in the same regiment, and on the same command? I have been told of several instances; this, however, is wrong.

Your opinions of men and things I wish I knew in more detail, because I have a good opinion of your judgment of both; and I fear, situated as I am, many things relating to both may not have come to my knowledge that I ought to know. As the first officer in the *Massachusetts* service, you have in some sort the patronage of all the officers. I hope you will recommend the best men for promotion. I confess myself very ignorant of the military characters from that State.

By some expressions in the clause of your letter, I conclude you were not perfectly satisfied with a late promotion. Be assured, sir, if that was raising an inferior officer over the head of any superior, it was not considered in that light by the gentlemen who did it; the person promoted was thought to be the ablest Brigadier, and intitled to advancement by the line of succession; and it is my opinion he would have been made a Major-General much sooner, if his experience had not been thought indispensable in the Adjutant-General's department.

I am, sir, with great respect, your affectionate servant,

JOHN ADAMS.

To General *Heath*.

CÆSAR RODNEY TO THOMAS RODNEY.

Philadelphia, August 3, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 30th *July*, and shall endeavour to answer it. Captain *Gordon* might have had the place you mentioned, but, on talking with me, he very prudently declined it. The history of your manœuvres, procession, &c., pleased me, and the more so, as I heard of the choice, without knowing the principle on which it was made.

With respect to the return made me by the Field-Officers, they have neglected to send me the dates of their commissions or appointments in the Militia; I have therefore written to them to return me dates, before commissions can be made out. As to the subalterns, their being placed with an older or younger Captain does not affect their rank, as that will be preserved by the commission made out for them; and as that will be the case, it is better that they should be fixed in such companies as best please them. I showed Captain *Gordon* the return made me by the Field-Officers, showing the order in which they choose to be placed with respect to the companies, which Mr. *Gordon* said was agreeable to their desire, so far as he had knowledge in it; that he was sure it was right as to *Caldwell's* company.

With respect to the choice of a Convention, I would leave it to you and your friends, whether, when you have fixed on such ticket as meets your approbation, it would not be better to pursue, and endeavour to impress the utility of such choice being made by the people, (especially at a time when the establishing their rights and privileges as freemen depends on such choice,) upon your former plan, I mean of true Whigism—true patriotism. This plan, if pursued with diligence, and such cool argument and reasoning as the case will point out and justify, I think must carry with it persuasion and conviction. It certainly will with all such as are not governed by a party spirit. If any person or persons be proposed in opposition to your ticket, who have heretofore been unfriendly to the cause, point out to the people their former conduct, and submit to them the propriety of trusting to such men at such an important crisis. Your scheme ought to hold out more of the patriot than party-man. I will again submit, as before, whether the inquiry and examination proposed to be had before the Committee will not tend so to irritate, as to occasion many people, by taking sides in that matter, to lose sight of the cause—their true interest; for if they are led to believe that you and your

friends are governed more by a party spirit than by the true interests of *America*, they will hold you in the light of all other party men, and deal with you accordingly. You say the Committee are about to make this inquiry: Are there a sufficient number of patriots in that Committee to answer your expectation? Are there a considerable majority of them that wish the inquiry should be had? Will they, if matters turn out as you expect, publish their opinions to the County, so that the friends of liberty may benefit by it? It is an inquiry that ought to have been made; but it is an inquiry that ought to be made by men of understanding only. Do such make a majority of the Committee—the good men? By what authority do they take it up? Are not many of the members principals in the matter of inquiry? All these things I submit to the prudence and good sense of you and your friends, though you seem to have determined on the measure, by your letter, before my opinion was asked. In short, it is difficult to give an opinion in this case, as I am a stranger to the present complexion of the Committee. However, as this Convention is undoubtedly the most important Assembly that ever was chosen in that Government, would advise the avoiding every kind of violence; and, on the other hand, the utmost diligence and persuasion, to procure as many friends to liberty on the return as possible. By this means, men who have heretofore been unfriendly to liberty, if properly pointed out, cannot prevail. The people, when uninitiated, generally hearken to reason, and make prudent choices. But you may be able to let me know about these things by the next post.

Yesterday came to town a ship belonging to the Congress, from *France*, with ten drums of powder, about forty drums of lead, one thousand stand of arms, &c., &c., and the same day an armed vessel taken by Captain *Barry* at sea. I have put your thread in the hands of a weaver.

I am, with love to all, yours, &c.,

CÆSAR RODNEY.

To Captain *Thomas Rodney*, *Dover*.

CÆSAR RODNEY TO THOMAS RODNEY.

Philadelphia, August 3, 1776.

SIR: Since I finished my other letter, have been up at Congress, where we received intelligence, by letter from Captain *Wickes*, in the Congress ship the *Reprisal*, that he has, at sea, on the 13th of *July*, taken two prizes, a ship and a schooner, bound for *Liverpool*, loaded with cotton, sugar, rum, &c. The letters came by the prize schooner, which arrived in an inlet near *Egg-Harbour*; and the ship prize has been seen off the Cape of *Delaware*, and supposed by this time got in.

This day's post is not yet come in from *New-York*. It is past its usual time of coming, and therefore imagine there will be something important, which delayed him. I wish it may be good. The *Delaware* battalion came to town this morning, and there passed an order of Congress yesterday morning for Captain *Darby* and his company, now at *Lewis*, to come up and join the battalion, or at least to follow them; for as the Congress has now got arms, I imagine they will not stay long here. Let not the contents of my other letter be seen by any, unless a friend in whom you can confide.

I believe I shall never be able to get that scoundrel to make *Betsey's* and *Sally's* shoes. I have not time to say anything about my plantation affairs; but hope you will have an eye to them, that they may not suffer. Without the least expectation of being gratified, I have a strong desire to be at home once more.

I am yours, &c.,

CÆSAR RODNEY.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, DATED AUGUST 3, 1776.

Since my last we have arrived a sloop from *North-Carolina*, with naval stores, and a sloop of eight four-pounders. She belongs to the *Goodriches*, of *Virginia*, and was commanded by one of them; was out three days from *Bermuda*, when he discovered and gave chase to the brig *Lexington*, Captain *Barry*; but finding his mistake, put back too late; for in about an hour and a half, *Barry* run alongside, when she struck. She had eight negroes on board. All, or most of the men, to the amount of twenty-five, entered on board of *Barry*. *Goodrich* is a prisoner on board of the brig.

This morning we have an express from a schooner taken by Captain *Wickes*, in the Continental ship *Reprisal*. She was bound from *St. Vincent's* to *Liverpool*, with upwards of one hundred hogsheads of rum, and is safe in *Absecomb-Inlet*. They bring an account of his having taken a ship of four or five hundred tons burden, from *Grenada* for *London*. She was quite full, and by the captors said to be worth £35,000. A ship was seen last *Wednesday*, to the southward of our Cape, by the *North-Carolina* man, which we hope is the prize.

Captain *Fowler*, in a sloop belonging to your city, is arrived at *Egg-Harbour*, with £4,000 worth of indigo, in twelve or thirteen days from *Charlestown*. She passed the fleet in a thunder-storm. By him we learn, that two deserters from the fleet confirm the account which General *Lee* received from the five deserters already published here, and further add, that the brig that had the Captain of the Commodore on board for *London*, had returned off *Spencer's Inlet*. The said Captain soon died after he got on board, and was buried on *Long-Island*, the 3d of *July*; that the men began to grow sickly, and they are dissatisfied with General *Clinton's* conduct; they suspect he keeps a private correspondence with General *Lee*; that there was some talk of his being under an arrest; that the last rumour among them was, of their embarkation for *Long-Island*, in *New-York* Government. The Commodore's ship is much shattered; it will take them some time to refit. The 4th of *July*, he hoisted his pendant on board the *Experiment*. One shot from the fort took off three Midshipmen's heads, who happened to stand in a range, one of whom is a nobleman's son.

A few days before Captain *Fowler* sailed, the whole fleet was in mourning, supposed for the death of Sir *Peter Parker*, who was wounded, and lost part of his breeches in the late engagement. Captain *Fowler* thinks the two large ships will not be able to go over the bar so as to get out.

NEW-JERSEY CONVENTION TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

In Convention of the State of New-Jersey, }  
New-Brunswick, August 3, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: As it is of great importance that the communication between *New-York*, this, and the Southern Colonies, be preserved, and no adequate provision, that we know of, having been made to keep open the ferries over *Passaick* and *Hackensack* Rivers, between *Newark* and *Powles Hook*, which, in their present situation, may not only be easily obstructed by a single armed vessel of the enemy lying near them, but the ferry boats may be seized, and the passing and repassing of our troops on emergent occasions thereby for a considerable time impeded; and as, from the exposed and unguarded situation of the settlements up said rivers, the creeks, and country adjacent to *Newark Bay*, the enemy may receive supplies of provisions either by plunder or from disaffected persons; and the making provision for the above purposes (as they intimately concern all the *United States*) belonging to your honourable House, we must desire you to propose at first opportunity in Congress, that the most speedy and effectual measures may be adopted to obtain these salutary ends. We conceive there are but two practicable methods, viz: by batteries at the several ferries, or by armed vessels. The ground on each side of the ferries, being low salt marsh, will not, without very great expenses, admit of being fortified; but if this had not been the case, a larger number of heavy cannon would be necessary to answer our purposes than perhaps can be procured, or if procurable, than would be necessary, if employed on board one or more vessels of the row-galley or gondola construction. Protection by armed vessels have a further advantage over fortifications at the ferries: the fortifications must have great strength, a considerable number of cannon, and a large body of men stationed there, or a descent of the enemy might take cannon and men together, as the cannon could not be retreated with, and the distance of the ferries from succour too great to expect supplies in time. On the contrary, an armed vessel stationed at or near each ferry of the row-galley or gondola kind, carrying only an eighteen-pounder each, with swivels, cohorns or blunderbusses, may be sufficient, and their forces may be occasionally united; for, being so contiguous, they may readily act in concert, and, by being made to draw but little water and to row swiftly, may, if they find the forces attacking



them too powerful, secure a safe retreat where the enemy's tenders cannot pursue them. But perhaps heavy cannon may be spared for one gondola, and not more; in such case a vessel of the cat-schooner kind might be usefully employed for the other vessel. We are informed there are two in *Passaick River*, well built and almost new, and that either of them may be hired for a small consideration, provided the owners are assured of their being returned in as good order as when delivered, or of being paid the value in case they should be irreparably damaged. Their dimensions are about forty-five feet in length, fourteen feet breadth, four-and-a-half feet depth, draw but little water, and one of them sails remarkably swift.

Although gondolas may not so advantageously attack ships of war, yet their tenders, or vessels of such size as can approach the ferries, will not choose to come in the way of an eighteen or twenty-four-pounder.

If not a single cannon of this weight can be spared, perhaps both of the above-mentioned cat-schooners may be usefully employed in this service. They will probably carry either two six-pounders on each side, and a six or nine-pounder in the bow, or three four-pounders on each side, and a six-pounder in the bow, besides swivels, cohorns, and blunderbusses, (as they may be procurable,) spears, and small-arms.

We were so perfectly convinced of the importance and utility of making provision for the above purposes, that had the state of our funds permitted it, as much depends on despatch, we might probably have gone into the measures necessary to that end, not doubting but Congress, when convinced of their general utility to the *United States*, would have ordered a reimbursement of the expenses, &c.

Two other armed vessels might be advantageously stationed at proper places between the ferries above-mentioned and the mouth of *Rariton River*. They might coöperate occasionally either for the purposes aforesaid or for annoying the enemy, or be employed to protect the ferry from *South to Perth-Amboy* and the navigation of *Rariton River*, which protection would be a great saving either in troops crossing the ferry to *Amboy*, or in transporting provisions, baggage, &c., from *Brunswick*, by water, to the camp at *Amboy*.

As it is important that no time be lost in making the aforesaid provision, and as, from the multiplicity of interesting business before Congress, this may be delayed,—if Congress will provide for the expense, and request it, we shall be willing to give a helping hand towards carrying their resolutions on this subject into effect.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Convention:

JOHN COVENHOVEN, *Vice-President*.

To the Delegates representing the State of *New-Jersey* in Continental Congress.

#### RESOLVES OF NEW-JERSEY CONVENTION.

In Convention of the State of New-Jersey, }  
Brunswick, August 3, 1776. }

Whereas, by the arrival of the enemy in the neighbourhood of this State, the burden is become much greater to the Militia thereof, numbers being obliged to leave their families, and to march to the defence of their country, so that former Ordinances for regulating the Militia are become inadequate, it being highly just and equitable, proportionally to increase the sums formerly directed to be paid by those who refuse to bear arms for the protection of the State; and also to inflict greater punishments on those who, although they have associated, or been directed to be enrolled for the defence of their country, yet neglect to attend on days appointed for mustering, and are unwilling, at this time of great danger, to step forth with their countrymen to oppose the enemies of freedom: It is, therefore,

*Resolved and Ordained*, That all able-bodied persons, between the ages of sixteen and fifty years, who, on any account, refuse to bear arms, do pay, as an equivalent for their actual service, the sum of 20s. Proclamation money, monthly, and every month, during the present alarming time, and until proper measures shall be taken by the future Legislature to render the burden and expense equal to the inhabitants of this State; and that all persons directed to be enrolled by

former Ordinances, both Officers and Privates, who neglect to attend on days of muster, do pay double the sums directed by an Ordinance of the late Congress, bearing date the 28th day of *October*, 1775; all which sums shall be recovered and applied by the Officers of the Militia, in such manner as the aforesaid Ordinance directs with respect to the fines inflicted on Officers and Privates of the Militia, without regard to religious denominations, anything in said Ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Resolved further*, That all persons between the ages of sixteen and fifty years, directed to be enrolled as aforesaid, who shall neglect to attend when called upon at the time of an alarm, or, when ordered to meet, in consequence of a requisition of the Deputies, Commander-in-Chief, or any of the Brigadier-Generals of this State, for the purpose of raising levies for the Army, or detaching part of the Militia for the defence of the States, or who shall refuse to march when detached in their proper turn, or to provide persons to march in their stead, do pay, if a Colonel, £20, a Lieutenant-Colonel £15, a Major £12, a Captain £8, a Lieutenant and Ensign £6, Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates £3, for every such neglect, to be recovered in manner aforesaid, and to be applied as follows: The fines of Field-Officers to be equally divided among the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of the detachment which marches from the Battalion, and the fines of Captains, Subalterns, Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, to be equally divided among the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of the detachment which marches from the Company to which the delinquents respectively belong.

Extract from the Minutes:

WM. PATERSON, *Secretary*.

#### GENERAL MERCER TO COLONEL DICKINSON.

Woodbridge, August 3, 1776.

SIR: The account you gave me of the disposition of Battalion hath appeared, the more I think of it, the more alarming. That no inconsiderate step may be taken, I have had the opinion of the Field-Officers, and others here, on the occasion; they join unanimously in opinion with me that the orders issued last week relative to such of the Associates as should presume to desert the service of their country at this critical time, ought to be enforced.

H. MERCER.

To Col. *John Dickinson*, commanding at *Elizabeth-Town*.

#### RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, August 3, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Agreeable to General *Schuyler's* orders, I do myself the honour to enclose you three lists of articles wanted for the publick service on *Lake-Champlain*, contained in the paper marked A; and do also enclose your Excellency another paper, marked B, containing a true account of such articles of these lists as cannot possibly be procured at this place.

An express is sent from this place to *Connecticut*, with instructions to purchase the sailcloth and cordage, which General *Arnold* says is to be had in that Colony; and an express is also sent to the forges and furnaces at *Livingston's Manor* and *Salisbury*, to procure the swivels and grape, double-headed and chain shot, if to be had there. None of the other articles are to be had nearer than *New-York*. And I am directed by the General to request your Excellency, in his name, to order the several articles which are wanting to be sent up with all possible despatch to this place. With the assistance of the publick Store-Keeper, I have procured from the proprietors of vessels, and the merchants of this place and *Schenectady*, all the anchors, cables, and cordage, that was to be had from them, for which I have made a full allowance.

I am, with respect and esteem, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

RICHD. VARICK,

*Secretary to Major-General Schuyler*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c. &c.

P. S. The articles in B, marked with the letter C, are sent for to *Connecticut*, but not certain of being procured there.

R. V.

## A, No. 1.

*List of Articles wanted for the Gondolas, armed Vessels, and Batteaus, viz:*

- 30 Anchors for Gondolas, 200 a 300 pounds.  
 40 Anchors, 100 a 150 pounds.  
 C. 30 Hawsers,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  a  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, 50 a 60 fathoms.  
 C. 40 Hawsers, 4 a  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches, 50 a 100 fathoms.  
 C. 1 coil, 6-inch Rope, 60 fathoms.  
 C. 1 do. 5-inch do. 60 do.  
 1 do. 4-inch do. 60 do.  
 2 do.  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch do. 60 do.  
 2 do. 3-inch do. 60 do.  
 8 do.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch do. 120 do.  
 4 do. 2-inch do. 120 do.  
 4 do.  $1\frac{3}{4}$ -inch do. 120 do.  
 4 do.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch do. 120 do.  
 4 do. Ratlin, stiff.  
 4 sets Tackle Blocks.  
 200 double Blocks,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  to 8 inches.  
 300 single Blocks,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  a 9 inches.  
 4 Coils Spun Yarn, 2 and 3 threads.  
 10 dozen Hamline.  
 10 dozen Marline.  
 50 Half-hour Glasses.  
 10 Spyglasses.  
 200 Buckets.  
 40 small Colours, (Continental,) some red, blue, for signals.  
 60 Iron Pots, 4 a 6 gallons.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen Lead Lines.  
 1 dozen Lines for Pennant and Ensign Halliards.  
 6 dozen deep Wooden Bowls.  
 Pistols and Cutlasses.  
 Small Tacks and Pump Nails.  
 Linseed Oil, Blacking, and White Lead.  
 1 dozen Hand Speaking Trumpets.  
 6 dozen Sail Needles.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen Bolt-Rope Needles.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen Marline Needles.  
 1 side Pump Leather.  
 60 coils Slow Match, for the Artillery.  
 6 Fishing Nets with Ropes.

A true copy:

RICHD. VARICK.

## A, No. 2.

*Articles wanted immediately for the Vessels and Gondolas on LAKE CHAMPLAIN, July 20, 1776.*

- 20 Hawsers, 5 a  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, 40 to 120 fathoms long.  
 20 Anchors, 100 a 250 pounds weight.  
 40 small Graplins, about 20 to 40 weight.  
 5 coils Cordage, 4 inches, 120 fathoms.  
 5 do. do. 3 do. 120 do.  
 5 do. do.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  do. 120 do.  
 10 do. do. 2 do. 120 do.  
 10 do. do.  $1\frac{3}{4}$  do. 120 do.  
 10 do. do.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  do. 120 do.  
 5 do. 12-thread Ratlin.  
 5 do. 9-thread Ratlin.  
 10 pounds 2 and 3-thread Spun Yarn.  
 200 double Blocks, 5 to 7 inches.  
 400 single Blocks, 4 to 7 inches, sorted.  
 100 single Blocks, 7 to 12 inches, sorted.  
 3 dozen Lanterns, horn or tin.  
 2 dozen Dark Lanterns.  
 1 barrel Brimstone.  
 500 pounds Chalk.  
 2,000 Pump Nails.  
 4 sides Sole Leather.  
 2 dozen Frying Pans.  
 4 dozen small Lines for Halliards.  
 20 Speaking Trumpets.  
 10 dozen Sail Needles.  
 2 dozen Bolt-Rope Needles.  
 10 Spyglasses.  
 20 pounds Sewing Twine.  
 2 Fish Nets, large.  
 10 sets Colours.

TICONDEROGA, July 20, 1776.

B. ARNOLD.

A true copy.

RICHD. VARICK.

## A, No. 3.

*List of Articles wanted for the Vessels on the LAKE CHAMPLAIN, July 24, 1776, viz:*

- 70 bolts thick Sailcloth.  
 30 bolts light Sail Towcloth, or Osnaburghs.  
 20 cwt. Spun Yarn.  
 20 cwt.  $2\frac{1}{4}$ -inch Rope.  
 20 cwt. 5-inch Shroud Hawsers.  
 100 pounds Sewing Twine.  
 6 dozen Sail, Bolt-Rope, and Marline Needles.  
 1 dozen Palms.  
 1 barrel Linseed Oil.  
 4 cwt. Chalk.  
 2 cwt. White Lead.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. Red Lead.  
 Sheet Lead for Aprons of Guns.  
 1 dozen kegs Lampblack.  
 6 dozen Powderhorns.  
 Quick Match and Port Fire.  
 4 dozen Paint and Tar Brushes, assorted.  
 3 barrels Tar.

- 4 dozen Cod Lines.  
 10 dozen small Lines, sorted.  
 Colours for the Vessels, Galleys, and Gondoloes. (Hughes only says Colours.)  
 One White Flag.  
 10 sides Sole Leather.  
 10 M. Pump Nails, different sizes.  
 Tin Tubes. } Very little here.  
 Slow Match. }  
 200 Swivel Guns, (wrote for before.)  
 A few sheets of Copper for Gun Ladles.  
 5 dozen Sheepskins for Spunges.  
 Grape, Canister, Double-headed and Chain Shot, for 9, 12, 18, and 24-Pounders. Very few here.  
 1 dozen Half-hour Glasses.  
 Cartridge Paper.  
 Flannel Cartridges.

A true copy.

B. ARNOLD.

RICHD. VARICK.

## B, No. 1.

*Return of Articles wanted for the Publick Service on LAKE CHAMPLAIN, which cannot be procured at ALBANY, or at any place between this and NEW-YORK, except as per N. B. at the bottom.*

- 15 Anchors for Gondolas, 200 a 300 pounds.  
 10 Anchors, 100 a 150 pounds.  
 C. 15 Hawsers,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, 50 a 60 fathoms.  
 C. 10 Hawsers, 4 and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches, 50 a 100 fathoms.  
 C. 1 coil, 6-inch Rope, 60 fathoms.  
 C. 1 do. 5-inch do. 60 do.  
 C. 1 do. 4-inch do. 60 do.  
 C. 2 do.  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch do. 60 do.  
 C. 2 do. 3-inch do. 60 do.  
 C. 1 do.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch do. 120 do.  
 C. 4 do. 2-inch do. 120 do.  
 C. 2 do.  $1\frac{3}{4}$ -inch do. 120 do.  
 C. 4 do.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch do. 120 do.  
 C. 4 do. Ratlin, stiff.  
 C. 1 do. Spun Yarn, 2 and 3 threads.  
 40 small Colours, (Continental,) some red, blue, for Signals.  
 Pistols and Cutlasses.

ALBANY, August 3, 1776.

A true extract.

RICHD. VARICK.

## B, No. 2.

*General ARNOLD's first Requisition.**Articles wanted immediately for the Vessels and Gondolas on LAKE CHAMPLAIN, July 20, 1776.*

- C. 20 Hawsers, 5 and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, 40 to 120 fathoms long.  
 20 Anchors, 100 to 250 weight.  
 40 Graplins, about 20 to 40 weight.  
 C. 5 coils Cordage, 4 inches, 120 fathoms.  
 C. 5 do. do. 3 do. 120 do.  
 C. 5 do. do.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  do. 120 do.  
 C. 10 do. do. 2 do. 120 do.  
 C. 10 do. do.  $1\frac{3}{4}$  do. 120 do.  
 C. 10 do. do.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  do. 120 do.  
 C. 5 do. do. 12-thread Ratlin.  
 C. 5 do. do. 9-thread Ratlin.  
 2 dozen Dark Lanterns.  
 200 pounds Brimstone.  
 20 Speaking Trumpets.  
 6 Spyglasses.  
 2 Fish Nets, large, with Ropes.  
 10 sets Colours.

N. B. Expresses are sent to Connecticut for the sailcloth and cordage, and to Livingston's Manor and Salisbury Forges and Furnaces for the anchors, graplins, grape, double-headed and chain shot, mentioned in the preceding requisition.

RICHD. VARICK.

## B, No. 3.

*General ARNOLD's second Requisition.**A list of Articles wanted for the Vessels on LAKE CHAMPLAIN, July 24, 1776.*

- C. 50 bolts thick Sailcloth.  
 C. 20 bolts light Towcloth or Osnaburghs.  
 C. 20 cwt. Spun Yarn.  
 C. 16 cwt.  $2\frac{1}{4}$ -inch Rope.  
 C. 20 cwt. 5-inch Shroud Hawser.  
 6 dozen Sail, Bolt-Rope, and Marline Needles.  
 Sheet Lead for Aprons of Guns.  
 Quick Match and Port Fire.  
 Colours for the Vessels, Galleys, and Gondolas.  
 One White Flag.  
 Tin Tubes.  
 200 Swivel Guns.—Written for before.  
 A few sheets Copper for Gun Ladles.  
 Grape, Canister, Double-headed and Chain Shot, for 9, 12, 18, and 24-Pounders. (Very few here.)  
 1 dozen Half-hour Glasses.  
 Flannel Cartridges.

A true extract.

RICHD. VARICK.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

German-Flats, August 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Agreeable to my promise of yesterday, I now enclose you an extract of General *Washington's* letter to me on the subject of removing the Army from *Crown-Point*, with an extract of so much of my letter as contained an answer to that part of his.

If gentlemen knew with how much reluctance I quitted the serene pleasures of a rural life, if they knew how conscious I am of the mediocrity of my talents, and how far I believe myself from being equal to the task which my country has imposed upon me, they would not envy me. They would know that I am not dazzled with the honour of office; that I never wished to be—what every man in publick life must be—the object of envy, and exposed to the insults occasioned by both the weakness and wickedness of men. Sick, heartily sick of command at the conclusion of last campaign, I begged leave of Congress to retire; and in confidence communicated to General *Washington* my more immediate reasons for it. Time and experience have convinced me (and I believe General *Washington* too) that my reasons were too well founded; but both Congress and he urged my continuance in the command, in such a manner that I suffered myself to be prevailed on to remain in it. The implication contained in General *Washington's* letter of the 19th ultimo to you, is so very disadvantageous to us, that I very sincerely repent having deviated from my resolution to retire. But the opinion of his Council that we had acted reprehensibly, without being informed what were the reasons on which we had founded our opinion of the propriety of the measure in question, is so insulting that I cannot sit patiently under it; and I therefore not only reflect with pleasure on the spirited and proper manner in which you have resented it to Congress and General *Washington*, but shall give to both my sentiments on the impropriety and injustice of convening one council of officers to determine on the measures of another, at the distance of near three hundred miles, without calling for such information as we could have given them. It is incumbent on us, my dear sir, to do justice to our injured reputations; and as it is our duty to go hand in hand in opposing the enemies of the publick, so we ought heartily to join in defeating the insidious foes who so basely aim at the destruction of our character. We shall discover who he or they are, and I trust will be able to cover them with confusion.

I am extremely happy that General *Arnold* has undertaken to command the fleet. It has relieved me from very great anxiety under which I laboured on that account.

I have written to Captain *Varick* to lose not a moment's time in forwarding whatever he can procure to you, and I am in hopes we shall be able to give a tolerable good account of *Carleton* whenever he shall venture an attempt to cross the Lakes.

Yesterday I received information that the enemy intended to possess themselves of *Oswego*, and to march a body of troops to destroy the settlements on this river. I can hardly imagine that they will venture to leave *Fort Stanwix* in the rear, which is already in such a condition as to be tenable against small-arms, and even light artillery.

Adieu, and be assured that I shall omit nothing in my power to cultivate mutual harmony, good understanding, and friendship.

I am, my dear sir, your most sincere and obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

## COLONEL BEDEL TO GENERAL GATES.

August 3, 1776.

SIR: This being my twelfth campaign, in which I always had the esteem of my superiors, I was the first who turned out with my regiment last year from *New-Hampshire* for *Canada*, where I arrived, in eight days after my departure, on the north of *St. John's*, having a small skirmish with the enemy. The command of that post was delivered to me by General *Montgomery*, which I kept until the surrender of that fort, and had always his esteem in regard to my proceedings, so that he gave me the command of a party to go down the river *St. Lawrence* to seize and take the vessels there, which order I complied with, and took eleven sail.

His orders for that purpose I have now with me, but being now led into difficulty by not understanding the meaning of General *Arnold's* instructions, or they being otherwise understood by other gentlemen, I am broke and ordered home. Shall take it as a favour if your Honour would let me have the liberty of three or four men to assist me on the road, as it is bad. This affair being laid to my charge, I hope your Honour will not look upon it as wilful, the fault being in my head, and not my heart; and while I live under the protection of the *United States*, I hope I shall ever have the esteem of my countrymen, as this was the first crime I was ever charged with.

I wish the whole Army good success, and beg leave to subscribe myself, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,  
TIMO. BEDEL.

To General *Gates*.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED TICONDEROGA, AUGUST 3, 1776.

Colonel *Bedel* and Major *Butterfield*, for their bad conduct, are cashiered, and rendered incapable of bearing a commission in the Army of the *United States*. Captain *Wentworth* is cashiered for disobedience of orders.

We came from *Crown-Point* the 17th of July; left one regiment there. Three brigades are encamped on a hill southeast from *Ticonderoga Fort*, called *Mount Independence*, where we are raising some batteries to great advantage. One brigade is encamped on the hill near the old *French* lines, where they have fortified very strong.

We have now on the Lake two schooners which mount twelve guns each, two sloops and five gondolas; the gondolas mount four guns each; and five gondolas more are almost finished. I hope we shall be able to give our enemies a warm reception if they should dare to come.

## LETTER FROM AARON HOBART.

Abington, August 3, 1776.

SIR: I have no time to come myself to see your Honour. I want you to get me all the broken cannon and pig iron you can, and I will send for them. I am disappointed by the brown six-pounders for pig iron, and the pig the Province got for me will not do for cannon, but is very good for the forge, and I want it for that use. I have cast eight cannon for the brig of *Dartmouth*, for *Thomas Duffee*, and have two six-pounders for the ships at *Swansey*, and hope to get them ready in a month. As to the Province guns, I hope they will be ready before there is a call for them. I want fifty weight of steel, of the best quality, to use in drilling and boring out cannon. I have one bar left at the Long Wharf; please to send it and them to *Weymouth*, by the first opportunity, or by land. As to cash, I have wanted it very much for the shot and pots, but cannot come if the small-pox prevents. Sir, I have got some shot made, but you must not expect them all very soon.

I remain your humble servant, &amp;c.,

AARON HOBART.

## COLONEL HURD TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Haverhill, August 3, 1776.

SIR: Since I wrote last, Captain *Eames* has been with us, and proceeded to *Upper Cohos*, with about thirty men, not doubting he should be able soon to make up his whole number.

The Committee have written to Captain *Woodard*, desiring he would come to *Haverhill*, to consult with us respecting the scouts.

Captain *Payne*, of *Lebanon*, who went on a scout, a volunteer, is just now returned. He tells he has been to *Ticonderoga*, where he waited on General *Gates*. Found the principal part of the Army there, having quitted *Crown-Point*, as too infectious a place for the reinforcements, till it can be thoroughly cleansed. That a large number of carpenters were employed in building batteaus, with a design, as supposed, to go over the Lake again. From *Ticonderoga* he went to *Crown-Point*, where was only one regiment; made a short tarry there, and then down the Lake to *Onion River*; he saw Colonel *Wait* there, took his advice, and proceeded to the river *La Moelle*, and so back to *Cohos*, striking the new road. Met no enemy on the way. Brought

the same report as mentioned by the *Frenchman*, that a fleet was in the river *St. Lawrence*, supposed to be *French*, and the Regulars retreating from *St. John's* to *Sorel*.

I have a letter from the Committee, of the 25th *July*, forwarded by Mr. *Joseph Whipple*, desiring me to send two several guns to *Upper Cohos*, for the use of Captain *Eames's* party, which shall be done as soon as we receive the others from *Canterbury*, but we have only two yet come to hand.

Colonel *Bayley* has not yet been able to embody his working party of men into a regular company, under the orders of us, as a Committee, agreeable to your directions; and unless they will consent to form themselves as such, the Committee will proceed to enlist others for the purpose. We defer this a few days till we see how they agree among themselves, when I shall advise you further. In the mean time remain, with my best respects to you and the gentlemen of the Committee, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HURD.

To the Hon. *Meshech Weare*, Esq.

COLONEL A. WILLIAMSON TO GOVERNOR RUTLEDGE.

Camp two miles below *Keowee*, August 4, 1776.

SIR: I received your Excellency's favours of the 26th and 27th ultimo, by express. In my last letter to your Excellency, of the 31st ultimo, I informed you of my spies being returned with two white prisoners, who gave an account of *Cameron's* being arrived from over the hills with twelve white men, and that he, with the *Seneca* and other *Indians*, was encamped at *Ocnore Creek*, about thirty miles distant from *Twenty-three Mile Creek*, where I then lay encamped. This intelligence induced me to march immediately to attack their camp before they could receive any information of my being so far advanced.

I accordingly marched, about six o'clock in the evening, with three hundred and thirty men on horseback, (taking the two prisoners with me to show where the enemy were encamped, and told them, before I set out, if I found they deceived me I would order them instantly to be put to death,) intending to surround their camp by daybreak, and to leave our horses about two miles behind, with a party of men to guard them. The river *Keowee* lying in our route, and only passable at a ford at *Seneca*, obliged me (though much against my inclination) to take that road. The enemy, either having discovered my march or laid themselves in ambush with a design to cut off any spies or party I had sent out, had taken possession of the first house in *Seneca*, and posted themselves behind a long fence, on an eminence close to the road where we were to march, and to prevent being discovered, had filled up the openings betwixt the rails with twigs of trees and corn-blades. They suffered the guides and advanced guard to pass, when a gun from the house was discharged, meant, as I suppose, for a signal for those placed behind the fence, who a few seconds after poured in a heavy fire upon my men, which, being unexpected, staggered my advanced party. Here Mr. *Salvador* received three wounds, and fell by my side. My horse was shot down under me, but I received no hurt. Lieutenant *Farar*, of Captain *Prince's* company, immediately supplied me with his horse. I desired him to take care of Mr. *Salvador*, but before he could find him in the dark the enemy unfortunately got his scalp, which was the only one taken. Captain *Smith*, son of the late Captain *Aaron Smith*, saw the *Indian*, but thought it was his servant taking care of his master, or could have prevented it. He died about half after two o'clock in the morning, forty-five minutes after he received the wound, sensible to the last. When I came up to him, after dislodging the enemy, and speaking to him, he asked whether I had beat the enemy. I told him yes. He said he was glad of it, and shook me by the hand, and bade me farewell, and said he would die in a few minutes. Two men died in the morning, and six more who were badly wounded I have since sent down to the settlements, and given directions to Doctors *Delahowe* and *Russell* to attend them.

I remained on the ground till daybreak, and burnt the houses on this side the river, and afterwards crossed the river, the same day, and reduced *Seneca* entirely to ashes. Knowing that the *Indians* would carry immediate intelligence of my strength to the place where *Cameron* lay encamped, who would directly move from thence; and having ordered the

detachment from Colonels *Neel* and *Thomas's* regiments to attack and destroy *Estatoe*, *Qualhatchie*, and *Toxaway*, and join me this day at *Sugar-Town*, obliged me to march that way; which, this day, a strong detachment, consisting of four hundred men, has totally reduced to ashes. An old *Indian* was found there, who said the enemy had deserted the town four days ago, on hearing, by a white man, that an army was advancing against them.

I am, respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
A. WILLIAMSON.

To His Excellency *John Rutledge*, President of *South-Carolina*, *Charlestown*.

GENERAL MERCER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 6, 1776.]

Perth-Amboy, August 4, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of *July* 31st, enclosing resolves of Congress, I had the honour to receive yesterday, and shall pay all possible attention to.

Some of the Militia from *Pennsylvania*, not duly informed of the length of time their services here might be required, have become much dissatisfied. It is with difficulty the officers in some of the battalions prevent a desertion, not of men singly, but by companies. Some speedy and effectual measures will be necessary, that the quotas for the Flying-Camp be made up, to relieve the Associators as soon as possible.

I enclose such a return as is in my power to make out. By this it appears that only two hundred and seventy-four, rank and file, properly belonging to the Flying-Camp, have yet joined. Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion, from *Maryland*, remains at *Elizabeth-Town*, but expect daily to have orders to proceed to *New-York*.

Last night thirteen sail of ships arrived at *Sandy-Hook*; these, together with what have come in since *Thursday* last, make upwards of sixty sail. On *Staten-Island* we discover no late movements of the enemy.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
HUGH MERCER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 4, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of 31st ultimo, last night, on my return from *Perth-Amboy*, from whence I wrote you. I observe your directions therein for supplying any number of Militia the State of *Massachusetts-Bay* may direct to be called into service, with provisions. I will give the necessary orders therein to Mr. *Charles Miller*, my issuing store-keeper in *Boston*, by the post to-morrow morning, and you may rely on it that your directions shall be fully complied with.

I am, sir, with respect and esteem, your most humble servant,  
JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress of Delegates from the *United States of America*, at *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, August 4, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports twenty-one sail seen off last evening, eight arrived at the *Hook* this morning, and thirteen coming in.

The enemy's guard-boats patrolled much higher up the bay than usual last night.

I apprehend a couple of guard-boats are necessary to patrol from *Red* to *Yellow Hook*, across the Bay, leading to *Rapalye's* Mills, provided there are boats to spare.

Enclosed is a return of the officers of Colonel *Hand's* Rifle regiment. As the return made me by Colonel *Hand* is not as intelligible as I could wish, I shall send and get another as soon as may be. I must beg your Excellency's pardon for suffering the return to escape my memory, and neglecting making it agreeable to your orders some days past.

I shall send in a list of the names, in a few hours, of the persons proper to be taken up on this Island.

I am, with respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
NATHL. GREENE.



New-York, Thursday, August 8, 1776.

The *Phenix*, of forty-four guns, Captain *Parker*, and the *Rose*, of twenty guns, Capt. *Wallace*, two notorious Pirates belonging to *Great Britain*, having, for some time past, infested the *North River*, to the great interruption of our trade and navigation thereon, last *Friday* six of our row-galleys, hastily collected, though of force greatly inferior to these ships, went up the river to find them out, and annoy them in their station. Next day the galleys proceeded to *Tarrytown*, where the two Pirate ships lay, attacked and engaged them for two hours. The following letter, written the morning after by a gentleman who was a volunteer on board one of the galleys, gives the most particular account of the engagement that has as yet come to hand, viz:

"Tarrytown, (Sunday Morning,) August 4.

"SIR: I have just opportunity to inform you that yesterday at one o'clock, P. M., the galleys attacked the *Phenix* and the *Rose* off *Tarrytown*. The *Lady Washington* fired the first gun on our side, in answer to one received from the *Phenix*; this first shot from us entered the *Phenix*. The *Washington* galley, on board of which the Commodore's flag was hoisted, then came up within grape-shot of the ships, and singly sustained their whole fire for above a quarter of an hour before any other of our vessels took a shot from her, (the tide wasting them more than the pilots expected to the eastern shore, and the *Lady Washington* falling back to take her station in the line, according to orders.) The *Spitfire* advanced in a line with the *Washington*, and with her behaved well. We had as hot a fire as perhaps was ever known for an hour and a half. The *Washington*, which I was on board during the whole engagement, had the ledgings of her bow guns knocked away, which prevented our working them, and was otherwise considerably damaged, being thirteen times hulled, had three shot in the waist, many of her oars carried away, &c. The *Lady Washington*, after hulling the *Phenix* six times, had her bow, and only gun, a thirty-two pounder, on which we placed much dependance, split seven inches, and her gun tackles and breechings carried away. The *Spitfire* was hulled several times, and received one shot between wind and water, which, not being quickly discovered, occasioned her making much water. The rest of the galleys received considerable damage in their rigging, sails, and oars. Under these circumstances, our Commodore, Colonel *Tupper*, thought it prudent to give the signal for our little fleet to withdraw, after manfully fighting a much superior force for two hours. Never did men behave with more firm, determined spirits, than our little crews; one of our tars, being mortally wounded, cried to his messmate, 'I am a dying man; revenge my blood, my boys, and carry me alongside my gun, that I may die there.' We were so preserved by a gracious Providence, that in all our galleys (which consisted of six) we had but two men killed and fourteen wounded, two of which are thought dangerous. We hope to have another touch at these Pirates before they leave our river, which *God* prosper.

"P. S. The following are the particulars of the galleys, with their killed and wounded, viz: the *Washington*, Capt. *Hill*, four wounded; *Whiting*, *McClave*, one killed, four wounded; *Spitfire*, *Grimes*, one killed, three wounded; *Crane*, *Tincker*, one wounded; on board a whaleboat, two wounded."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 4, 1776.

*Friday*, the 2d instant, the ships that passed up *North River* were, from eleven o'clock to one, engaged by six of our row-galleys, who sustained the fire of the *Phenix*, of forty-four guns, and the *Rose*, of twenty-eight guns. For two hours, their broadsides poured in as fast as they could discharge them. Finally, for want of a proper tide or from prudence, Colonel *Tupper*, who commanded the galleys, threw out a signal for the galleys to retire. The *Lady Washington* is returned to the city; she alone commenced the attack against both the ships, who were previously prepared, and had got springs on their cables, and sustained for more than a quarter of an hour the fire of both those ships; she received thirteen shot in her hull, and one of her two-and-thirty pounders cracked for a considerable length. They have, however, handled the ships very roughly. Colonel

*Tupper* writes the General that a great many splinters and pieces of the ship, soon after the action, passed by the galleys, who are preparing for a second attack.

Last night four ships, chained and boomed, with a number of amazing large chevaux-de-frise, were sunk close by the fort, under the command of General *Mifflin*, which fort mounts thirty pieces of heavy cannon. We are thoroughly sanguine that they never will be able to join the *British* fleet, nor assistance from the fleet be afforded to them; so that we set them down as our own. The *British* Army still remain at *Staten-Island* and the fleet at the *Narrows*. Last *Thursday* forty sail of ships arrived to the *British* fleet, and yesterday twenty more, and forty more were in sight, supposed to be foreign troops. This day we have a report circulating that the foreign troops refuse fighting, unless a cartel for the exchange of prisoners is previously settled. Mr. *Tracy*, who went with the flag to Lord *Howe*, was treated with great politeness; by all accounts, his Lordship is as good a man for the errand on which he is sent as the *British* nation could possibly fix upon; he is a gentleman of very great abilities, master of chicanery and deception, and believes it is in his power, either by persuasion or threats, to bring about a reconciliation. The event of things will prove how greatly he is mistaken.

I congratulate you on the capture made by one of the armed vessels in the service of the *United American States*, on board of which, I understand, is that infamous villain, *Ben. Davis*; I hope you will hang him. In the late engagement between the galleys and the enemy's ships, there were on board the galleys three killed, two mortally wounded, and fourteen others slightly wounded; what loss the enemy sustained, we are not yet able to ascertain. We expect, as the enemy have received a considerable reinforcement, that they will soon make an attack. From the amazing spirit of the Army, which, from the best information I can get, amounts to at least forty thousand men, we shall give them such a reception as will oblige them, in spite of their prejudice to the contrary, to acknowledge the *Americans* to be the bravest people they ever contended with.

RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 4, 1776, six o'clock, A. M.

DEAR GENERAL: I do myself the honour of informing you that, exclusive of the quantity of rope mentioned in the invoice already sent you, I have procured about twenty-five hundred weight, from two-and-a-half-inch downwards, &c., which was, in a great measure, sent up two days since from *Schenectady*. I have also procured four new cables of four inch by sixty fathoms, at that place; and we have still here seven or eight good anchors and cables, to be forwarded as soon as wagons can be procured; the owners of which, for want of ready cash, cannot be enticed to leave their harvest. I hope to have no reason to complain of this in future.

The sail cloth and cordage is sent for to *Connecticut*; and an invoice of such other articles as are not to be had here, is sent to his Excellency General *Washington*, with a request to send them with all possible despatch.

The blocks will be finished in about ten days. By the General's orders I have sent an officer with two batteaus to *Poughkeepsie* for such of them as are finished, and for sixty coils of slow match, and one hundred pounds of twine, which are to be had there.

An express is sent to Governour *Trumbull* and the *Salisbury* Iron-Works for the swivels, and to Colonel *Robert Livingston* for the different kinds of cannon and grape-shot, as also for the anchors and cables which are wanting.

A skipper is sent down the river to purchase all the anchors, cables, sails, and rigging, that are to be procured from the proprietors of vessels between this place and *Poughkeepsie*. The six anchors and cables lately sent from *New-York*, I hope, will arrive by the first southerly wind. As soon as any of these articles arrive, I shall forward them to *Tyonderoga* without delay, as far as lies in my power.

I am directed by General *Schuyler* to procure three tar-burners, and send them to *Fort George*. As soon as I can procure persons that understand it, I shall send them to *Fort George*, with the proper orders to the commanding officer.

All the articles mentioned in Colonel *Trumbull's* requisition of the 29th, with an additional quantity of blacking, are purchased, and shall be sent as soon as possible.

I think that in my letter of the 31st, I informed you that I could not furnish Captain *Bacon* with money, for want of that article in the Paymaster's hands. If I have not, I am directed by the General to do it now.

I am, dear sir, with every sentiment of respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

RICHD. VARICK.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 4, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received your Honour's favour of the 1st instant, and, according to order, I immediately sent off two messengers from this place to go on the most publick roads to *New-England*, to hasten the troops according to your Honour's orders, and sent such men as I think will be faithful in the execution of the same.

I must acquaint your Honour that I fear, do the best I can, that the carpenters will wait for plank, as the water fails at this place much. The carpenters want plank tomorrow. I am going to set the saw-mill at *Cheshire's* to sawing oak plank, as the carpenters must want, so I can fetch them down by water.

I am very anxious to get the galleys forward, as we can well, with the rest of our shipping, command the Lake, being well manned and conducted. If it is disagreeable to your Honour's mind for the mill at *Cheshire's* to saw plank, I should be glad to be informed, as I would not act anything disagreeable to your Honour's mind.

I have this day sent an express to *Albany*, to General *Schuyler*, desiring him to forward iron and other necessaries for building the shipping.

The troops come entirely destitute of ammunition, and should be glad your Honour would send us a supply of bullets; and am, with the greatest esteem, your Honour's humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

P. S. This moment arrived a company of *Boston* troops, which I shall forward immediately.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, August 4, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour of your letter of the 29th *July*. I am much surprised to hear that the carbines are not all yet arrived at *New-York*. I forwarded them all agreeable to your directions, and the last two hundred went from this place the 4th of *July*, for *Norwich*, to the care of Mr. *Huntington*, to whom I wrote, every time I sent arms or other articles which were ordered to *New-York*, to forward them with the greatest expedition.

With regard to the arms taken in the *Scotch* ships, I wrote your Excellency the 11th and 29th of *July*, and it has not yet been in my power to send any more than those I have forwarded.

Agreeable to your directions of the 7th of *July*, to forward from three to four hundred barrels of powder to *Norwich*, I sent off four hundred barrels the 13th of *July*, to the care of Mr. *Huntington*, to be stored there in some safe place until he should receive your orders respecting the same. It would have been sent sooner, had not the interruption of business by the small-pox prevented. I shall forward as soon as possible one hundred barrels of powder more to *Norwich*, to complete the five hundred, agreeable to your directions of the 19th of *July*. This letter I did not receive until the 31st of *July*.

The Deputy-Commissary, Mr. *Miller*, informs me he has particular directions from the Commissary-General to secure all the salt provisions he can for the use of the Army; and I have given him directions respecting the pork brought in here from *Ireland*, agreeable to your orders.

Your Excellency mentions your want of more Artillerymen, and that Captain *Burbeck*, with his company, must be sent to *New-York*, if we could, by any means, spare him. I do not, at present, conceive how he can be spared, as the Continental armed vessels depend on his company to prepare and fix ammunition for them—new supplies of which they frequently want. They are also wanted to prepare ammunition for the forts, and for many other important purposes. But if your Excellency should judge the want of

Artillerymen at *New-York* is so great as to outweigh these considerations, I will send the company forward as soon as your pleasure shall be known.

The two regiments here are generally recovered of the small-pox. I shall take the utmost care to have them thoroughly cleansed, and agreeable to your orders of the 19th of *July*, shall order them to march this week for *Ticonderoga*.

I am informed by the Council of this State, that they are bringing in between two and three thousand men to defend these lines, in the room of the Continental regiments ordered from hence. The Council expect, agreeable to the resolve of Congress, that these troops will be supplied with provisions and ammunition, and paid by the Continent; but there being no Continental officer when I retire (which I intend to do very soon) to take the direction and oversight of these and many other matters interesting to the *United States*, such as commanding the men in Continental pay, giving orders to the Assistant Quartermaster-General, Deputy-Commissary of Artillery, and Commissary of Provisions, making returns of the stores and men in the Continental pay, and giving warrants for the payment of the men in the service of the *United States*, supplying the armed vessels, &c., I conceive the publick must greatly suffer, unless these matters are committed to the care and direction of some person who is well acquainted with them.

I am your Excellency's obedient and very humble servant,  
ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. I have sent for Captain *Eayrs*, who has the care of the company of Artificers, and acquainted him with your Excellency's orders respecting his company. He informs me that his men cannot go to *New-York*, unless their pay is increased to six pounds per month, and that he informed your Excellency of this before the Army left *Cambridge* last spring, and that he expected their pay would have been thus established before he was sent for; that he is willing to march immediately, but as his men are not engaged for any particular time, he cannot induce them to march until the establishment is made. If your Excellency should think proper to make such an establishment, and order them to *New-York*, Captain *Eayrs* desires that he may receive directions whether he is to carry his tools with him. The company in the mean time will be fully employed in making carriages and other necessary work; and if they were not wanted at *New-York*, they might be still employed here to great advantage.

I am your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,  
ARTEMAS WARD.

London, August 5, 1776.

TO THE LORD MAYOR.

MY LORD: I was last week on board the *American* privateer called the *Yankee*, commanded by Captain *Johnson*, and lately brought into this port by Captain *Ross*, who commanded one of the *West-India* sugar ships, taken by the privateer in *July* last; and, as an *Englishman*, I wish your Lordship, who is so happily placed at the head of this great city, (justly famed for its great humanity even to its enemies,) would be pleased to go likewise, or send proper persons, to see the truly shocking, and, I may say, barbarous and miserable condition of the unfortunate *American* prisoners, who, however criminal they may be thought to have been, are deserving of pity, and entitled to common humanity.

They are twenty-five in number, and all inhumanly shut close down, like wild beasts, in a small stinking apartment in the hold of a sloop, about seventy tons burden, without a breath of air, in this sultry season, but what they receive through a small grating over head, the openings in which are not more than two inches square in any part, and through which the sun beats intensely hot all day; only two or three being permitted to come on deck at a time; and then they are exposed in the open sun, which is reflected from the decks and water like a burning glass.

I do not at all exaggerate, my Lord: I speak the truth; and the resemblance that this barbarity bears to the memorable black-hole, at *Calcutta*, as a gentleman present on *Saturday* observed, strikes every one at the sight. All *England* ought to know that the same game is now acting upon the *Thames* on board this privateer, that all the world

cried out against and shuddered at the mention of in *India*, some years ago, as practised on Captain *Hallowell* and other of the King's good subjects.

The putrid streams issuing from the hole are so hot and offensive, that one cannot, without the utmost danger, breathe over it; and I should not be at all surprised if it should cause a plague to spread. The miserable wretches below look like persons in a hot bath, panting, sweating, and fainting for want of air; and the Surgeon declares that they must all soon perish in that situation, especially as they are almost all in a sickly state with bilious disorders.

The Captain and Surgeon, it is true, have the liberty of the cabin, (if it deserves the name of a cabin,) and make no complaints on their own account; they are both sensible, well-behaved young men, and can give a very good account of themselves, having no signs of fear, and being supported by a consciousness of the justice of their cause. They are men of character, of good families in *New-England*, and highly respected in their different occupations; but being stripped of their all by the burning of towns and other destructive measures of the present unnatural war, were forced to take the disagreeable method of making reprisals, to maintain themselves and their children, rather than starve.

Numbers of gentlemen, and friends of Government, who were on board at the same time, will confirm the truth of this my representation, being very sensibly touched themselves at the horrid sight.

*English* prisoners taken by the *Americans* have been treated with the most remarkable tenderness and generosity, as numbers who are safely returned to *England* most freely confess, to the honour of our brethren in the Colonies. And it is a fact, which can be well attested in *London*, that this very Surgeon on board the privateer, after the battle of *Lexington*, April 10, 1775, for many days voluntarily and generously, without fee or reward, employed himself in dressing the King's wounded soldiers, (who but an hour before would have shot him, if they could have come at him,) and in making a collection for their refreshment, of wine, linen, money, &c., in the town where he lived. This is a real fact, of which the most ample testimony may be had.

The capture of the privateer was solely owing to the ill-judged lenity and brotherly kindness of Captain *Johnson*, who, not considering his *English* prisoners in the same light that he would *Frenchmen* or *Spaniards*, put them under no sort of confinement, but permitted them to walk the decks as freely as his own people, at all times.\* Taking advantage of this indulgence, the prisoners one day, watching their opportunity when most of the privateer's people were below and asleep, shut down the hatches, and making all fast, had immediate possession of the vessel without using any force.

I shall conclude with saying, that though this letter is addressed to your Lordship, I hope that all who may read it, and have any influence, will do all in their power to gain the necessary relief; and it is humbly apprehended that the

\* *LONDON*, August 6, 1776.—Captain *Johnson*, of the *Yankee* privateer, and *Ross* and *Hodges*, (Captains of the two *West-Indiamen* taken by the above privateer,) were sitting together in *Johnson's* cabin, a few days after they were taken, when *Johnson* having inadvertently laid down his cutlass, *Ross* and *Hodges* took advantage of it, by throwing him on his back, and seized the cutlass.

The guard stationed on the quarter-deck having also laid down his cutlass, in order to go forward, one of *Ross* or *Hodge's* people, who had been let into the secret, immediately seized it, and gave the alarm; on which the men belonging to the *Yankee*, and those of the merchantmen (who ought to have been confined) ran up, and one of the *Americans* having caught up a scrubbing brush, and advancing in a threatening posture, was told by the man who held the cutlass, that if he advanced a step further he would take his head off, and ordered him and the rest of the men belonging to the privateer, to go forward; *Ross* and *Hodges* in the mean time having broken open the arm chest.

Captain *Johnson* and his crew were removed from the *Yankee* about two o'clock on Sunday morning, and it is said are now on board the *Conquestadore* man-of-war.

Captain *Johnson* complains of Captain *Ross's* illiberal behaviour, in suffering several people to come on board since he arrived, and insult him in the most cruel and gross terms, though a prisoner; and when his brother came to see him, after three years absence, Captain *Ross* would not permit them to talk a moment in private.

If Captain *Ross* has secreted his prisoners, is it not worthy the interposition of the civil power to compel him to produce them, that no foul play may be offered them, till they have taken their trials?

Captain *Johnson*, of the *Yankee* privateer, lately taken and brought into the river, is a native of *New-England*. Previous to the present unhappy differences between this country and *America*, he lived as a merchant in great repute, at *Portsmouth*, in *New-Hampshire*. Last winter he had the misfortune to have his house burnt down at the time when the greatest part of *Portsmouth* was destroyed by the *Swan*, and other ships of war, at which time he lost the whole of his property. The Restraining Act taking place, and depriving him from carrying on his trade, he

well disposed, who are blessed with affluence, could not better bestow their bounty than upon those poor objects. Vegetables and ripe fruits of all kinds, with porter, &c., must be very useful, as well as the means to procure other necessities. The privateer lies opposite to *Ratcliffe-Cross*, a mile and a half below the Tower, and by asking for Captain *Johnson* admittance may be obtained.

#### HUMANITAS.

We have been informed, since the receipt of the above letter, that the crew of the *American* privateer the *Yankee*, were yesterday morning, at half-past three o'clock, conveyed on board a vessel, and carried down the river, to be secured in *Dover Castle*.

We hear that a petition will be presented to the Secretary of State for the *American* Department, by the merchants, to cause the Captain of the *Yankee* privateer to be kept in custody to answer to them for the property he has illegally taken, he being the sole owner of the privateer, and the prizes of course will be sold in *America* for his account and emolument.

By His Excellency JOHN RUTLEDGE, Esq., President and Commander-in-Chief of SOUTH-CAROLINA:

#### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas it appears to me necessary for the publick service to call the General Assembly and Legislative Council before the time to which they stand adjourned: I have therefore thought fit to issue this Proclamation, requiring them, and they are hereby required, to meet at *Charlestown*, on Tuesday, the 17th day of September next, then and there to sit for the despatch of divers weighty and important affairs.

Given under my hand and the seal of South-Carolina, at *Charlestown*, this 5th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

JOHN RUTLEDGE.

By His Excellency's command:

JOHN HUGER, Secretary.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, August 10, 1776.

On Monday last, the 5th instant, being Court day, the Declaration of Independence was publickly proclaimed in the Town of *Richmond*, before a large concourse of respectable freeholders of *Henrico* County, and upwards of two hundred of the Militia who assembled on that grand occasion. It was received with universal shouts of joy, and reëchoed by three volleys of small-arms. The same evening the town was illuminated, and the members of the Committee held a club, when many patriotick toasts were drunk. Although there were near one thousand people present, the whole was conducted with the utmost decorum; and the satisfaction visible in every countenance sufficiently evinces their determination to support it with their lives and fortunes.

resolved to go to sea in a privateer, and accordingly hired the *Yankee* for that purpose.

*LONDON*, August 10, 1776.—The method by which the *Yankee* privateer was taken was as follows: Captain *Johnson*, (of the *Yankee*), *Hodges* and *Ross*, were sitting together in the cabin, when *Johnson* having inadvertently laid down his cutlass, *Ross* and *Hodges* took the advantage of it, and one coming behind Captain *Johnson*, seized and threw him down, while the other got possession of the cutlass. The guard stationed on the quarter-deck having at the same time laid down his cutlass to go forward, one of *Ross's* or *Hodges's* people, who had been let into the conspiracy, immediately seized it, and gave the alarm; on which either *Ross* or *Hodges* ran upon the quarter-deck, and got possession of the arm-chest before the privateer's men and those of the merchantmen, who were at large and unconfined, though then down in the hold, could get upon the main deck. One of the *Americans* took up a scrubbing-brush, and advanced to the quarter-deck; he was told by the man possessed of the cutlass, that if he came a step farther, his head should be cut off. The privateer's men thus finding the quarter-deck and their arms all in possession of their adversaries, and their Captain a prisoner in the cabin, submitted without further resistance, being promised good treatment, and to be landed as soon as possible in some part of *America*, and then be at liberty to go where they pleased. So far from this promise being complied with, the men were put in irons, and closely confined in the hold of the privateer, and all of them brought into the river *Thames*. Since which they were, in the night of Saturday last, hurried into a man of war's tender, and smuggled to some place of confinement, but where, is not yet certainly known.

Captain *Johnson* complained heavily of the illiberal behaviour and cruel usage he suffered, by being insulted frequently at sea, calling him by the most opprobrious names, and threatening him with the cruellest and most savage punishments, and also for suffering many people to come on board after they arrived in the river, to insult him in the basest and grossest terms, though he was then a prisoner; and when his brother came to see him after a three years' absence, they would not permit them to talk together one minute in private.

## GENERAL DENT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles County, August 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 2d instant I have received, wherein you not only account for ordering me to *St. George's Island*, (whither I should most undoubtedly have gone without orders, so soon as I was apprized of the arrival of the enemy,) but also for sending Major *Price* to take the command. I never entertained the most distant thought that you had any intention of giving me offence, and am happy to find you have had no insinuations to my prejudice. What I complain of is, your very concise order, whereby I was superseded, without a line from your Honours signifying what part I was to act, or whether I was to remain there a cipher, where I stayed with impatience twenty-four hours, expecting further orders. I never attended to the rank between officers of the Militia and Regulars, as adjusted by the Convention; or should not have accepted of the commission I held; for that, and the reason already given, did enclose you my commission for the Flying-Camp. Having tendered my service to the publick in a different line of duty, (viz: the civil department,) which, requiring my presence till my offer is accepted or rejected, prevents my complying with your repeated request of giving you a personal conference until *Monday* next, when I have reason to believe I shall have the pleasure of conferring with your Honours on the subject.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,  
JNO. DENT.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN TOOTELL.

[No. 113.] Annapolis, August 5, 1776.

SIR: The Guard at the Magazine complain of not having a sufficient quantity of provision delivered them for three meals per day. We think it is necessary they should have it, and that it may be furnished for 10½ per week, and therefore desire it may be allowed. We are, &c.

To Captain *James Tootell*.

## CAPTAIN BROOKE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Calvert County, August 5, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your orders I marched such of my men as were raised to *Drum Point*, and there continued until yesterday, when Captain *Beall's* men returned. As there was no conveniency for myself and company to stay there any longer, I thought it proper to move up the country as far as *Hunting-Town*, (about twenty miles,) at which place we are now stationed and waiting for further orders.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,  
JOHN BROOKE, Jun.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## JOHN HANSON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Frederick-Town, August 5, 1776.

SIR: The money sent to purchase arms, &c., is nearly expended. Many receipts for guns and blankets are yet to come in. The two *German* companies and the Rifle company are, I believe, altogether unprovided. It will be, therefore, necessary to send us more cash, and the present will be a good opportunity.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,  
JOHN HANSON, Jun.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety.

## COLONEL EWING TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, August 5, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I have this day delivered your order to the Committee of Observation for this County, for eighty-four guns; they have returned me for answer, that they have not as many, but expect soon to let me have that quantity. I have sent off a gentleman to *Frederick-Town*, who is likewise to go to *Shepherd's Town*, in *Virginia*, where I am in hopes he will be able to procure a quantity of guns and rifles. If agreeable to you, I propose making one of my

companies a Rifle company, as a Light-Infantry company to the battalion. I shall be much obliged to you for an order on the Committee here for a quantity of blankets for my soldiers, which are to be embarked on *Thursday* or *Friday* next. As there is a quantity of arms arrived at *Philadelphia* since I had the pleasure of seeing you, and as they are indebted to you some arms, I shall be much obliged by your giving me an order on them for some guns, and allowing me to march some of my soldiers to *Philadelphia* without guns. You know I am very desirous of getting to station; therefore, shall esteem it a particular favour and indulgence. Upon inquiry, Mr. *Hopkins* has about four hundred hunting-shirts, which I would be glad you would allow me to take for the use of the troops, and for which they shall pay. As I purpose sending off more than two companies, I shall be obliged to you for an order for more guns when received, for camp-kettles, canteens or wooden bottles, cartouch-boxes and belts, bayonet scabbards and belts, with gun slings. If your Honours thought proper to give me an unlimited order for completing my battalion with such, I shall take nothing but what the Captains shall give a receipt for, and shall observe to them that they are accountable for everything.

I shall be much obliged for your answer; and am, with due respect, honoured sirs, your most obedient servant,

THOS. EWING.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, now at *Annapolis*.

## DOCTOR WEISENTHALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore-Town, August 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I take the liberty to inform you of my return from the camp, where I went, according to my promise to you, in order to see the regiment properly taken care of. Doctor *Shippen* is appointed Surgeon-General to the Flying-Camp, with whom I had a conference, and received a letter from him to General *Mercer*, as Commander-in-Chief of the Flying-Camp, in order to concert measures for the forming proper hospitals, which was done. I left our *Maryland* troops in a good condition at *Elizabeth-Town*, and shall take an opportunity of giving a fuller account when I arrive at *Annapolis*.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

C. WEISENTHALL.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## BALTIMORE COUNTY COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee August 5, 1776:

Present: Samuel Purviance, *Chairman*; William Lux, *Vice Chairman*; W. Buchanan, B. Griffith, A. Britain, T. Sollers, J. Smith, J. Griest, T. Gist, J. Boyd.

The following persons, viz: *Thomas Harriman*, *Josias Harriman*, *Chas. Harriman*, *John Cotterell*, *Thos. Graves*, and *John Graves*, having enrolled in Captain *Mercer's* Company, their fines, as Non-Enrollers, are remitted.

Captain *Richard Owings* is summoned to attend this Committee, on *Monday* next, to answer a charge exhibited against him by Mr. *John Messier*.

Captain *Gist Vaughan* returned his Enrolment.

*Richard Taylor* (of *Baltimore West*) produced a Certificate of his having enrolled in Captain *William Richardson's* Company; on which his fine was remitted.

Ordered, That the Chairman advertise for those who have Arms to dispose of to bring them to the Committee, who will pay for the same.

Attest:

GEO. LUX, *Secretary*.

## JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, August 5, 1776.

SIR: Since my last, a vessel, fitted out by the Secret Committee, has arrived here from *Marseilles*, in *France*, which place she left the 8th of *June*. She has brought, for the use of the *American* States, one thousand good muskets, about ten tons of powder, and about forty tons of lead, &c. A small privateer from this city, called the *Congress*, has taken a vessel bound from the *West-Indies* to *Halifax*, and sent her safe into port; besides a cargo of *West-India* goods,



there was found on board her one thousand and seventy-eight joes, six hundred and seventy-two guineas, and some other gold coin. Captain *Barry*, in the *Lexington*, one of the Continental vessels, has taken and sent in here a privateer of six carriage-guns, commanded by another of those infamous *Goodriches*, of *Virginia*. Captain *Wickes*, in the *Reprisal*, another Continental vessel, has taken and sent in a sloop bound from the *West-Indies* to *Liverpool*; he has also taken a ship from *Grenada* to *London*, which is not yet arrived—both loaded with *West-India* goods.

Since the Declaration of Independence, your friend *John Alsop* has written to the Convention of *New-York* to resign his seat in Congress, and made some reflections on the Convention for their agreeing so unanimously to that Declaration. The Convention, in return, voted cheerfully and unanimously to accept of his resignation, with some severe and cutting reflections on him for his conduct; which were all sent to Congress. I believe his boarding with our friend *Wharton* has been no advantage to him; possibly, he was obliged to resign his seat as a previous condition to his taking full possession of the lady.

As I had no letter from you last post, (for I look on the cover to Colonel *Whipple's* letters to be nothing,) I hope you will consider this as bringing you one letter in debt, or at least that it be put to my credit, to make up former deficiencies; which will be but justice to your most obedient,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

P. S. *August 6*.—Yesterday arrived here two prizes, taken by Captain *Wickes*—one, the ship before mentioned, having on board, it is said, five hundred hogsheads of sugar, the other a brig, bound from the *West-Indies* to *Ireland*, taken since the ship and sloop; the particulars of her cargo I have not heard. This is the best way of supplying ourselves with necessaries, since *Britain* will not suffer us to procure them by trade; and I expect another year we shall be well supplied this way.

Yours, &c.,

J. B.

#### LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, Inspection, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 5th *August*, 1776:

Present: *Edward Shippen*, *Mathias Slough*, *William Atlee*, *Adam Reigart*, *Jacob Krug*, *Christopher Crawford*, *William Bowsman*, *Michael Musser*, *Henry Dehuff*, *John Miller*, *Casper Shaffner*.

*William Atlee* in the chair.

On *Saturday*, the 3d instant, a report being circulated through this town, that a company intended for the Camp in the *Jerseys*, from *Cumberland County*, had, in their passage through *Carlisle*, wantonly fired upon and wounded some of the prisoners of war there, and had particularly attacked the house wherein *Lieutenant Andre* resided, fired several shot through his windows, and had wounded him, and had otherwise behaved to the officers, prisoners there, in a cruel and ungenerous manner, and that the said company might be expected in *Lancaster* that evening,—the Committee recollecting that many of those persons who were lately so barbarously butchered and ill-treated after their surrender to Captain *Forster*, of the *British* troops, in *Canada*, had been inhabitants of *Cumberland County*, and much respected there, and not knowing the officer who commanded this company, nor the character of himself and men, were induced to give some credit to the report, and therefore gave directions that the prisoners of war here should confine themselves to their rooms, or at least to the walls of their barracks, from the hour of five in the afternoon until the next morning, and that they should before five o'clock aforesaid, bring into the barracks water and other necessities to last them that time, being determined to draw out the town companies and defend them from any attack which might be made on them to the utmost of their power. Orders of this kind alarmed the prisoners at the barracks; they bad, by some means or other, found out the reason of them, and were arming themselves with clubs from the cordwood. Intelligence of this being brought to the Committee, a member was sent up to inform them that every method should be used for their safety, and to desire they would keep themselves quiet. About eight o'clock in the evening, the Committee had notice that the company was in the woods near the town, and immediately sent out two officers to meet

them, with directions to inform the commander of the party of the report, and to request that no injury might be offered to the prisoners here. In about half an hour the officers returned, with an account that the officers and men of the company were very uneasy at the charge against them, and assured them it was false. This answer was directly circulated to quiet the minds of the inhabitants; and about nine o'clock the company marched in under command of Captain *Thomas Clark*, of the Fourth Battalion of Associators in *Cumberland County*, in great good order, without offering injury to any one, and quietly retired with their billets to the places assigned them. Upon Captain *Clark's* request, the person who had propagated a report so injurious to himself and company, was sought for and placed in the guard-house for examination, where he was continued until this morning, that, by the delay, we might have an opportunity of hearing from *Carlisle*. Agreeable to expectation, Captain *George Hubley* (a gentleman who is a native of this place, and well known to the Committee) arrived here yesterday evening, and now being introduced to the Committee, declares, upon oath, that he left *Carlisle* yesterday morning; that he arrived there from the westward on *Saturday* morning last about ten o'clock, and staid there the remainder of the day. That he saw the officers prisoners of war there, very cheerful at dinner, at *Mr. Polk's*, with their servants attending them; that some of them spoke to him; that he was in conversation with different companies in the town that day; that he heard Captain *Clark*, with his Company, had passed through the town the day before, and heard not a word of any disturbance or ill-treatment to any of the prisoners. And the said informant (*George Huber*) being also brought into Committee, saith, that at *Carlisle*, on *Wednesday* evening last, he did see two men discharge their pieces down the street, but whether they belonged to Captain *Clark's* Company or not, or whether they intended injury to any one, he don't know; and that as to the remainder of the report, he had it from a woman who washed in the house occupied by the officers' servants, and others.

The Committee, therefore, do now, in justice to Captain *Clark*, and at the request of himself, his officers, and Company, (who have been basely charged with an action which, if true, must have reflected great dishonour upon them,) with great cheerfulness certify the foregoing narrative to be true; that the said charge against the said Captain *Clark* and his Company, upon the evidence adduced to them, is false and groundless, and that the behaviour of his Company, during their stay in *Lancaster*, and on leaving it, hath been remarkably decent and orderly.

Doctor *John Sensinney* having certified to this Committee that *John Freeser*, of Captain *Andrew Bare's* Company of Associators in *Lancaster County*, is unfit for service as a soldier, and Captain *Bare* being satisfied that the Committee shall direct him to continue at home with his family, the Committee do therefore agree that the said *John Freeser* continue at home with his family, he here in Committee engaging to afford to the families of such Associators as are gone into service from his neighbourhood every assistance in his power.

Ordered, That the Chairman write to Captain *Harris* informing him that it is the sentiments of the Committee that *Jonas Keeler*, an apprentice of *Isaac Hains*, be kept at the *Gunsmith's* business with his master, and be not obliged to do duty as a soldier.

Ordered, That *Peter Dillen*, an apprentice to *Isaac Hains*, *Gunsmith*, now an Associator, and doing duty in Captain *Hoofnagle's* Company, go home with his said master, and continue at that work with him.

*John Okely*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *Christian Bough*, Tailor, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the resolves of the Committee.

*Richard Savory*, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with *Casper Singer*, Farmer, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him agreeable to the resolves of the Committee.

#### Examination of PETER SHÆCKER, on oath.

In Committee, August 2, 1776.

Says that he and *Joseph Jones*, *John Musser*, and some others, hearing that a prisoner was at *Mr. Holmes's*, who

before had been sent to *Lancaster*, went to Mr. *Holmes's*, and told Mr. *Holmes* that they would be much obliged to him if he would send the prisoner back again. That he understood Mr. *Holmes*, that he said he had bailed him for £500; after that, he told him then he was there; he would not send him off; and that they might do what they pleased. And further saith not.

Sunday morning, August 4, 1776.

SIR: My negro boy is confined in jail through the ambition of one of our neighbours; and as all the men are marched to the camp, belonging to my family, and my sons and companies of men must be entertained in publick houses, we are in a great need of the negro if he could be released and sent home. I would be willing to go under any obligations that could in justice be required for his good behaviour. But the bearer, Mr. *Douglass*, one of our Committee, will inform you of the matter more fully.

I am, with respect, sir, your humble servant,  
SARAH HOPKINS.

To *William Atlee*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee.

SIR: Will your Honour be so kind as to permit me to go to the Upper Barracks to day?

ANTHONY SHADFORD.

COMMITTEE GENTLEMEN: I earnestly beg and do desire, gentlemen, that your Honours would be so kind as to permit me to go up to the Barracks, and there remain. My reason for going up is because I have a comrade there, and I have a desire to be with him. I hope, gentlemen, you will not think it too much to do that for me. Pardon me, gentlemen, for making so bold.

I remain, gentlemen, yours, &c., JONATHAN PILLING.  
Lancaster, August 5, 1776.

LIEUTENANT BARRINGTON (PRISONER) TO THE LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

Lancaster Jail, August 5, 1776.

SIR: I applied to the President of the Committee some time ago that my baggage might be allowed me, to which I received no answer, but received some wearing apparel. I understand that by my baggage being hurried away from *Lebanon*, and not being allowed either to bring it with me or pack it properly up. As I suppose the Committee can have no claim or reason for keeping my own private goods, whatever right they may allege for keeping those of the officers who are escaped, I, therefore, would be obliged to the Committee if they would order it to be restored me.

As I am in want of a bed, bedstead, and curtains, should be glad if the Committee would allow me the use of one of those which are in jail, belonging to the other officers. There are also amongst those goods a small trunk full of books and a case of liquors, and a few other things which belong to me, among the things below in this place—the Committee will oblige me by allowing me to have them.

I beg also to mention my parole to the Committee. Should be glad to have an answer, whether or not I am to be obliged so far as to be allowed to go out on that condition, (as the Committee have had full time to have an answer from Congress,) or be obliged to remain locked up in a jail for the remainder of the war.

I am, sir, with due respect, yours and the Committee's humble servant,

W. BARRINGTON, *Lieut. in Royal Fusileers*.

To *Wm. Atlee*, President of the Committee of *Lancaster*.

P. S. If the Committee have received an answer from Congress, refusing to allow me my parole, I think it might be allowed me to have the liberty to walk at large about the jail.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabeth-Town, August 5, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of your letter of the 1st instant, which I did not receive till the evening of the 3d, I came here yesterday to have an interview with General *Livingston* and Colonel *Dickinson*.

By the return of the troops on duty here, your Excel-

lency will see that the whole force of the Flying-Camp is as yet only two hundred and seventy-four rank and file.

I understood that the *Pennsylvania* Militia were to remain on duty here until troops had assembled to form the Flying-Camp, but of late they have become (many of them) clamorous to return home.

Colonel *Matlack* is gone to *Philadelphia*, to represent the temper of the Associates to the Convention, that some speedy method, by bounty or otherwise, may be adopted, to facilitate the recruiting business.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 6, 1776.]

New-York, August 5, 1776.

SIR: I was honoured with your favour of the 31st ultimo on *Friday*, with its several enclosures, and return you my thanks for the agreeable intelligence you were pleased to communicate, of the arrival of one of our ships with such valuable articles as arms and ammunition; also of the capture made by a privateer.

The mode for the exchange of prisoners resolved on by Congress, is acceded to by General *Howe*, so far as it comes within his command. A copy of my letter, and his answer upon the subject, I have the honour to enclose you, and to which I beg leave to refer Congress.

The enclosed copy of a letter from Colonel *Tupper*, who had the general command of the galleys here, will inform Congress of the engagement between them and the ships of war up the *North River*, on *Saturday* evening, and of the damage we sustained. What injury was done to the ships, I cannot ascertain; it is said they were hulled several times by our shot. All accounts agree that our officers and men, during the whole of the affair, behaved with great spirit and bravery. The damage done to the galleys shows beyond question that they had a warm time of it. The ships still remain up the river; and before anything further can be attempted against them, should it be thought advisable, the galleys must be repaired.

I have also transmitted to Congress a copy of a letter I received by *Saturday's* post from Governour *Cooke*, to which I refer them for the intelligence it contains. The seizure of our vessels by the *Portuguese* is, I fear, an event too true. Their dependance upon the *British* Crown for aid against the *Spaniards*, must force them to comply with everything required of them. I wish the *Morris* may be got in safe with her cargo. As to the ships Captain *Bucklin* saw on the 25th ultimo, they are probably arrived, for yesterday twenty-five sail came into the *Hook*.

By a letter from General *Ward*, of the 29th ultimo, he informs me that two of our armed vessels the day before had brought into *Marblehead* a ship bound from *Halifax* to *Staten-Island*. She had in about £1509 cost of *British* goods, besides a good many belonging to Tories. A *Halifax* paper found on board of her, I have enclosed, as also an account sent me by Mr. *Hazard*, transmitted him by some of his friends, as given by the Tories taken in her. Their intelligence I dare say is true respecting the arrival of part of the *Hessian* troops. General *Ward*, in his letter, mentions, that the day this prize was taken, Captain *Burk*, in another of our armed vessels, had an engagement with a ship and a schooner, which he thought were transports, and would have taken them, had it not been for an unlucky accident in having his quarter-deck blown up; two of his men were killed, and several more were wounded.

The hulks and chevaux-de-frise that have been preparing to obstruct the channel, have got up to the place they are intended for, and will be sunk as soon as possible.

I have transmitted Congress a General Return of the Army in and about this place, on the 3d instant, by which they will perceive the amount of our force.

Before I conclude I would beg leave to remind Congress of the necessity there is of having some Major-Generals appointed for this Army, the duties of which are great, extensive, and impossible to be discharged as they ought to be and the good of the service requires, without a competent number of officers of this rank. I mean to write more fully upon the subject; and, as things are drawing fast to an issue, and it is necessary to make every proper disposition

and arrangement that we possibly can, I pray that this matter may be taken into consideration, and claim their early attention. I well know what has prevented appointments of this sort for some time past; but the situation of our affairs will not justify longer delays in this instance. By the first oppor-

tunity I shall take the liberty of giving you my sentiments more at large upon the propriety and necessity of the measure.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

*Return of the Army in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in and near the City of NEW-YORK, commanded by His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, General and Commander-in-Chief.*

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.													RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.		Since last Return.							
	Commissioned.						Staff.			Non-commissioned.																		
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'nts.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.	
Colonel Hand's.....	1	1	-	3	7	6	5	1	1	1	1	-	18	13	248	28	10	19	14	319	8	4	321	15	1	-	-	-
Late Colonel Learned's.....	-	1	1	8	8	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	32	15	230	67	7	236	-	540	-	-	100	-	1	-	-	-
Colonel Nixon's.....	1	1	1	7	5	4	6	1	-	1	1	1	20	13	267	56	20	88	-	431	1	-	209	2	2	-	-	-
Colonel Prescott's.....	1	1	1	6	7	6	7	-	1	1	1	1	21	14	241	85	14	73	-	413	1	-	227	1	-	-	-	-
Colonel Varnum's.....	1	1	1	7	7	6	5	-	1	1	1	1	22	16	267	86	9	36	-	398	-	-	242	1	-	-	-	-
Colonel Parsons's.....	1	1	1	7	7	8	7	-	1	1	1	1	30	16	265	195	6	116	7	589	-	-	51	1	1	2	-	-
Colonel Hitchcock's.....	1	1	1	7	7	7	7	-	1	1	1	1	21	15	239	53	6	83	-	381	-	-	259	-	1	2	1	-
Colonel Little's.....	1	1	1	5	7	7	5	1	1	1	1	1	25	14	290	62	9	103	-	464	-	-	176	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Read's.....	1	1	1	8	6	7	8	-	1	1	-	1	29	16	251	131	10	128	-	520	2	-	120	-	1	2	2	-
Colonel Sergeant's.....	-	1	1	7	3	6	4	-	1	-	-	-	20	7	331	23	187	17	1	559	-	-	81	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Huntington's.....	1	1	-	8	7	6	8	1	-	1	1	1	31	16	214	184	1	133	1	533	1	-	107	-	1	3	-	-
Colonel Webb's.....	1	1	1	4	2	5	5	1	-	1	1	1	15	13	224	118	11	193	3	549	-	2	91	-	1	2	-	-
Colonel Arnold's.....	-	1	1	8	8	7	8	-	1	1	1	1	30	15	268	126	6	133	-	533	-	1	107	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Ward's.....	1	-	1	4	8	8	6	1	1	1	-	1	27	12	191	157	1	161	2	512	-	3	128	2	2	1	-	-
Colonel Wylls's.....	1	-	1	7	4	6	8	1	1	1	1	1	25	14	264	117	5	158	-	544	1	-	96	-	-	2	1	-
Colonel Bailey's.....	-	1	1	6	6	6	4	-	1	1	1	1	22	8	234	148	8	141	-	531	-	-	109	-	7	-	-	-
Colonel Baldwin's.....	-	1	1	5	5	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	23	13	283	110	10	81	-	484	-	1	156	-	-	2	1	-
Colonel Hutchinson's.....	1	1	-	5	4	5	6	-	-	1	-	-	16	14	342	20	38	102	2	504	-	1	136	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel McDougall's.....	1	-	1	4	4	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	29	16	253	81	3	114	-	451	2	2	269	3	-	1	8	-
Colonel Ritzema's.....	1	1	-	6	5	5	3	1	-	1	1	1	19	10	243	127	12	72	1	455	-	1	185	3	-	2	5	-
Colonel Magaw's.....	1	1	1	8	7	8	7	1	1	1	-	-	32	11	391	56	32	11	3	493	-	5	147	-	1	1	-	-
Colonel Shee's.....	1	1	1	8	6	9	8	-	1	1	1	1	32	12	424	62	10	2	5	503	-	4	137	3	-	-	-	-
Colonel Holman's.....	1	1	1	7	7	7	7	-	1	1	-	-	28	14	526	3	122	-	-	651	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.....	18	20	19	145	137	148	140	12	19	21	17	19	567	307	6,486	2095	537	2,200	39	11,357	16	24	3,454	31	19	20	18	-

*Return of General Scott's Brigade; sixty-seven rank and file to a Company.*

Colonel Lasher's.....	1	1	1	10	10	10	-	-	1	1	1	1	30	17	399	53	16	56	8	532	-	3	138	1
Colonel Malcom's.....	1	1	1	9	9	9	-	-	1	1	1	1	28	17	198	18	9	52	2	279	2	3	391	3
Colonel Drake's.....	1	1	1	10	10	9	-	-	1	1	1	1	28	18	307	86	21	49	18	481	1	1	199	-
5 Comp. of Lt. Col. Hardenburgh's.....	-	1	-	5	5	5	-	-	1	1	1	1	15	8	183	55	-	15	4	257	-	-	78	4
Total.....	3	4	3	34	34	33	-	-	1	4	4	4	101	60	1,087	212	46	172	32	1,549	3	7	816	8

*Return of General HEARD's Brigade; seventy-two rank and file to a Company.*

8 Companies of Colonel Forman's.....	1	1	1	4	6	6	7	-	1	1	1	1	28	14	312	34	25	-	11	382	2	2	176	4
7 Companies of Col. Hunt's.....	-	1	1	7	6	5	6	-	1	1	1	1	25	12	255	22	-	-	4	281	3	2	223	-
8 Companies of Col. Martin's.....	1	1	1	7	5	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	26	12	258	88	7	9	5	367	6	4	209	23
6 Companies of Col. Newcomb's.....	1	1	1	6	3	4	5	1	1	1	1	1	23	6	193	23	4	-	-	224	1	6	208	126
5 Comp. of Col. Van Cortlandt's.....	1	1	1	5	5	4	4	-	1	1	1	1	18	6	171	21	-	6	6	204	2	4	156	4
Total.....	4	4	5	29	25	25	28	2	5	5	5	3	120	50	1,189	188	36	19	26	1,458	14	18	972	157

*Return of General WADSWORTH's Brigade; eighty-three rank and file to a Company.*

Colonel Silliman's.....	1	1	1	8	7	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	31	15	250	61	5	84	-	400	1	1	264	25
Colonel Gay's.....	1	1	1	8	7	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	28	16	194	134	1	91	-	420	4	-	244	16
Colonel Sage's.....	1	1	1	7	6	5	7	-	1	1	1	1	28	14	191	76	2	80	-	349	4	2	315	48
Colonel Seiden's.....	1	1	-	3	6	4	5	-	1	1	1	1	28	11	219	56	-	51	-	326	4	5	338	80
Colonel Douglass's.....	1	1	1	6	7	7	7	1	1	1	1	1	23	15	258	84	-	102	-	444	9	1	220	2
Colonel Chester's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	7	-	1	1	1	1	30	15	244	65	-	110	-	419	2	1	245	85
Colonel Bradley's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	7	1	1	1	1	1	28	15	396	68	2	37	-	503	4	1	161	32
Total.....	7	7	6	48	49	48	49	4	7	7	7	6	196	101	1,752	544	10	555	-	2,861	28	11	1,787	288
Total of General Heard's.....	4	4	5	29	25	25	28	2	5	5	5	3	120	50	1,189	188	36	19	26	1,458	14	18	972	157
Total of General Scott's.....	3	4	3	34	34	33	-	-	1	4	4	4	101	60	1,087	212	46	172	32	1,549	3	7	816	8
Total of the 22 Regiments.....	18	20	19	145	137	148	140	12	19	21	17	19	567	307	6,486	2095	537	2,200	39	11,357	16	24	3,454	31
Total of the whole.....	32	35	33	256	245	254	217	19	35	37	33	29	984	518	10,514	3039	629	2,946	97	17,225	61	60	5,429	484

Head-Quarters, August 3, 1776.

*Return of the Regiment of Artillery, in the service of the UNITED STATES, commanded by HENRY KNOX, Esquire.*

	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Capt. Lieut'nts.	Lieutenants.	Second Lieuts.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Cadets.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Grunners.	Drums & Fifes.	Matrosses.	Total.
Present, fit for duty.....	1	1	1	4	5	5	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	19	17	27	30	15	160	300
Sick, present.....	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	3	-	25	38
Sick, absent.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	7	9
On command.....	-	-	-	4	5	6	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	13	16	30	30	8	115	236
On furlough.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Total.....	1	1	1	10	10	11	20	1	1	1	1	1	2	33	33	62	64	23	309	585

New-York, August 3, 1776.

A Return of the Regiment under the command of Colonel JONATHAN BREWER, Lieutenant-Colonel JOHN PARKE, and Major WILLIAM BACON, (ordered, in case of alarm, to join Lord STIRLING's Brigade.)

Captains' Names, or Master Workmen..	When engaged.	Military Com- missions.	War- rants.	Occupation.	No. of Men.	Subalterns pro- posed 1st Lieuts.	Rank in the Army.	Second Lieuten- ants proposed.	Rank in the Army.
Benjamin Pollard ....	28 April, 1775	.....	W. C.	Carpenter	54	Samuel Kenney..	Adjutant.	James Hitchings..	Sergeant.
Phinehas Ford.....	2 May, 1775	.....	W. C.	Carpenter	45	Loved Eddy....	Sergeant.	Abraham Howe..	Ensign.
John Chedwick.....	19 May, 1775	2d and 1st Lt.	W. C.	Carpenter	43	Oliver Dewey....	Sergeant.	Pelataiah Russell..	Sergeant.
Job Bryant.....	May, 1775	Serg. and Ens.	.....	Carpenter	61	Joel Smith .....	Sergeant.	J. Chamberlain..	Sergeant.
Winthrop Sargent....	14 May, 1775	Ord. Sergeant	W. Lt.	Smith....	55	John Mutter.....	.....	Jonathan Brown..	1st Lt. Mil.
Eli Gaile.....	23 April, 1776	1st Lieutenant	.....	Smith....	55	Moses Hoyt.....	Sergeant.	Amos Hitchings..	Sergeant.
John Hilliard.....	1 March, 1776	Private.....	.....	Smith....	55	John Whitney....	.....	Robert Carter.	.....
Caleb Bruin.....	17 Mar., 1776	Captain.....	.....	Carpenter	40	Jeremiah Bruin..	.....	Robert Nichols.	.....
Anthony Post.....	15 Jan., 1776	Private.....	W. C.	Carpenter	53	Jacob Brown....	.....	Henry N. Carmer.	.....
Benjamin Eayrs .....	May, 1776	.....	W. C.	Sh. Carp'r	59	And. Donaldson..	.....	Abijah Rogers.	.....
Prince Studson .....	14 June, 1776	1st Lieutenant	.....	Carpenter	26	Jonathan Vernum	Ord. Serg.	Enos Smith.....	Sergeant.
					546				
STAFF.									
Samuel Kenney.....					Adjutant.				
Joseph Beaman.....					Quartermaster.				
Phineas Ward.....					Sergeant-Major.				
					Quartermaster Sergeant.				
					Surgeon.				

The Companies in the Regiment of Artificers are to be arranged, and the Officers posted to them, in the following order, viz:

A Return of the Officers of the Regiment of Artificers, and of the Companies, as they are to be posted till further order, commanded by Colonel JONATHAN BREWER, Lieutenant-Colonel JOHN PARKE, and Major WILLIAM BACON.

Companies.	Captains' Names.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	No. of Men.
First.....	Benjamin Pollard.....	Samuel Kenny.....	James Hitchings.....	54
Second.....	Anthony Post.....	Jacob Brown.....	Henry N. Carmer.....	53
Third.....	Caleb Bruin.....	Jeremiah Bruin.....	Robert Nichols.....	40
Fourth.....	Eli Gaile.....	Moses Hoyt.....	Amos Hitchings.....	55
Fifth.....	Winthrop Sargent.....	John Nutter.....	Jonathan Brown.....	55
Sixth.....	John Hilliard.....	John Whitney.....	Robert Carter.....	55
Seventh.....	Benjamin Eayrs.....	Andrew Donaldson.....	Abijah Rogers.....	59
Eighth.....	Phinehas Ford.....	Loved Eddy.....	Abraham Howe.....	45
Ninth.....	John Chedwick.....	Oliver Dewey.....	Pelataiah Russell.....	43
Tenth.....	Job Bryant.....	Joel Smith.....	Joshua Chamberlain.....	61
Eleventh.....	Prince Studson.....	Jonathan Vernum.....	Enos Smith.....	26
Twelfth.....	James Cleveland.....	.....	.....	38
Total.....				584
Samuel Kenny, Adjutant; Joseph Beaman, Quartermaster; Phinehas Ward, Sergeant-Major.				

The officers thus posted are to understand, that the rank here assigned to them is merely Regimental, and is not to affect the rank or pay that any of them hold or enjoy in the Army.

Such of the officers and privates as belong to any other corps in the Army, are to continue to receive their pay in their respective Regiments as usual, and all the others are to receive their pay as heretofore.

[A copy of this was given in to the Officers. Go. WASHINGTON.]

Head-Quarters, New-York, July 30, 1776.

SIR: Lieutenant-Colonel Patterson, Adjutant-General of the Army under your command, at the interview between us, having proposed an exchange of Mr. Lovell for Governour Skene, I am authorized to inform you that the Congress have not only approved of this proposition, but, judging that a general exchange of prisoners will be attended with mutual convenience and pleasure to both parties, have empowered their Commanders in each department to negotiate one, in the following manner: "Continental officers for those of equal rank either in the land or sea service, soldier for soldier, sailor for sailor, and citizen for citizen." They have also particularly mentioned the exchange of Colonel Ethan Allen for any officer of the same or inferior rank.

You will be pleased to signify the time and place for that of Mr. Lovell and Governour Skene, that I may give direction for the latter to be ready, who is now at Hartford, about one hundred and twenty miles from hence; also, to favour me with your sentiments as well on the proposition respecting Colonel Allen, as on the subject of a general exchange.

I have the honour to be, with due respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency General Howe.

Head-Quarters, Staten-Island, August 1, 1776.

SIR: I have received the favour of your letter of the 30th July, and shall accordingly direct that Mr. Lovell, who is now at Halifax, be brought to this post, of which I shall have the honour of advising you, that the proposed exchange between him and Governour Skene may take place.

The extent of my command having no relation to Canada, it is not in my power to give you the satisfaction I could wish respecting the enlargement of Colonel Allen; it must,

therefore, depend upon General Carleton's determination. But wishing sincerely to give relief to the distresses of all prisoners, I shall readily consent to the mode of exchange you are pleased to propose, viz: officers for those of equal rank, soldier for soldier, citizen for citizen; the choice to be made by the respective commanders for their own officers and men. You must be sensible deserters cannot be included in this arrangement. And for the mode of exchange in the naval line, I beg leave to refer you to the Admiral.

I cannot close this letter without expressing the deepest concern that the unhappy state of the Colonies, so different from what I had the honour of experiencing in the course of the last war, deprives me of the pleasure I should otherwise have had in a more personal communication.

I am, with due respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

W. HOWE.

To General Washington, &c., &c.

Dobbs's Ferry, August 3, 1776, five afternoon.

I am now to inform your Excellency that, my flag being hoisted on board of the Washington, I came up with the ships, and attacked them at a quarter past one this afternoon. The Phenix fired the first gun, which was returned by the Lady Washington, whose shot went through the Phenix. Upon my orders, the Lady Washington put about to form a line; the tide was such that the Washington and Spitfire were exposed to the broadsides of the ships for half an hour, without suffering much damage. We engaged them an hour and a half, and then we thought to retreat to Dobbs's Ferry, about four miles below the ships. The damages we sustained are as follows, viz: Washington, four slightly wounded, sail and rigging much damaged, thirteen shot in her hull. Lady Washington cracked her thirty-two-pounder; no other damage. Spitfire, one killed, two badly



wounded, hull and rigging much damaged. *Shark*, none killed or wounded, hulled four times. The *Whiting*, one man lost both legs, and four more wounded, rigging much damaged, two men wounded, one of them mortally. It is thought of, but not yet determined, whether we shall retreat to *Spiten Devil*, or not. We wish to give them another drubbing. We saw many splinters drifting down.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

BENJ. TUPPER,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Commander.

To His Excellency General Washington.

—  
Providence, July 29, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency that last evening Captain *Bucklin*, in a privateer from this place, returned from a successful cruise, in which he took five valuable prizes, bound from the *British Islands* in the *West-Indies* to *Great Britain*. He informs me that on the 25th instant, in latitude 40° 20', S.S.E. from *Nantucket Shoals*, upon the clearing up of a fog, he found himself in the midst of twenty-six sail of ships, two of which appeared very large, and were all standing about west. He also tells me, that on the 27th of *June*, in latitude 35° longitude 52°, he spoke with the ship *Morris*, in the Continental service, Captain *Thomas Bell*, from *Havre-de-Grace* for *Philadelphia*, with a lading of duck, powder, lead, &c. Captain *Bell* informed him that the *Portuguese* had seized all the *American* vessels in their ports.

A prize which arrived here this day, on *Thursday* last spoke with two schooners from the eastward, bound on a cruise, who the day before had taken a large ship laden with provisions for the enemy's Army at *New-York*.

I am, with great esteem and respect, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

NICH. COOKE.

To His Excellency General Washington.

Thirteen Tory gentlemen and ladies were taken in the ship *Peggy*, *James Kennedy* Master, and carried into *Marblehead*. Report: That the 2d of *July*, a transport, with a number of *Hessians*, put into *Halifax*; that three transports, with *Hessians*, sailed in company with them for *New-York*; and that the day they left *Halifax*, they saw about forty sail, supposed to be transports with *Hessians*.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 1, 1776.

(Parole, Paris.)

(Countersign, Reading.)

It is with great concern the General understands that jealousies, &c., are arisen among the troops from the different Provinces, out of reflections frequently thrown out, which can only tend to irritate each other, and injure the noble cause in which we are engaged, and which we ought to support with one hand and one heart. The General most earnestly entreats the officers and soldiers to consider the consequences—that they can no way assist our cruel enemies more effectually than making division among ourselves; that the honour and success of the Army and the safety of our bleeding country, depend upon harmony and good agreement with each other; that the Provinces are all united to oppose the common enemy, and all distinctions sunk in the name of an *American*. To make this honourable, and preserve the liberty of our country, ought to be our only emulation; and he will be the best soldier and the best patriot who contributes most to this glorious work, whatever his station, or from whatever part of the Continent he may come. Let all distinctions of nations, countries, and Provinces, therefore, be lost in the generous contest—who shall behave with the most courage against the enemy, and the most kindness and good humour to each other. If there are any officers or soldiers so lost to virtue and a love of their country as to continue in such practices after this order, the General assures them, and is directed by Congress to declare to the whole Army, that such persons shall be severely punished and dismissed the service with disgrace.

—  
Head-Quarters, New-York, August 2, 1776.

(Parole, Salem.)

(Countersign, Taunton.)

The Colonels of the several Regiments are to be particularly careful that the damaged Cartridges are preserved,

and sent in to Commissary *Cheever*, at the Laboratory, as it will be a great publick saving.

The Court-Martials are often detained by non-attendance of witnesses. All officers and soldiers notified to attend as witnesses on any Court-Martial, are to be punctual; and in future any neglect of this kind will be punished as disobedience of orders.

Notwithstanding the great abuses of Regimental Hospitals last year, the General has, out of indulgence and kindness to the troops who seem to like them, permitted them to be again opened, with a full persuasion that the Regimental Surgeons will fully conform to the rules and orders which have been made, and particularly that they act with the strictest honour and candour in their drafts upon the several stores, and accounting with the Director-General of the Hospital when required, making him regular reports of the sick, and applying what they receive to the patients only. The Colonels and Field-Officers of the several Regiments would do well to visit their Regimental Hospitals frequently, and see these regulations observed; and in all cases, except slight or putrid disorders, have the sick removed to the General Hospital, near the Brigade; or the General must, in justice to the publick, break them up again.

*Richard Lawrence*, of Captain *Gilbert's* Company and Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, having been tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Webb* was President, and convicted of "desertion," was sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed at the usual time and place.

The new Troops coming in are upon their arrival to apply to Captain *Tilton*, at the Quartermaster-General's store in the Broadway, who will give them all necessary directions.

—  
Head-Quarters, New-York, August 3, 1776.

(Parole, Uxbridge.)

(Countersign, Virginia.)

That the troops may have an opportunity of attending publick worship as well as take some rest after the great fatigue they have gone through, the General in future excuses them from fatigue duty on *Sundays* (except at the ship yards, or special occasions) until further orders.

The General is sorry to be informed that the foolish and wicked practice of profane cursing and swearing (a vice heretofore little known in an *American* Army) is growing into fashion; he hopes the officers will, by example as well as influence, endeavour to check it, and that both they and the men will reflect that we can have little hopes of the blessing of Heaven on our arms, if we insult it by our impiety and folly; added to this, it is a vice so mean and low, without any temptation, that every man of sense and character detests and despises it.

*Clarkson* and *Chace*, under confinement for desertion and reinlistment into the Artillery from another corps, to return to Captain *Bauman's* Company, until Colonel *Elmore's* Regiment, which claims them, comes into camp.

—  
Head-Quarters, New-York, August 4, 1776.

(Parole, Weston.)

(Countersign, Yarmouth.)

Passes signed by the Quartermaster-General, or his Assistant, Mr. *Hughes*, for persons in that department, to cross the Ferries, to be admitted as sufficient.

*Thomas Herbert*, of Captain *Wyllly's* Company, Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment, tried by a Regimental Court-Martial, and convicted of theft, was sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes; but having appealed to a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Webb* was President, the sentence of the Regimental Court was revised, and the prisoner acquitted. The General approves the acquittal, and orders him to be discharged.

*Daniel McGuire*, of Captain *Scott's* Company, Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment; *Samuel Weaver*, of Captain *Farrington's* Company, same Regiment, both tried by the same Court-Martial, and convicted—*McGuire* of desertion and inlisting into another Company, taking a second bounty, sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes; *Weaver* of desertion only, sentenced to receive thirty lashes.

*William McIlwaine*, of Captain *Wyllly's* Company, and the above Regiment, tried by the same Court-Martial, and convicted of desertion, and sentenced to receive thirty lashes.

*William Diggs*, of Captain *Wood's* Company, Colonel *Baldwin's* Regiment, tried by the same Court-Martial, and convicted of desertion, sentenced to receive twenty lashes.

The General approves each of the above sentences, and orders them to be put in execution at the usual time and place.

The Court-Martial to sit to-morrow for the trial of Lieutenant *Hobby*, of Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, now under arrest for "Misconduct in leaving the vessels under his care on the *East River* on *Friday evening*." Witnesses to attend.

All persons are strictly forbid meddling with the flat-bottomed boats without leave from General *Putnam*, or unless sent upon some special service; and those parties who have any of them, are to be careful in returning them safely. The Guards at the wharves to attend to this order.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 5, 1776.

(Parole, *Amboy*.)

(Countersign, *Bradford*.)

The General has nothing more at heart than the health of the Troops, and as the change of encampment has been found very salutary by such Regiments as have shifted their ground, it is recommended to the several Brigadier-Generals to have it more generally adopted. And the General once more calls upon the officers and men who are quartered in houses, to have them kept clean and wholesome.

Brigadier-General *Scott* having informed the General that some dissatisfaction has arisen in his Brigade on account of the First Battalion, who had received some assurances from the Committee of the Convention of this State, that they should not be removed out of town unless the Army moved generally, the General at the same time being of opinion that, from their knowledge of the city, they can be more serviceable than any other equal number of men who are strangers, orders that on *Wednesday* General *Scott's* Brigade move into the city, and General *Fellows*, with his Brigade, take their places. He also directs that no officers or soldiers of General *Fellows's* Brigade take up their quarters in the dwelling-houses in or near their encampment, except they are placed there by the Quartermaster-General.

The General cannot dismiss this matter without assuring the First Battalion of General *Scott's* Brigade, that he will have the grounds of their claim particularly inquired into of the Provincial Congress of the State of *New-York*, as well because they may rest assured that at the same time publick faith is preserved with them, he expects, and will require, that they observe their engagement to the publick.

The arrival of new Troops requiring some change in the arrangement, and particularly with respect to the Alarm Posts, Major-General *Putnam*, with the several Brigadiers, are desired to meet to-morrow, at ten o'clock, at the City Hall, to consider thereof, and make report to the General. The Adjutant-General will attend at the same time.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

New-York, August 5, 1776.

SIR: I have been duly honoured with your two favours of the 20th and 29th ultimo, and wish your acceptance of my thanks for your kind and ready compliance with my requisition for the galleys, and the matters of intelligence transmitted in the last.

The account given Captain *Bucklin* (on whose success I congratulate you) by Captain *Bell*, of the *Portuguese* seizing our vessels, I fear is too true; their dependance on the *British* Crown for protection and aid against their *Spanish* neighbours, obliges them to comply with everything required of them. Captain *Bucklin's* information of the fleet he saw, I dare say is not to be doubted. It is probable they arrived yesterday, for twenty-five ships then came into the *Hook*; these make from ninety to one hundred that have come in since *Thursday* se'night.

Our galleys on *Saturday* evening had a smart engagement with the ships up the river. The enclosed copy of a letter from Colonel *Tupper*, under whose general command they were, will give you the particulars. Though they did not take the ships, nor is it certain what damage they sustained, I have the pleasure to inform you our officers and men behaved with the greatest spirit and resolution. The injury their little fleet sustained testifies their courage. It is said the ships were several times hulled by our shot. They still remain up the river. The galleys must be a little repaired before anything further can be attempted, provided it should be thought advisable.

By a letter from Colonel *Hancock*, of the 31st ultimo, I am authorized to say that a Continental ship had arrived at *Chester*, not far below *Philadelphia*, with three hundred and sixty-six pigs of lead, fifty-four boxes of musket-ball, one thousand stand of arms with bayonets, one barrel flints, and one hundred and ninety-three whole barrels of gun-powder. He also adds, that a privateer had sent in a *West-Indiaman*, having on board, besides produce, eleven hundred johannes and seven hundred guineas. I wish the ship Captain *Bucklin* saw may get in safe.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable Governour *Cooke*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 5, 1776.

SIR: This will be accompanied by four *French* gentlemen from the Island of *Guadaloupe*, who arrived from thence at *Newburyport*, with a view of engaging in the Continental service. They came to this place about six weeks since, and delivered me a letter from General *Ward* at *Boston*, which I enclosed to the President of the Congress, intending to forward it by them, that it might serve as some sort of introduction; but it seems that, for want of proper credentials, added to the unsuccessfulness of some of their countrymen on that same account, they declined applying to Congress; and as it appears they are quite destitute of money, I am obliged to pay their expenses here, and to send them to *New-London*, to enable them to procure a passage home. I have therefore addressed them to your care, requesting you will assist in providing them a passage as soon as possible. I suppose it will not be long before an opportunity offers, as I understand there are vessels with you bound to the *West-Indies*. You will please to furnish them with convenient and cheap lodgings when they get to *New-London*, and I will reimburse you what you may be in advance therefor. You are to observe, though, that I do not mean to be at the expense of supporting them in your place more than eight or ten days at farthest; neither do I mean to be at the expense of their passages home. They must make the best terms for themselves they can with the master of the vessel, as I don't determine to burden the Continent any more on their account, or any of their countrymen.

I am, with due regard, sir, your very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To *Nathaniel Shaw, Jun., Esq., New-London*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOHN BRADFORD.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 5, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 29th ultimo is duly received. For the future, I must desire all warlike stores and necessaries for an army, taken by the armed vessels in publick service, may be safely stored under care of the different agents till they receive orders from proper authority. You will please to enjoin it upon the different Commanders of the Continental cruisers, to be particularly careful no embezzlement is made by their crews or others.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Mr. *John Bradford*, one of the Continental Agents at *Boston*.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 5, 1776.

MUCH ESTEEMED SIR: My sincere regard to my country will, I hope, apologize for my troubling Congress with an account of our situation at *New-York*. We have at this place, *Long-Island*, *Governour's Island*, and *King's Bridge*, (including the lame, the halt, and blind,) between sixteen and seventeen thousand men; on the *New-Jersey* shore they have between three and four thousand. Within two or three days have arrived about one hundred of the enemy's ships with troops, which we have seen march up and encamp on *Staten-Island*. Doubtless the remainder will be here in a few days, when, I suppose, they will have at least twenty thousand, perhaps twenty-five. Two thousand of Horse, with some of their shipping, will be sufficient to guard their baggage, and with eighteen thousand they may make

an attack: if on *Long-Island*, we have only six broken regiments to oppose them; if at *King's Bridge*, a much less number; if they attempt the city, we can meet them with little more than one-third of their number, as our Army is very sickly, which must reduce our numbers some thousands, at least two or three. Those of *Governour's Island* and *Long-Island* can't leave their post to come to our assistance; and should *Long-Island* be attacked, (which, indeed, I think most probable,) there will be much difficulty and delay in affording them seasonable relief, on account of our great want of proper boats and the time which will be taken up in embarking and disembarking such a number of troops as may be found necessary. The troops at *King's Bridge* will be at fourteen miles distance from the place of action, and cannot possibly be at either of those posts till the action is over; and from *New-Jersey* no relief can be expected, as boats are wanting to transport their men across the water; and even if they had boats, the ships will doubtless be posted in such a manner as to intercept their passage; and even if that was not the case, most of those troops are nearly a day's march from us, and cannot possibly be here in season to give us any assistance. From this state of the matter, it must appear that we can at no point meet them with much more than a third of their numbers—too great a disparity of numbers to risk the fate of *America* upon. I am far from being anxious for my own safety; I well know that numbers will be no protection to my person; but numbers may save the country. I know Congress has ordered men, but they are not arrived, or likely to arrive; I therefore most heartily recommend to Congress to fall upon some method of sending a number of men immediately to this place, sufficient to meet the enemy upon more equal terms, and give at once the decisive blow. This, I apprehend, will be a means of shortening the war in every success, and will doubtless prove cheapest in the end. I have not yet any post assigned me or brigade to command; the General says he will do it as soon as possible.

I hope Congress will excuse this freedom, as I think it necessary to give them every information that appears of importance; and did not this appear to me in that light, I should not have given them the trouble.

Dear sir, believe me to be, with the most unfeigned respect, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. I know Congress are not pleased with complaining letters, and I am far from being pleased with writing them; but when our all is at stake, I think it will admit of some excuse, if nothing more is done than barely to give a true state of facts, in order that they may provide in season a remedy for each defect. It must be allowed that nothing is more true than that he who would make a good defence must provide himself in season with every necessary for that purpose.

Mr. *Livingston* has just informed us of the death of the *Prussian* General *Woedtke*. Our six galleys have made an attack upon the *Phenix* and *Rose*. The engagement lasted near two hours. The batteries having fired away their ammunition, returned to *King's Bridge*. We have about four killed and some few wounded. We can't learn what damage the ships sustained; several shots went through them. One of our batteries was hulled thirteen times; another five or six. The damage is inconsiderable.

Yours, as above,

J. S.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

New-York, August 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Carpenter Wharton*, of *Philadelphia*, who was appointed by Congress to supply the *Pennsylvania* Militia with provisions, &c., has joined with the gentlemen of *New-Jersey*, Messrs. *Ogden*, *Lowrey*, and *Dunham*, in supplying the Continental troops in *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey* with provisions, agreeable to the resolves of Congress, and under my care and direction.

There have been some great complaints, by Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion and some others, against a person appointed to issue provisions in *Philadelphia*, that he has not done them justice; and it has even been laid to Mr. *Wharton's* charge, supposing that person acting under him;

which Mr. *W.* tells me was not the case. But as complaints have arisen, and as it is best that all these matters should be under some one direction and governance, I hope you will support Mr. *Wharton*, who I have desired to look after the matter and set the complaints right, and continue the person under due regulation for the future, or appoint another, as may best serve the general cause.

I am, gentlemen, with esteem and respect, your most humble servant,

Jos. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Adams*, Esq., Member of Congress, *Philadelphia*, Committee of the War Office.

New-York, August 5, 1776.

The publick are desired to take notice that no person whatever, either male or female, above the age of fourteen years, will be permitted to pass any of the Ferries in the State of *New-Jersey*, without a proper Pass from the place they leave.

COLONEL DUBOIS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Poughkeepsie, August 5, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: We are as industrious as possible recruiting men for my regiment, but we find it very difficult inlisting men now, as the one-fourth part of the Militia is to turn out, and such large bounty given for about four or five months, though we come as good speed as I could expect. I would have sent a return of the men already inlisted by my brother, only I have been very unwell for some time, but am now getting better, and as soon as I am able to ride I intend going down to *New-York*, when I shall bring a return of them with me.

We are purchasing arms for those we inlist, and would be glad to know where to send them as fast as we raise them.

As my regiment is to be inlisted during the war, perhaps your Excellency may allow me to raise men out of the Militia; if so, I think I could soon fill my regiment, and go into immediate service, which would be very agreeable to me. I would be glad if your Excellency would send by my brother, the bearer, some money for recruiting, as without that we can do but little.

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

LEWIS DUBOIS, Colonel.

RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, August 5, 1776.

SIR: I have directions from General *Schuyler*, in order to prevent delays in forwarding the stores and other necessities for the Army, in his absence to open any letters that shall be directed to him from the General Officers and commanders of posts in this department, and to comply with their requisitions, in procuring and forwarding such articles as may be wanted and can be procured by me, and to send for such articles as cannot be had at this place, to *New-York*, or such other place as they may be had in, without waiting his orders at the great distance he is from this place. I therefore do myself the honour to enclose your Excellency copy of a letter from General *Arnold* to General *Schuyler*, received this day, with the copy of a return of ordnance and ordnance stores wanted for the publick service.

Of the many articles wanted, handspikes, round shot, rammers, sponges, worms, priming-horns, priming-wires, and tube-boxes, are the only ones that can possibly be procured or made at or near this place; and no copper, lead, or tin, is to be had between this place and *New-York*. I must therefore request your Excellency, in General *Schuyler's* name, to order the several articles which are wanted and not to be procured here to be sent to this place without the least delay.

In mine of the 3d, by the express, I forgot to inform your Excellency that I had sent for the anchors to Colonel *Robert Livingston*.

I am your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

RICH. VARICK,

Secretary to Major-General *Schuyler*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

## RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 5, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I was just this moment honoured with your favour of the 29th ultimo.

You may be assured, my dear sir, that I shall give all assistance in my power to forward the chain to *Poughkeepsie*, as soon as it arrives here. I do myself the honour to enclose you, per favour of Major *Sherburne*, a letter from General *Schuyler*, which I received at eleven last night, and some others from *New-York*, for yourself and the gentlemen of your family, which I received per express this morning. I do also enclose a return of such articles as have been this day forwarded to *Fort George*, with an invoice of the paints, &c., I have purchased, and also a return of articles forwarded to *Cheshire's* for the works at *Skenesborough*, with a return of such things as are to be sent there to-morrow or next day in consequence of requisitions from that quarter.

A large quantity of spikes were sent to *Fort George*, to be forwarded to *Tyonderoga*, about fourteen days since, for our works at *Skenesborough*, which I fear are not arrived there, as General *Waterbury*, in a letter of the 3d to General *Schuyler*, which arrived this morning, requests that spikes may be made here. I wish that if they are not forwarded, it may be done, and that I may be informed about the matter; for as I did not dare to rely on the supposition that they were delayed, I have desired Mr. *Rensselaer* to have them made here immediately.

In consequence of General *Schuyler's* orders to me, to prevent delay, I shall this day, by post, transmit a copy of the Return of Artillery and Stores, sent down for General *Schuyler* by General *Arnold*, to his Excellency General *Washington*, with an account of such articles as may be had and made here, that those that are wanting may be immediately sent up from *New-York*.

Some of the shot, powder, and thread, mentioned in Colonel *Trumbull's* letter, shall be sent forward to-morrow, if wagons are to be had. The wagoners (many of whom are poor and want fodder for their horses) are weary of riding for the publick without cash. The Sutlers have hitherto got them, when the publick officers could not, merely on this account. I have this morning obtained an order from Colonel *Van Schaick*, prohibiting any Sutlers to go up without his pass, and have entreated the Storekeeper to borrow money to pay the wagoners for every load they ride. This is a disagreeable expedient, but we are not likely to have any from Congress soon enough to make this unnecessary.

I am, dear sir, yours most respectfully,

RICHARD VARICK.

To the Honourable Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. More axes, spades, pickaxes, &c., will soon be sent up to *Fort George*. The anchors and cables sent this day are almost new.

## COLONEL GANSEVOORT TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort George, August 5, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 3d instant, yesterday, in which you write me that you are informed that there are three thousand barrels of flour at this post.

I am apprehensive that your Honour is frequently troubled with false representations of the state of this garrison and our proceedings. By the enclosed return you will see what provision we have in store at this post.

My brother writes me from *Ticonderoga*, that you had received but one week's return from this post, at which I am much surprised. I can prove I have sent a return each week since I received your orders.

I am, your humble servant,

PETER GANSEVOORT, Lieutenant-Colonel.

To the Honourable Major-General *Gates*.

## GENERAL GATES TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Tyonderoga, August 5, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with the receipt of your letter by Messieurs *Gansevoort* and *Cuyler*, and I beg you will assure the gentlemen of the Convention of the State of *New-York* of my readiness, at all times, to obey their commands.

Enclosed I have sent you a general return of the Army in this department, together with a copy of my letter of this

date to the President of the Continental Congress. I have also put into the hands of Messieurs *Gansevoort* and *Cuyler* a list of the principal articles wanted for this Army; these, together, will answer almost every question demanded by your Convention.

Your Delegates, that they might have every necessary information, took their route hither by *Lake George*, and return from hence by *Skenesborough*, and up *Wood Creek* to *Fort Edward*. By this sensible tour, they will see everything that is done and doing, at every post upon both communications, our dock-yard at *Skenesborough* included.

I also enclose you a list of our fleet already built. The bearers will fully inform you of the diligence with which we are endeavouring to increase it. Messieurs *Gansevoort* and *Cuyler* have also been at *Crown-Point*, where they have seen the naval force now on float, and can give you the best intelligence how that most important part of our defence is likely to be conducted. The strength, situation, and works carrying on at this post, will likewise be described to you by those gentlemen; and if I can get a plan thereof finished in time, you shall have it in this packet.

As to provisions, the Army is now well supplied. Six days' fresh meat, and one day's salt, is the weekly allowance issued by the Commissary.

Very extraordinary intelligence was last night received of the enemy's motions. Your Ambassadors wait until to-morrow, to have it better confirmed, as we expect this night, or to-morrow morning, to receive further confirmation on that head.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To the Honourable *Nathaniel Woodhull, Esq.*, President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

## GENERAL GATES TO COLONELS BAYLEY AND HURD.

Tyonderoga, August 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received your favour by Mr. *Atkinson*, with two of the *Canadian* officers mentioned therein. The other two *Canadian* officers are not yet arrived. Their information may be true; but to put entire confidence in it, before it is better confirmed, would be imprudent. Should the facts be as they relate, it will not be long before we shall have them authenticated in a manner not to be doubted. I am much obliged to you, gentlemen, for your information, and for the pains you take to serve the publick cause.

I am, sirs, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Colonels *Bayley* and *Hurd*, of Committee of *Newbury* and *Haverhill*.

## COLONEL PHILIP CORTLANDT TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Ticonderoga, August 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This acknowledges the receipt of a letter from Mr. *John McKesson*, dated *New-York, July 14th* last, relative to Colonel *Wynkoop's* regiment.

When I was at *Albany*, I had not time to procure the dates of all the officers' warrants; the Committee promised to have the matter settled.

I have paid the billet of six companies; the two raised in *Tryon* County I have not settled with, but borrowed money on account of the Paymaster for them. Shortly after which I was ordered to this place by General *Schuyler*; since which I have not had it in my power to make a return, the regiment being in such a divided state, but shall make out one as soon as possible. I have enclosed your letter to Colonel *Wynkoop*, who is at *Skenesburgh*.

Permit me, gentlemen, by this opportunity, to transmit to you a few observations on my present situation, being confident that nothing is wanting on your part to promote the welfare of the *United States*, or to do justice to those who have risked their all for its defence. Many of you, gentlemen, I have the honour to be personally acquainted with, which emboldens me to appeal to you for my character in private life, for my behaviour as an officer. The Generals under whom I served the preceding and present campaign, can testify it was not for ease, or to have an exalted commission, that brought me to the field. On the contrary, numbers of you, gentlemen, I flatter myself, know that I



lived in affluence at home, and consequently I was not induced into the service with a view to the pay, as you must all be satisfied that it is not an object for a gentleman. When that respectable body with which I had the honour of serving in representing this State, offered me a commission from the Continental Congress last summer, I with reluctance accepted, not from a want of zeal to do my injured country all the service I was capable of, but a diffidence in my own mind of my abilities to fill such an important office as that of Lieutenant-Colonel of a regiment. I am at present the First Lieutenant-Colonel in this Army, as I am informed, and I believe may safely add, in the service of the *United States*. Notwithstanding, must do my country justice and not myself, and bear the mortification to see several officers promoted to the command of regiments in the Continental Army, which I commanded last campaign. Justice to those gentlemen of our State who entered into the service and have undergone the fatigue of last winter's campaign in *Canada*, superior in rank, and who have been distinguished throughout the Army for their bravery and honour, are also superseded by the late appointments of officers for Colonel *Dubois's* regiment, &c. This must be evident when the rank-roll of last year is examined as to the characters of the officers. I cannot conclude without suggesting to you, that I was, by an ill state of health, prevented from going into *Canada*, and there joining the Army then in that quarter. My honour as a gentleman I conceive hurt and injured by being thus neglected and superseded; and lest you might think that I was ignorant thereof, I have taken this method of informing you of it. But the same principle of honour which tells me I am disregarded, assures me also that it would be most shameful for me to resign at present, when the enemy of the States have attacked the State of which I am a citizen, at both extremities. I must, however, observe to you, that I shall be obliged, in justice to myself, to resign my commission after the cloud which now hangs over us in this part is dispelled; and I shall do it with the more cheerfulness, as I conceive it will be agreeable to those from whom I have received it, or they would not have given me the private intimation by superseding.

Be assured, gentlemen, however, that if ever it lies in my power to render any service to my country, or to the cause of liberty and mankind, no man will be more ready in doing it.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, with respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

PHILIP CORTLANDT.

To the President and Gentlemen convened, representing the State of *New-York*.

COLONEL STARK TO GENERAL GATES.

August 5, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: The Field-Officers in the Continental Army at this place have met with Mr. Commissary *Jauncey*, to consult with him upon the value of the rations due to the officers whilst in the Northern Army; and upon an exact and careful calculation made by the Commissary, it was found that the ration could not be purchased at this place under one shilling, lawful money of *New-England*, per day; which sum, they hope your Honour will order them to be paid by the Commissary for each ration due to them.

In behalf of the whole of the Field-Officers:

JOHN STARK, Colonel.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM TICONDEROGA, DATED AUGUST 5, 1776.

I came over here from *Royalton* to conduct a *Canadian* from *St. Francois* to Head-Quarters. He assures me that the *Indians* in general have resolved not to join in the war. Things here begin to wear a different face. The greatest harmony reigns among the General Officers. Order is taking place in the Army, and the men are in high spirits. Great numbers are coming in from *New-England* to *Skenesborough*. It is reported that General *Carleton* has used the *Canadians* who favoured us very barbarously, which has provoked them very much. Some deserters are come over, and some of the foreign troops are said to be desirous of deserting.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM TICONDEROGA, DATED AUGUST 5, 1776.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the greatest harmony subsists between the General Officers in this department, as well as the Field-Officers in general. We have three thousand five hundred effective men here, and the Militia coming in fast, all under pretty good discipline. The sick, about one thousand five hundred, are at *Fort George*, and recruiting fast; near two months' salt provisions, and fresh arrives in great plenty.

Our naval force consists of two vessels, carrying twelve carriage and as many swivel guns each, two schooners, eight carriage and eight swivels each, a row-galley, six carriage and ten swivels, five gondolas, carrying three nine and twelve-pounders and eight swivels each; five other gondolas will be completed in ten days, and four row-galleys in two or three weeks, each of the latter to carry four eighteen and twenty four-pounders. The fleet when completed will be superior to anything the enemy can bring against us. Two days since, two *French* Captains of Colonel *Livingston's* regiment arrived here, by the way of *Cohos*, in sixteen days from *St. John's*, who say that a *French* fleet is arrived before *Quebeck*; and that General *Carleton*, with all the troops, except two hundred left at *St. John's*, are gone to *Quebeck*. We expect soon to know the certainty of the matter by our reconnoitring parties, who are daily expected in.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, August 5, 1776.

SIR: I have received your two favours of the 24th and 25th of *July* last. Have put Colonel *Ward's* regiment under marching orders to proceed without loss of time whatever way Congress shall direct. The troops from this State destined to the northward, are marched to *Bennington*, and from thence to *Skenesborough*. At the request of General *Schuyler* for one thousand felling axes, have sent eight hundred, ground and with helves, to go the same route. They went from hence the 29th last. The residue will go, with clothing preparing for that Army, next *Monday*. Thought it not best to wait for orders, as we were very well assured of their necessity.

Notwithstanding our enemies are so numerous and powerful, and have hired mercenaries into their service, yet knowing our cause righteous, and trusting Heaven will support and defend us, I do not greatly dread what they can do against us. Our internal malignants may be permitted to do many injurious and insidious things. They are therefore to be watched with care and diligence, to prevent such hypocritical and designing men carrying on and perpetrating their wicked purposes. No doubt there are many such, the persons and characters unknown to me, and not convenient to mention in a letter the notices given me of any.

Last week I sent circular letters addressed to the Civil Authority, Selectmen, Committees of Inspection, and military officers, in all the towns in this State, to promote and facilitate the filling the several battalions ordered to be raised here, and to send them forward to the places of their destination. Recruiting officers for the companies not filled are necessary, and conclude are left for the purpose. The people have in some measure got through the hurry of harvest, &c. Hope that they will cheerfully enlist and go on.

Colonel *Eliphalet Dyer* and *Richard Law*, Esquires, are directed to repair to *New-York*, to confer with your Excellency on every subject needful for our direction and for your information; you know our readiness to afford every assistance for our common defence.

I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the *United States of America*, at *New-York*.

Six o'clock, A. M.—P. S. Just received your two favours of the 1st instant. Orders are gone to Colonel *Elmore*, and express to carry those to Colonel *Ward* expected in soon. The orders are ready.

WILLIAM PITKIN TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, August 5, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: In consequence of your Honour's circular of the 1st instant, the Civil Authority, &c., convened

this day. They view it of the utmost importance to encourage the inlistments within our respective spheres and influence of connexion, and to forward the same with all possible expedition. It appears, upon the strictest scrutiny, that the proportion of men due from this town to the several officers appointed to the service here, are very nearly, if not quite furnished and completed. The gentlemen of the town have exerted themselves much upon this occasion, and also very generously contributed towards increasing the encouragements; which had its effect.

We have no doubt what has been done here will meet your Honour's approbation, and in some degree be thought anticipating your Honour's requisition. We shall, however, continue our exertions, and lend every aid in our power to ease your Honour's burden, and furnish the numbers so much called for from this State.

With great regard, we are your Honour's most obedient, humble servants. Per order:

WM. PITKIN.

To the Hon. Governour *Trumbull*.

SELECTMEN OF FAIRFIELD TO CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fairfield, August 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We the subscribers, Selectmen of the town of *Fairfield*, pray that you would please to give orders for the delivery of the cannon and ball allotted to the town of *Fairfield*, for the Battery at *Black Rock*, commanded by Lieutenant *Mills*, and you will greatly oblige your very humble servants,

JOHN ALLEN,  
EBENEZER BANKS,  
JOSEPH WAKEMAN,  
DANIEL ANDREWS, } *Selectmen*.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*, and the Council of Safety.

N. B. Lieutenant *Mills* could not be spared to be sent to *New-York*, although he was very forward with his party to proceed. As danger of the enemy is attending, he is much wanted for the defence of this town. We desire Lieutenant *Mills* would speak to his Honour about the cost of transporting the cannon and ball. Lieutenant *Mills* has paid some sick bills, and is in want of money for his party; and furthermore, if his Honour will please to grant, twelve men more.

MAJOR FRENCH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Hartford, August 5, 1776.

SIR: Notwithstanding I claimed my release, in a letter I did myself the honour to write you a fortnight past, as consonant with the tenour of my parole, yet I shall waive the pretensions arising from that circumstance in favour of Major *Meigs*, who, I am informed, is desirous to be exchanged for me. As it will mutually serve us, I hope you will have no objection, should General *Howe*, on his part, agree, since in restoring him to his family, it would also procure me the satisfaction to see my son. Colonel *Allen* is also mentioned in the papers to be designed for exchange for any Colonel or officer of inferior rank; should, therefore, the proposed one with Major *Meigs* prove abortive, I flatter myself you will not object to my being exchanged for him, as I have been longer a prisoner than any of his Majesty's officers of my rank; so that I think I stand in priority of claim. But should not either of these take place, from any unforeseen circumstances, I assure myself you will grant me the same indulgence given by General *Carleton* to Major *Meigs*, when I shall readily sign a parole similar to his.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHRIS. FRENCH.

JOHN AVERY TO COLONEL WILLARD.

Council Chamber, August 5, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the honourable Committee of Council to request that you give them information what Counties and Towns are included to make up eight companies in your regiment, and how far eastward they will extend, and to make a return thereof as soon as possible.

In the name and by order of the Committee of Council,

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

To Colonel *Aaron Willard*.

JOHN AVERY TO SHERIFF GREENLEAF.

Council Chamber, August 5, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the honourable Committee of Council to acquaint you that the printed Declarations of Independency are on their table, and they expect that you will take proper care that they be distributed through this State as soon as may be, that every town may have them publicly read in each religious assembly.

In the name and by order of the Committee of Council.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

To Sheriff *Greenleaf*.

CAPTAIN CLARK TO JAMES WARREN.

Chelsea, August 5, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I received your commands of *July 25*, to have the Militia in this town at a minute's notice, &c., and should have obeyed them with the greatest cheerfulness had it been in my power; but for the want of your commissions, we are quite unable to do anything in the military way; and since unwearied pains have hitherto been unsuccessful, I must beg your Honour's influence to procure a settlement of our Militia. The town instructed their Representative to make it the first object of his endeavour in the late session of our Assembly. I much solicited one of the Field Officers of the *Boston* regiment, to which we formerly belonged, to preside at the meeting when officers were chosen, but could not prevail with one to do it; the town therefore chose a Justice of the Peace for their Moderator, and were unanimous in their choice, since which repeated applications have been made to the honourable Council, but we are refused commissions, because a Field Officer did not preside at the meeting, and it was quite out of our power to obtain one. It seems as if some strange fatality attended the thing. Your Honour, I trust, will procure our settlement, when you will ever find me most obedient to your commands. Upon this representation of facts, I doubt not you will excuse my utter incapacity to obey. Permit me to add, the company is far from being inconsiderable, and desirous of being on a footing with their neighbours. A regard to the publick safety, I doubt not, will induce your Honour to procure for us a speedy settlement and our commissions, when your Honour's commands shall be obeyed with the greatest precision and alacrity, by, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL CLARK.

To the Hon. *James Warren*, Esq.

P. S. The town unanimously chose, at a very full meeting, *Samuel Clark* Captain, *Jonathan Williams* Lieutenant, *James Storer* Ensign.

TIMOTHY PICKERING, JUN., TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Salem, August 5, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: I have acquainted the Captains of the *Salem* Militia with the Brigadier's orders to raise every twenty-fifth man to march to *Dorchester-Heights*, and considered of the means of raising them; but it is their opinion, that the execution of those orders here will be impracticable. There are so few men left in town (and there is a demand of such numbers to man the four or five privateers, besides the brig belonging to this State now fitting) that we are sure no volunteers will present. Even our own sea-coast company remains incomplete, the vacancies made by inlistments into the sea service of this and the *United States* not being supplied; and many others of that company are daily pressing to be discharged, that they may obtain more lucrative employments which court their acceptance. And should the orders be strictly pursued, and every twenty-fifth man draughted, the Captains, who know the sentiments of their towns, say they are certain the men so draughted would not go, and that the effect will be a publick open contempt of authority, (there being no penalty in case of disobedience); and this they apprehend would do more hurt to Government than the proposed levy, were it to be made, would do good. They therefore request me to lay the matter before your Honours, and pray that they may be excused furnishing their quota to this levy; at the same time desiring me to assure your Honours that they stand ready to march, in case of need, to the assistance of the capital with much greater numbers than the present levy would

amount to. If, notwithstanding, the attempt must be made, I shall begin it as soon as I am made acquainted with your Honours' determination.

I am, with due respect, your Honours' most obedient servant,

TIM. PICKERING, Jun.

To the Hon. the Council of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

MAJOR HAWLEY TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Northampton, August 5, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: As the major part of the Committee for the raising seven hundred and fifty-four men in the County of *Hampshire*, as its part of the three thousand destined to the northward, are now together, they conceive it to be their duty to acquaint your Honours with the success they have had in the execution of their commission. And to be brief, two companies, consisting of ninety-seven men each, inclusive of their officers, marched on the 24th of *July* last, the one by the way of *No. 4*, and the other by *Bennington*; a third company, of eighty-five, marched on the 29th of the same *July*, by the way of *Bennington*; a fourth company, of ninety-two, began their march on the 30th; and all the companies marched from *Northfield* on the 1st of *August* by the way of *No. 4*. Another company of eighty-three, begin their march this day, by the way of *Bennington*. Some disappointment has taken place with regard to *Murraysfield* quota, too long to relate, which has occasioned a defect in the last-mentioned company. We are informed that the Lieutenant-Colonel has ordered the three other companies to march next *Friday*, by the way of *Bennington*. Two of the three companies will be very full, the other very deficient by reason that the *Granville* men and the *Blanford* men who have enlisted, are, without any orders, gone into inoculation. Lieutenant-Colonel *Leonard* and Major *Stacy* have been out of inoculation about a week, who have applied themselves faithfully to their duty since their return. Colonel *Woodbridge*, who has had a severe drench of it, is expected home this day.

Your Committee are not furnished with any blankets for the Staff Officers, and pray your Honours to furnish them by Major *Pyncheon*. As to the *Hampshire* quota of the fifteen hundred to go to the northward, we have attempted nothing, by reason of a misapprehension concerning the inclination of your Honours; but as the matter is this day explained to us by Colonel *Brewer*, we shall enter upon the business as soon as Major *Pyncheon* shall return with the money and blankets. The service has not suffered by the Committee not having entered on the business sooner, for the attempt to have raised these men would have retarded the completing and marching of others; and now we have but little prospect of success till after the harvest.

As to the penalties in the resolve, they are well calculated for this meridian, but we have hopes to enlist them all as volunteers.

We have the honour to be, with great respect, your Honours' most obedient servants,

Per order of Committee.

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To the Honourable the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

FRANCIS ABBOTT TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Charlestown, No. 4, August 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I came to town after more trouble than is possible to express. This day the teams arrived, and delivered their loads in good order, for which I have given a receipt, and hope justice will be done them, for they have had a troublesome voyage from *Winchendon* to this place. I could not get the teams I have with the utmost trouble obtained round this woody place, at 28s. per day. They stood strong for 30s. Was obliged to press them. I am told it is impossible to get to *Ticonderoga*, the roads are so bad; but have obtained four hundred men to mend the way, after finding them rum and axes and shovels, which the Committee must pay, or ought to pay, or the men would perish. The expense is more than you or all the Court did think, or the teams would not have come this way. I have got twelve teams, which will come to more than £15 a team, and have promised them pay at *Ticonderoga*, if they stop there: but am afraid the troops, before I can get to them, will be gone to *Crown-Point*. We have an express from General *Gates*,

for the troops to march with all speed. We have three thousand men in town. You must send by the post five hundred dollars, or I shall not be able to complete the business. The credit of the Colony will not do. I had all the assistance of the gentlemen in town, and tried to obtain the teams cheaper, but could not. We can't get hardly anything to eat: have no pork, and many of the troops sick on the march; rum 12s. per gallon, *New-England*. When I shall be at home, *God* only can tell; but I wish I had never come out. If I had had orders to buy teams, the Colony would have saved half the expense; but I will do the best, and through the tents shall go if I have my life spared. Your compliance and further orders will much oblige your distressed friend, and much worn-out humble servant,

FRANCIS ABBOTT.

*Richard Devens* Esq., Commissary-General.

P. S. I have had hardly any pens or paper, and am in haste. Give my love to *Nat* and all friends. Send to me at Captain *Walker's*. I must tarry in town till the money comes.

Boston, August 5, 1776.

By an express from *Falmouth*, we are informed that Captain *White* the day before, in a privateer, had arrived there, having forty men on board, with the particulars of the following prizes he had taken, viz: the brig *Fanny*, 130 hogsheads rum from *Antigua*; sloop *Betsey*, 150 hogsheads rum, and a brig from *Antigua*, for *Liverpool*, with 230 hogsheads rum; brig *Harlequin*, from *Nevis* for *London*, 273 hogsheads sugar and 63 hogsheads rum; ship *Polly*, from *Antigua*, 450 hogsheads rum, 12 hogsheads sugar; ship *Anna Maria*, 495 hogsheads sugar, and 52 pipes wine, and some bales of cotton, carried into *Falmouth*. The Captain also took a seventh vessel, which he gave the prisoners.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CAMP TWO MILES BELOW KEOWEE, IN THE CHEROKEE COUNTRY, DATED AUGUST 6, 1776.

On the 31st of *July*, some of Colonel *Williamson's* scouts took two white men prisoners, who had been sent to get cattle for the enemy. They informed the Colonel that *Cameron* had come over the Hills a few days before with twelve white men; and that he, with the *Seneca* and some other *Indians*, in all about one hundred and fifty, were then encamped at *Cowanaross*, about twenty miles from *Twenty-three Mile Creek*, where our Army then lay encamped; and that their women and children had all retired from the towns to the neighbourhood of the same place. This intelligence determined the Colonel to march that evening at the head of three hundred and thirty horsemen, taking the two prisoners with him. His intention was to leave the horses two miles behind, with a party to guard them, and surround the enemy's camp by daybreak. The river *Keowee* lying in his route, and being only passable at a ford at *Seneca*, obliged him to take that road. About one o'clock in the morning, he arrived at the outskirts of that town, which he had received accounts of being entirely abandoned, and therefore little expected to meet with any opposition there. The enemy, however, having received some intimation of his march, had taken possession of the first houses, and posted themselves behind a long fence, stuffed with twigs and corn blades, on an eminence close to the road where the party was to pass. They allowed the guides and advanced guard to come almost up to the houses, when they fired five or six guns, but without doing any other damage than killing one of the guide's horses. They immediately afterwards began a very heavy fire on our advanced guard and main body, by which Mr. *Francis Salvador* was shot in three different places, Colonel *Williamson* had his horse shot under him, and eight men were badly wounded, and two slightly. Mr. *Salvador* falling among the bushes, it being dark, and both parties mixed, they unluckily got his scalp. The *Indian* was seen by Captain *Smith*, who would have prevented his accomplishing his cruel purpose, had he not thought it was Mr. *Salvador's* servant taking care of his master. He died about three-quarters of an hour after. The whole Army regretted his loss, as he was universally beloved and esteemed by them. Two of the wounded died next morning.

Our party soon recovering from their surprise, kept up a brisk fire on the places where the flashes of the enemy's guns were seen, and soon drove them from their fences and houses. Their loss is not known; but from the number of blankets, shirts, tomahawks, &c., left besmeared with blood, and the bloody tracks which marked their retreat, it is supposed to be considerable. Colonel *Williamson* remained on the ground till daybreak, and burnt all the houses on both sides of the river, and destroyed their corn, &c. Judging that the party he had defeated would immediately proceed to their camp and apprize them of his approach, and having made an appointment to meet Colonels *Neel* and *Thomas* at *Sugar-Town*, the Colonel, after leaving a party to bury the dead and take care of the wounded, returned to his camp. Next day, in consequence of this appointment, the whole Army proceeded to the neighbourhood of *Keowee*, where they encamped; and on the 4th, a party of four hundred men was sent to burn that town and *Sugar-Town*, which they effected. They found only an old lame *Indian*, who informed them that the others had left the towns four days before, on a white man's telling them a large Army was at *Paris's*, which probably may be the Colonels *Neel* and *Thomas's* party. He would not tell where the *Indians* were gone to.

On the 6th, the Colonel marched at the head of six hundred and fifty men after the enemy, being fully determined to carry fire and sword throughout their country.

FRANCIS SANDERSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

August 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The time I made application to furnish you with camp-kettles, I only agreed with the Council for three hundred—one hundred and fifty against the 1st of *August*, and one hundred and fifty against the 1st of *September*. I have these contracts ready. Should be glad to furnish the Council with more if they want. I have employed more hands for that purpose, as I furnished them with only half the number they wanted to contract with me for.

I am, gentlemen, the Council's most obedient humble servant,

FRANCIS SANDERSON.

To the Right Hon. the Council of Safety, sitting at the City of *Annapolis*.

JOHN VEAZEY, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, Cecil County, August 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We received, by the hands of Captain *Alexander*, £500 from your Board, for the purchasing arms, &c., for the use of the troops raised in our County. We find it will be in our power very speedily to collect a sufficient number of blankets for the use of those men raised here, and perhaps more than what they want. We will also do everything we can for procuring muskets; but are very doubtful whether we shall be able to procure enough of them. There is a gunsmith here that will undertake to repair any number of guns that we may get. Steel ramrods can be had here. We cannot as yet find that there are more than three or four publick arms in this County, and we have not received any guns worth anything from the Non-Associates or Non-Enrollers.

We beg leave, gentlemen, to inform you, that the companies here are completed, and that the men, from being thrown out of all kind of employment, express great uneasiness at their situation, especially as many of them are daily at expense for their support, and are to receive no pay until they march. To mitigate their uneasiness, and prevent their deserting the service, we have ordered the Captains to call all their men together, and then to quarter them at the expense of the Continent, until we can have your advice how to proceed; and for their support, we have been obliged to advance part of the money sent us by your Board to the officers. We have been very sorry to take this step without your orders; but in our opinion the publick service must have greatly suffered unless something of the kind had been done; indeed, the men think they ought to be under immediate pay. We request, gentlemen, that you will, as soon as possible, inform us whether it is agreeable to you to keep these troops in quarters, and whether we may assure them that they shall be under pay from the time they enlisted into the service. Should this be refused, we fear the

service will be discouraged, and that it will be very difficult to recruit men in future. We have procured thirty camp kettles. The money we have will not be sufficient to answer all the purposes. If you think proper to send us any more, we shall take care to dispose of it to the best advantage for the publick service.

As cartouch boxes, belts and slings, knapsacks with haversacks, priming-wires and brushes, are not to be had here, the sending them by the first opportunity will expedite the company's marching.

I am, in behalf of the Committee, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN VEAZEY, JUN., *Chairman*.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

[No. 111.]

Annapolis, August 6, 1776.

SIR: You are requested by the Council of Safety to purchase, for the use of the publick, one good scow, proper for transporting heavy cannon; also, let us know whether you can purchase any flat-bottomed boats, with eight or ten oars, that would carry fifty men each, or any barges or whale-boats. Please to let us hear from you, and the price at which they may be got; if there be none to be had, whether you would undertake to have some built this fall.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MESSRS. VANBIBBER AND HARRISON.

[No. 112.]

Annapolis, August 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have received by Captain *Martin* all the goods you sent us, according to invoice and bill of lading, except ten barrels of gunpowder, which he says is a mistake, and that they were never put on board. If there be any mistake, you must rectify it; if no mistake, charge the Captain with the powder.

Captain *Stone* has presented us a memorial, claiming the brig *Friendship* as his property, copy of which we send you enclosed, and to which we shall be glad hereafter of having your answer. We shall endeavour to make you remittances by every opportunity. We do not know the cargo of the brig *Friendship*. Colonel *Hoe* is down at *Chingoteague*, and will write you fully of the cargo put on board—some tobacco, bread, and flour, are the chief articles. You will do the best you can for us, and send by first good opportunity the following articles, viz: guns with bayonets, coarse woollens, coarse linens, gun-flints, lead, powder, and salt-petre. We have heretofore written you by Captain *Handy*, a duplicate whereof is now enclosed. When the fall and winter comes on, we shall do better, we hope. *Dunmore's* fleet is gone off from the mouth of *Potomack*, very sickly and in great distress. Perhaps our Bay will be clearer of ships of war than it has been; if so, we shall remit you fully; in the mean time, draw on us, if you are in want of cash, payable either in *Maryland* or *Pennsylvania*, and we shall pay due honour to your drafts. Captain *Conway* is safe arrived in *Great Wicomico*, in *Virginia*. We shall get his cargo up soon, and despatch him as quick as possible.

We are, with due regard, yours, &c.

To Messrs. *Vanbibber* and *Harrison*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO EDWARD PARKER.

[No. 114.]

Annapolis, August 6, 1776.

SIR: Please to send us by the first opportunity ten pounds of coarse sewing-thread. We wrote you some time ago that we had a demand for linen for the Flying-Camp; we are very desirous you would let us have what you can get with all expedition. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Edward Parker*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MESSRS. HARRIS AND ARCHER.

[No. 115.]

Annapolis, August 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We hear you have got a quantity of linen ready for us, which we wait with impatience to receive, for the use of this Province. We should be obliged to you if



you would send it down immediately, and five pounds of coarse osnaburgh thread therewith. We are, &c.

To Messrs. *Harris & Archer*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL EWING.

[No. 116.]

Annapolis, August 6, 1776.

SIR: We have ordered Captain *Young's* company up to *Baltimore* County, to be subject to your command, and we have advanced him the sum of one hundred and twenty-five pounds currency, to purchase necessities. You'll be pleased to apply to the Committee for blankets, with the enclosed order. Were you to march one of your companies unarmed to *Philadelphia*, we doubt no arms can be got; we have not more due to us than will arm one company; we have applied several times by our Deputies, and cannot get them. If you can satisfy us that we stand any chance of succeeding in our application, we will cheerfully give an order. To do it would only expose you and ourselves. The hunting-shirts you cannot have; we want them for that part of the Flying-Camp that is to supply the place of Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion. As your companies march forward, they shall be supplied with everything we can spare; but an unlimited order cannot be given. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Thomas Ewing*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ISAAC GRIEST.

[No. 117.]

Annapolis, August 6, 1776.

SIR: Two tent-makers are engaged to make tents at *Baltimore*, to wit, *Jacobs* and *Johnson*; one is employed in *Kent*, and one in this County; if any others are at *Baltimore* willing to engage in that way, you'll inform us of it, and we will give you directions to employ them. Tent-poles are necessary to be made. We suppose the tent-makers procure them; if not, you must get them made. As soon as you inform us another tent-maker can be found, we will order him the cloth necessary. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Isaac Griest*.

R. POTTS TO LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

Frederick-Town, August 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by the Committee of this town to inform you that the several officers sent to this place have subscribed the parole pointed out by the Congress, and that they have given security for the good behaviour and appearances of their servants. This Committee, under an expectation that their servants will be ordered here by your body after this notice of their having complied with the terms directed by the Congress, have encouraged the officers to send to your town for them. A list of the servants for whom security is given is herewith enclosed.

I am, on behalf of the Committee, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

R. POTTS, Clerk.

To the Committee of *Lancaster*.

OFFICERS WHO HAVE SUBSCRIBED THEIR PAROLE, AND THEIR SERVANTS.

Major STOPFORD's: *John Smith, Ed. Nankirrit*; Royal Fusileers.—Pass granted 17 August, 1776.

Major DUNBAR: *John Pilling*; Royal Fusileers.—Pass granted 17 August, 1776.

Captain STEWART: *Thos. Battersby*; Twenty-Sixth Regiment.—Pass granted 17 August, 1776.

Captain CAMPBELL: *William Ennis*; Royal Emigrants.—Pass granted 16 August, 1776.

Lieutenant HARRISON: either *Wm. Evidert* or *John Rowland*; Royal Fusileers.—Pass granted to *Rowland* 16 August, 1776.

Lieutenant SHUTTLEWORTH: *John Smith*; Royal Fusileers.—Pass granted 17 August, 1776.

Lieutenant LESLIE: *Sylvester Conlaer*; Twenty-Sixth Regiment.—Pass granted 17 August, 1776.

Captain ALGEE: *Edward Forrestall*; Navy.—Pass granted 17 August, 1776.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE OFFICER COMMANDING COL. HASLETT'S BATTALION.

Philadelphia, August 6, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having instructed their Committee immediately to deliver as many arms as are necessary for

your battalion, *Robert Morris, Esq.*, will give the orders for the delivery. And I have it in charge from the Congress to direct, that as soon as the arms are received, you do, without loss of time, march your battalion to *Amboy, New-Jersey*, and acquaint General *Washington* of your arrival there, and follow such orders as you shall receive from him.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Officer commanding the Battalion of Continental Troops at the Barracks, *Philadelphia*, Colonel *Haslett's* Battalion.

RICHARD PETERS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

[Circular Letter.]

War Office, Philadelphia, August 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By a resolve of Congress on the subject of Prisoners, it is determined "that a list of the prisoners in each Colony be made out by the Committees of the Counties, Towns, or Districts, where they reside, and transmitted to the Assembly, Convention, or Council or Committee of Safety of such Colony respectively." The Board of War, who have, by direction of Congress, the care of all prisoners, are much obstructed in that business by the resolution before quoted not having been complied with. I am therefore to press you by all means to prevail on the several Committees in your State to enable you immediately to transmit an accurate list of all prisoners of war now in your State to the Board, that this matter, which has heretofore been in confusion, may be reduced to proper order.

I have the honour to be your most obedient humble servant,

RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

To the Honourable Convention or Committee of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. Please to send also a list of all officers, their ranks, and dates of commissions of any Continental troops raised in your State, and the time for which they were enlisted.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN JONES.

In Marine Committee, Philadelphia, }  
August 6, 1776. }

SIR: We have ordered the provisions and stores you requested, to be sent on board the sloop *Providence*, which you command under authority of the *United States of America*; so that the said sloop being now ready for sea, you are to proceed immediately on a cruise against our enemies; and we think in or about the latitude of *Bermuda* may prove the most favourable ground for your purpose.

Herewith we deliver you an extract from the Journals of Congress respecting the Navy prizes, &c., by which you will know with precision what vessels can be made prizes and which not. You have also herewith a list of the Continental Agents in each State, and to some of them your prizes must be addressed according to the port they arrive in. Your cruise may be for six weeks, two or three months, just as provisions, water, and other circumstances point out to be best. If you gain any material intelligence, you must put into the nearest port of the Continent, and despatch an express to us with the same.

You must, by all opportunities, transmit us an account of your proceedings and of such occurrences as you meet with. You are to be particularly attentive to protect, aid, and assist all vessels and property belonging to these States or the subjects thereof. It is equally your duty to seize, take, sink, burn, or destroy that of our enemies. Be careful of the sloop, her stores and materials; use your people well, thereby recommending the *American* naval service to all who engage in it. And we also recommend humane, kind treatment of your prisoners. These things, duly observed, will recommend you to the attention and regard of this Committee.

We are, sir, your humble servants,

JOHN HANCOCK, GEORGE READ,  
FRANCIS HOPKINSON, GEO. WALTON,  
WILLIAM WHIPPLE, ARTHUR MIDDLETON,  
ROBT. MORRIS, FRANCIS LEWIS.  
JOSEPH HEWES,

To *John Paul Jones, Esq.*, Commander of the Sloop *Providence*.

ABRAM CLARK TO COLONEL DAYTON.

Philadelphia, August 6, 1776.

MY DEAR FRIEND: Your favour of the 25th of July, and Mr. Caldwell's of the 26th, from the *German-Flats*, I received a few days ago, which I answered in a letter to Mr. Caldwell, having the day before written to you by a Doctor going through *Albany* to the Army at *Ticonderoga*. Yours of the 20th July, from *Fort Stanwix*, I received yesterday. I have frequently informed you of the situation of our Army in the *Jerseys*, watching that under General *Howe* on *Statcn-Island*. Could I believe any letters would come safe to you, my pleasure in writing would be equal to that you express in receiving them.

The King's Army remain on the Island, fortifying every pass; their numbers unknown, but we with reason believe they are daily receiving reinforcements. Forty vessels, great and small, arrived a few days ago. The number of our forces in *Jersey*, I am not able to inform you of; they are to consist of at least sixteen thousand when completed. The greater part of the Militia of *Pennsylvania* Colony are either there or going, who are to stay till the Army is completed. They form a chain from *Amboy* to *Elizabeth-Town Point*, where strong works are erected at an amazing expense of labour, chiefly effected by our Militia, before the *Pennsylvanians* arrived to their assistance. The *Jersey* Militia, upon the arrival of other forces, returned home to get in their harvest; since which, they are again taking the field.

What works are thrown up at *Amboy*, *Blazing-Star*, &c., I am not able to say. I know nothing of any design to attack the King's forces on the Island; it rather seems an attack from them is waited for; and it is said such an attack is soon expected to be made above *New-York*, near *King's Bridge*, to which place the ships that went up the river, I hear, are returned. *Elizabeth-Town* was in great consternation upon General *Howe's* taking possession of the Island; but at present I believe they are very easy. I formerly informed you that Mrs. *Dayton* had sent the chief of her goods into *Springfield*. Many that moved away from *Elizabeth-Town* have since returned.

You have no doubt been informed by the papers of the flags sent by Lord *Howe* to General *Washington*, with letters. He refused to receive them, as they were only directed "To *George Washington*, &c." You have also, I suppose, seen the printed Narrative of what passed in conversation between General *Washington* and Colonel *Patterson*, who came with a flag from Lord *Howe*. We lately sent a flag to his Lordship to settle an exchange of prisoners. He received the officer with great politeness; manifested a deep concern that he had not arrived before Independency was declared; professed a great regard for *America*, especially the *Massachusetts-Bay*, that had so signally honoured his family. He gave General *Washington* the title of *General*, and called us *The United States*. He consented to the exchange of prisoners; proposed immediately to set all his prisoners at liberty, relying upon the honour of the *American* States to return him an equal number when in their power. By a flag to General *Howe* an exchange of prisoners was also agreed upon, so far as fell within his department, *Canada* being, he said, out of it.

An *Indian* war hath broken out to the southward. The *Overhill Cherokees* have commenced hostilities in the back part of *Carolina*, killed thirty or forty in one settlement, and had about one hundred and twenty besieged in a fortress, which it is thought must surrender before succours could arrive. Forces were marching against the *Indians*. General *Clinton's* fleet remain inactive below *Charlestown* since his defeat: his forces sickly. No news from Lord *Dunmore* since he left *Gwin's Island* and went up *Potomack River*.

Last *Saturday* our gondolas attacked the King's ships near *Dobbs's Ferry*; they fought about an hour and a half, hulled the men-of-war several times, and were served in the same manner themselves. They lost but four men, several wounded, and, I believe, came off the second best, though the Commander writes that he hopes soon to give the King's ships another drubbing.

This day's post, since I begun this letter, brings accounts of more of the enemy arriving in the *Narrows*—an addition to what I have mentioned of at least twenty transports. And by the last accounts brought this day, I find our forces in the *Jerseys* are by no means equal to what I supposed from former information as above mentioned.

I spoke to our President for the commissions you desire may be sent. He tells me you must apply to General *Schuyler*, who hath got spare commissions, and can supply your regiment. I dare say you have a good regiment, and hear their commendation with pleasure; but had you seen a regiment, that went near two weeks ago to *New-York*, raised in *Maryland*, and another paraded this day in the State-House yard, from the *Delaware* Government, you would have altered your opinion; they were all shirtmen, mostly of an age and size. The two battalions above mentioned were the finest I ever saw.

I lately mentioned to you that a ship belonging to Congress arrived at this town from *France*, with one thousand stand of arms, ten tons of powder, and blankets; since which, I find she brought thirty or forty tons of lead or more, saltpetre, &c., &c. Several valuable prizes, this day's post advises, were lately brought in to the eastward. We are also informed that the *Portuguese* have declared war against us by seizing our vessels in their ports.

Our election for Council and Assembly, Sheriffs, &c., comes on next *Tuesday* in all the Counties of *New-Jersey*. I now feel the want of you in *Elizabeth-Town*. I sat down to consider to whom I might venture to write on politicks, and have none that I dare speak plainly to. Had you, or my much esteemed friend Mr. *Caldwell*, been there, I should have been at no loss. I have none like-minded. I have friends, it is true, but none there now that I dare speak with freedom to. I have written to several, and desire they will not keep my letters secret, so that I hope I shall not be charged with secret practices.

As to my title, I know not yet whether it will be honourable or dishonourable: the issue of the war must settle it. Perhaps our Congress will be exalted on a high gallows. We were truly brought to the case of the three lepers: If we continued in the state we were in, it was evident we must perish; if we declared Independence, we might be saved,—we could but perish. I assure you, sir, I see—I feel, the danger we are in. I am far from exulting in our imaginary happiness; nothing short of the almighty power of *God* can save us. It is not in our numbers, our union, our valour, I dare trust. I think an interposing Providence hath been evident in all the events that necessarily led us to what we are—I mean independent States; but for what purpose, whether to make us a great empire, or to make our ruin more complete, the issue only can determine.

You and Mr. *Caldwell*, it seems, diverted yourselves with the power given in his commission. I find it was useful, however; for in his last he informs me of his commanding a garrison.

General *Schuyler* makes the same complaint as you do for want of cash. His letter came to Congress the same day with yours and Mr. *Caldwell's* from the *German-Flats*. Two hundred thousand dollars were immediately sent to the Paymaster-General, being part of five hundred thousand dollars ordered to be sent. The Congress, or rather some of the Members, tell me, that if your regiment is near three months in arrear of pay, it is not a neglect of Congress, but a neglect somewhere else, as they have sent seasonable supplies.

I am glad to hear a person so high in my esteem as Mr. *Barber*, so honourably spoken of by you. I never doubted but he would do honour to his appointment. He is young, and in the bloom of life, and a large field for promotion is open before him; and I can't help but look upon him as designed in Providence for some important station.

I most gratefully accept your congratulation on account of my appointment. Believe me, my dear friend, I am not in a place of my own choosing. I had much rather take an active part in our own State; I think I could have been more useful to my country there, where I had a sufficient share of influence, and where I could have served my friends much better than here. Besides, I have found my health much interrupted, pent up in a close town, deprived of air and exercise, and excessive heat from the reflection of the sun on the buildings and pavements. Excepting my health, I am as agreeably situated as I could expect. Dr. *Witherspoon*, Mr. *Hart*, and myself, quarter together, and endeavour to make our lives as agreeable as possible.

What you say respecting your regiment returning in the fall, will be attended to in a proper time.

Remember, sir, (what I frequently mention,) that when I

write to you or Mr. *Caldwell*, I mean always to address you both; but, with regard to your families, I can say no more than that I have not heard of their being unwell.

I am, my dear friend, your sincere and humble servant,  
ABRAM CLARK.

P. S. You'll please to accept this on plain paper; our dignity don't afford gilt, and our pay scarcely any. *Richard Lawrence*, on *Staten-Island*, is Colonel of a regiment under the Crown, and commands the forces there, joined with some Regulars.

In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, August 6, 1776.

In consequence of a request of this Board to the Committees of Inspection and Observation of the different Counties, to appoint suitable persons to hear the complaints of the families of those Associators that have gone to camp, and to supply them with such necessaries as they may stand in need of, the Committee of Inspection and Observation of this City and Liberties have recommended the following gentlemen for that purpose, viz:

For the First Battalion: *Isaac Coates, William Moulder, Jacob Schreiner.*

For the Second Battalion: *Moses Bartram, Gasper Guyer, Ephraim Bonham.*

For the Third Battalion: *George Meade, Richard Dennis, Robert Bailly.*

For the Fourth Battalion: *George Græme, Frederick Dushon, Peter Knight.*

For the Fifth Battalion: *John Hart, John Tittamary, William Drury.*

*Resolved, therefore, That they be and are hereby appointed accordingly.*

Extract from the Minutes:

JACOB S. HOWELL, *Secretary.*

#### PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee Chamber, Philadelphia, August 6, 1776.

*Resolved unanimously, That the following Resolve of the Provincial Conference be published in all the Newspapers in English and German.*

"In Provincial Conference, June 25.

*"Resolved, That it be recommended to every County and District Committee in this Province, to pay the strictest attention to the examination of all strangers or persons travelling through the City or Counties, and permit no persons travelling through the City or Counties to remain therein, unless they produce a pass or certificate from the City, County, or District Committee from whence they last came; and it is further recommended to all Committees, to furnish proper passes to all friends to American liberty upon their application therefor."*

NATHANIEL DONNELL, *Secretary pro tem.*

*A General Muster-Roll of five Artillery Companies under the command of Colonel MIFFLIN, now lying at the Artillery Park, near AMBOY, &c., &c., in EAST-JERSEY.*

#### ARTILLERY PARK FRONTING CONGRESS STREET, NEAR AMBOY.

*Muster-Roll of the First Company of Artillery Associators of PHILADELPHIA, commanded by Major BENJAMIN LOXLEY.*

1 Colonel,	} Commissioned Officers.
1 Major,	
1 Captain-Lieutenant,	
1 First Lieutenant,	
1 Second Lieutenant,	
1 Ensign,	} Warrant Officers.
3 Lieutenant Fire-Workers, one of which on furlough, one stopped by Council of Safety.	
1 Clerk of Stores,	}
1 Conductor,	
4 Sergeants.	
4 Corporals, one sick, one lame left behind.	
8 Bombardiers, one on furlough, one lame left behind.	
18 Gunners.	
11 Matrosses.	
1 Drum.	
1 Fife.	
11 Wagon-Drivers, including the Wagonmaster.	
Colonel's servants: 2 Negroes, who do duty without pay.	
Major's servant: 1 Negro, who does duty without pay.	

N. B. Twenty-six Privates of this Company at sea or at publick work.

*Muster-Roll of Capt. HUGG's First Company of Artillery of WEST-JERSEY.*

1 Captain,	} Commissioned Officers.
1 Captain-Lieutenant,	
1 First Lieutenant,	
1 Second Lieutenant,	
1 Lieutenant Fire-Worker.	
4 Sergeants.	
4 Corporals.	
1 Bombardier.	
48 Matrosses.	
1 Drum.	
1 Fife.	

*Muster-Roll of the Third Company of Artillery Associators of PHILADELPHIA, commanded by Captain JOSEPH STILES.*

1 Captain,	} Commissioned Officers.
1 Captain-Lieutenant,	
1 First Lieutenant,	
1 Second Lieutenant,	
1 Ensign,	
2 Lieutenant Fire-Workers.	} Warrant Officers.
1 Clerk of Stores,	
1 Conductor,	
4 Sergeants.	
4 Corporals.	
6 Bombardiers.	
24 Matrosses.	
1 Drum.	
1 Fife.	
11 Wagon-Drivers, including the Wagonmaster.	

N. B. Eight of the above Matrosses at publick work.

*Muster-Roll of the Second Company of Artillery Associators of PHILADELPHIA, commanded by Captain JOSH. MOULDER.*

1 Captain,	} Commissioned Officers.
1 Captain-Lieutenant,	
1 First Lieutenant,	
1 Second Lieutenant,	
3 Sergeants.	
3 Corporals.	
3 Bombardiers.	
5 Gunners.	
38 Privates.	
1 Drum.	
7 Wagoners.	

*Muster-Roll of Captain NEAL's Company of Artillery.*

1 Captain,	} Commissioned Officers.
1 Captain-Lieutenant,	
1 First Lieutenant,	
1 Second Lieutenant,	
1 Third Lieutenant,	
4 Sergeants.	
4 Corporals.	
4 Bombardiers.	
45 Matrosses.	
1 Drum.	
1 Fife.	

SAMUEL MIFFLIN, *Colonel of Artillery.*

Amboy, August 6, 1776.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GEN. HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE, DATED HEAD-QUARTERS, STATEN-ISLAND, AUGUST 6, 1776.

Judging your Lordship will be anxious for information, and having two packets on this side, I despatch the *Sandwich*, without waiting for further tidings of Commodore *Hotham* and the part of his fleet not yet arrived, but which, from late reports, may with reason be hourly expected.

The troops that have arrived to this day are expressed in my returns to the Secretary at War and Adjutant-General, whereby your Lordship will observe that we are in force sufficient to enter upon offensive operations; but I am detained by the want of camp-equipage, particularly kettles and canteens, so essential in the field, and without which too much is to be apprehended on the score of health, at a time when sickness among the *British* troops was never more to be dreaded, from a due consideration of their importance in the prosecution of this distant war, and esteeming the Army present as the stock upon which the national force in *America* must in future be grafted. However, if the camp-equipage should not arrive with Commodore *Hotham*, we must use every means to provide against those wants, and the Army will immediately begin to act.

Your Lordship's despatches of the 3d, 12th, and 13th of *May*, with the duplicates of others since the 22d *October*, 1775, were received by the *Sandwich* packet, on the 27th, and by Lord *Hyde* on the 29th *July*. His Majesty's most gracious approbation of my withdrawing the troops from *Boston*, under the circumstances, as described in my despatch of 21st *March*, and the flattering terms wherein it was conveyed by your Lordship, does me the highest honour.

Having communicated my reasons, in a former letter, for ordering the Guards and *Hessians* to this post, previous to any attempts upon *Rhode-Island*, I am since confirmed in the propriety of such measure, by finding, as I expected, the principal force of the Rebels assembled at *New-York*, from whence to dislodge them, it will require our collected strength, before any other operation can take place. In this I shall now be most essentially assisted by Lieutenant-General *Clinton* and Lord *Cornwallis*, who arrived here from *South-Carolina* on the 1st instant. The Southern transactions have been sent to your Lordship by General *Clinton*; and duplicates of his letters going by this opportunity, I need not touch upon that subject.

The *Phenix*, of forty guns, and the *Rose*, of twenty, passed the enemy's batteries up the *North River*, on the 12th of *July*, in mid-day. We have not received any direct intelligence from them since they went upon this service, but by private means I learn they did not suffer the least damage from the enemy's batteries, and that they were in safety, at the upper end of the *Tappan Sea*, a few days past.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Rebel Armies sent me the enclosed letter and narrative of some past transactions in *Canada*, which I thought proper to answer in general terms, directed "To *George Washington, Esq., &c., &c.*," as the most unexceptionable mode of address. The officer sent to meet the flag would not receive my letter, as it did not express his general titles; in consequence of which, I sent Lieutenant-Colonel *Patterson*, Adjutant-General, a few days afterwards, to remonstrate upon this, and other circumstances, relative to the usage of General *Prescott* and several officers in the enemy's possession, and to mention an exchange of prisoners. This interview was more polite than interesting; however, it induced me to change my superscription for the attainment of an end so desirable; and in this view, I flatter myself it will not be disapproved. The letters, though unimportant, are all enclosed for your Lordship's satisfaction.

The report concerning the Seventy-First Regiment, as mentioned in my last, proves to be true by later accounts, directly from Lieutenant-Colonel *Campbell*, who is a prisoner at *Boston*, and it is confirmed that Major *Menzies* was killed in the action. This unfortunate accident makes a considerable addition to their number of prisoners, and increases my anxiety for their relief; for which end I shall use every means in my power to improve and avail myself of this agreement for the exchange of prisoners.

Major *Rogers*, having escaped to us from *Philadelphia*, is empowered to raise a battalion of Rangers, which, I hope, may be useful in the course of the campaign.

It is with much satisfaction I am to inform your Lordship that the troops which came with me, and those since arrived, are in perfect good health.

#### COLONEL DRAKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp at Greenwich, New-York, August 6, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: It is with reluctance we presume to approach your Excellency with complaints, at this critical period; nevertheless, our duty to the men under our care and command compels us to that measure. We observe with much concern the order of yesterday for the march of our Brigade into the city; but we have much reason to believe that misinformation, as well as misrepresentations made to your Excellency, have occasioned that order; which order (if consistent with the good of the service) we would wish to have suspended—at the same time we assure your Excellency that we always mean to obey your orders with cheerfulness—from a tender regard to the health of the troops under our command, and the inconvenience it will subject them to, by being again crowded into houses in town, which we are sensible has been very prejudicial to their health. Your Excellency must be sensible that when we marched to this encampment we found it in exceeding bad order, but, by the industry of the men, they have now provided comfortable quarters for the season, are satisfied with their situation, and the sick are daily turning out from the Hospital, for duty. However, as they have entirely devoted themselves to the cause of their country, they are resolved to submit, unless your Excellency shall think proper to suspend the order with regard to the two

regiments, (which are entirely composed of people from the country,) if it be consistent, that we may be continued on the ground, and our places supplied by some other regiments, now in quarters in town; which we shall ever esteem a favour conferred on your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servants, (in behalf of the officers,)

SAML. DRAKE, Colonel.

JOHS. HARDENBURGH, Lt. Col.

#### COLONEL DRAKE TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-Rochelle, August 6, 1776.

SIR: When I some time ago delivered in to General *Morris* a resignation of my military appointment, I had not time to commit to writing my reasons for so doing, and therefore beg leave now to offer them.

On the 19th ultimo I received General *Morris's* orders to call together the regiment under my command, in order to draught one-fourth of the men for immediate service. The General at the same time requested me to meet him at the *White-Plains*, previous to the calling together the regiment. I accordingly waited on him at the *Plains*, and was much surprised to find that I was not to have the command of the new levies, (which, as first Colonel I considered my right,) but that the command was given to the second Colonel in the County. I expressed to the General my disinclination to continue in the service, as I considered myself aggrieved by such a preference given to my inferior officer. But he, notwithstanding, prevailed on me to call out and meet the regiment for the aforesaid purpose, which I accordingly did, and solicited the officers to turn out voluntarily in order to encourage the private men; but they excused themselves unless they were commanded by me. I told them the command was already given to the second Colonel. To him they particularly objected, and positively refused going.

After this, I informed the General of the steps I had taken, and the result, and told him, that should I a second time be ordered to call out the regiment for the purpose of draughting, I had so little prospect of success that I begged leave to resign my commission. Upon this declaration, the General signified to me that he would procure an order of the Convention to leave my regiment as it was at present, but that they should be held in readiness to march at the shortest notice on an emergency. With this I was well satisfied. But on the 31st of last month I again received orders to call them out, for the purpose of raising every fourth man to go under the command of Colonel *Thomas*, whereupon I took the liberty to deliver up my commission.

I hope the above reasons will prove satisfactory to you, and dare say you will do me the justice to believe that I had no other motive for resigning.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most humble servant,

JOSEPH DRAKE.

To the Hon. *Nathaniel Woodhull, Esq.*

#### GENERAL MIFFLIN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Mount Washington, August 6, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: Agreeable to your order by Colonel *Reed's* letter, I have directed Colonel *Holden* to march with his three companies, this evening, to *King's Bridge*.

I shall, in consequence of that order, be under the necessity of totally neglecting the Point battery until men are sent up to work on it; our two battalions being employed in raising part of our parapet, covering the large magazine, cutting and forming the abatis, digging wells, &c. That magazine will be prepared to receive the powder this evening. The magazine within the fort will be completed in two days. We have so many sick and on guard, that I have been obliged to give up the outworks for the present.

As I had no orders respecting the *chevaux-de-frise*, and as the artists appeared willing to take their own way, I did not presume to interfere. In future I will watch and direct their movements. But as Colonel *Putnam* is absent with the soundings, and as the vessels are sent up without persons who are acquainted with the depth of water for which they were calculated, I shall be at a loss to sink them. The sloops which came up this morning being small, must, in my opinion, be sunk to the westward of the brigs. If Colonel



*Putnam* had another destination for them, I beg to be favoured with directions where to place them.

In future it will be best to send up single vessels, it being the most abstruse problem in hydraulics to determine of what size the several ports or holes should be in vessels of different tonnage and construction, in order to their sinking at the same time. If one sinks before the other, we risk as yesterday. I believe that vessels above ninety tons, without frise-work, will answer very well. No ship will attempt to pass over them, even if they were eighteen feet below the surface. If five or six vessels of one hundred tons each could be sent up, I shall apprehend no danger of the ships of war passing them. It will be the most expeditious and most frugal scheme.

The *Colossus* is now at anchor a little to the westward of her post. The buoy fixed by Colonel *Putnam* appears to be too distant from the shore; possibly it may have been carried there by the wind and current. She shall be removed this night if possible, the brigs this afternoon.

The enemy may probably attempt to weigh some of the vessels; it will therefore be necessary to fix some guns on the battery. If I can obtain no heavy, I will send down our four twelve-pounders and the howitzer, and fight them *en barbette*.

I am, with zeal and attachment, your Excellency's obedient servant,

THO. MIFFLIN.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. Detachments do us no service—I cannot manage them. Those sent up formerly I was obliged to chase from tree to tree to prevent their lounging.

COLONEL THOMAS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Tarrytown, August 6, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: From the situation of the men-of-war and tenders, now opposite this place in *Hudson's River*, think it my duty, as commanding officer here, to inform your Excellency of the advantageous situation of the ground here for placing some cannon to play upon the shipping whilst attacked by our galleys. The cannon may be placed upon an eminence within near half a mile of the shipping; and if your Excellency should think the above plan expedient, an Engineer might be necessary to form a breastwork for three or four pieces of cannon, which I beg your Excellency in that case will order up, with the necessary apparatus and intrenching tools. I conceive shall be able to collect a sufficient number of men, with those already under my command here, to throw up a breastwork in a very short time in an evening after planned by an Engineer.

Should your Excellency think this advisable, it may be necessary to order the Commodore of the galleys to postpone an attack upon the shipping until a proper breastwork is thrown up, in case his orders should oblige an attack sooner. I don't pretend to dictate to your Excellency, but only take the liberty of stating the above for your Excellency's consideration, with which I would wish your Excellency's indulgence.

Captain *Townsend*, who brings this, will be able to inform you of the true state of the ground, from a view thereof.

I shall wait orders; and am your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

THOMAS THOMAS.

ULSTER COUNTY COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

In Committee for the County of Ulster, }  
New-Paltz, August 6, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: This day Mr. *Colden* made application to the Committee for his enlargement. The Committee, out of compassion to his son, *Cadwalader*, (who appears to be a decent young man,) consented to liberate him to the bounds of his own farm, on his giving sureties and obligation for £2,000 that he would not depart the same until he received full liberty from the honourable Convention of this State. This being done, he desired a copy of the Minutes of this Committee the time he was committed. The Committee, thinking they were under no obligations to gratify Mr. *Colden* in this particular, informed him they would transmit a copy of them to the honourable Convention, which would answer the necessary purpose for him, which, gentlemen, this Committee gives you preceding this, and beg leave to inform

the honourable Convention of the motives that influenced their conduct toward Mr. *Colden*, which he so loudly complains of as arbitrary and cruel.

Some of the members of the *Newburgh* and *New-Windsor* Committees being present at the time Mr. *Colden* was tried and committed, did then inform this Committee that the reasons why they took notice of Mr. *Colden* (he being some distance without the bounds of their districts, although more contiguous to them than he is to the greater part of the Precinct where he lives) were that the times grew very alarming; Tories were extremely impudent; a most infernal plot just discovered in *New-York*, which was supposed to extend to most parts of the Province; several persons in this country strongly suspected as being concerned therein, and some of them sent for to *New-York*. They further knew that orders had been issued by this Committee to every Precinct Committee in this County for disarming all suspected persons, of whom they freely thought Mr. *Colden* one. After waiting some time, they perceived that the Committee of the Precinct of *Hanover*, in which Mr. *Colden* lives, took no notice of him, agreeable to the aforesaid order; from which they were induced to believe the common report to be too true, *i. e.* that the Committee of the Precinct of *Hanover* were afraid to treat Mr. *Colden* as he deserved, for there was a general report in the country, which they believed could be fully proved, that, after Mr. *Colden* had signed the General Association, he broke the same, by either giving or selling a book or books to a certain person in this County, which contained poisonous doctrines, directly opposite to the efforts which the United Colonies are making for the preservation of their invaded rights. This the aforesaid Committee passed over without doing anything material in it. They, considering these things, concluded themselves under obligations to act for the publick safety, being equally concerned in the consequences with their neighbours, whom they could not avoid thinking rather remiss in their duty in this particular, because nothing could be inferred or learned from Mr. *Colden's* whole conduct that would serve for a sufficient reason why he might not be engaged in plots and conspiracies against the liberties of his country; for although Mr. *Colden* did sign the General Association, it is evident he only meant it as a sanctuary for his person and property, never having acted in the smallest degree agreeable to the spirit of it, or in his heart bid it *God speed*. A few considerations will clearly demonstrate the truth of this. At the very juncture of time the Association made its appearance Mr. *Colden* was intently engaged in procuring subscribers to his favourite Protest, (a copy of which we here enclose the honourable Convention for their perusal,) which he alludes to in his letter directed to the Joint Committees of *Ulster* County, where he says: "I said that I had made no secret of my principles and opinions on these matters, while I thought they might in the least contribute to ward off those calamities I foresaw must attend the publick measures then adopted, and which is now too unhappily come to pass. That when I found I could do no good in that way, I had entirely avoided interfering in any shape in publick affairs." And nothing appears as yet, either from Mr. *Colden's* actions, words, or writing, by which it can be fairly construed that his political principles are one jot altered from what is expressed in the Protest, so that it will not require a spirit of divination to disclose the principle on which Mr. *Colden* signed the Association. These gentlemen further informed this Committee that they considered this Protest as the evil seed sown in this County, from which the whole of the fruits of Toryism sprung; for, to their knowledge, upwards of sixty persons in the Precinct of *Newburgh* had subscribed it, numbers of whom indeed were rather to be ranked among the lower class of mankind, but appeared to be possessed of more common honesty than Mr. *Colden*, for, after they had signed the Protest, they stoutly defended their conduct, by refusing to sign the Association; which caused great expense and trouble to the good people of this County, every shilling of which is justly chargeable to Mr. *Colden's* account, who retracted and left them in the lurch. Further, they conceived that the end and design of the Association was not to be a state of neutrality, (Mr. *Colden* freely confesses he had observed,) but a firm bond of union for mutual defence, which required activity; also an obligation to obey the rules and resolutions of the Congresses. How far Mr. *Colden* hath obeyed relative to the disposition of the Militia is easily known, by the enclosed depositions of Messrs. *Pal-*

mer and Logan, one broken gun in his house, which, (to use his own words,) "in these times, he did not think worth while to have it mended."

It would be trespassing on the time and patience of this honourable Convention to enumerate every minute circumstance relative to this man's conduct. Therefore, will only add, that, after considering the reasons given by the gentlemen of the *Newburgh* and *New-Windsor* Committees for dealing with Mr. Colden, this Committee was of opinion they did no more than what was right at this critical period. Also, that Mr. Colden appeared (all things considered) to be a person dangerous to the welfare of the *United States of America*, at this alarming crisis; therefore committed him to jail, and have since given him the privilege of his own farm, as before recited, until fully discharged by the honourable Convention of this State.

We have the honour, gentlemen, to be, with the highest esteem, your most obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

ROBERT BOYD, Jun., *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Representatives in Convention of the State of *New-York*.

P. S. The honourable Convention will please to note the great difference between Mr. Colden's representation of matters and the Minutes of the Committee. Also this Committee would inform the honourable Convention of the motive that induced them to propose the addition Mr. Colden so much complains of, although no more in fact than what is contained in the Association. Mr. Colden being upwards of fifty years old, of course an exempt by the Militia laws, and found destitute of arms, the Committee was of opinion Mr. Colden should be somewhat explicit on that particular.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

German-Flats, August 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your Excellency's favour of the 31st of July I had the pleasure to receive this morning.

I am well aware that every person in the Commissary-General's department should strictly abide by and obey his orders; and that more than one head to any department must be introductory to confusion. This sentiment I have strongly held up to Congress in some of my letters in the course of last campaign; and as soon as Mr. Trumbull arrived in the Northern Department, I conceived that he became the principal of the Commissary Department, and have accordingly always directed Mr. Livingston to obey his orders, in terms which, I trust, will do me honour as a soldier and a citizen, whose first wish is the weal of the cause he is engaged in. Nor do I know of an instance in which Mr. Trumbull's appointments have not been regarded. The case of Mr. Avery is surely not one; he was particularly appointed for *Canada*, soon after that country was put into a separate military department, and his appointment, therefore, did no more extend to this department than it did to *South-Carolina*. But as the Army was returned from *Canada*, and as more Commissaries were wanted than what were then employed, I made a temporary appointment of Mr. Avery to superintend the issues, for which business he was designed in *Canada*, as your Excellency will perceive by calling for the orders Mr. Trumbull gave him.

Our emissaries amongst the *Indians* all agree that it would be extremely imprudent to request the *Indians* to take an active part with us, as they think it would effectually militate the contrary way. The conferences begin to-morrow. From their answer to our first speech, we shall, I hope, be able to discover their temper and intentions; and should we have a prospect of engaging them in our favour, we will improve it in the best manner we can. Their number now here, including their women and children, is seventeen hundred and eighteen.

As your Excellency conceives it will be proper, and even necessary, to request General Burgoyne to deliver the officers who have slighted their paroles, and are now with him, I will write to General Gates, and desire him to send a flag for the purpose.

I have sent to *Salisbury Furnace* to get swivels cast for the Navy. The difficulty of procuring the articles necessary for the Navy are almost insuperable; persons are gone express to every quarter of the country, and some as far as

*New-London*, to purchase whatever can be got, but I still fear we shall fall short in many articles.

In mine of the 24th, I pointed out the situation of *Crown-Point*, with respect to the distance from the southern and northern extremes of the Lake. It is evident that it cannot command an inch of country north of the fort further than cannon-shot will reach; and that if a General has a mind to land an army on any part of the banks of *Lake Champlain* north of *Crown-Point*, nothing but a superior naval force can prevent him—perhaps not even that. If, then, an attempt was made to penetrate into the *New-England* Colonies from any place between two miles beyond *Crown-Point* and the north end of the Lake, what will be the difference in bringing our Army to oppose them? Why, fifteen miles, and no more, by land or by water, as we may choose to go; but I really have no idea of the possibility of an Army penetrating into the well-inhabited part of any of the *New-England* Colonies. If I commanded an army at *Crown-Point*, and was certain that, by removing it from thence, the enemy would undertake to march across the *Green Mountains* (for that is the only route when they are not suffered to go by the way of *Ticonderoga*) into the *New-England* Colonies, I would immediately remove the obstacle; nor would I attempt to follow them until they had got at least twenty-five miles from the Lake—conscious that if, indeed, they were not followed at all, and a body of light troops only sent to harass them on their arrival in the *Green Mountains*, very few would ever return, and none penetrate. General Arnold, with all his activity, with picked men, with a small body, suffered greatly before he got a hundred miles from his batteaus. What would an army, so numerous as to be capable of effecting anything of consequence if they did penetrate, suffer in such a march, and through mountains hardly passable for a carriage with the best of drivers and a good team? How an army at *Crown-Point* could prevent savages from penetrating into the country east of *Lake Champlain*, I cannot possibly conceive. Can an army at *New-York* prevent a man going into a batteau at *New-London*, crossing the *Sound* to the east end of *Long-Island*, or to any other part of it between *New-York* and the east end, landing there, crossing the Island, and committing a depredation on the south side? Surely not; and yet the case is nearly similar, and would be quite so, if the north side of *Long-Island* was as thinly inhabited as the east shore of *Lake Champlain*.

Enclose you an extract of a letter dated the 4th instant, from Captain Varick, my Secretary at *Albany*. You will perceive what difficulties we have to encounter for want of money. I can easily foresee, that unless a supply is soon sent, it will be impossible to keep the Army where it is; for without carriages, it cannot be supplied, and your Excellency is informed how many are daily wanted for provisions only, when a full number of batteaus are employed, and carriages can no longer be procured without money.

Since your Excellency's arrival in *New-York*, I have not written to Congress on military affairs, otherwise than in answer to letters received from them, (in some of these, I have urged the necessity of a supply of cash,) supposing that whatever information I might give, and which might be necessary for Congress to know, would be, as I doubt not it has been, communicated to them.

I am informed that a Council of Officers, convened at *New-York*, (whether of their own accord or by your Excellency's order I am not advised,) had decided that the Council of General Officers lately held at *Crown-Point* had acted reprehensibly. In justice to myself and the other General Officers who composed that Council, I cannot pass by this extraordinary mode of proceeding without animadverting on it; for although I should grant that every officer that composed the Council at *New-York* had the most perfect knowledge of the country, that they were separately endowed with abilities vastly superior to those of the Generals in this quarter taken in the aggregate, yet to assume a power of censuring us, even if we were their inferiors in rank, if convened as a court-martial, for the purpose of trying us, without hearing what we could say in support of our decision, is so injurious, so unjust, so extra-judicial, that I have not the least doubt but that every man of candour will join us in deprecating the outrage. For although every individual in the community has a right to give his opinion on the conduct of the servants of the publick, and although a superior officer

has a right, nay, ought to direct a change of measures when he believes those adopted will be attended with dangerous consequences, and although a council may give their opinion on the propriety or impropriety of a measure referred to them for consideration, yet the superior officer, in directing a change of measures, or a council in deciding that a measure was improper, ought not to convey an idea which supposes guilt until guilt is proved, and not even then, unless they had been constituted a tribunal for the purpose of deciding on the guilt or innocence of the party to be tried, and that the party supposed guilty had had an opportunity given him of being heard in his own defence. This we have not had, and yet our conduct is said to be reprehensible. I feel myself so deeply chagrined at this conduct, that if my information is true, (which your Excellency can determine, and which I entreat you to do the soonest possible,) I cannot, consistent with my honour, remain in the Army, unless the Council at *New-York* are censured for the assertion by Congress or by your Excellency, or unless, conscious of the impropriety of their conduct towards us, they make a candid and full acknowledgment thereof. And permit me to beg you to lay a copy of this letter, with copy of mine of the 24th, before Congress, that they may see on what I founded my opinion for the removal of the Army to *Ticonderoga*, and what idea I have of the injury the General Officers who composed the Council at *Crown-Point* have sustained.

The account of General *Lee's* success reached us a few days ago, as also that of the captures to the eastward. May we soon hear that the enemy meets with other checks so decisive as to cause them to forbear any further attempts this campaign. It has several times been reported by the *Indians*, that part of *Burgoyne's* Army, joined by a body of *Indians*, will attempt to penetrate by the way of *Oswego*. Should this information be true, as I believe it to be, a greater force will be necessary in this quarter. I think it will be prudent to post Colonel *Nicolson's* regiment, which consists, by his own account, of about one hundred and fifty privates, on some part of the *Mohawk River*; but if time will permit, I shall wait your Excellency's order before I make this movement.

I am, dear sir, most respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

Extract of a Letter from Captain VARICK to General SCHUYLER, dated ALBANY, August 4, 1776.

The wagoners will not ride, unless they can have prompt payment. It is shameful that publick officers are obliged to give their notes for money on interest to carry on the service. A number of wagoners had come down to this place this morning to carry sutlers' stores. I applied to Colonel *Van Schaick* for his order to prohibit sutlers' stores going up without his pass, which I begged him not to give. But the wagoners would sooner return home than ride for the publick. They say the publick is largely indebted to them, and they can get no money.

#### GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 6, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: We have sent off so many gondolas, and there are none of the oars returned, that we are left almost destitute; and we shall be very much troubled to furnish the boats to forward the troops as they shall arrive; and should be glad your Honour would order some by the return of this boat.

I herewith send your Honour a few pounds of butter, which is all I could procure at present.

I should be glad to be informed whether I am to forward the *Hampshire* troops to *Ticonderoga*, or employ them here to the best advantage. A considerable number arrived last evening, but have not had their returns yet. Our galleys go on extremely fast, but fear we shall have to wait for iron and other articles.

I am, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

#### GENERAL GATES TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Tyonderoga, August 6, 1776.

SIR: In this packet, I have the honour to send you the proceedings of the General Court-Martial, held for the trial of Colonel *Bedel* and Major *Butterfield*. Immediately

upon the President's delivering the proceedings into my hands, I ordered the sentences to be inserted in the General Orders, and hope the disgraceful example made of the offenders will deter others from committing so flagrant a crime. Perhaps a little more severity in the Court-Martial would have effected this in a stronger manner; but severity is not the characteristic of our military courts, any more than it is of our military law.

I have at last been able to send you something like a general return of this Army. It is also accompanied by the particular return of each corps. These, though as correct as our present circumstances will admit, are not so exactly so as I wish to have them, nor as I am resolved in future to have them; but time works wonders. General *Waterbury's* return from *Skenesborough* is also in the packet. I am daily informed of the Militia that crowd the roads, coming from the eastward. When I have a proper authority to say they are arrived, then I shall immediately declare it. You will likewise find in the packet a pretty correct return of the ordnance and military stores at this post. As, for want of store-room, we are obliged to place things much confounded, and stores for different purposes and services too much intermixed, it renders it impossible, as yet, to give Congress so distinct an idea of the ordnance branch as I am earnest they should know.

Some proper officer ought, without delay, to go and take an exact account of all the *New-York* regiments. I am confident, when that affair is properly examined, they will be found scandalously deficient. Regiments should not, without the most urgent necessity, be scattered and broken in bits, as some of those are. The service of the *United States* demands it, only in a few instances. When that is unavoidably the case, the duty should be done by detachment. As far as I can command it, the error shall be corrected.

Enclosed, you will find a list of the fleet upon the Lake, I mean what is actually equipped and sailed for *Crown-Point*. I hope it will soon be powerfully increased. Four row-galleys and as many gondolas will, I am assured, be added to it in a fortnight. Cannon, rigging, and powder, are, as things stand, more likely to be in request than the vessels to be armed; but General *Schuyler* wrote long since to *New-York*, to demand what was wanted, and sent a particular account of the whole. Perhaps it is so busy a time there, it prevents our affairs being attended to. Messrs. *Cuyler* and *Gansevoort* have been here some days, deputed by the Congress of the State of *New-York* to examine our real circumstances, and know our wants. They are fully informed of both; and, no doubt, what that Congress cannot supply, yours will be loudly called upon to furnish.

The whole of the field artillery, with all the *attirail*, being lost in *Canada*, it is necessary it should be replaced in the best manner possible. Six six-pounders, six twelve, four eight-inch howitzers, and six cohorn mortars, all brass, should be provided for the Army in this department. Shells for the mortars may be had here and at *New-York*. There are eight-inch shells here sufficient for the howitzers of that caliber. This Army cannot advance again into *Canada* without a field train; and I hope our good fortune will one day return. An army should in no circumstance be left without field artillery. When you order the above to be provided, carriages, and everything to complete them, must be provided also.

In a week, our fleet will, I am told, be in a condition to make sail down the Lake. General *Arnold* proposes to post them so as to command some narrow pass, opening into a broad part of the Lake, either near the *Split Rock*, or *Isle-au-Motte*; but of this you will, in time, be particularly informed.

Brigadier-General *Baron de Woedtke* died at *Lake George* the beginning of last week. He was buried with the honours due to his rank.

Enclosed is the examination of two *Canadians*, Captains in Colonel *Livingston's* regiment, sent here by the Committee of Safety of *Newbury*, (*Cohos*.) It may be true; the men seem sincere, and are well known to many officers in this camp. I shall send immediately for the four *German* deserters at *Metcalf's*.

The flag of truce sent from hence fourteen days ago by Major *Bigelow*, has not yet returned. As the reason for his delay can only be founded upon conjecture, I leave the Congress to make theirs.

The Militia begin to come up. This moment, about six hundred are arrived from *New-Hampshire*. I am told a large body will be at *Skenesborough* this week. Colonel *Woodbridge*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Leonard*, and Major *Stacy*, all from the County of *Hampshire*, in *Massachusetts*, left their regiment upon the march, and went home to be inoculated. An example so shameful in officers of their rank must be taken notice of. I shall bring them to a Court-Martial the instant they arrive in camp.

I have added to the packet a plan of the very important post at present occupied by this Army. The works are laid down in it so as to give Congress a general idea of the situation of this Army.

Our fleet flourishes amazingly; and by letters this moment received from General *Schuyler*, I find we shall be very speedily supplied with everything demanded for the rigging, arming, and fitting of the whole for action.

I beg, sir, you will assure Congress, that the utmost harmony prevails between the General Officers in this department, and that unanimity and good fellowship are taking place with the troops of different States. When the upper officers in an army are industrious to promote friendship, and by their example discountenance and discourage all illiberal animosity, there is no danger can happen from foolish dissensions.

With the greatest respect, I request you believe me, dear sir, your much obliged and most faithful humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

Extract of a Letter from General *Waterbury*, dated *Skenesborough*, August 6, 1776.

You desired to know of me the names of those who had been inoculated. They are as follows, viz: Colonel *Joshua Wingate*, Chaplain *Porter* and Doctor *Wigglesworth*. The above gentlemen were inoculated at *Number-Four* last *Saturday* se'nnight. Captain *Wethersby's* company were quartered at *Number-Four*, and, as I am informed, were to march for this place directly after coming out of the Hospital last *Saturday*. The names of the three Field-Officers from *Massachusetts* that were inoculated, I am not able to give.

N. B. The Colonel from *Massachusetts* is *Woodbridge*, who served at *Cambridge*, with so much credit the last campaign.

General *Waterbury* has sent orders to Captain *Wethersbee* not to march on any account till he has particular orders.

To Major-General *Gates*.

List of Continental Armed Vessels on LAKE CHAMPLAIN, August 5, 1776.

NAMES OF VESSELS AND CAPTAINS.	No. of Guns.	Size of Guns.	No. of Swivels.	No. of Men.	
Schooner <i>Royal Savage</i> ... <i>Wykoop</i> .	12	4-lbs.	10	50	} Sailed.
Sloop <i>Enterprise</i> ..... <i>Diekson</i> ...	12	4-lbs.	10	50	
Schooner <i>Revenge</i> ..... <i>Seaman</i> ...	8	{ 4 4-lbs. 2 2-lbs.	10	35	} .
Schooner <i>Liberty</i> ..... <i>Primmer</i> .	8	{ 2 4-lbs. 6 2-lbs.	8	35	
Gondola <i>New-Haven</i> .... <i>Mansfield</i> ,	3	{ 1 12-lbs. 2 9-lbs.	8	45	} Sailed.
Gondola <i>Providence</i> .... <i>Simmons</i> .	3	{ 2 9-lbs.	8	45	
Gondola <i>Boston</i> ..... <i>Sumner</i> ..	3	{ 1 12-lbs. 2 9-lbs.	8	45	} Almost rigged.
Gondola <i>Spitfire</i> ..... <i>Ulmer</i> ...	3	{ 2 9-lbs.	8	45	
A Gondola not rigged.					
A Spanish-built Row-Galley not rigged.					
Total.....	52		70	350	

Newbury, Cohos, July 29, 1776.

SIR: We had the honour to write you a few days ago by one Monsieur *Traverse*, a *Frenchman* from the Parish of *St. Francois*, who came this way for protection and a safe conduct to the Army, whom we forwarded along under the care of Mr. *Witherspoon*, with a guard of four men, via *Onion River*; and now trouble you again by the bearers, four *Canadian* officers of Colonel *James Livingston's* regiment, as mentioned in Mr. *Metcalf's* letter they brought us, copy of which you have enclosed, and to which beg to refer

for particulars. The purport or true intent of this letter, you will be better able to judge of than we are, being strangers to Mr. *Metcalf*. We trust the *Frenchmen* will prove to be honest men, as they appear to us by their story, and hope their information of affairs in *Canada* may be of publick service. We have accordingly showed them all civility in our power, as we shall any others that may come into our part of the country, friends to the *American* cause, not doubting of your approbation. And, with great respect, remain, sir, your most obedient, humble servants,

JACOB BAYLEY,  
JAMES BAYLEY,

Chairmen of the Committees of *Newbury* and *Haverhill*.

To the Hon. General *Gates*, or the Commander-in-Chief at *Crown-Point*.

P. S. Names of these *Frenchmen*, viz: Messrs. *Loseau*, *Allin*, *Basade*, *Menarere*.

We intrust this letter to the care of Mr. *S. Atkinson*, who engages to see those men along to Head-Quarters; and as he will return directly here, shall be glad of a few lines for our further direction, should any more *Frenchmen* come across the country.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. *S. METCALF* to Colonel *JACOB BAYLEY*, dated *PRATTSBURGH*, July 21, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am sorry I had not the pleasure of seeing Mr. *Witherspoon*. I make no doubt but you know or have heard of a set of sad dogs that have settled at *Onion River*, where I imprudently went to purchase some cows, a pair of oxen, and some seed wheat, during which the news of the Army's leaving *St. John's* unexpectedly arrived, which put the whole settlement in a violent commotion. They all determined to abandon the settlement immediately, and took me prisoner, and conveyed me to *Crown-Point*, after robbing me of my cows, oxen, money, boats, &c., &c., together with my people; but as they could prove no crime against me, I was immediately released. But the rascals made off with all my effects to the amount of upwards of two hundred , and what they did with my people, I could never yet learn.

My apprentice, *Thomas Thompson*, went to *York* and *Philadelphia* six weeks ago on my business, and has orders to return by *Cohos* with a quantity of horned cattle and sheep; and as the boy is a stranger in your country, I hope you will be so kind as to assist him, and forward him on his way. I did imagine you would have been out with the road here before this.

The bearers hereof are four *Canadian* officers, late of Colonel *James Livingston's* regiment, who inform me that the forces in *Canada* are no ways equal to what they were at first reported, and that General *Carleton* has miscarried in the plan he had laid to make himself master of this Lake, by drawing three vessels, which had been previously built for the purpose, over land, past the Rapids of *Chambly*, they being entirely broken to pieces in the attempt, and now totally abandoned; so that General *Sullivan* will undoubtedly remain master of this country for this season at least; he having fortified, with an intrenchment and cannon, *Point-au-Fer*, on the north end of the Lake, where stands a brick house commonly called the *White-House*. This is a very advantageous situation, as it commands the navigation towards *St. John's*, and is formed into a kind of an Island by a deep morass that runs behind it from one bay to the other.

I having no boat to assist these people with who are on their way to *Albany*, they were constrained to go this road; and as they speak very little *English*, you had better give them a pass to *Albany*.

I am desirous of having my boy home, that should you hear of him below, please to write or send him word to return with all possible expedition with the cattle.

I am, dear sir, your friend and obedient humble servant,  
S. METCALF.

The following particulars were collected from the verbal examination and the conversation of two *Canadian* Captains (Captain *L'Oiseau* and Captain *Allain*) of Colonel *James Livingston's* Regiment of *Canadians*, who, having fled from the neighbourhood of *St. John's*, arrived on Sunday morning at *Tyonderoga*, and, after having been examined by Major-General *Gates*, were sent to *Albany*.

The enemy did not fortify any of the places we abandoned; but they cut a new road, or repaired the old, from



*Isle-aux-Noix* to *Chambly*. They had two thousand *Germans* at *Isle-aux-Noix*, under General *Frazer*; the like number at *St. John's*, under Governour *Carleton*; and likewise at *Montreal*, under the command of a General, whose name the *Canadian* officers did not know, but we suppose it was *Burgoyne*. No more than two hundred and fifty men were left at *Quebeck*. No *English* national regiment had arrived; but it was reported that four thousand *English* troops, who were intended as a part of that Army, had perished at sea, or fallen into the hands of the *American* privateers, which gave inexpressible uneasiness to Governour *Carleton*. The *English* fleet brought over from *Europe*, timber, &c., for no more than fifty boats, which they attempted to transport by land, from the mouth of the river *Sorel* to *St. John's*; but the carriages employed on that service having been ruined, *Carleton* employed *Canadians* in building others at *St. John's*, on the plan of our batteaus. That Governour has, very luckily for us, rendered himself odious to the *Tory Canadians* themselves, by exacting fifty head of cattle from every Parish, for the payment of which his Commissaries or other agents gave to the owners notes payable to the bearer. He exhibited to his Army a diversion which may cost his master very dear, as it awoke the sensibility of the *Canadians*, without the least necessity. The *Militia* officers who had served under the Congress were forced to burn their commissions, to the very minutest particle—an operation which, as was expected by the beholders, singed the fingers of such of the *criminals* who were not very dexterous in disappointing that most humane General. The officers who have accepted commissions in the corps raised under the sanction of the Congress underwent the same punishment; but immediately after this farcical execution, were confined on board men-of-war, to be carried to the *West-Indies*; and his Excellency confiscated the estates of all the *Canadians* who followed our Army, or who remain concealed in the country. The *Indians* have refused to fight against the *United States*.

Great numbers of the *Germans* desert daily, and are very zealously secreted by the inhabitants. Seventy *Brunswickers* made off together, four of whom are at Mr. *Metcalf's*, about twenty miles this side of *St. John's*. Their officers are so afraid of bushfight and ambushes, that they durst not head any party to pursue the runaways; but then, the common soldiers being checked by the same fears, deserters were but few to what it might have been, could our fleet have cruised on the Lake, and afforded them protection.

Between the 22d and 24th ultimo, *Carleton* and the other Generals abandoned all their posts on this side of the river *Sorel*, *St. John's* excepted, with the same precipitation that we did. They carried with them their artillery and provisions, without paying the inhabitants for the last article. It was reported that this unexpected motion was occasioned by the arrival and mysterious manœuvres of a fleet at *Quebeck*, supposed to consist of *French* ships, which now and then puzzled the garrison, by hoisting different flags, and fired at tenders sent from the town to know who were those guests. Two hundred men have been left at the *Isle-aux-Noix*, to send early intelligence of our operations; and if we return to *Canada*, which all the inhabitants seem to wish most devoutly, that garrison will immediately proceed down the river. The *Canadian* officers who delivered this intelligence last Sunday, the 4th instant, are men of good characters, and well known to several of our principal officers. They likewise say, that some time ago, *Carleton*, having heard that we were returning with a considerable reinforcement, was so terrified, that he would immediately have retired, had he not been informed by his spies of the deplorable condition to which the small-pox had reduced our Army. The names of the two *Canadian* Captains are *Allain* and *L'Oiseau*, who, with Captain *Mesnard* of the same regiment, fled from those parts at the same time. Captain *Mesnard* is hourly expected to arrive at this camp, where he is held in great estimation.

August 7, 1776.—Captain *Mesnard* arrived yesterday. Says he left *Chambly* the 14th ultimo, and, on the evening of that day, met with *L'Oiseau* and *Allain*, who told him they had left their homes about eight days before, and, as they were retiring from *Canada*, proposed to travel in company to the *American* Army, which was unanimously consented to. Captain *Mesnard* says there were about four thousand men at *Chambly*, *St. John's*, and on the *Sorel*, all *English*; and

that the *Germans* were quartered at *La Prairie* and *Montreal*, one of whom had deserted, and was harboured in a house near the place, where he (*Mesnard*) met *L'Oiseau*. Told him that sixty of his comrades had deserted together on the same day. That deserter proceeded with them as far as Mr. *Metcalf's*, where they left him, he being over-fatigued. There was no other deserter at *Metcalf's*. The *English* Generals ordered artillery to be transported to and from *St. John's*, *Chambly*, &c. *Mesnard* confirms what *L'Oiseau* says respecting the commissions given to the *Canadians* under the authority of the Congress, and every other particular which is not contradicted by this examination of *Mesnard*, and therefore now omitted.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters, July 30, 1776.

(Parole, *Winchester*.)

(Countersign, *Coventry*.)

The General is exceedingly astonished and concerned to find such a supineness and indolence prevailing in the three Brigades stationed upon *Mount Independence*, as if it was a time of profound peace, and no enemy to contend with. He is therefore obliged to represent to Brigadier-General *Arnold*, to the Colonels commanding Brigades, and to every Commanding Officer of a Regiment belonging to those Brigades, how necessary it is, in the present emergency, for them, by their authority and example, to inspire all under them with a spirit of emulation in forwarding the works, clearing the ground, and preparing to receive the enemy. The Troops upon the *Mount* should be convinced, by their last year's campaign at *Cambridge*, of the utility of good works. The General trusts they will lose no time in raising them. Colonel *Baldwin* will this day acquaint the Commanding Officer of each Brigade with the work expected to be done by that Brigade; and the General is confident a spirit of emulation will animate each Brigade to finish the task assigned them.

The Commissary having just received a supply of 1,008 pairs of shoes, 177 pairs of moccasins, and 454 shirts, they are ready to be delivered to the order of the Commanding Officers of Corps, in the following proportion, they being exactly calculated according to the number fit for duty reckoned by each Corps:

	Shoes.	Moc.	Shirts.	Shoes.	Moc.	Shirts.
<i>First Brigade—</i>						
Greaton's.....	58	10	26			
Bond's.....	57	10	26			
Burrell's.....	25	5	12			
Porter's.....	57	10	26			
Total first Brigade.....	197	35	90			
<i>Second Brigade—</i>						
Stark's.....	32	7	17			
Winds's.....	67	12	30			
Maxwell's.....	59	11	27			
Poor's.....	72	12	32			
Total second Brigade.....	230	42	106			
<i>Third Brigade—</i>						
Reed's.....	30	6	17			
Patterson's.....	56	9	25			
Wynkoop's.....	30	5	16			
Bedel's.....	32	6	17			
Total third Brigade.....	148	26	75			
<i>Fourth Brigade—</i>						
St. Clair's.....	77	13	34			
De Haas's.....	93	15	37			
Wayne's.....	123	21	54			
Irvine's.....	110	17	42			
Total fourth Brigade.....	393	66	167			
Artillery.....		40	8	16		
Total.....	1008	177	454			

*Udney Hay*, Esq., is appointed Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General, and is to be obeyed as such.

A mistake was made in the return of the articles of clothing ordered to be delivered this morning to the Troops. The number of shirts being 1,008, and the shoes 454, the Commanding Officers will draw accordingly.

The fatigue parties for the future are to begin work at six o'clock, and have their breakfast before they begin. They will be dismissed at twelve o'clock for dinner till one; then to work till seven.

Head-Quarters, July 31, 1776.

(Parole, *St. Domingo*.)

(Countersign, *Berlin*.)

Fishing in batteaus being prejudicial to the men's health, to the service, and to the batteaus, it is positively prohibited. The Batteaumaster will order those batteaus which are not wanted for immediate service to be drawn up and put in proper repair. Two batteaus are to be delivered to the

order of the Commanding Officer of each Regiment for the use of each Regiment. He is to be answerable for them. The rest of the batteaus are immediately to be collected and placed under the care of the Batteau-Guard; and the Batteumaster is positively forbidden to part with any batteaus from the Landing, without a signed order from Head-Quarters.

Colonel *St. Clair*, Colonel *Wayne*, and Mr. *Avery*, the Deputy Commissary-General, to sit this afternoon, at four o'clock, as a Court of Inquiry, to examine into certain demands made upon the *United States* by Mr. *Gilliland* and Major *Udney Hay*, A. D. Q. M. G. They will certify such as they think just and reasonable, that the demands of the claimants may be settled and adjusted.

Lieutenant *William Augustus Patterson*, of Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment, is appointed an Assistant Engineer to Colonel *Baldwin*, and is to be obeyed as such.

Head-Quarters, August 1, 1776.

(Parole, *Lee*.)

(Countersign, *Carolina*.)

Two men from each Regiment, who understand making small-arm cartridges, to be sent to Head-Quarters to-morrow morning, at seven o'clock.

The Regiments of the Fourth Brigade are to apply immediately at Head-Quarters for an order on the Conductor of Stores for the cartridges wanted to complete them.

At a late General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Poor* was President, a charge was exhibited against Colonel *Bedel* "for quitting his post at the *Cedars*," in *May* last. The Court, after having examined and maturely considered the evidences and the defence, do find Colonel *Bedel* guilty, and sentence him to be cashiered.

Major *Butterfield* tried at the same General Court-Martial for surrendering the post at the *Cedars*, in *May* last, is found guilty, and sentenced to be cashiered, and incapacitated forever hereafter to hold a commission in the Army of the *United States*.

The General approves the above proceedings of the General Court-Martial, and orders the sentences to take place immediately.

Whenever a Regiment receives new ammunition, they are to deliver in their old and damaged cartridges to the Conductor.

Mr. *Bedel* and Mr. *Butterfield* are immediately to adjust and discharge whatever accounts they may have open with the Regiment to which they lately belonged; after which, they are directly to depart the camp.

Head-Quarters, August 2, 1776.

(Parole, *Amboy*.)

(Countersign, *Mercer*.)

The Majors of Brigades will take care that the Weekly Returns of the Regiments are given in, seasonably and correct, to-morrow. Blanks may be had at the Deputy Adjutant-General's. The Colonels and Commanding Officers are desired to note, at the foot of their Returns, the time to which their corps are raised, and from what Colony.

Head-Quarters, August 3, 1776.

(Parole, *Bath*.)

(Countersign, *Paris*.)

The Commissary to issue sixteen pounds of soap to every hundred men in this camp; for the next week afterwards, he is to issue the usual Continental allowance. Until further orders, he is to issue six days' fresh and one day's salt provisions every week.

The following promotions are ordered to take place in the Twenty-Fourth Regiment, commanded by Colonel *Greaton*, viz:

*Isaiah Bussey*, First Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Paine*, deceased.

*Benjamin Talbott*, Second Lieutenant, vice Adjutant *Rice*, promoted.

*William Kilpatrick*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Bussey*, advanced.

*Peter Crane*, Adjutant and Ensign.

*John Pratt*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Talbott*, promoted.

*David Doty*, Lieutenant of Colonel *Burrell's* Regiment, is appointed Wagonmaster-General to this Army, and is to be regarded as such.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

Head-Quarters, August 4, 1776.

(Countersign, *New-York*.)

Head-Quarters, August 5, 1776.

(Countersign, *Pitt*.)

(Parole, *Cambridge*.)

(Parole, *Niagara*.)

The Commissary has received five hundred shirts from *Albany*; they are ready to be delivered to the order of the Commanding Officer of Regiments and Corps, according to the proper proportion for each.

The Troops are to receive one pound of flour, and one and a half of beef or one pound of pork per man a day, till further orders. The Quartermasters are ordered to apply to the Commissary, Mr. *Yauncey*, for forms of Returns for Provisions, which they are strictly to adhere to, that the Army may be served more expeditiously and regularly.

Colonel *Winds's* Regiment is to join *St. Clair's* Brigade; and the *New-Hampshire* Militia, just arrived, are to join Colonel *Stark's*.

#### GENERAL POOR TO GENERAL GATES.

Ticonderoga, August 6, 1776.

SIR: We do not make a doubt of your having heard that this Court has taken umbrage at some part of General *Arnold's* behaviour in the course of his prosecution of Colonel *Hazen*.

We are sensible men of rank should be treated with delicacy. We are also sensible that it is our duty to maintain the dignity and authority of the Court-Martial; and that an attempt to lessen the one, or render the other contemptible, is proportionally a greater offence as the person who makes the attempt is in station more elevated, and that passing over such attempts must have the worst effects on the discipline of the Army.

We know we have power to compel parties before us to decent behaviour, and to punish insults offered to us. It is a power incident to courts, and without which they would be ridiculous and nugatory. It is a power, however, we wish not to exercise in the case of General *Arnold* especially; a power, however, we must use in his case, unless he gives this court the satisfaction they have demanded. Justice to the Army and to our country require it of us. The case is shortly this:

A witness was offered to the court to support the charge brought by General *Arnold* against Colonel *Hazen*, to whom exception was taken that he was interested in the event of the trial, and therefore not admissible. The court, after hearing the allegations of both parties, adjudged that he was interested, and rejected him. Other witnesses were called, and the trial went on; after some time, General *Arnold* again pressed for the admission of the above witness, at the same time observing to the court, that he would enter a protest on their minutes, unless his request should be granted. He was refused. He then offered his protest against our proceedings, couched, as we think, in indecent terms, and directly impeaching the justice of the court. If he thought by his protest to stop the proceedings, he certainly has not considered how far that practice would lead. If either party has a right to stop the proceedings by protest, both parties must have the right, and there then needs nothing more to secure every offender from punishment. And on the other hand, it would expose a person who might have the misfortune to be obnoxious to his superior officer to perpetual persecution. However conscious of his innocence, in vain would he expect redress from a General Court-Martial, for in the very moment of a well-founded expectation of an honourable acquittal, a protest appears and blasts it all, and sends him back to his room a melancholy prisoner. But on the contrary, if his design was no more than by an entry of his protest upon the minutes, to operate against the justice and equity of our proceedings, we must and do consider ourselves as an improper conveyance to our superiors of that protest, which was so replete with crimination and abuse. We could add that the illiberal sentiments of the protest were not the only injury offered us. The whole of the General's conduct during the course of the trial was marked with contempt and disrespect towards the court; and by his extraordinary answer, has added insult to injury.

We mention these things that you may know what were our motives in this matter. And our principal design is this, that through you General *Arnold* may know the light in which we have seen this matter, which we flatter our-

selves you will readily see the propriety of. And from the regard you have for the honour, the discipline, and subordination of the Army, you will not by a sudden dissolution, put it out of our power to obtain that satisfaction we are entitled to.

By order of the Court-Martial :

ENOCH POOR, *President.*

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates.*

To His Excellency General GATES, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Troops at TICONDEROGA and CROWN-POINT :

The Petition of the Inhabitants of SHELBURNE, on Lake CHAMPLAIN, humbly sheweth :

That we are in great distress at this place, as *Lodowick Potter*, one of our neighbours, and one that petitioned to your Excellency by Mr. *Logan*, was carried away, with his wife and children, some time last week; and we expect the inhabitants of *Onion River* are also carried off, but are not certain, as the men we sent there are not returned, and we dare not wait longer. As we, the inhabitants, are well attached to the *American* cause, and had encouragement from your Excellency that if any alarm happened you would be so gracious as to send us relief, and as we have just begun our harvest, which is considerably large, we humbly pray your Excellency will be graciously pleased to send us relief by so large a guard as your Excellency's wisdom shall in our condition think proper.

As one of the men we send was one of the first that discovered the mischief done, your Excellency can further satisfy yourself by examining him. Pray consider us in our distress, and your humble petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

MOSES PIERSON,	KELER TROWBRIDGE,
JAS. LOGAN,	JACOB SMITH,
DERICK WEBB,	JAMES HILL,
JOHN ,	RUFUS COLE,
SAML. FILER,	WILLIAM BLANCHARD.

Shelburne, August 6, 1776.

Onion River, August 6, 1776.

To the Commander General in chief at TICONDEROGA :

SIR: We, the inhabitants of this place, being in distress by the enemy, would beg your Honour's assistance with a guard, so that we may secure our crops, that are now ripe, which are very valuable, or to help us away with our families. Colonel *Warner* is not come to us, as we expected. We have made some discovery of the enemy here; one family taken, in which are two men, one woman, two children. We leave to your Honour's pleasure to secure our crops, or to help us away.

We are, sir, your friends and humble servants.

Signed by the inhabitants of this place.

AZARIAH ROOD,	AARON MILLER,
EBENEZER LYMAN,	PARISH COBURN,
JOSEPH BROWNE,	JONATH. CLASON,
SAML. CHAMBERLIN,	LEVI MILLER,
JOSEPH TERWAY,	SILAS ROOD.
NATHANIEL BROWN,	

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WADSWORTH.

Lebanon, August 6, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 18th and 20th of *July* last, with the return of your brigade of the 19th last month, and the other letter of the 1st *August* instant, are all duly come to hand. Last week circular letters were sent to the Civil Authority, Selectmen, and Committees of Inspection, and all military officers, in the several towns of this State, to facilitate and promote enlistments in the several regiments raised here. Trust that the hurry of harvest being in a good measure over, and our common cause pressing, men will incline to enlist for its service. Recruiting officers are necessary, and suppose are left for the purpose. Shall be glad to know how they are filled, and for your brigade wish to have another return thereof. As to the mustering such as were not here, you will adopt the easiest mode for it.

This you will receive by *Eliphalet Dyer* and *Richard Law*, Esquires, who will inform what is needful. Shall at

all times be pleased with the intelligence you can find time to communicate.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Brigadier-General *Wadsworth.*

NORWALK (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

Norwalk, August 6, 1776.

Whereas *Cornelius Dyckman*, of *Norwalk*, has been complained of to this Committee, for endeavouring to depreciate the Continental currency, emitted by the honourable Continental Congress; this Committee gave the said *Dyckman* the usual notice of six days, previous to their meeting this day, to answer to the charge, but the said *Dyckman* did not appear; whereupon this Committee proceeded to examine the evidence, by whom it appeared that the said *Dyckman* openly, and in a concourse of people, declared and offered to give one hundred dollars in Continental currency for ninety dollars in silver; this he did repeatedly in the course of his conversation, and at different times, adding reproachful reflections on the institutions of Committees of Observation. Whereupon this Committee, considering the high importance of supporting the credit of the Continental currency, by which the expense of our military operations are in a great measure defrayed, are of opinion that the said *Dyckman* did it with a design to depreciate the said currency, and thereby injure the cause of liberty, and oppose and counteract the operations of the *United States* in support of their invaded rights. Therefore, this Committee

Resolve, That it is evident to them that the said *Dyckman* is an open and malicious enemy to the proceedings of the *United States* in the noble stand they have made in defending their rights and repelling their enemies; and as such they publish him, requesting all persons to refrain all dealings and intercourse with said *Dyckman*.

By order of the Committee.

Attest : THADDEUS BETTS, *Clerk.*

JAMES WARREN TO THOMAS CUSHING.

Boston, August 6, 1776.

SIR: The bearer of this is Captain *Samson*, of the brigantine *Independence*, who arrived here this afternoon, and waits for his commission, &c. The Council have as yet ordered him but twelve-and-a-half hundred weight of powder, which is a quantity really too little for his cruise. I therefore could wish you to aid him in getting an order for two-and-a-half hundred weight more. You may depend on his economy and care. I think it not good policy to be too parsimonious, especially when it has a tendency to dampen the ardour and spirit of our men, as in this case, and when all that is desired is so trifling. I could also wish it may be agreeable to the Council to enlarge his orders, so as to give him a better chance for a rich prize or two.

Your attention to this matter will serve the publick and oblige your humble servant,

J. WARREN.

To *Thomas Cushing*, Esq.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO COLONEL DIKE.

In Committee of Council, Watertown, August 6, 1776.

You are hereby directed and commanded to order the several companies that may be raised in the Counties of *Hampshire*, *Worcester*, *Middlesex*, *Plymouth*, and *Barnstable*, as soon as they are formed, immediately to march to the Heights of *Dorchester*, where, as soon as the troops are collected, they will be formed into regiments. And you are further commanded to observe and follow such order and instructions as you from time to time shall receive from Major-General *Ward*, or his successor, to whom you are directed to apply to furnish your men with their quarters, with their subsistence and pay, as also such ammunition as the men under your command may from time to time stand in need of.

To Colonel *Nicholas Dike.*

FRANCIS SHAW, JUN., TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Marblehead, August 6, 1776.

Enclosed you have memorandum of sundries I received by your Honours' orders.

Captain *Lambert* is now ready to sail with a fair wind. He informs me that he has paid Mr. *Perkins* and Mr. *Clark*, two of his officers, one month's pay; since which he has not seen them. He thinks it possible that the same gentlemen, in his absence, will apply to your Honours for what wages may be due to them on the former voyage, and desired me to inform your Honours of their late conduct, for your government.

I am, with due respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

FRED. SHAW, JUN.

To the Hon. Council of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

W. SEVER TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Kingston, August 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Captain *Samson* is apprehensive that the limits to which he is confined by his orders will not admit of his crossing the line of the trade between the *West-India Islands* and *Europe*, as he tells me he finds, from inquiry, that from an apprehension of danger northward, ships pass more southerly than they usually have done. If this be fact, and it be the design of the Council that his orders should not admit of his cruising on that trade, perhaps it might be thought expedient to enlarge his orders. I have been informed that Captain *Fisk*, in one of the Colonial armed sloops, is at liberty to proceed as far south as 35°. Your Honour knows whether it be so or not. Captain *Samson* informs me that he is restricted to 37°.

I mention these things for consideration; and am, respectfully, your very humble servant,

W. SEVER.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO MESSRS. LOVEWELL, PATTEN, AND BLANCHARD.

In Committee of Safety, August 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By Captain *Dow* we received your letter relative to your suspicions of many persons being concerned in altering, and thereby passing the Bills of Credit emitted by the Colonies at higher rates than they are originally set at. We are amazed any persons in this time of difficulty and distress should be so wicked as to endeavour to destroy the very sinews of defence against our very potent enemy; are also much obliged to you and the other gentlemen in the County of *Hillsborough* for their care in discovering the persons concerned in so vile a cheat, and almost treason against the States. The Act is not printed, but is in the press, and will be finished in a few days, when they will be distributed. In the mean time send you an attested copy thereof in manuscript, and advise that the Magistrates exert themselves in examining all suspected persons; and those they think guilty, to oblige them to recognise in large sums, and sufficient sureties, to appear at the Supreme Court, but on failure, to commit them.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN, S. C., DATED AUGUST 7, 1776.

Not less than two thousand five hundred men have gone against the *Cherokee Indians*, who have *Alexander Cameron* at their head. An express last night from Major *Williamson* says our people are anxious to be amongst them. Generals *Lee* and *Howe* set off this morning for the southward; they have about fifteen hundred men. It is said they are going to *St. Augustine*, where they are to make reprisals for the emolument of each lucky and bold fellow. This will certainly be the means of keeping *Georgia* quiet; for the thieves of *St. Augustine* have committed some outrages on the back part of that Province.

Our people are taking up the *Acteon's* guns; three fine nine-pounders and a parcel of swivels, were landed in town yesterday.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.  
[No. 118.]

Annapolis, August 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This will be delivered you by Captain *Thomas*, who commands one of the Independent companies that was ordered up to *Philadelphia* by the late Convention. As Colonel *Smallwood* will not be at *Philadelphia*, we apprehend Captain *Thomas* may be at a loss who to apply

to for orders; we therefore request you will give him any direction or assistance in your power. We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL HOLLINGSWORTH.  
[No. 119.]

Annapolis, August 7, 1776.

SIR: If there should not be any provision laid in for the Flying-Camp Militia at the head of the Bay, as they arrive there on their march to the northward, or baggage-wagons provided, we request you will give them the necessary assistance. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN BROOKE.  
[No. 120.]

Annapolis, August 7, 1776.

SIR: We have no particular orders to give you, further than to let you know that we have given general orders to your Colonel; and as soon as your company is complete and well armed, you are to march immediately to the northward. We are, &c.

To Captain *John Brooke*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.  
[No. 121.]

Annapolis, August 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have been informed Lieutenant *Stewart*, of Captain *Thomas's* company, has lately accepted a commission from Congress in the Marine service. If the fact is so, it must supersede the commission he holds under us. And, upon a presumption of the truth of it, we have filled up the vacancy occasioned by the removal, and promoted the other officers, and enclose the commissions to you, to be delivered the several officers, if Mr. *Stewart* is removed, or return to us if he is not. We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN NICHOLSON.  
[No. 122.]

Annapolis, August 7, 1776.

SIR: We have some powder and small-arms arrived at *Great Wicomico*, in *Virginia*. We want your small tender to go up that river for them, and the ship *Defence* to go down below the mouth of *Potomack* to protect her; come down, therefore, as soon as you can, and call on us for a letter to the person who has the military stores under his care. We are, &c.

To Captain *James Nicholson*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DANIEL HUGHES.  
[No. 123.]

Annapolis, August 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are now much in want of the cannon you contracted to supply us with. We must, therefore, request you will, with all expedition, send down all you have ready, and that you will not delay, as quickly as you possibly can, complying with the whole of your contract.

We are, &c.

To *Daniel & Samuel Hughes*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN TILLARD.  
[No. 124.]

Annapolis, August 7, 1776.

SIR: We are informed by Mr. *Chase*, that the privates of your company are very uneasy on account of their not being taken into barracks and provided with subsistence. By the resolves of Congress, the Militia of the Flying-Camp are not to be allowed any pay or rations until they are properly armed and accoutred, and march to the northward; and as our Convention did not give any particular directions to the Council of Safety about them, we have not thought it proper to order them to be taken into barracks or subsisted; however, as your company may be very serviceable here, provided they will assist in working on the fortifications in and about this city, which we presume they will not object to, we will take them into barracks and give them all the assistance we can in getting arms. We are, &c.

To Captain *Edward Tillard*.



## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GEORGE SCOTT.

[No. 125.]

Annapolis, August 7, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Griffith* wants some linen for his battalion; if you and he can agree about price, we are willing he should have it. We are, &c.

To *George Scott*, Esq.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MR. NICHOLS.

[No. 126.]

Annapolis, August 7, 1776.

SIR: Being informed there is a large quantity of flint-stones on the wharf at *Emerson's* Warehouse, we request you will, immediately on receipt of this, favour us with your answer, advising whether there are any such there or not; and if there should be, we request you will endeavour to get them into a situation to be removed from thence to some place where they may be manufactured into flints. Any expenses which you may incur in this business we will cheerfully allow you; also a reasonable price for the stones to the proprietor of them. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Nichols*, at *Emerson's* Warehouse, *Talbot* County.

P. S. If it can be conveniently done, we would choose to have them manufactured on the spot.

## A. BARNES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, St. Mary's County, Leonard-Town, }  
August 7, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Mantz*, with his company, is arrived here, we presume to assist in repelling the enemy from this quarter, as well as to supply the place of the Independent company ordered from hence to the northward. We beg leave to observe to you, that as the principal cause (that of the enemy) is now happily removed, by the fleet having left *Potomack* and passed down the Bay, there may not be so great a necessity for that company now as existed and appeared to your Board at the time you ordered Captain *Mantz* to march to our assistance. We would further observe to you, that we find the strongest dissatisfaction prevailing in these men at being stationed in this part of the country, proceeding from a representation of some persons that it is unhealthy; and from the difference of situation, disease and ill health must be expected as a certain consequence, especially to those who have been born and bred in a more healthy climate. Add to this their licentious behaviour since they have been at this place, in killing and destroying people's property, and threatening to disband and return, should any of their company fall sick; and being, as we perceive and observe, under no control or command of their officers, we fear they will rather prove a disadvantage than service to the people of this County. Under these circumstances, and for these reasons, we have taken the liberty to remonstrate to you, and entreat their removal from hence, hoping that this act (which we conceive to be the good of the whole) cannot meet with your censure or disapprobation. That it is right, agreeable to a resolve of Convention, to station some troops in the lower part of this County, we agree; and beg you will order that part of Captain *Beall's* company now stationed at *Port Tobacco* to move down, or any other you may think more proper. This we are of opinion will answer the purpose better. Upon this principle we have acted, without any intention to counteract your proceedings; and in that point of light we hope and trust you will kindly view it.

Signed by order:

A. BARNES, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

## COLONEL SIM TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Prince George's County, August 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On the late alarm of Lord *Dunmore's* fleet coming up the river *Potomack*, it was thought necessary that the neighbouring Militia should be called out for the defence of the inhabitants; and as I was at that time absent in *Frederrick*, an application was made to Major *T. Sim Lee*, who, as you will observe by the letter enclosed, ordered Captain *Marbury's*, Captain *Wheeler's*, Captain *Bayne's*, Captain *Wade's*, and Captain *Leran's* companies to march, which they did, and continued on the banks of *Potomack* till dis-

charged. You have, enclosed, Captain *Bayne's* account for the time his company was in the service, and he now waits on you for the payment of his account.

By the appointment of Captain *John Addison*, as Lieutenant-Colonel to the Flying-Camp, Captain *Bayne* succeeds to the command of his company as First-Lieutenant; he therefore would be glad to receive his commission, together with commissions for his several officers, who rise of course.

I am, gentlemen, with great regard, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH SIM.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*.

P. S. Captain *Wade* also waits on you with his account, and will receive the money for Captain *Bayne*, who declines going up, and will likewise receive the commissions for Captain *Bayne's* officers.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH SIM.

## CHARLES GRAHAME TO THOMAS HARWOOD, JUN.

Lower Marlborough, August 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Enclosed is Captain *J. A. Thomas's* certificate of an agreement made with *John David* for the hire of his schooner to carry his company to *Annapolis*, and *John David's* account of the time he was on that service proved. You will please apply to the Council of Safety for an order on the Treasury for the money, and I will take it when I come up next week.

Our people have put it upon me to serve them once more, and I must accordingly give my attendance at the next Convention. My colleagues are *Benjamin Mackall*, of *Hallowing-Point*, Colonel *Fitzhugh*, and *John Mackall*. I am sorry to hear that Mr. *Johnson* is dropped by *Anne Arundel* County—it would have given me pleasure to have served with him; and as I have heard nothing of the city election, am still in hopes of his being elected for that.

I am, respectfully, dear sir, your very humble servant,

CHARLES GRAHAME.

To Mr. *Thomas Harwood*, Jun., *Annapolis*.

July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I agreed to pay to Captain *John David* thirty shillings a day for his vessel, to convey my company to *Annapolis*.

J. A. THOMAS.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety.

## JAMES KENT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY

Queen Anne's County, August 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 29th *July*, with my commission enclosed, has been received.

I observe you request my attendance at your Board to consult on matters relative to the Flying-Camp. It would have given me pleasure to have received this request earlier, for at an election in this County for Delegates to serve in Convention, I have been very unexpectedly polled, and now stand second on the polls. This distinguished mark of the approbation of the freemen of this County forbids my leaving them at this time; and could I be permitted to hold both posts, do think I should be wrong in attempting it; therefore take the earliest opportunity of resigning my commission into the hands of the honourable body that honoured me with it. Although I am well convinced, when I consider the two departments, that my abilities in the military must excel any I have for the legislative, yet I must submit this to the choice of the freemen of my County.

I have the honour to be, with much esteem and respect, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

JAMES KENT.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## JOHN CROCKETT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, August 7, 1776.

SIR: I shall be much obliged to you to let me know if the Council intend sending anything from *Carolina*. I have some thoughts of going out to *St. Eustatia*, in case I do not go to *Carolina* to do the business for you. I shall also be much obliged to you if you will, per this opportunity, (Capt.

*Martin*,) inform Mr. *Vanbibber* of what he may expect, and whether or no you intend sending anything from *Carolina*, as I have mentioned it to him, though he could not positively say whether you would send anything from there or not. You will please excuse my taking the liberty of writing you on this matter, as it is a requisition by Mr. *Vanbibber* of me.

Your humble servant, JOHN CROCKETT.  
To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*.

GEORGE WOOLSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, August 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received your esteemed favour of the 1st instant, and delayed answering it until now on account of not being able to see all the owners of the vessel you write about sooner. They seem pretty generally to be against parting with her, as they still have large expectations from her, not doubting but she will answer their purpose.

I wrote you a few lines the 29th of last month, by Captain *Thomas Yates*, concerning flints, which you formerly spoke to me about, but have not any answer to it from you.

I intend going up to *Philadelphia*, and perhaps to *New-York*, soon; if there is anything there I can do for you, you may command me with the greatest pleasure to me.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,  
GEO. WOOLSEY.

To the Hon. Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

P. S. I should be glad to know when you think you will want me for the service of the Province, as I would not wish to be out of the way.  
G. W.

COLONEL EWING TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, August 7, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: The bearer, Mr. *Chew*, a Lieutenant in Captain *Tillard's* company in my battalion, has applied, he says, by your order, for orders to put his company into barracks until such time as guns and blankets can be got for them.

It is my opinion, from what I saw when down the country, that numbers of the poor soldiers were very badly off for want of subsistence. I therefore think it would much forward the good of the service, to put the soldiers, as raised, into barracks. I would be glad you would give me leave to issue such orders.

Mr. *Chew* tells me he thinks he could procure a quantity of guns and blankets, provided he had money. I should be glad you would let him have some.

I am, with respect, honoured sirs, your most obedient servant,  
THOS. EWING.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

Baltimore, August 7, 1776.

Captain *John Campbell*, commander of the *Enterprise* privateer, from this place, has taken and sent into *Chingoteague* a brig loaded with molasses; and a ship from *Barbadoes to England*, was sent into *Sinepuxent* on the 24th ultimo. When the brig left Captain *Campbell*, he was in chase of a ship, deeply laden, and expected to be in possession of her in a few hours. The prize ship which has safely arrived in *Sinepuxent*, is said to have on board a great quantity of *Spanish dollars*, &c., &c., and was taken by Captain *Campbell* the 18th ultimo.

SECRET COMMITTEE TO SILAS DEANE.

Philadelphia, August 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The above is a copy of our last, [of July 8,] which went by the *Despatch*, Captain *Parker*.

The Congress have since taken into consideration the heads of a treaty to be proposed to *France*; but as they are not yet concluded upon, we cannot say more of them by this conveyance.

You will see by the newspapers which accompany this, that the expedition against *South-Carolina* is foiled by the gallant resistance made there. The enemy, much diminished by sickness, it is thought will attempt nothing further in those parts. The people of *North-Carolina*, who at first

had taken up their bridges and broken the roads to prevent the enemy from penetrating their country, have since, being ready to receive him, repaired the roads and bridges, and wish him to attempt making use of them.

General *Howe* is posted now on *Staten-Island*, near *New-York*, with the troops he carried to *Halifax* when he was driven out of *Boston*. Lord *Howe* is also arrived there with some regiments, and more are expected, as the great push seems intended to be made in that Province. General *Washington's* Army is in possession of the town, about which many intrenchments are thrown up, so as to give an opportunity of disputing the possession with *Howe*, if he should attempt it, and of making it cost him something; but it is not so regularly fortified as to stand a siege. We have also a Flying-Camp in the *Jerseys*, to harass the enemy if he should attempt to penetrate through that Province to *Philadelphia*. In the different Colonies we have now near eighty thousand men in the pay of Congress.

The Declaration of Independence meets with universal approbation, and the people everywhere seem more animated by it in defence of their country.

Most of our frigates are launched in the different Provinces, and are fitting for sea with all the expedition in our power. They are fine ships, and will be capable of good service. Our small privateers and Continental armed vessels have already had great success, as the papers will show you; and by abstaining from trade ourselves, while we distress that of our enemies, we expect to make their men-of-war weary of their unprofitable and hopeless cruises, and their merchants sick of a contest in which so much is risked and nothing gained. The forming a Navy is a capital object with us, and the Marine Committee is ordered to bring in a plan for increasing it very considerably.

The armed boats for the defence of our rivers and bays grow more and more in repute; they venture to attack large men-of-war, and are very troublesome to them. The papers will give you several instances of their success.

We hope by this time you are in *Paris*, and that Mr. *Morris* has joined you, whom we recommend to you warmly, and desire you may mutually coöperate in the publick service. With great esteem we are, &c.

To *Silas Deane*, Esq.

SAMUEL CHASE TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Philadelphia, August 7, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: I wrote you immediately on my return to this city, (about the 18th of *July*,) and acknowledged the receipt of your letter dated from *Montreal* the 11th *June*. In that you admit the receipt of my letter of the 31st *May* and 1st and 3d *June*. The last post brought me your favour of the 12th *July*, from *Crown-Point*. I have received no other letters from you than the above. As you do not inform me of the receipt of my long letter from *Saratoga* of 6th *June*, I presume it miscarried.

There are, in all, about one hundred and twenty sail of our enemy's fleet arrived at *Staten-Island*. Our Army at *New-York* consists of about eighteen thousand men, of which three thousand six hundred are sick; our Flying-Camp, in the *Jerseys*, of about five thousand. Seven battalions from *Boston* and two from *Virginia* are ordered to *New-York*. A battalion from the *Delaware* State passed through this city yesterday, and the Militia are coming in every hour. Our vessels are very successful in taking prizes.

I beg you will from time to time communicate, with your usual candour, and without any reserve, the numbers and condition of our Army, and such observations as you think will explain the subject to me, both of men and measures. No more will be disclosed than you desire.

I am distressed to hear so many reports injurious to your character about the goods seized at *Montreal*. I cannot but request all persons to suspend their opinion, and to give you an opportunity of being heard. Your best friends are not your countrymen.

Mr. *Carroll* requests his compliments to you. Make me remembered to General *Gates*. Tell him I saw his letter to Mr. *J. Adams*; that I cannot understand his message to me, and shall, if I can get the letter, write to him; if not, I wish he would explain fully and explicitly what he means. I take his letter unkind; think he ought to have written to me, or at least to have written so as to be under-

stood by Mr. *Adams* or myself, which is not the case. He knows my esteem and friendship for him. Adieu.

Your affectionate and obedient servant,  
SAML. CHASE.

To Brigadier-General *Arnold*.

P. S. In what condition is our Navy on the Lakes?

ABRAHAM CLARK TO REV. JAMES CALDWELL.

Philadelphia, August 7, 1776.

MY DEAR FRIEND: Your favour of the 26th *July*, from the *German-Flats*, I received, and the next day after wrote you by post; at the same time received a letter from Colonel *Dayton*, of the 25th, and since that I received one the Colonel wrote the 20th from *Fort Stanwix*, to which I wrote a long answer yesterday, which I have yet by me, as the President will write this day to General *Schuyler*, and hath engaged to send it in his packet, in which I purpose to get this a place. If this should find you at the *German-Flats*, and the Colonel is at *Fort Stanwix*, I hereby authorize you to open and read his letter, and then forward it to him, as I intend my letters to either of you will be considered as intended for both.

We have no news to-day. This morning one of our large frigates was launched; two others, of twenty-four and twenty-six guns, were some time ago launched, and are rigging.

I regret my being moved to this Congress. I think I should have been of more service in our own Province than here. I remember what *Cæsar* said in passing the *Alps*: "That he had rather be the first in a small village in the *Alps*, than the second in *Rome*." This will not exactly apply to myself, as I did not esteem myself the first in the *Jersey* Convention, and I am sure I am far below the second here. It is in some degree applicable.

In your letter you tell me of our feasting here. Indeed we have plenty; but I dare say you have the best feast: my want of health will not suffer me to relish delicacies.

News, as far as my present station will permit, I have given in the letter to the Colonel. More I might in confidence say, were either of you present; but I dare not risk more in a letter. I think I informed you in my last, that money to pay your regiment was sent forward, and the matter relative to your regiment's returning to the *Jerseys* in the fall, was not proper to mention yet, from the uncertain issue of the war to the northward.

I am, dear sir, most affectionately yours,

ABRA. CLARK.

To the Rev. *James Caldwell*, Chaplain of a Battalion at *German-Flats* or *Fort Stanwix*.

P. S. I don't recollect the death of any of your hearers since you left us, but *Thomas Williams*, who died two weeks ago, or something more.

A. C.

#### CUMBERLAND COUNTY (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

On *Wednesday*, the 7th instant, the Committee of Inspection for the County of *Cumberland*, in the State of *New-Jersey*, the Officers of the Militia, and a great number of other inhabitants, having met at *Bridgetown*, went in procession to the Court-House, where the Declaration of Independency, the Constitution of *New-Jersey*, and the Treason Ordinance, were publicly read, and unanimously approved of. These were followed with a spirited Address by Dr. *Elmer*, Chairman of the Committee; after which the Peace Officers' staves, on which were depicted the King's Coat of Arms, with other ensigns of royalty, were burnt in the street. The whole was conducted with the greatest decency and regularity.

The following, being the substance of the before mentioned Address, is published at the particular request of the Committee and all who were present:

"Gentlemen of the Committee, Officers of the Militia, and Gentlemen spectators:

"From what has now been read, you see the long wished-for, but much dreaded period has arrived, in which the connexion between *Great Britain* and *America* is totally dissolved, and these Colonies declared Free and Independent States. As this is an event of the greatest importance, it must afford satisfaction to every intelligent person to reflect,

that it was brought about by unavoidable necessity on our part, and has been conducted with a prudence and moderation becoming the wisest and best of men.

"With the Independency of the *American* States a new era in politicks has commenced. Every consideration respecting the propriety or impropriety of a separation from *Britain*, is now entirely out of the question; and we have now no more to do with the King and people of *England*, than we have with the King and people of *France* or *Spain*. No people under Heaven were ever favoured with a fairer opportunity of laying a sure foundation for future grandeur and happiness than we. The plan of Government established in most States and Kingdoms of the world, has been the effect of chance or necessity: ours of sober reason and cool deliberation. Our future happiness or misery, therefore, as a people, will depend entirely upon ourselves. If, actuated by principles of virtue and genuine patriotism, we make the welfare of our country the sole aim of all our actions; if we intrust none but persons of abilities and integrity with the management of our publick affairs; if we carefully guard against corruption and undue influence in the several departments of Government; if we are steady and zealous in putting the laws in strict execution;—the spirit and principles of our new Constitution, which we have just now heard read, may be preserved for a long time. But if faction and party spirit, the destruction of popular Governments, take place, anarchy and confusion will soon ensue, and we shall either fall an easy prey to a foreign enemy, or some factious and aspiring demagogue, possessed of popular talents and shining qualities—a *Julius Cæsar* or an *Oliver Cromwell*—will spring up among ourselves, who, taking advantage of our political animosities, will lay violent hands on the Government, and sacrifice the liberties of his country to his own ambitious and domineering humour. God grant that neither of these may ever be the unhappy fate of this or any of the *United States*. To prevent which, while we are striving to defend ourselves against the unjust encroachments of a foreign and unnatural enemy, let us not neglect to keep a strict and jealous eye over our own internal police and Constitution. Let the fate of *Greece*, *Rome*, *Carthage*, and *Great Britain*, warn us of our danger; and the loss of liberty in all those States, for want of timely guarding against the introduction of tyranny and usurpation, be a standing admonition to us, to avoid the rock on which they have all been shipwrecked.

"Let us, as honest citizens and sincere lovers of our country, exert ourselves in the defence of our State and in support of our new Constitution; but while we strive to vindicate the glorious cause of liberty on the one hand, let us, on the other hand, carefully guard against running into the contrary extreme of disorder and licentiousness.

"In our present situation, engaged in a bloody and dangerous war with the power of *Great Britain*, for the defence of our lives, our liberties, our property, and everything that is dear and valuable, every member of this State who enjoys the benefits of its civil government, is absolutely bound, by the immutable law of self-preservation, the laws of God and of society, to assist in protecting and defending it. This is so plain and self-evident a proposition, that I am persuaded every person here present makes it the rule of his conduct on all occasions; and consequently, in a time of such imminent danger, will be extremely careful, at our ensuing election, not to intrust any one with the management of our publick affairs who has not, by his vigilance and activity in the cause of liberty, proved himself to be a true friend to his country. The success, gentlemen, of our present glorious struggle wholly depends upon this single circumstance. For though the situation and extent of the *United States of America* and our numberless internal resources, are sufficient to enable us to bid defiance to all *Europe*, yet should we be so careless about our own safety as to intrust the affairs of our State, while the bayonet is pointed at our breasts, to persons whose conduct discovers them to be enemies to their country, or whose religious principles will not suffer them to lift a hand for our defence, our ruin will inevitably follow.

"As it is impossible for any one possessed of the spirit of a man, who is a friend to the *United States*, and whose conscience does not furnish him with an excuse to stand by, an idle spectator, while his country is struggling and bleeding in her own necessary defence, all such inactive persons ought therefore to be shunned as enemies or despised as cowards.

And as I have reason to believe that many who plead conscience as an excuse are sincere in their pretensions, and as every man's conscience ought to be free from compulsion, this single consideration should restrain us from forcing such into any of the departments of Government. For to put such persons, at this time, in places of publick trust, is actually to deprive them of liberty of conscience; for we thereby compel them either to betray the trust reposed in them, or to act contrary to the dictates of their own consciences; a dilemma in which, act as they will, their conduct must be criminal. Besides, if we consulted only our own safety, it is plain, that to intrust the affairs of our Government, at this juncture, to such people, is as dangerous as to intrust the management of a ship in a violent storm to an infant or an idiot.

"As a friend to my country and a lover of liberty, I thought it my duty to address you on this occasion; and having now, as a faithful member of society, discharged my duty, I shall leave you to the exercise of your own judgment, and conclude with a request, that you would conduct yourself this day in such a manner as to convince the publick that your abhorrence of the cruel and bloody *Nero of Britain*, and his despicable minions of tyranny and oppression, arises, not from the mere impulse of blind passion and prejudice, but from sober reason and reflection; and while we rejoice in being formally emancipated from our haughty and imperious task-masters, let us remember that the final termination of this grand event is not likely to be brought about without shedding the blood of many of our dear friends and countrymen."

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, August 7, 1776, seven P. M.

SIR: Enclosed is some intelligence from a deserter, who swam over to us. His account that the heavy baggage of the troops was ordered on board shows an intended movement of the troops from *Staten-Island*. By his information, no foreign troops have yet arrived. I will endeavour to procure some intelligence to-night.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To General Washington.

Examination of RICHARD SHEA, a Deserter.

Inlisted in *Waterford* twenty-two months ago; an Irishman; of the Fortieth Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel James Grant; in Captain John Adlum's company; was clerk to the regiment. He has been six weeks on *Staten-Island*. Was at *Boston* last year from July to the 17th March. Went from there to *Halifax*. Remained there on ship, except now and then on shore to exercise. There are in the Fortieth Regiment three hundred and thirty-six rank and file. Supposed to have fourteen thousand on the Island. Two new Highland regiments very sickly. The Forty-Second Regiment of Highlanders. Expect some Hessians, but none come. The Fortieth Regiment opposite the *Blazing-Star*, in barns. Stretch two miles and a quarter on the right and left of the *Old Blazing-Star*. Had no leave to go one-quarter of a mile from quarters. If any soldier left quarters, severely punished. His reason for deserting was, he had £4 due for pay, and £10 as clerk, which he asked for, and was refused by the Paymaster. The officers are much afraid of the Riflemen; the soldiers in spirits; two thousand men sick—small-pox, the Highlanders with fluxes—poxes; not more than four thousand of the fourteen thousand clever soldiers. The Lighthouse and Marines remained at *Halifax*; also old men and others unfit for service.

Five days ago, ordered the officers' heavy baggage, and women of the Army, on board the fleet. As far as he heard, he believes they will not attack *New-York*, unless reinforced by the foreigners. He has seen in orders for working party at *Billow's Point*, where they are numerous, and have thrown up intrenchments. No works near the *Blazing-Star*. One company at the *Old Blazing-Star*. Don't know who is at the *New Blazing-Star*.

Two days' fresh provisions in a week. No vegetables in the week. Each company of the Fortieth Regiment have a guard in front—three men in daytime, six at night; no main

guard. The inhabitants are sworn by the commanding officer.

There is on the Island Major-General James Grant, who was formerly Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fortieth Regiment; and the Lieutenant-Colonel James Grant, who is also there, was Major in the regiment.

He heard there were forty transports arrived last Thursday, chiefly store-ships; some few Highlanders. Heard Clinton was defeated, and he was expected to join them.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ELIZABETH-TOWN POINT, NEW-JERSEY, DATED AUGUST 7, 1776.

I was ordered by Colonel Chevalier to wait on two gentlemen, Mr. Maddison and Mr. Johnson, one of whom is a clergyman, and both natives of *Augusta County, Virginia*, who arrived in the *Lord Hyde* packet from *Falmouth*, at *Staten-Island*, the 29th of July, and have brought papers from *London* to the 23d of May, which are now here, and kept for the use of General Washington, who, it is said, will be in town to-morrow. A copy of the King of *England's* speech is enclosed. The above-mentioned gentlemen left the Island this morning with Lord Howe's approbation, and inform that Lord Cornwallis and General Clinton, with all the troops, arrived there on Thursday last from *Carolina*, as a reinforcement, preparatory to the attack on *New-York*, which, these gentlemen say, would, in their opinion, be made in less than a week, without waiting for the arrival of the remainder of the foreigners, who were hourly looked for, having sailed three days before this ship; that the troops now on the Island amount to about twelve thousand, and those expected will make the enemy twenty thousand strong.

The current opinion of the British Generals is, that they will find no difficulty in taking possession of *New-York*; but are much afraid that the Rebels (as they call us) will destroy it, as they speak most contemptuously of us, looking upon us as an undisciplined rabble; and that they are confident of effecting a junction with *Burgoyne* from *Canada*, and thereby facilitate the subjection of this country. The gentlemen add, that the enemy are much distressed for want of fresh provisions.

The English papers inform that the *Minerva, Wining*, from *Philadelphia*, was arrived at *Londonderry*, in five weeks, loaded with three hundred and twenty hogsheads of flaxseed, and that she was immediately made a prize of, being American property. An article mentions, that on the question for Independence in Congress, the *Pennsylvania* Delegates voted against it, and in consequence thereof, the other Colonies kept a jealous eye over them. The papers contain many other matters, but I cannot keep them any longer to transcribe particulars.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 8, 1776.]

New-York, August 7, 1776.

SIR: In my letter of the 5th, which I had the honour of addressing you, I begged leave to recall the attention of Congress to the absolute necessity there is for appointing more General Officers, promising, at the same time, by the first opportunity, to give my sentiments more at large upon the subject.

Confident I am that the postponing this measure has not proceeded from motives of frugality, otherwise I should take the liberty of attempting to prove that we put too much to the hazard by such a saving. I am but too well apprized of the difficulties that occur in the choice. They are, I acknowledge, great; but at the same time it must be allowed that they are of such a nature as to present themselves whenever the subject is thought of. Time, on the one hand, does not remove them; on the other, delays may be productive of fatal consequences.

This Army, though far short as yet of the numbers intended by Congress, is by much too unwieldy for the command of any one man, without several Major-Generals to assist. For it is to be observed, that a Brigadier-General at the head of his brigade is no more than a Colonel at the head of a regiment, except that he acts upon a larger scale. Officers of more general command are at all times wanted for the good order and government of an army, especially



when the army is composed chiefly of raw troops; but in an action, they are indispensably necessary. At present there is but one Major-General for this whole department and the Flying-Camp; whereas, at this place alone, less than three cannot discharge the duties with that regularity there ought to be.

If these Major-Generals are appointed, as undoubtedly they will, out of the present Brigadiers, you will want for this place three Brigadiers at least. The Northern Department will require one, if not two, (as General Thompson is a prisoner, and the Baron Woodke reported to be dead, or in a state not much better,) there being at present only one Brigadier (Arnold) in all that department. For the Eastern Governments there ought to be one, or a Major-General, to superintend the regiments there, and to prevent impositions that might otherwise be practised. These make the number wanted to be six or seven; and who are to be appointed, Congress can best judge. To make Brigadiers of the oldest Colonels would be the least exceptionable way; but it is much to be questioned whether by that mode the ablest men would be appointed to office. And I would observe, though the rank of the Colonels of the Eastern Governments was settled at Cambridge last year, it only respected themselves, and is still open as to officers of other Governments. To pick a Colonel here and a Colonel there through the Army, according to the opinion entertained of their abilities, would no doubt be the means of making a better choice, and nominating the fittest persons; but then their senior officers would get disgusted, and more than probable, with their connexions, quit the service. That might prove fatal at this time.

To appoint gentlemen as Brigadiers that had not served in the Army, (in this part of it at least,) would not wound any one in particular, but hurt the whole equally, and must be considered in a very discouraging light to every officer of merit. View the matter, therefore, in any point of light, you will see there are inconveniences on the one hand, and difficulties on the other, which ought to be avoided. Would they be remedied by appointing the oldest Colonels from each State? If this mode should be thought expedient, the enclosed list gives the names of the Colonels from New-Hampshire to Pennsylvania inclusive, specifying those who rank first, as I am told, in the several Colony lists.

I have transmitted a copy of a letter from Mr. John Glover, setting forth the nature and grounds of a dispute between him and a Mr. Bradford, respecting their agency. Not conceiving myself authorized, nor having the smallest inclination, to interfere in any degree in the matter, it is referred to Congress, who will determine, and give direction upon it in such manner as they shall judge best. I will only observe, that Mr. Glover was recommended to me as a proper person for an Agent when we first fitted out armed vessels, and was accordingly appointed one, and, so far as I know, discharged his office with fidelity and industry.

I received, yesterday evening, a letter from General Schuyler, containing Lieutenant McMichael's report, who had been sent a scout to Oswego. A copy of the report I have enclosed for the information of Congress, lest General Schuyler should have omitted it in his letter which accompanies this. He was at the German Flats when he wrote, which was the 2d instant, and the treaty with the Indians not begun, nor had the whole expected then arrived; but of these things he will have advised you more fully, I make no doubt.

The Paymaster informs me he received a supply of money yesterday. It came very seasonably, for the application and clamours of the troops had become incessant and distressing beyond measure. There is now two months' pay due them.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. John Hancock, &c.

German Flats, August 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Lieutenant McMichael, who has been on a scout to Oswego, has just now delivered me a paper, of which the enclosed is a copy. If the intelligence it contains should be true, a reinforcement would be necessary in this quarter. I dare give no orders about the removal of the old Sergeant at Oswego, until the treaty is over. I have ordered scouts to be continually kept towards Oswego, and shall try

to procure some of the best-affected Indians to make further inquiry into the matter, and give your Excellency the earliest advice.

I am, dear sir, most respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General Washington, &c., &c.

Intelligence brought from Oswego by Lieutenant McMichael.

Was informed at Oswego that three regiments of Ministerial troops had arrived at Oswegatchie, at which place they were joined by a number of Tories and Indians under the command of Colonel Johnson, and were to embark immediately on board two armed vessels, batteaus, and canoes, and proceed to Oswego, at which place they were to be joined by Colonel Butler with all the Indians under his command, and likewise by Colonel Caldwell with what Regulars could be spared from Niagara. They intend repairing Oswego Fort as quick as possible, in order that they might hold a treaty with the Indians, and be able to defend themselves against any attack. Immediately after the treaty, they are to march with all their force against Fort Stanwix and the German Flats, at the latter of which places they intend to fortify, (if they proceed); they are likewise to fortify at Johnstown, and to secure all the provisions they can.

Was likewise informed that the main Army, under the command of General Burgoyne, was marching to Crown-Point and Tyonderoga, to besiege those places. Was further informed that an Indian man, named Thomas Davis, was sent from Niagara by Colonel Butler, as a spy, to the German Flats, and he is to inform said Butler of the particulars that pass at the German Flats during the treaty.

This intelligence came from a person who resides at Oswego, who was a Sergeant in the Regulars last war, and likewise from a party of Indians who I conversed with that had left Colonel Johnson four days before, and had come as spies.

EDWD. McMICHAEL.

Albany, June 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: At nine this morning I arrived from Fort-George, having left that place yesterday in consequence of the information contained in a letter and paper sent me by the Committee of this City and County, copies of which I do myself the honour to enclose you. I was apprehensive that something of this kind would happen, as your Excellency will perceive by recurring to some of my former letters. I shall do everything in my power to prevent the savages from succeeding; and if Dayton's regiment and the Militia of Tryon and this County drive them off, as I hope they will, I propose to take post at Fort Stanwix, as soon as I shall be in a condition to do it by the arrival of cannon, ammunition, and intrenching tools, having none of either here.

I am informed that Captain Forster's troops and the Indians that joined him, retired on General Arnold's approach; failing of success, their necessity will oblige them to turn elsewhere in search of subsistence, probably the Mohawk River.

Your Excellency's favour of the 7th instant I have this moment received. I am happy that Captain Wilkinson's conjectures were not realized.

I assure you, my dear sir, that I do all in my power to forward and arrange matters. Such a variety of business crowds upon me, that I hardly know which to take in hand first; a steady perseverance will, however, I hope, carry me through; and if I can find time, I will repair to Canada, though I hope and believe General Sullivan will put our affairs in good order, seconded by Generals Arnold and Thompson, who are also indefatigable. General Thomas died the 2d instant.

So far from having been able to procure two thousand Indians to join us, I shall be extremely happy if we can prevent them from acting against us; and I believe nothing will do it but the spirited measure I proposed in my last, of the 8th instant, to Congress, and the taking post at Fort Stanwix. If any Militia should come up, I shall certainly employ them on the communication, and send on the troops. I have already ordered three companies of Van Schaick's from Ticonderoga, as the exchanged prisoners were to be employed there; but if the Militia should take it in their heads to leave Fort George, Ticonderoga, &c., it will be difficult to carry on the provisions for the Army.

Yesterday morning upwards of an hundred barrels of flour left *Fort George*; I suppose thrice that quantity left it to-day, and *Saturday* next I expect fifteen hundred barrels will be sent, together with three hundred barrels of pork lately arrived here; after which none will be left, unless a fresh supply comes from *New-York*, which I hope will be the soonest possible.

I do not wish that *Lady Johnson* should be permitted to go to any place where she may escape, as her detention may induce her husband to seek an accommodation.

I am, dear sir, with every sentiment of esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. I believe I shall be under the necessity of going to *Tryon County* myself.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel FREDERICK PELLENGER, of the GERMAN-FLATS, June 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This minute an express came from one of the best *Indians*, with the news that a great number of the far *Indians* had arrived at *Oneida*, being on their march down; so we sent an express yesterday to the Commanding Officer at *Johnstown* with the news which we got yesterday from *Fort Stanwix*, but could get no assistance; so therefore the necessity requires that you will come up with your regiment immediately, to meet them without delay, or we shall be slaughtered; and send the orders to the next regiment with speed.

Gentlemen, I am your most humble servant,  
FREDERICK PELLENGER.

Albany Committee-Chamber, June 8, 1776.

HONoured SIR: We have this moment received from the *Mohawk River* an account of an intended attack of the Upper *Indians* against our western frontiers, a copy of which information we herewith enclose you. We immediately wrote to the Provincial Congress for a further supply of ammunition. Upon so alarming an occasion we find it necessary to apply to you for advice and assistance. We beg of you, in the most earnest manner, to give us both; together with such directions for our conduct as you may conceive will best answer the purpose of opposing the attempts of the savages and their more savage instigators.

We are, honoured sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servants.

By order: ABRM. YATES, Jun., *Chairman*.

Marblehead, July 20, 1776.

HONoured SIR: I am extremely sorry to take up one moment of your attention, engaged as it is in concerns of the highest importance to the *United American States*; but seeing, without your kind interposition, that I may be materially injured, I hope you will excuse me.

Your Excellency was pleased to appoint me one of the Agents for the Continental armed vessels; which office I have endeavoured to discharge with diligence and fidelity, and conducted, I would fain suppose, to your satisfaction. Among other things, when the ship *Hope*, laden with powder, was taken, I hastened to *Pulling-Point Gut*, through which they attempted to carry the ship to *Boston*; but she got aground; so I procured small craft, and, before night, got out twelve hundred barrels of powder. I procured a guard of one hundred and fifty men from General *Ward*, lest the enemy should take the ship by their boats in the night. I engaged the best pilot in *Boston* to carry up the ship, but he despaired of doing it in the night, because he could not see the marks, as the channel was crooked. I told him I did not choose to trust her there that night, and that she must be got up. He said it was impossible. I then proposed placing at anchor a number of the small vessels, with lanterns on board them, at the shallow places and bends of the channel; and after they were thus stationed, the ship fluting and the wind being fair, we made sail, and got her up to *Boston* safe at anchor off the wharf before daylight; and I ceased not till, with vast labour and fatigue, the whole cargo was secured. On account of this business, for four days and three nights I did not pull off my clothes, and scarcely slept at all. Afterwards I libelled the ship and cargo, and attended the trial and condemnation. In one

word, I have taken the whole care of them; and nothing now remains to be done but making sale of the ship, and a few articles that are not military stores—the work of a day. In this stage of the business, Mr. *John Bradford*, of *Boston*, steps in and desires to sell this ship *Hope* and her cargo, and claims a commission on some others, against which I have either finished or commenced prosecutions.

I will take the liberty to fairly state his pretensions: He received a private letter, about six weeks since, from Mr. *Hancock*, informing him that, through his friendship, he was appointed Agent for all prizes brought into this Colony, and that his commission should be forwarded as soon as might be, and advising him, when he should receive it, to make known his appointment in the publick newspapers. This letter Mr. *Bradford* communicated to me. As I have received no intimation of this from your Excellency, who appointed me an Agent, nor from any person under the authority of Congress, and as Mr. *Bradford's* commission has not arrived, and perhaps never may, I thought it my duty, not only to myself, but to your Excellency and the Continent, to continue acting in that capacity as far as respected those vessels that had come into my hands; those that have since been brought in, to avoid any colour of dispute, I have not meddled with. Under these circumstances, I flatter myself my conduct will receive the approbation of your Excellency and the Congress. And if your Excellency shall judge it expedient, a line from the Marine Committee of Congress may settle this matter as in justice it ought to be, which is all I wish. Mr. *Bradford* has lately received a letter from the Marine Committee, which considers him as Agent respecting some matters yet to be done. This, with Mr. *Hancock's* letter, is all that gives him any authority.

I hope I shall be excused for thus troubling you: I was afraid the publick service would suffer by an altercation between us, and the captors. I shall esteem it a favour if your Excellency will give directions to have the military stores taken in the ship *Hope* appraised, in order that the captors may have their shares, as they are greatly in want of it, many of them.

I am, with the utmost respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

JONATHAN GLOVER.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 8, 1776.]

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 7, 1776, }  
1 o'clock, P. M. }

SIR: Since closing the letter which I had the honour to write you this morning, two deserters have come in, who left the *Solebay* man-of-war last evening. One of them is a native of *New-York*. Their account is, that they were in the engagement with Colonel *Moultrie*, at *Sullivan's Island*, on the 9th *July*. The particulars they give nearly correspond with the narrative sent by General *Lee*. That they left *Carolina* three weeks ago as a convoy to forty-five transports, having on board General *Clinton*, Lord *Cornwallis*, and the whole Southern Army, consisting of about three thousand men, all of whom were landed last week on *Staten-Island*, in tolerable health. That on *Sunday*, thirteen transports, part of Lord *Howe's* fleet, and having on board *Hessians* and *Highlanders*, came to *Staten-Island*. That the remainder of the fleet, which was reported to have in the whole twelve thousand men, had parted with these troops off the Banks of *Newfoundland*, and were expected to come in every moment. That they were getting the heavy carriages and cannon on board; had launched eight gondolas with flat bottoms, and two rafts or straps, to carry cannon. These men understand that the attack will soon be made, if the other troops arrive. That they give out they will lay the *Jersey* waste, with fire and sword. The computed strength of their Army will be thirty thousand men. They further add, that when they left *Carolina*, one transport got on shore, so that they were not able to give her relief; upon which she surrendered, with five companies of *Highlanders*, to General *Lee*, who, after taking everything valuable out of her, burnt her. That the Admiral turned General *Clinton* out of his ship after the engagement, with a great deal of abuse; great differences between the principal naval and military gentlemen. That the ships left in *Carolina* are

now in such a weakly, distressed condition, they would fall an easy prey.

I am, sir, with great respect and regard, your most obedient and very humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

P. S. The ships are changing their position, and the men-of-war forming into a line, but I still think they will wait the arrival of the remaining *Hessians* before any general attack will be made. *Monday's* return will show our strength here.

G. W.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-JERSEY CONVENTION.

New-York, August 7, 1776.

SIR: I have received repeated informations that a number of persons known to be inimical to the cause of the *American States*, or of a suspicious character, have lately removed from this and other places into the County of *Monmouth*, in *New-Jersey*, with intent, no doubt, from its situation, of communicating with and aiding our enemies. All those of similar character on *Long-Island*, and the other Counties adjacent to this place, will be secured by to-morrow morning; and I must urge the necessity of your Congress adopting the same measure in all those parts of your Province which are most contiguous to the enemy. There are some also of very dangerous character, who, I am informed, are lurking in the neighbourhood of *Hackensack*, and what they call the *English* neighbourhood, particularly *Benjamin Hugget* and *Frederick Rhinelander*. This measure is now become the more necessary, as, from the intelligence I have this day received, there is the greatest reason to believe that the enemy intend to begin their operations in a very few days, and that with a very powerful force; for not only a considerable part of the foreign troops, the *British Guards*, and an additional number of *Scotch* troops, are lately arrived at *Staten-Island*, but the Army from the southward, under General *Clinton*, also joined them last *Thursday*, and the remainder of the foreign troops have been spoken with on the coast, and are momentarily expected. This must also urge the absolute necessity of your Congress instantly adopting some effectual measures for completing the troops voted, and for affording every other reinforcement to this place that is in their power, by detaching a considerable body of the Militia, or in such other manner as will be more effectual. Of the three thousand three hundred voted by your State, we have but fourteen hundred and fifty, and in the same proportion from the other Colonies; so that you will easily conceive what an alarming situation we are in. As the harvest is now over, and the Militia engaged most cheerfully to return, if necessary, I persuade myself they will readily turn out upon a representation being made to them of the necessity. What from a deficiency of the old regiments, sickness, and the failure of new levies, we are in danger of being outnumbered by the enemy at least double, if not more. The consequences may be fatal, unless prevented by the spirit of the country. I have despatched expresses to *Connecticut* to call in their Militia immediately, with their arms, blankets, and what ammunition they have, as the supply here, to suit their guns, is attended with much difficulty and delay. I must beg your attention to the same circumstance, as far as the situation of things will admit, but so as not to hinder from marching those who cannot come so provided.

I am, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Samuel Tucker*, Esq., President, &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 2d instant is duly received. Enclosed you have a resolution of the Provincial Convention, which came to hand last evening, by which you will please to regulate your conduct. I must beg you to inform me as soon as possible what number your brigade now consists of, and what number it will contain when a fourth part of the Militia are draughted agreeable to order of Provincial Congress.

By intelligence received and movements observed of the enemy, we have the greatest reason to believe a general attack will be made in the course of a few days. Our numbers are much short of the enemy. I hope no time will be

lost in marching the reinforcements expected to our assistance from different quarters, with all possible despatch.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *George Clinton*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL ELMORE.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 7, 1776.

SIR: On the 1st instant I wrote you, and directed you to march immediately with your regiment to join the Army here. When I gave this order, I supposed you and your regiment to be in *Connecticut*; but understanding that you have got to *Albany* with it, or near that place, I have thought proper to countermand the orders then given, and desire that you will put yourself under the command of General *Schuyler*, and comply with such directions as you may receive from him, being satisfied that you cannot be here in time to give the least assistance.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Samuel Elmore*, *Albany*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, August 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Before this, I presume you have received a letter from Congress enclosing sundry resolutions of the 22d, 23d, and 24th ultimo; among which was one empowering their Commanders-in-Chief in every department to negotiate an exchange of prisoners upon the plan therein pointed out. There were two others, mentioning the case of Colonel *Allen* and the persons taken with him. That the views of Congress might be carried into execution in those instances as far as they could in this department, and for the enlargement of Mr. *Lovell*, whose case they have since mentioned, I wrote to General *Howe*, who has acceded to the several propositions I made him, as far as they came within the extent of his command. A copy of my letter and his answer, I have enclosed. By the latter, you will perceive prisoners made in *Canada* are subject to General *Carleton's* determination and pleasure. It is probable you have already written him upon the subject of an exchange; but if you have not, I think you should propose it immediately both to him and General *Burgoyne*, and try to obtain General *Thompson* for General *Prescott*, and also one for the other officers and men who are prisoners in their hands. Justice, and a regard to the merit and bravery of the officers and privates who were taken when General *Montgomery* unfortunately fell, require that your exertions should be directed to relieve their sufferings, and procure their enlargement among the first. It may not be improper to inform these two gentlemen of what has passed between General *Howe* and myself. Perhaps the copies of our letters will contribute in some measure to facilitate the work.

I was yesterday evening favoured with your letters of the 1st and 2d; also with one from Mr. *Varick*. It is impossible to spare any gunners or mates from hence, our posts being so extensive that we are obliged to draught upwards of six hundred men from different regiments to assist the artillery. Colonel *Knox* informs me you have four companies of gunners and matrosses at the Lakes as good as any here, which is a much greater proportion than we have. You must draw what are necessary from those and other parts of the Army. As to seamen, they are extremely difficult to procure, and I wish they may be got. As it is almost certain they would not engage in the service you mention upon the terms usually allowed here, there seems to have been a necessity for employing them on the best that can be had.

From Lieutenant *McMichael's* report, our enemies seem determined to push us on all quarters. It is nothing but what we may expect. Your utmost activity and exertions must be employed to counteract their designs, and prevent their penetrating the country. I hope *Fort Stanwix* ere long will be complete, and defensible against any attack they can make, if they have any such views. The garrison should by all means have a proper supply of provision in case it should be invested.

In respect to the articles in the list marked B, in Mr. *Varick's* letter, all that can be procured here are those set down in the list subscribed by the Quartermaster-General.

As to the cordage, lest a supply may not be got in *Connecticut*, Mr. *Ivers* has undertaken, and will immediately set out for *Poughkeepsie*, in order to manufacture six or eight tons of hemp. He has there an assortment of it, which will be forwarded to *Albany* with all possible despatch from thence. I hope the other necessities will be got by the person sent to *Connecticut*, and the anchors, &c., at the forges Mr. *Varick* mentions. Captain *Bacon*, sent in pursuit of seamen, &c., by General *Arnold*, is gone to *Connecticut*, to see what he can procure. I advanced him £500, lawful, all the money that was in the Paymaster's hands.

Having represented to Congress the expediency of employing the *Stockbridge Indians*, as they are desirous of it, they have authorized me to do it, as you will see by the enclosed copy of their resolution passed the 2d instant. If Mr. *Edwards* is at the treaty you are now holding, show him the resolve, and please to inform him that it is my request he should adopt the most expeditious mode of raising them; giving such of them that choose it, liberty to join the Northern Army, and those that prefer coming here, leave to do it, in case they incline to divide. If they do not, the whole may go to which of the armies they please. Lest Mr. *Edwards* should not be at the treaty, I will try to write him by another opportunity to the same effect. Congress, I see, too, have ordered \$500,000 to be sent Mr. *Trumbull* for the Northern Army. I am hopeful they will be attentive to the necessary supplies of money in future.

By two deserters, we are informed General *Clinton*, with his whole Army from the southward, except three companies, has arrived. They also add, that about one thousand of the *Hessians* have got in. The remainder of the foreign troops they expect (about eleven thousand) will be in every day, those that have arrived having parted with them in a gale of wind off the Banks of *Newfoundland*.

Congress having resolved that Colonel *Elmore's* regiment should reinforce this Army, on the 1st instant I wrote him (supposing him in *Connecticut* with his regiment) to repair here with all possible expedition; but being informed that he is at *Albany* with it, or a great part of it, ere now, and fully convinced that he cannot be here in time to afford any succour, I request that you will retain him, and direct his regiment to such service as you may think necessary. I wrote him by this opportunity, countermanding my former orders.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, August 7, 1776.

SIR: By two deserters this day, we have the following intelligence, viz: That General *Clinton* and Lord *Cornwallis*, with the whole Southern Army, have arrived and landed on *Staten-Island*, from *South-Carolina*, in number about three or four thousand; that the fleet which came in a few days since are *Hessians* and *Scotch* Highlanders, part of twelve thousand who were left off *Newfoundland*, in the whole making about thirty thousand men; and it is said by officers of the Army and Navy, they are to attack *New-York*, *Long-Island*, &c., in the course of a week. The uncommon movements of the fleet this day, together with the above intelligence, convince us that, in all human probability, there can but a very few days pass before a general engagement takes place. When I consider the weakness of our Army by sickness, the great extent of ground we have to defend, and the amazing slowness with which the levies come forward, I think it absolutely necessary the neighbouring Militia should be immediately sent in to our assistance; and, agreeable to your letter of the 6th *July*, I have ordered the Colonels \_\_\_\_\_, with their regiments, to march with all convenient speed to this place. The disgrace of the *British* arms to the southward, and the season being far advanced, will make them exert every nerve against us in this quarter. To trust altogether in the justice of our cause, without our own utmost exertions, would be tempting Providence; and that you may judge of our situation, I give you the present state of our Army.

Copy from the General Return of the Army of the *United States of America*, now on *New-York*, Governour's, and *Long Islands*, and at *Powles-Hook*, August 3, 1776, viz:

Present fit for duty, 10,514; sick present, 3,039; sick absent, 629; on command, 2,946; on furlough, 97: Total, 17,225. By this, you will see we are to oppose an army of 30,000 experienced veterans with about one-third the number of raw troops, and these scattered some fifteen miles apart.

This will be handed you by Mr. *Root*. To him I must refer you for further particulars; and have the pleasure to be, your Honour's most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL FITCH.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 7, 1776.

SIR: The spirit and zeal which the Colony of *Connecticut* has ever shown in the cause of *America*, make it only necessary to acquaint you with our situation, in order to ensure your assistance. General *Clinton* has brought his whole body of troops from *South-Carolina*; the foreign troops are every day arriving; and we have the most authentick accounts that in a little time our enemy's Army will amount to thirty thousand men. With these a decisive attack will be made upon the Army, which, in its present situation from sickness, the deficiency of regiments, and other causes, is far short of its intended complement. Under these circumstances, I am persuaded I need only remind you of the power given by the laws of the Colony to the Colonels of regiments, upon an alarm, invasion, or appearance of an enemy, by sea or land, to call out their respective regiments into service. Since the settlement of these Colonies, there has never been such just occasion of alarm, or such an appearance of an enemy, both by sea and land. I am therefore to request you to call forth your regiment without delay, and have them equipped with blankets, arms, and ammunition, if possible, and march them immediately to this place, agreeably to the power given by your Constitution, as explained by his Honour Governour *Trumbull*, in his letter to the honourable Continental Congress, dated the 6th *July* last. I can only add, that the greater the expedition used, the more essential and honourable the service will probably be. I am, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Fitch*, *New-Haven*.

[The same to Colonel *Ichabod Sears*, *Stratford*; to Colonel *John Mead*, *Greenwich*; to Colonel *Edward Hinman*, *Woodbury*; and to Colonel *Joseph Platt Cooke*, *Danbury*.]

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JESSE ROOT.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 7, 1776.

SIR: I have the most authentick intelligence that General *Clinton*, with his whole Southern Army, one thousand *Hessians*, and a number of Highlanders, have, within these few days, joined General *Howe*; and that ten thousand more foreign troops are hourly expected, having been left on the Banks of *Newfoundland* a few days ago. An attack is now, therefore, to be expected, which will probably decide the fate of *America*. The levies from *New-Jersey*, *New-York*, and *Connecticut*, are not completed within one-half of their establishment, and my whole Army much short of its complement. Under these circumstances, sir, I must desire you to apply to the several Committees, or other authority of *Connecticut*, to hasten down, as fast as possible, the Militia; and I cannot doubt but a sense of publick duty and the imminent danger to which everything that is dear to us is exposed, will induce every true friend and lover of his country to exert his utmost powers for its salvation and defence.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To *Jesse Root*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO TIMOTHY EDWARDS.

New-York, August 7, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed copy of a resolution of Congress, entered into the 2d instant, will discover to you their sentiments on the subject of employing the *Stockbridge Indians* in the service of the *United States*. It is certain they differed some time ago from the Commissioners of *Indian Affairs*, and put a stop to their proceedings in this instance; but



finding that our enemies are prosecuting the war with unexampled severity and industry, and that these *Indians* are anxious to take a part in our favour, they have instructed me to employ in the service of the *American States* as many of them as I may think proper. I therefore take the liberty to request your friendly exertions on this occasion, and that you will engage in the service as great a number of them as you possibly can. I would wish you to give the whole of them, or any part that may choose it, the liberty of joining either this Army or that in the Northern Department under General *Schuyler*. I do not think it will be proper, as they are desirous of becoming a part of the Army, to oblige them to join where they have not an inclination to go; and therefore recommend that they should be indulged in whatever way their fancy may lead, as to joining either the one or the other Army, partially or wholly. The situation of our affairs will readily suggest to you the necessity of despatch; at the same time that it will point out the expediency of engaging as many of them as you can. The business may be attended with a degree of trouble, which I could wish not to happen; but yet I am persuaded will be undertaken with alacrity.

I am, &c.,  
To *Timothy Edwards*, Esq., Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Northern Department, at *Stockbridge*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF  
HARTFORD.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am to acquaint you that I lately received a letter from Major *French*, who is a prisoner in your place, signifying that his parole would be out the 12th instant, and that he had no intentions of renewing it. This conduct, I must confess, appears very extraordinary, as he cannot be ignorant that he has been hitherto considered as a prisoner of war, and that accepting his parole at first was an indulgence granted, solely to make his situation more easy and comfortable, and to prevent his experiencing the disagreeable effects of a close confinement. I have expressed my sentiments to him freely on the subject in my answer, which I enclose unsealed for your perusal. I doubt not you will pursue such measures as are most proper on this occasion. You will please to seal and deliver the letter enclosed without delay, to avoid any trouble that may arise on account of not delivering it previous to the date before mentioned.

I am, with due respect and regard, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.  
To the Committee of Safety of *Hartford*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MAJOR FRENCH.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 7, 1776.

SIR: I am to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 22d *July*, intimating your expectations of release on the 12th of this month.

I have considered your parole, advised with those whose knowledge and experience gives weight to their opinion, and otherwise endeavoured to inform myself how far your construction of it is founded upon justice, reason, or usage. I do not find it warranted by either; my duty therefore obliges me to overrule your claim as a matter of right. As a matter of favour, indulgence is not in my power, even if your general line of conduct as a prisoner had been unexceptionable. I have therefore written to the Committee of *Hartford*, and sent them a copy of this letter, and hope you will, without difficulty, conform to the regulations already made with respect to prisoners by the General Congress.

It is probable a general exchange of prisoners will soon take place; it will then be a pleasing part of my duty to facilitate your return to your friends and connexions, as, I assure you, it is now a painful one to disappoint you in an expectation which you seem to have formed, in a full persuasion of being right, and in which, on mature deliberation, I am so unhappy as totally to differ with you.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.  
To Major *French*.

JOHN BERRIEN TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, August 7, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of the resolution of the Convention, enclosed to us, we took the first opportunity of applying to the Reverend Mr. *Ingliss*, the only Governour of the College in town, who readily consented to the delivery of the telescope for the use of his Excellency General *Washington*, on which we produced him the resolution marked No. 2.

The General must have been anxious for the receipt of it, for before it could be come at, from the number of boxes, &c., stowed in the small room it was put into at the City-Hall, his Aid-de-camp, Colonel *Webb*, with some men, were ready to receive it, and it was delivered to him.

We have procured all the books and papers you required from the Custom-House, which we now forward you by Lieutenant *Thomas Lawrence*, with a guard, as they are in our opinion of great value, and of much consequence. Mr. *Moran* assures us these are all the papers and books belonging to the Receiver-General's office, and that he is certain there is not any cash.

We are, with much esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servants,  
JOHN BERRIEN,  
HENRY WILMOT.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Long-Island, Wednesday Evening, August 7, }  
nine o'clock. }

DEAR SIR: Colonel *Varnum* reports from *Red-Hook*, about sunset and after, as many as one hundred boats were seen coming from *Staten-Island* to the ships, full of men. Three ships went towards the *Narrows*; previous to which about thirty boats with soldiers went on board them. From the best observations made by Captain *Foster* and others, there is a general embarkation.

I have enclosed a report from an officer of one of Colonel *Hand's* out-guards, sent by express this evening.

Your Excellency will pay the attention the intelligence deserves.

I am, your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
NATH. GREENE.

WALTER LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, August 7, 1776.

SIR: I am greatly distressed for money to purchase provisions for the use of the Army. I am indebted very large sums for flour, transportation of stores, &c., to the amount of about \$50,000.

The military chest belonging to this part of the Army is empty. I have written to the Commissary-General, informing him of the necessity there was of sending me money. He has it not, or I am persuaded he would have relieved me.

I have extended my own credit, and that of my friends. I have borrowed moneys on interest, that the service might not be impeded. I am apprehensive it will be impracticable for me to support the Army much longer, unless that sum is sent to discharge my debts, and I could wish a further sum might be advanced to enable me to furnish a future supply. I cannot procure cattle unless I have cash; they are bought in States where my credit does not extend.

I think it is a duty incumbent on me, in General *Schuyler's* absence, to give your Excellency this information by express, requesting if money can be obtained, that it may be delivered to Captain *Teunis V. Vechten*.

Hoping your Excellency will excuse this application, I remain your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

WALTER LIVINGSTON,  
Deputy Commissary-General.

To His Excellency Major-General *George Washington*.

P. S. August 9.—By letters last night from *Ticonderoga*, we are informed that forty sail of *French* ships are within four leagues of *Quebeck*, and that General *Burgoyne* had retreated to the mouth of the *Sorel*. This account was brought by two *French* gentlemen in our service.

RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 7, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I have only time to enclose you a return of such articles as have been forwarded since mine of

the 1st instant. To-morrow I shall do myself the honour to enclose you a general return of all the articles that have been forwarded to *Fort George* and *Wood Creek* since General *Schuyler's* return from *Tyonderoga*; and after this day you may weekly expect a general return of everything that shall be forwarded from hence. All these articles are sent by General *Arnold's* and General *Schuyler's* directions to me, and on Colonel *Trumbull's*, Colonel *Wynkoop's*, and General *Schuyler's* requisitions.

The powder will leave this place on *Friday* morning, under a Captain's guard; and the shot will be forwarded as soon as the whole is finished; before which time I shall not have it in my power to furnish the moulds requested by Colonel *Trumbull*. Twelve of the anchors, in the enclosed return, arrived this morning, by the direction of Captain *Bacon*.

The cannon-shot will be sent as soon as Colonel *Livingston* shall furnish me with this article, which he promises to do as soon as they can possibly be cast.

I am, dear sir, yours, most respectfully,

RICHARD VARICK.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WATERBURY.

German-Flats, August 7, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 3d instant, from *Skenesborough*, is come to hand. I thank you for your attention and the information you gave.

Apprehensive that iron and a variety of other articles would be wanted, I have repeatedly ordered every article that could be procured to be sent up. The iron and blacksmith's tools and bellows, I hope you received soon after the date of your letter, as I find they left *Albany* on the 1st instant. All the spikes that could be procured were sent, and the blacksmiths at *Albany* are employed in making more, which will be sent as fast as any quantity worth sending are made. A considerable number of axes are already forwarded; more are going up, and as many spades as can be procured.

My long stay here very much distresses me. It is, however, a great alleviation of my anxiety that you are at *Skenesborough*, as I am confident that you will expedite the work as much as possible.

I am, dear General, sincerely your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To General *Waterbury*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

German-Flats, August 7, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your favour of the 31st *July*. A variety of business claiming my attention when I entreated you to aid me in procuring axes for the Army, I forgot to point out the route by which I wished them, and every article from your Colony, to be sent to the Army; and although I could not have been particular, I might have observed that the most direct road to *Skenesborough* would not only be the speediest, but cheapest; and that way I wish things to be sent in future. Colonel *Campbell*, I am informed, has left the Army. Who acts as Deputy Quartermaster-General now, I am not yet advised of. If any article you send is directed to the Deputy Quartermaster-General, the person acting as such will pass his receipts for what may be delivered to him.

I am this moment going to open the conference with the *Indians*, who are collected from all the *Six Nations*, and some *Delawares* and *Mohegans*. The number, including women and children, now here, is seventeen hundred and eighteen, and one hundred and sixty more are expected to-day.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

*Skenesborough*, August 7, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I found on my arrival here last evening the galleys much more forward than I expected. Three will be launched in a fortnight, if not sooner, and timber is cut

for three or four others. The carpenters are very industrious and spirited. Nothing will retard the building but want of plank and iron. I have written Captain *Varick* to hurry on the latter, and have ordered the carpenters to omit building more gondolas than those on the stocks; as they take a large quantity of plank, and retard the building of the galleys, which are of more consequence. One gondola will be launched to-morrow, and the eighth and last in a few days. The seamen will be draughted this afternoon, and to-morrow I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you at *Ticonderoga*.

I am, with sentiments of esteem and respect, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

P. S. Militia come in fast. Nothing new at *Albany* the 4th instant.

B. A.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WATERBURY.

*Tyonderoga*, August 7, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: This will be delivered to you by Lieutenant-Colonel *Connor*, of Colonel *Wingate's* regiment of *New-Hampshire* Militia. I send him with a number of batteaus to bring the rest of Colonel *Wingate's* regiment and the rest of Colonel *Wyman's* regiment to this post, where ground is marked out and a station appointed for those two regiments. I will be much obliged to you to acquaint me what Militia regiments that arrive at your post are supplied with tents, and what not. When more are ordered to this place, you will send those first who are supplied with tents.

General *Arnold*, who went to *Skenesborough* this day, will apply to you for all the seamen that can be supplied from your post.

I am, sir, &c.,

HORATIO GATES.

To General *Waterbury*.

*Orders and Instructions for the Hon. BENEDICT ARNOLD, Esq., Brigadier-General in the Army of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.*

Upon your arrival at *Crown-Point*, you will proceed, with the Fleet of the *United States* under your command, down *Lake Champlain*, to the narrow pass of the Lake made by the *Split Rock*, or to the other narrow approach down the Lake, made by *Isle-aux-Têtes* and the opposite shore. You will station the fleet in the best manner to maintain the possession of those passes, according as your judgment shall determine, cautiously avoiding to place the vessels in a manner which might unnecessarily expose them to the enemy's heavy artillery from the shore. You will most religiously observe that it is my positive order that you do not command the fleet to sail below the pass of the *Isle-aux-Têtes*, above mentioned, incessantly reflecting, that the preventing the enemy's invasion of our country is the ultimate end of the important command with which you are now intrusted. It is a defensive war we are carrying on, therefore no wanton risk or unnecessary display of the power of the fleet is at any time to influence your conduct. Should the enemy come up the Lake, and attempt to force their way through the pass you are stationed to defend, in that case you will act with such cool, determined valour, as will give them reason to repent their temerity. But if, contrary to my hope and expectation, their fleet should have so increased as to force an entrance into the upper part of the Lake, then, after you shall have discovered the insufficiency of every effort to retard their progress, you will, in the best manner you can, retire with your squadron to *Ticonderoga*. Every vessel in the fleet being furnished with a batteau, you will have it in your power to keep out scout-boats at night, and occasionally to annoy the enemy's small craft. In the daytime your boats can act, when opportunity offers, under cover of the cannon of your fleet.

As the most honourable the Congress of the *United States* rest a great dependance on your wise and prudent conduct in the management of this fleet, you will on no account detach yourself from it, upon the lesser services above mentioned. A resolute but judicious defence of the northern entrance into this side of the Continent, is the momentous part which is committed to your courage and abilities. I doubt not you will secure it from further invasion.

As I am entirely unacquainted with Marine affairs, I shall not presume to give any directions respecting the duty and discipline of the seamen and marines on board the fleet.

I have traced the great outline of that service which your country expects from the rank and character you have acquired. I have, as is my duty, fixed the limits beyond which you are not to go. But you must communicate that restriction to nobody. I wish, on the contrary, that words occasionally dropped from you, with that prudence which excludes every sort of affectation, and which, I believe, you possess, may, together with all your motions, induce our own people to conclude it is our real intention to invade the enemy, which, after all, may happen. It will keep up their spirits without affecting your reputation, whatever may be the event.

It only remains for me to recommend you to the protection of that Power upon whose mercy we place our hopes of freedom here, and of happiness hereafter. You will frequently report the state and situation of your fleet, and of every interesting occurrence.

Given at *Ticonderoga*, this 7th day of *August*, 1776.

HORATIO GATES, *Major-General*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

*Tyonderoga*, August 7, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency a general return of the troops immediately under my command. It is as perfect as the circumstances will admit; but the numbers at the General Hospital at *Lake George*, and upon both communications, where correctness is not attended to with that diligence required by good discipline, obliges me to send it somewhat imperfect to your Excellency. The very great desertion from this Army has, I believe, been principally occasioned by the dread of the small-pox; but many have also been induced to desert by the vast bounty given for substitutes in the Militia: fifty dollars a man have, in many instances, been given to men who enlisted in the Militia from *New-Hampshire*. This aggravates and disgusts the Continental regiments so much, that I am apprehensive it will be extremely difficult to retain them for another campaign. This, as it well deserves the attention of your Excellency and the Congress, will, I dare say, be duly regarded.

In the packet your Excellency will find the examinations of four *French* Captains of Colonel *Livingston's* *Canadian* regiment. The two latter differ materially from the two former. My Secretary, who is an *Old France* gentleman, and perfectly skilled in the language, interpreted the facts contained in it. Upon the same sheet is the examination of Lieutenant *Whitcomb* of Colonel *Burrell's* *Connecticut* regiment, which corresponds in some degree with the information of Captain *Mesnard* and his associate.

Your Excellency will also find enclosed a copy of my letter of yesterday to the President of the honourable the Continental Congress. General *Schuyler* will doubtless by the same conveyance send his report of what has been doing upon the *Mohawk River*, and of the state of the troops there, and upon the communication from the great *Oneida* carrying-place to *Albany*.

Last night General *Waterbury* sent the enclosed report from *Skenesborough*. I believe your Excellency will think with me how justly Captain *Wethersbee* deserves to be punished. These men get an enormous bounty from their countrymen, are highly paid by the Continent, and then, rather than march where they are commanded, they get inoculated, by which a month of the short time they are engaged for elapses, and perhaps the health of the whole Army is endangered. I have sent a state of this scandalous affair to Governour *Trumbull* and Major *Hawley*. They, I think, will find some method to punish the delinquents; to bring them here, in our circumstances, would be ruin.

Colonel *Stark*, in the name of the Field-Officers of this Army, delivered me yesterday the enclosed paper. I think it beyond me to determine upon it, and shall wait your Excellency's commands thereupon.

The campaign in *Canada* has been, beyond a doubt, exceedingly severe; the retreat from thence distressful, and attended with a variety of calamitous circumstances. I am sure it is the wish of your Excellency and this Congress to reward the deserving officer. Some small *soulagement* to

these troops would not be misplaced, to soften the rigours they have endured.

Major *Pierce* being extremely ill of a fever, leaves me and my Secretary more writing to do than we can possibly accomplish. The Congress, your Excellency, and General *Schuyler*, with all the necessary business of this Army, cause more writing than two hands can well perform.

With my most respectful compliments to your Excellency, I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

*Report of Captain ANTHONY MESNARD's Examination.*

Captain *Mesnard*, who arrived here the 6th instant, was at *Chambly* the 14th ultimo, and on the evening of the same day accidentally met in the woods, about three leagues from that place, with *L'Oiseau* and *Allain*, who had left their homes about a week before, whose intelligence, therefore, could not be so fresh, and, moreover, was to have been supported by Captain *Mesnard's*. He confirms, indeed, what the others said relative to the commissions burnt by the Militia, and other officers, employed by Congress; but he denies the confiscation of any estate belonging to those who have retreated with our Army. He says there was a secret report of a fleet being down the river, but could not learn any of the motions mentioned by *L'Oiseau* and *Allain*. He affirms there were about four thousand men at *Chambly*, *St. John's*, and on the *Sorel*, all *English*, and that about two thousand, and no more, *Germans* were at *Montreal* and *La Prairie*; that one deserter, and no more, of these *Germans*, was at Mr. *Metcalf's*. This deserter, who travelled along with them from near *Chambly* to Mr. *Metcalf's*, where he was left, being over-fatigued, had been kindly entertained and concealed in a house near the place where *Mesnard* met with *L'Oiseau* and *Allain*; and he told them that sixty (not seventy) of his comrades had deserted together on the same day.

*Mesnard* reports likewise, that Governour *Carleton* transported his artillery to and from *Isle-aux-Noix*, *Chambly*, and *St. John's*, but does not know the reason of that manœuvre. His report is nearly the same as theirs respecting the enemy's batteaus, but then, he declares, that when the Committee of *Newbury* examined them, he upbraided *L'Oiseau* and *Allain* for giving false intelligence; but that they had the advantage of him, as *Allain*, who is an *Acadian* and speaks good *English*, could tell the Committee what he pleased to tell them. It is very necessary here to observe, that when *Allain* was examined in the presence of General *Gates*, he pretended he could hardly speak *English*, and therefore was questioned in *French* only by the General's Secretary. The other parts of the intelligence given by *Allain* and *L'Oiseau* are nearly similar to that of *Mesnard*, excepting the few particulars which are not mentioned in this, and not evidently contradicted by it.

Lieutenant *Whitcomb's* report, which shall be added to this as soon as delivered by him, in writing, seems to confirm Captain *Mesnard's*.

August 7, 1776.

N. B. Lieutenant *Whitcomb* has on this day, the 9th instant, delivered a Journal, sent herewith by the General.

*A Journal of a scout from CROWN-POINT to ST. JOHN'S, CHAMBLY, &c., &c., by Lieutenant BENJAMIN WHITCOMB and four men, as follows, viz:*

*July* 14th, set out from *Crown-Point*, went seven miles that night; the wind being very high, we could go no farther. Fifteenth day we got to *Onion River* at dark; the wind and rain being severe, we could go no farther. Sixteenth day was obliged to lay by, the weather being very tempestuous. Seventeenth, in the evening, we set out, and went twenty miles. Eighteenth the wind and rain being so severe, we could not move from our present station. Nineteenth, at night, we set out and arrived at the head of *Masique-Bay* at break of day. Twentieth day we travelled till we came opposite *St. John's*. The two *Frenchmen* being uneasy and not willing to go near *St. John's*, I told them to take a *Frenchman* and examine him and return home; upon which we left them, and went towards *St. John's*. In the evening we came within about five miles of *St. John's*, heard the

drum beat, &c. Twenty-first, the day being cloudy and rainy, we got to the river about noon; we lay there all day in hopes of taking a prisoner, but none appeared. Twenty-second, at day-break, we went down to the river side, staid there till the sun was half an hour high, counted thirty batteaus in the water all finished, nine on the stocks; there were also six saws employed by hand to saw boards, all appearing to work with great life and activity; staying there all day till night, and finding none except the guard, they keeping close, we imagined it difficult to get a prisoner there. We then set out to go to *Chambly*, and on the way saw four batteaus laden with barrels; we then proceeded to a *French* house, where we found a canoe, and crossed the river at the lower end of the Island, where we saw a large number of lights, and supposed them to be a party of Regulars consisting of about one hundred. We supposed there were at *St. John's*, of Regulars, between two and three thousand. Then going into the road leading into *Montreal*, we soon perceived we were discovered by the enemy; returned from the road a small distance, and then went forward about a mile and came into the road again. Immediately a file of men passed, upon which I concealed myself, and after they had passed me, returned again into the road and followed them a small distance, where I perceived them sitting, who discovered us again, upon which we concealed ourselves a second time. Coming again near the road, we made observations on the road and passengers; observed seventeen carts laden with barrels going towards *St. John's*; also seven armed *Indians*. That evening went in search of provisions, at which time the man who was in company left me. Twenty-third, early in the morning, I returned to my former place of abode, staid there the whole day, saw twenty-three carts laden with barrels and tents going to *St. John's*. Twenty-fourth, staid at the same place till about twelve o'clock, then fired on an officer,\* and moved immediately into *Chambly* road; being discovered, retreated back into the woods, and staid till night; then taking the road and passing the guards till I came below *Chambly*, finding myself discovered, was obliged to conceal myself in the brush till dark. The 25th instant, on which I made my escape by the guards, I saw upwards of forty carts preparing to go to *St. John's*, and I judge there were lying at that place and on the road about one full regiment of Regulars. Twenty-sixth, on my march towards *Montreal* road, I saw a party of Regulars coming towards me, upon which I made my escape as fast as possible, by the way promising myself some provisions. Came to the aforesaid road again; saw twenty-seven armed *Indians* passing towards *St. John's*, and a considerable number of empty carts returning towards *Montreal*; at the same time heard thirty-four platoons fired towards *Montreal*, and heard near the same number fired every evening and morning from the same parts during the whole of my stay in those parts. Twenty-seventh, setting out for home, on the west side of the Lake, nothing remarkable happened, only detained by bad weather, and under great disadvantages in travelling for want of a compass. Arrived at this place on the 6th of August.

BENJAMIN WHITCOMB, *Lieutenant*.

\*[General Gordon.]

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN.

Lebanon, August 7, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of yesterday per Captain *Richard Deshon*. The sloop purchased from Captain *Walker* I trust will be got ready for service with all possible diligence and despatch. Captain *Leonard Van Buren* brings letters from General *Schuyler*. He will show you the invoice of articles to be purchased for the use of the *United States*. Be so good as to give him your best advice. If there is anything wherein you can furnish him, please to do it, and signify it to me. Mention is made as though Mr. *Mumford* is able to afford assistance in the matter: please to let Mr. *Van Buren* know concerning it, and direct him to apply to Mr. *Mumford*, if probable. It requires despatch. Gen. *Schuyler* writes for five Captains to command vessels on *Lake Champlain*, to engage and carry with them forty men apiece. Please to advise me on this head. I expect Mr. *Van Buren's* return to-morrow.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To Nathaniel Shaw, Jun., Esq.

COLONEL WARD TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Guilford, August 7, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I received your order dated the 1st of August, which I prosecuted with as much despatch as possible; last evening, those bearing date the 5th. Shall send orders to the several Captains with as much speed as I can, and hope soon to have the regiment on their march. Wish it might be as agreeable to the officers and men as to myself. I have received a line from Captains *Cutler*, *Stedman*, and *Dennie*, in which they express their fears that it will be very disagreeable to their soldiers to march anywhere but to *Boston*, which I was sorry to hear. Make no doubt your Honour will do all in your power to make them easy with their destination, should they be otherwise. From what returns I have had the regiment is not full—Captain *Prior* sixty-one, *Dana* eighty, *Cutler* forty-one, *Stedman* forty, and Captain *Meigs* forty, are all the returns I have received. Captain *Prior* told me he believed *Phelps* and *Pettibone* had more enlisted than he. The Field-Officers' commissions I have not heard whether they have arrived from Congress. We had a report in town last night by Colonel *Walcott*, that one of our row-galleys had returned to *New-York*, having split her gun; the others were playing on the ships up the river. I shall do all in my power to join the Army as soon as possible.

I am, sir, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW WARD, Jun.

To Governour Trumbull.

GENERAL WARD TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Boston, August 7, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to recommend to your notice Mr. *Nathaniel Barber*, Jun., Deputy Commissary of Artillery in this department; he has ever appeared to me to be a faithful, active officer, and very well calculated for the department in which he has acted; he has no establishment, and therefore applied to me to write to Congress that one might be made. I conceive that as it is an important office, and the duties attending it are not small, the establishment ought to be equal to a Captain's pay; however, of this Congress is the judge; and I should not have given any opinion respecting it, but from an apprehension that you might incline to have some information with regard to the duties of such an office in this department.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable John Hancock, Esq.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, in Committee of Council, }  
Watertown, August 7, 1776. }

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Your letter of the 25th ultimo, enclosing a resolve of the honourable Congress of the 8th of July, respecting the place of rendezvous for the battalions raising in this State for *Canada*, has been considered by us, and it is with pleasure we can inform your Excellency that we apprehend everything that is necessary has been done respecting the matter, agreeable to the resolve of Congress, and that General *Schuyler* and Commissary *Trumbull* have been made fully acquainted with the route the troops were to take, and that they approve of the same, and have given directions for their being supplied accordingly.

In the name and by order of the Committee, I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN WINTHROP, *Chairman*.

To His Excellency George Washington, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the *United States of America*, at *New-York*.

JOHN AVERY TO ABSENT MEMBERS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

In Committee of Council, Boston, August 7, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Committee of Council to acquaint you that there are many important matters now before them, which require the presence of the major part of the Council; therefore it is requested that your Honour would, without fail, give your attendance at the Board on Tuesday next, ten o'clock in the forenoon.

In the name and per order of the Committee of Council:

JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Sec.*



LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO WILLIAM HEY.

Whitehall, August 8, 1776.

SIR: His Majesty's Province of *Quebeck* being cleared of the Rebels, it becomes highly necessary that the Courts of Justice should be forthwith opened, and publick business carried on in the usual form. I must, therefore, beg the favour of you to acquaint me, for his Majesty's information, by what time you can be ready to embark for that Province. I am, &c.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN HANSON.

[No. 127.]

Annapolis, August 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We send you the sum of £300 currency, for purchase of arms and blankets, in consequence of a letter of the 5th instant received from Mr. *Hanson*, your Chairman; but you will be pleased to observe that the riflemen find their own guns, which, by order of Congress, are to be appraised and paid for by the *United Colonies*. The *German* companies we have nothing further to do with, but to pay their bounty money, which we have already done. What arms or blankets you may purchase more than sufficient for the Flying-Camp, in your County, be pleased to send down to us under guard. Major *Price* alleges he contracted for a number of rifles, which have been given out without his directions. You will set this matter right, and will soon have an opportunity of doing so, as Major *Price* is coming up to *Frederick-Town*.

We are, &amp;c.

To *John Hanson*, Esq., Chairman of Committee of Middle District of *Frederick* County.

MATTHEW TILGHMAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Talbot County, August 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Upon the resignation of Mr. *Thomas* as Quartermaster of the Fourth Battalion, Mr. *William Perry* is desirous of being placed in his stead. I therefore beg leave to recommend him to your favour, as a person who, in my opinion, will not fail to execute the office properly, and whose appointment will give satisfaction.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

MAT. TILGHMAN.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*.

August 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have my commission of Quartermaster, which I resign, and earnestly request you to appoint Mr. *William Perry* in my stead. His being appointed I think will give general satisfaction.

I am, gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

NIC. THOMAS.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CAPTAIN MANTZ TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Leonardtown, August 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am sorry to inform you of the disappointment I and my company have met with; and am really sorry to say, that I believe I shall not have one-third of my men able to do duty, if we should continue here for ten or fifteen days. People here are unprovided with provisions, which I believe are not to be had at any rates. The greater part of my men have been obliged to live forty-eight hours without the least bit of bread or meat, by which means some of them were obliged to act disagreeably and dissatisfactorily to me, although I could not by any means prevent them. The water and climate here are very unhealthy to those people especially who came from my quarter. Although, gentlemen, if it is not in your power, or cannot be obtained by us to return to a place more healthy and agreeable to my men, and where they may perhaps be of more service to their country, I am willing to comply with your orders, and die in the cause. I am at present out of cash, and would be glad if you would furnish me as soon as possible, as nothing here is to be had without.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

PETER MANTZ.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

ISAAC GRIEST TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore-Town, August 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your instructions of the 6th, I have made inquiry for tent-makers, but could find none in this place, except those employed by the Council of Safety, and they tell me that they will engage to deliver between fifty and sixty tents every week, provided they are supplied with stuff to make them with. They say they have about twenty made, or will be by the last of this week, and have wrought up all the stuff they have. I shall have tent-polls made for each tent. Colonel *Thomas Ewing* has applied to me for a number of canteens, and them to be slung. Pray shall I have them slung, and let him have them? The slinging of them will be one shilling each. Should be glad of your orders in the matter. I have all the coopers that I can get employed at the canteens, but they come on but slowly as yet. Most people most approve of the oak ones.

All from yours to command,

I. GRIEST.

To the Hon. *Daniel* of *St. Thomas Jenifer*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, August 8, 1776.

SIR: Your letters of the 7th, with the papers enclosed, are received and now under consideration of Congress.

Enclosed I send you a resolution passed respecting Lieutenant *Josiah*. He was first Lieutenant of Captain *Nicholas Biddle*, and was taken in a ship Captain *Biddle* had made prize of, by the *Cerberus* frigate. By a letter which he found means to convey, he informs, that "he is used worse than he ever thought one *Englishman* could use another; that he was sent before the mast with the rest, but upon refusing to do duty was given under the charge of three boatswain's mates, and expects the gangway soon, as he is daily threatened."

An order is this moment passed for calling General *Lee* from the southward, and to-morrow is appointed for electing a number of Major-Generals and Brigadier-Generals.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. You will please to mention the matter of Lieutenant *Josiah* as real information, but not discover that it was by letter, as it may prove injurious in case he is not exchanged.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL LEE.

Philadelphia, August 8, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having this day received a letter from General *Washington*, containing very important information, I do myself the honour to enclose you a copy of the same. You will there perceive that General *Clinton*, with the troops under his command, has joined General *Howe* at *Staten-Island*, having left *South-Carolina* soon after the defeat he and Commodore *Parker* sustained at *Sullivan's Island*. In consequence of this intelligence the Congress are convinced that the enemy, by collecting their whole force into a point, are determined to make a most vigorous exertion at *New-York*; and, in order to ensure success in that quarter, are disposed for the present to overlook every other object. The getting possession of that city, and the junction of the two Armies under Generals *Howe* and *Burgoyne*, seem to be the grand objects they have in view, to the attainment of which they give up every inferior consideration.

In this situation of our affairs, the Congress being of opinion your services in the Middle Department will be necessary, I have it in command to direct that you repair as soon as possible to the City of *Philadelphia*, there to receive such orders as they may think proper to give you. The attack at *New-York* being hourly expected, and the event of it uncertain, I am to request you will use the greatest expedition on the way.

With the best wishes for your health and prosperity, I have the honour to be, with the utmost respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Lee*, *South-Carolina*.

CÆSAR RODNEY TO THOMAS RODNEY.

Philadelphia, August 8, 1776.

SIR: As I have received no letter from you by the last post, and have little or no intelligence except what you will find in the papers, am at loss what to write you.

The *Delaware* battalion is under marching orders for *Amboy*, subject to General *Washington's* further orders. They are completely armed—as fine guns as you could wish to see.

Having a few idle moments, I have enclosed you a paper containing a few queries, and submit to you whether that, or something like it, taken and copied in an unknown hand, and secretly distributed, so as to become publick at this time, might not be of use, by drawing the serious attention of the people at this important crisis. But as I know but very little, or rather nothing, of the present politics or the disposition of the people at this time, wholly submit the matter to you, and wish the people may consider their true interest.

Mr. *McKean* is still in the *Jerseys*, and not likely soon to return. The terms of Confederation now before the Congress, and our Colony not represented without *Read* and me both, therefore cannot expect to see you in *Kent* very soon.

I am yours, &amp;c.,

CÆSAR RODNEY.

War Office, Philadelphia, August 8, 1776.

The Congress having resolved "That the Commanding Officers of the several Battalions of Militia now in this city be ordered instantly to march to *Amboy*, in *New-Jersey*, and that in case any of the Militia want arms, that they be left under a proper officer until they can be provided with arms, and those that have arms march without any further delay; and that the Board of War be directed to see this resolution carried into immediate execution:" I have it in direction from the Board of War to notify all the Officers commanding Battalions or detached Companies, now in this city, of the said resolve of Congress, and they are hereby required to pay immediate obedience thereto.

RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*.

Philadelphia, August 8, 1776.

The Commanding Officer of the Detachment of Associators left for the defence of the city, for the last time gives notice to the persons who have entered into the several companies and do not attend their duty, that they will be severely dealt with unless they immediately alter their conduct. It is extremely hard upon their fellow-citizens, some of whom are obliged to do double duty, owing to the negligence of others in not attending roll-calling, and thereby escaping being put upon guard. Those who have entered their names, as many seem to have done, to save appearances, will not be surprised if they see a catalogue of delinquents published, besides feeling the inconveniences of a rigid execution of the articles by which we are bound. The example of one is constantly an argument for the delinquency of another, and therefore every individual neglecting his duty does a double injury. Calling upon people, over whom command should be exercised, in this way, may, perhaps, be unsoldierly, but as they are his fellow-citizens, who from hard necessity have become soldiers, it will relieve the Officer from the least anxiety, after the Associators being thus reminded of their duty, when (with the concurrence and assistance of the other Officers and Privates, who have virtue enough to attend to the service and support authority) he executes his, as he ever has, and means in future to do, without distinction of persons. It is too late now to talk of those who, let their motives be inability, cowardice, or an aversion to our cause, have refused to enter into the service of their country. Leave them to be properly dealt with, as they certainly will be, by our Convention or Legislature. Those who refuse their duty on this account, afford consequence to people who deserve none, and give their tardiness or baseness double force. Every one has it in his election whether or not he will become a soldier. If he does not, he subjects himself to the disgrace and penalties attending his situation; but when he has engaged in that capacity, he is bound to an adherence to discipline.

TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE DETACHMENT OF ASSOCIATORS LEFT FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE CITY.

A private Associator, who has lately been a delinquent at roll-calling, having seen your publication of the 8th instant,

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desires to inform, that his absence has been entirely owing to the partial and unjust conduct exercised over those who had entered to do the necessary duty of the city. He should not think himself justified in neglecting of duty, had he not frequently desired the officers to exercise their authority, and enrol all Associators who had not joined their respective companies at the camp agreeable to the resolve of the Committee of Safety of the 17th ultimo. This would oblige you to compel some of rank and fortune, who have had the credit of associating, but never experienced any of the fatigue or duty attending it. Those, sir, you still seem inclinable not to notice, as persons of no consequence. There can be but little expectation of those persons being properly dealt with, who, from inability, cowardice, or an aversion to our cause, have refused to enter into the service of their country, if officers have not resolution enough to execute the Resolves of Convention or Committee of Safety, without respect of persons.

He knows of no authority any commanding officer has to publish delinquents without a trial, yet is by no means surprised at this stretch of prerogative, as it is far short of what has been already exercised over those who have already submitted to your partial command; and should his name as a delinquent appear in publick, he shall expect it to follow those who never attended, nor have given any reasonable excuse for their neglects. If so, he shall think it his duty to return to his company; but if otherwise, he shall rest satisfied with the stigma of having dared to exercise the right of a freeman, knowing that his offence consists in refusing to crouch to the arbitrary designs and impositions of a few rich men. For his part, he knows no reason why any one Associator should enjoy privileges distinct from another of equal rank and degree. When this equality becomes the rule of conduct for our officers, he shall esteem it his greatest glory to serve under them.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabeth-Town, August 8, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour this morning, and am very glad to find Mr. *Maddison* and Mr. *Johnston* here, who are immediately from *Staten-Island*. They intend to pay their respects to your Excellency. It will, therefore, be improper to take up your time with relating what you will hear from these gentlemen. That some attempt will speedily be made with the greater part of the enemy's force, is confirmed by all accounts. I shall endeavour to have the troops in this quarter in as good preparation as I can, and will with great alacrity give my assistance in such way as you are pleased to point out.

The Militia are brought into somewhat better temper. Their well or ill-founded complaints have given me a great deal of concern; but it has given me more anxiety to find, by a letter from Colonel *Reed*, that constructing lines of defence was expected here, when it was difficult to keep the troops from deserting the posts.

It will always give me pleasure to receive and obey your commands.

I am, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

P. S. Generals *Roberdeau* and *Ewing* accompanied me here in hopes of having the pleasure of meeting your Excellency.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 12, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

New-York, August 8, 1776.

SIR: By yesterday morning's post, I was honoured with your favour of the 2d instant, with sundry resolutions of Congress, to which I shall pay strict attention. As the proposition for employing the *Stockbridge Indians* has been approved, I have written to Mr. *Edwards*, one of the Commissioners, and who lives among them, requesting him to engage them, or such as are willing to enter the service. I have directed him to indulge them with liberty to join this or the Northern Army, or both, as their inclination may lead.

I wish the salutary consequences may result from the regulation respecting seamen taken, that Congress have in view. From the nature of this kind of people, and the privileges granted on their entering into our service, I should suppose many of them will do it. We want them much.

I yesterday transmitted the intelligence I received from the deserters from the *Solebay* man-of-war. The enclosed copy of a letter by last night's post, from the Honourable Mr. *Bowdoin*, with the information of a Captain *Kennedy*, lately taken, corroborate their accounts respecting the *Hessian* troops. Indeed, his report makes the fleet and armament to be employed against us greater than what we have heard they would be; however, there remains no doubt of their being large and formidable, and such as will require our most vigorous exertions to oppose them. Persuaded of this, and knowing how much inferior our numbers are and will be to theirs when the whole of their troops arrive, and of the important consequences that may and will flow from the appeal that will soon be made, I have written to *Connecticut* and *New-Jersey* for all the succour they can afford, and also to the Convention of this State. What I may receive and in what time, the event must determine. But I would fain hope the situation, the exigency of our affairs, will call forth the most strenuous efforts and early assistance of those who are friends to the cause. I confess there is but too much occasion for their exertions. I confidently trust they will not be withheld.

I have enclosed a copy of a letter from Mr. *Bowdoin*, respecting the Eastern *Indians*. Congress will thereby perceive that they profess themselves to be well attached to our interest, and the summary of the measures taken to engage them in our service. I have the treaty at large between the honourable Council of the *Massachusetts*, on behalf of the *United States*, with the Delegates of the *St. John's* and the *Mickmack* Tribes. The probability of a copy's being sent already, and its great length, prevent one coming herewith. If Congress have not had it forwarded to them, I will send a copy by the first opportunity after notice that it has not been received.

*August 9th.*—By a report received from General *Greene* last night, at sunset and a little after about a hundred boats were seen bringing troops from *Staten-Island* to the ships; three of which had fallen down towards the *Narrows*, having taken in soldiers from thirty of the boats. He adds, that by the best observations of several of the officers, there appeared to be a general embarkation.

I have written to General *Mercer* for two thousand men from the *Flying-Camp*. Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion, as part of them, I expect this forenoon; but where the rest are to come from, I know not, as, by the General's last return, not more than three or four hundred of the new levies had got in.

In my letter of the 5th, I enclosed a general return of the Army under my immediate command, but I imagine the following state will give Congress a more perfect idea, though not a more agreeable one, of our situation: For the several posts on *New-York*, *Long*, and *Governour's Islands*, and *Paulus Hook*, we have fit for duty 10,514, sick present 3,039, sick absent 629, on command 2,946, on furlough 97: Total 17,225. In addition to these, we are only certain of Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion in case of an immediate attack. Our posts, too, are much divided, having waters between many of them, and some distant from others fifteen miles. These circumstances, sufficiently distressing of themselves, are much aggravated by the sickness that prevails through the Army. Every day more or less are taken down, so that the proportion of men that may come in cannot be considered as a real and serviceable augmentation in the whole. These things are melancholy, but they are nevertheless true. I hope for better. Under every disadvantage my utmost exertions shall be employed to bring about the great end we have in view; and so far as I can judge from the professions and apparent disposition of my troops, I shall have their support. The superiority of the enemy and the expected attack, do not seem to have depressed their spirits. These considerations lead me to think, that though the appeal may not terminate so happily in our favour as I could wish, that yet they will not succeed in their views, without considerable loss. Any advantage they may get, I trust, will cost them dear.

*Eight o'clock, A. M.*—By the Rev. Mr. *Maddison* and a Mr. *Johnston*, two gentlemen of *Virginia*, who came from *Staten-Island* yesterday, and where they arrived the day before in the packet with Colonel *Guy Johnson*, I am informed that nothing material had taken place in *England* when they left it; that there had been a change in the *French Ministry*, which many people thought foreboded a

war; that it seemed to be believed by many that Congress would attempt to buy off the foreign troops, and that it might be effected without great difficulty. Their accounts from *Staten-Island* nearly correspond with what we had before. They say that every preparation is making for an attack; that the force now upon the Island is about fifteen thousand; that they appear very impatient for the arrival of the foreign troops, but a very small part having got in. Whether they would attempt anything before they came, they are uncertain; but they are sure they will as soon as they arrive, if not before. They say, from what they could collect from the conversation of officers, &c., they mean to hem us in by getting above us and cutting off all communication with the country. That this is their plan seems to be corroborated and confirmed by the circumstance of some ships-of-war going out at different times within a few days past, and other vessels. It is probable that a part are to go round and come up the *Sound*.

Mr. *Maddison* says Lord *Howe's* powers were not known when he left *England*; that General *Conway* moved, before his departure, that they might be laid before the Commons, and had his motion rejected by a large majority.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

Boston, July 29, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed declaration is this moment sent to me by the Sheriff, which I thought necessary to be communicated to your Excellency. The ship *Peggy*, mentioned in it, was taken by two of the Continental cruisers, and sent into *Marblehead*. The passengers on board, who fled from *Boston* last *March*, came to town this morning, and are now in jail here, who, I understand, have been, or will be, examined by General *Word*. It is probable you will have by this post the result of that examination; but if you should not, the enclosed may give you some necessary information. I cannot be more particular, as the post is just setting out.

I have the honour to be, with the most perfect regard, your Excellency's most obedient, &c.,

JAMES BOWDOIN.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Boston Jail, July 29, 1776.

I, *James Kennedy*, Master of the ship *Peggy*, in the merchant service, declare, that I left *Halifax* about the 1st instant, under convoy of the *Renown*, of fifty guns, with a fleet of sixteen transports, containing the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments, and *Frozer's* new-raised regiment, about three thousand in all, and three large ships with *Hessian* troops on board, about six hundred in all, and one ship with five companies of *English Foot Guards*, and four victualling ships, the whole fleet bound to *New-York*. Off *Nantucket Shoals* we fell in with the *Flora* frigate, of thirty guns, and four transports, with the land troops, that had been in *Boston Bay*, where they got information from a fisherman that the town was evacuated, on which they stood for *Halifax*, until they met with us; they then joined our fleet for *New-York*. The *Scotch* troops were all to be of Colonel *Campbell's* division of the grand Army in *America*, (the whole of which Army, I was informed, would, by the last of *July*, amount to fifty thousand men.) The *Hessian* troops left *England* about the 12th of *May*. Some of the officers informed me that they came out with three hundred and four sail, under the command of Commodore *Hotham*, on board of whom were ten thousand foreign troops, and some *English* troops, (number unknown.) Last *Friday* se'nnight, in a gale of wind and thick weather, lost the fleet, and on *Monday* I fell in with two armed schooners, Captains *Skinner* and *Tucker*, to whom I surrendered after a short engagement, in which I had only one man wounded. The day after the fleet left *Halifax*, I saw from my deck forty sail of ships standing in for that harbour, and which I suppose to be part of the fleet under Commodore *Hotham*.

Boston, July 30, 1776.

SIR: At the time your Excellency's letter was received, requesting the aid of this Government in procuring a body of the Eastern *Indians* for the service of the *United States*,

it happened very fortunately that a number of them were here as delegates from the *St. John's* and *Mickmack* tribes, in *Nova-Scotia*. They came on a visit to you, in consequence of your letter to them, which they produced; and soon after a couple of chiefs arrived here from the *Penobscot* tribe. At the conference held with the former, there appeared in them a very good disposition towards the *United States*, and the General Court having resolved that a regiment should be raised for the service of the State, to consist of five hundred *Indians* and two hundred and fifty *English*, it was strongly urged upon them to join with us in the war; and accordingly they have engaged to do it, and have signed a treaty for that purpose. By what they said at the conference, it appeared the six villages they represented could furnish about one hundred and twenty men; but as those villages are at a great distance from each other, their men dispersed in hunting, and they proposed to call the whole together, they said they should not be able, and they could not engage to come until next spring. The *St. John's* delegates, however, on being told they lived near, and could be soon here again, promised to return early in the fall, with about thirty of their tribe. There are six other nations of *Mickmacks*, who had not been informed of your letter, and had not therefore sent delegates, but are equally well disposed, and have about the same number of men belonging to them. These, therefore, probably will furnish for the service a like number of men with the other. With regard to the *Penobscots*, they appeared well disposed. They said that when General *Washington* sent his Army to *Canada*, five of their people went with them, and were at the siege of *Quebeck*, two of whom were wounded, and three taken prisoners, who had since returned; that they had been promised an allowance should be made to those who went with Colonel *Arnold*, the support of whose families in their absence had been a great burden to them; and that they had had no recompense for their services. They were told this matter would be represented to General *Washington*, and that what was right and just he would order to be done. They said further, they looked upon themselves to be one people with us, and that whatever Government we were under they were willing to subject themselves to; that they had no doubt their tribe would be willing to join General *Washington*, and that when they got home they would call the tribe together and consult them for that purpose.

This good disposition appearing in all the *Indians*, the Council thought it best, in consequence of your letter, to send with the *Indians* into their own country the most suitable persons that could be had, in order to procure, with the utmost expedition, the number of *Indians* you desire may be engaged in the service of the States, or as many as can be procured. An armed vessel is accordingly engaged to carry these *Indians* to *Penobscot* and *St. John's*, where those tribes will be respectively assembled, and all that can be persuaded to it enlisted into the service immediately. Mr. *Fletcher*, who came with the *Penobscots*, is engaged in this business with regard to that tribe, and Major *Shaw* employed with regard to the *St. John's* and their neighbours at *Passamaquoddy*. It being expected a considerable number might be had from these tribes in a short time, the said vessel was engaged to bring them hither as soon as may be. One Mr. *Gilman* is also employed to go to the *St. François Indians*, and engage as many of them as he can. On the conference with the *St. John's* and *Mickmacks*, (a copy of which is enclosed, together with a copy of the treaty,) three of them offered themselves to join the Army at *New-York* immediately, and their offer was accepted, as it might not only secure the fidelity of the tribes to which they belonged, but induce many others of them to engage in the service. Another has since joined them. Accordingly, these four (one of whom can speak *French*) will immediately set off for *New-York*, under the conduct of Mr. *William Shaw*, who is ordered to wait upon you with them.

The Council hope these measures will be effectual for the purpose they were ordered. In their name and behalf, I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of respect, your Excellency's most obedient, &c., JAMES BOWDOIN.  
To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c.

P. S. The names of the four *Indians* abovementioned, viz: *Joseph Denaquara*, of *Windsor*, who speaks *French* and *English*; *Peter André*, of *Le Heve*; *Sebattis Netobcobwit*, of *Gaspee*; *Francis*, of *St. John's*.

*A Conference held at WATERTOWN, in the Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, between the Honourable the Council of the said Colony in behalf of the said Colony and of all the UNITED COLONIES, on the one part, and the Delegates of the St. JOHN'S and MICKMAC Tribes of INDIANS in NOVA-SCOTIA, on the other part.*

In Council, Wednesday, July 10, 1776.

The honourable Board being informed that Major *Shaw* was desirous of speaking to them on business of importance, he was admitted into the Council Chamber; when he acquainted their Honours that a number of *Indians* of the *St. John's* and *Mickmac* Tribes, in *Nova-Scotia*, were come to town to see and talk with the Council and General *Washington*, from both of whom they had received letters; and that at the earnest request of the said *Indians* he had accompanied them, having brought them in his sloop from *Machias* to *Salem*, from whence they rode hither in carriages which were provided for them.

Major *Shaw* was desired to introduce them; which he did. After salutations, and they being seated and welcomed, the Honourable *James Bowdoin*, Esq., as President of the Council, was desired to manage the Conferences with them.

PRESIDENT. What Tribes do you belong to and represent?

INDIANS. The *St. John's* and *Mickmac*.

PRESIDENT. We should be glad to know your names, and to what villages you belong?

INDIANS. We will answer, each one for himself:

AMBROSE VAR, NEWELL WALLIS, FRANCIS: Of *St. John's River*.

JOSEPH DENAQUARA, CHARLES: Of *Windsor Mickmacks*.

MATTAHU ONTRAN, NICHOLAS: Of *Merimichi* and *Rechbucto Mickmacks*.

JOHN BATTIS: Of *Beausejour*, in *Cumberland*, a *Mickmac*.

PETER ANDRÉ: Of *Le Heve*, a *Mickmac*.

SEBATTIS NETOBCOBWIT: Of *Gaspee*, a *Mickmac*.

PRESIDENT. What number of men is there in your several villages? Let each answer with respect to his own village only.

AMBROSE VAR. There are sixty men belonging to the *St. John's* Tribe.

JOSEPH. There are sixty at my village, *Windsor*.

MATTAHU. In my village are eighty men.

JOHN BATTIS. In the village at *Cumberland* are forty men.

PETER ANDRÉ. There are fifty men at *Le Heve*.

SEBATTIS. At *Gaspee* are fifty strong men.

PRESIDENT. Are there any more villages of *Indians* in *Nova-Scotia*?

INDIANS. There are six more villages of *Mickmacks*, but we do not know what number of men they have.

PRESIDENT. As you want refreshment, we will defer hearing what you have to say to us; and we will let you know when we are ready to hear you. We have ordered good lodgings and entertainment to be provided for you; and Major *Shaw* will take care that the order be complied with.

Wine being brought, the President drank their health, and the health of the *St. John's* and *Mickmac* Tribes; which was returned by the *Indians* drinking the health of the Council.

They then retired with Major *Shaw*.

In Council, Friday, A. M., July 12, 1776.

A Message went from the Board to the honourable House of Representatives, then sitting in the Meeting-House, to inform them that certain *Indians* from the *St. John's* and *Mickmac* Tribes were in town, with whom the Board purposed to hold a Conference at eleven o'clock, and to invite the honourable House to be present at it; and to propose to them that it should be held in the Meeting-House.

A Message was received from the House in answer, that they would attend the Conference at the Meeting-House, which should be at the service of the honourable Board for that purpose.

The Council then proceeded to the Meeting-House, into which they were introduced by the Speaker. Being seated, and the *Indians* also come and seated, the Conference was renewed.



PRESIDENT. Brothers of the *St. John's* and *Mickmac* Tribes: We are glad to see you to-day, and hope you are all well.

AMBROSE. We thank you.

PRESIDENT. As some of you speak *French*, we have desired Mr. *Job Prince*, who speaks *French* also, to interpret what shall be said at this Conference. And we have appointed Mr. *John Avery* as Clerk to take Minutes of it. They will be each sworn to the faithful discharge of their office respectively.

[They were sworn by the President accordingly, and Colonel *Lithgow*, who understands the *Indian* language, was desired to assist as Interpreter.]

AMBROSE. We like it well.

PRESIDENT. At our first interview you told us that you came from and represented the *St. John's* and *Mickmac* Tribes. What evidence do you give us of this?

AMBROSE. *Ambrose* hereupon rose, and delivered to the President a large parchment, containing a Treaty made between those Tribes and the Government of *Nova-Scotia* in 1760. Also, a letter to them from General *Washington*, dated in *February* last, and a letter to them from the General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay*, dated in *October* last; and said that those letters were the occasion of their coming hither to see General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT. We are now ready to hear what you have to say to us, and shall give great attention to it.

AMBROSE. The *St. John's* and *Mickmac* Tribes are all one people, and of one tongue and one heart.

We are very thankful to the *Almighty* to see all the Council; the *Almighty* has given the *English* and *Indians* one heart.

General *Washington* sent us something (the letters afore-said) last fall and this spring, and that is the reason of our coming here now to speak.

The Captains that are come up with me, and all our people, are all one as *Boston*; our eyes and our ears will not turn to the other side of the water to see or hear what they do.

We want a Father or a *French* Priest.

*Jesus* we pray to, and we shall not hear any prayers that come from *England*.

We shall have nothing to do with *Old England*, and all that we shall worship or obey will be *Jesus Christ* and General *Washington*.

[Here *Ambrose* delivered to the President a silver gorget and heart, with the King's Arms and the busts of the King and Queen engraved on them.]

General *Washington* advised us to pray to *Jesus* for aid and assistance, and to be thankful for the lands that *God* had given us. All our old men and women pray that the *Almighty* would enable us to walk in the right way. General *Washington* wrote us a letter desiring us to pray for him, and assist him all in our power. All our Captains and Chiefs do pray that he and his brothers may be masters of this country. We are both one country. We are of their country and they are of our country.

There are *Boston* people down with us, and we esteem them there as our own people, and treat them as such.

There are a number of *French* people upon our land, who disturb us in hunting, and we want to remove them a little further from us, near the sea-coast.

[Here *Ambrose* presented and delivered a sword and pistol, which he said had been offered to them by one *Anderson*, and which they afterwards took from him; and he then proceeded—]

Mr. *Anderson* told us if we would be for *England*, as he intended to be, we might have that sword and pistol. He told us that if we lost any money by the *Boston* people, the King in *Old England* would make it up.

After we received letters from General *Washington*, we took the sword from *Anderson*, and told him we would have nothing to do with him, and set him up as a mark, and despised him.

We told *Anderson* when we took the sword from him, we would deliver it up to General *Washington*, if he would receive it.

We have now said what we had to say concerning this matter; and would again mention, that we want a Truck-House and a Priest.

PRESIDENT. You mentioned there were some *Frenchmen* in your country whom you wanted to have removed: Are they in opposition to the interest of this country?

AMBROSE. They are all for you.

PRESIDENT. For what purpose did *Anderson* give you the sword?

INDIANS. As Mr. *Anderson* would not be for the people of *Boston*, we took it from him.

PRESIDENT. Did Mr. *Anderson* appear as an Agent for the Government of *Nova-Scotia*, or only as a private individual?

INDIANS. *Anderson* told us in the winter and in the spring not to go to *Boston*, but to *Halifax*. He said it would not signify to go to *Boston*, but if we could go to the Governour of *Halifax*, we should have a hat-full of money given to us by the Governour.

INDIANS. We did not want money, but we wanted to lay our hearts open to the people of *Boston*.

PRESIDENT. Was *Anderson* a publick agent, or employed by the Governour of *Halifax*?

INDIANS. We believe he was.

PRESIDENT. What is the disposition of the *English* people in *Nova-Scotia* with regard to the disputes between *England* and *America*?

INDIANS. We do not know.

PRESIDENT. What is the disposition of the *Mickmac* and *St. John's* Tribes in general? Would they all enter heartily and with resolution into the war on our side?

INDIANS. Both the *Mickmac* or *Cape-Sable Indians* and the *St. John's Indians* are all for helping *Boston*; we know their hearts, for we had a talk with them.

The President then delivered a Speech to them, which was as follows:

PRESIDENT: *Brothers*: What you have said, we like well. It makes a strong impression on our hearts, and at our next Conference with you, we will give you a full and particular answer. We will now open our minds to you. You have heard that the *English* people beyond the great water have taken up the hatchet, and made war against the United Colonies in *America*. We once looked upon them as our brothers, as children of the same family with ourselves, and not only loved them as brothers, but loved and respected them as our elder brothers. But they have grown old and covetous; many of their great men have wasted and squandered not only their own money, but the money of the publick; and because they cannot obtain in their own country a sufficiency to support their excessive luxury and satiate their avarice, they want to take from us our money and our lands for those purposes; and at the same time to deprive us of our liberties and make us slaves. They have already taken away a great deal of our money and many of our privileges, and we have borne it with patience, having only told them that their doing so was unbrotherly and unkind, and most earnestly prayed them again and again to desist from their unfriendly and cruel treatment of us. But all our petitions have been disregarded, and they have trodden them as waste paper under their feet. After this ill usage and repeated insults, we have refused to part with any more of our money and privileges; and this refusal has brought upon us the war in which we are engaged. Our enemies, before they openly declared themselves to be such, we received as friends, and admitted them into our towns and sea-ports. Taking advantage of this peaceable disposition of ours, they sent ships and troops and took possession of *Boston*, and strongly fortified it, expecting we should permit them to do the same with other places, till they had secured the whole country. But they found themselves mistaken; for when a large body of them went from *Boston* secretly by night into our country in the month of *April* the last year, and killed some of our people, burnt or damaged many of their houses, stole and destroyed much of their property, and committed other acts of cruelty, a number of our warriors assembled and drove them back, and killed a great many of them; and a little while after killed a much greater number of them at *Charlestown*, with comparatively little loss of lives on our side. The war being thus begun, all the Colonies on the Continent, from *New-Hampshire* to *Georgia*, (including them,) determined in a great Council, held by some of their wise men at *Philadelphia*, to unite together for their mutual defence; and their Army, under the command of that great warrior, General *Wash-*

ington, have lately driven away the *British* Army from *Boston*, where for many months they were held as prisoners, not daring to march out of the town to fight General *Washington*. And we doubt not, through the favour of Divine Providence, that, although the *British* troops have gained some advantages in *Canada*, the armies of the United Colonies will be able to drive them out of all other parts of *America* within the limits of the said Colonies; and out of *Canada* also if the *Canadians* are not blind with regard to their own interest and liberty.

We have given you this information, that you might know the true state of things. And we would inform you further, that as we and the *St. John's* and *Mickmac* tribes of *Indians* are countrymen, and not very distant from each other, we ought to be, and it is our interest to be mutual friends, and as brothers. And we are glad to find by what you have now said, that you are of the same mind. Accordingly, we, the governours of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in behalf of this Colony and of all the *United Colonies* in *North America*, receive you to our friendship. Your acceptance of it entitles you to be considered by us as brothers; and your enemies we shall deem our enemies, and will do all in our power to protect you from them. We do not, however, ask you to join with us in the war, unless it is your free choice to do so. If you choose to join with the *United Colonies* in the war, and shall tell us so clearly, we will immediately take the matter into consideration, and let you know our minds at the next Conference. In the mean time we are glad to see you do not intend to join our enemies against us. It is probable that the Governour of *Nova-Scotia*, the Governour of *Canada*, and other enemies of these Colonies, will endeavour to deceive you, and by presents and threats try to make you join with them against the *United Colonies*. But be not deceived by them. Our love for you obliges us to forewarn you of their arts, and earnestly to caution you against being deceived. If they should engage you in the war against us, you will be undone, and will be a ruined people. We do not mention this, as supposing you will join them, but only as a friendly caution to you, that you do not suffer them to deceive you to your own ruin.

When you have considered what we have now said, and are ready to give an answer to it, we will hear you.

AMBROSE. We will consider it, and speak to you again.

PRESIDENT. You told us the sword and pistol you took from *Anderson* was at our disposal. We thank you, and now return them to you, in confidence that they will be employed by you only against your own enemies and our enemies.

[The silver gorget and heart, with the King's Arms and bust engraven on them, were delivered to the Interpreter to be returned to the *Indians*. He presented them to their Speaker, but with great vehemence and displeasure he refused to take them, saying they had nothing to do with King *George* and *England*. Whereupon the President told them they should have a new gorget and heart, with the bust of General *Washington*, and proper devices to represent the *United Colonies*.]

The Conference was then adjourned to to-morrow, after drinking mutual healths.

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In Council, Saturday, July 13, 1776.

A Message went from the honourable Board to inform the honourable House that the Conference with the *Indians* would be renewed at three o'clock, P. M., to which the House returned an answer that they would then attend.

Accordingly, at three o'clock, the Council proceeded to the Meeting-House, and the *Indians* being come, the Conference was renewed.

PRESIDENT. Brothers of the *St. John's* and *Mickmac* Tribes: It gives us pleasure to see you to-day in health. We hope you have been well entertained at your lodgings, agreeable to our order.

We shall now give an answer to what you said to us yesterday. You told us you prayed to our Saviour *Jesus*, and wanted a *French* Priest to assist you in your prayers. We are glad you have such a regard for religion, and are ready to furnish you with a Priest to assist you in your prayers, and teach you the true religion; but we do not know that we can get a *French* Priest; if one of our Priests

would be agreeable to you, we will endeavour to get you one, and will take care he be a good man.

You told us you wanted a Truck-House. According to your desire last year, we sent to our Truckmaster at *Penobscot* money to purchase ammunition, provision, and goods, as much of each as we thought sufficient to supply you the last winter, and we wrote you so in our letter to you last *October*. We hope the Truckmaster supplied you according to our order, which was, to supply you with what you wanted, and take your skins and furs in payment; and that you might be the better accommodated, we also sent a quantity of the same articles to *Machias*, with orders to our Truckmaster there to supply you. We shall send a further quantity, and order him to let you have the things you want at the same rate they cost us, and allow you for your skins and furs the same price they will fetch in *Boston*. We hope this will be satisfactory to you.

With respect to the war, we told you yesterday how it began, and mentioned to you some of the cruelties our enemies committed on our people. We shall now mention some more of those cruelties. After the *British* ships and troops were admitted into *Boston* as friends, they stopped all the trade of the town, and would not suffer our vessels to come in or go out to supply the town and country as usual. They then, fearing the people of *Boston*, after such provocation, would rise upon them, told them that if they would deliver up their arms, the inhabitants should be all safe, and no injury offered to them or their property; and that such as inclined to go out of the town should have free liberty to go with all their effects. The town, knowing themselves to be in the power of the troops, and being cut off from all communication with the country, agreed to the proposal, and accordingly delivered up their arms, relying on the promise of the *British* General, Mr. *Gage*, that he would perform his part of the agreement; but as soon as he had got their arms he broke his faith, and would permit only a part of the people to go, and would not suffer them to take their effects with them. Those that were obliged to remain in the town were insulted and abused by the soldiers, who burnt and destroyed many of their houses, stole a great quantity of their goods, and subjected them to great difficulties and hardships—all directly contrary to the plighted faith of the *British* General. And afterwards, when the *British* troops found that General *Washington* was determined to drive them out of the town, they broke open dwelling-houses and store-houses and took away and destroyed a prodigious quantity of goods, and then, with great precipitation, retreated to their ships, and quitted the town.

Some time before this, they burnt the large town of *Charlestown*, consisting of several hundred houses, taking away everything valuable they could find there; and several of their ships-of-war went and destroyed a great part of the town of *Falmouth*, in *Casco Bay*, burning near two hundred houses there, with many things of value in them. Much other damage they have done, and many other cruelties they have committed. This unjust, inhuman, and cruel treatment has compelled us to take up arms in our defence, and in earnest to engage in a war with them; and all the Colonies on the Continent, through fifteen hundred miles in extent, have joined with us in the war, and are determined to carry it on till we can obtain a peace on just and honourable terms.

We know our cause to be just: we can therefore place our confidence in that Being who is the great Dispenser of Justice, and who will not suffer such inhumanity and breach of faith to go unpunished. We trust that, by His favour, we shall be able to defend ourselves; and we do not desire you, as we told you yesterday, to enter into the war unless you choose it. You then expressed a disposition to engage in it; but we desired you to weigh and consider the matter well before you engaged, and to let us know your mind about it, fully and plainly, after you had so considered it. We shall now attend to what you have to say on this head, and to everything else you have to say.

AMBROSE. We have the same to say to-day that we said yesterday—that we are your friends and brothers, and will join in the war on your side. You may depend upon it that we will not break our words; we will not lie; all that are here present hear us, and the God of Heaven hears us; and we will engage in the war, for we are brothers. We would not lie to save our right hands. We pledge our faith that

we will do what we promise. We love *Boston*. It gives us a great deal of concern they were so ill used. We should have been glad to have had the arms of *Boston* to keep. If we had had the *Boston* arms, we should have been able to defend ourselves. In case the people of *England* should come to drive us out of our country, we will give you information of it immediately. We shall be very glad to have proper goods for our furs and skins, and we want them up *St. John's River*. We are not capable of writing. We can't convey our mind as we would wish to do. We will pledge our right hands in faith of what we have promised. There are some of us here that are willing to go to war now, and would go to General *Washington* immediately.

[Upon this, three of them went from their seats into the aisle, and manifested a great desire to go.

These three are Chiefs of different villages, and are willing to go together.]

PRESIDENT. We thank them, and will let them know our minds. By what you said yesterday, and what you say now, it appears to be your disposition and intention to join in the war with us. Do we understand you right? Do you mean to join with us in the war?

AMBROSE. Yes; we are with our hearts ready to join you.

PRESIDENT. You mean not only yourselves particularly, but your Tribes in general.

AMBROSE. It is not in our power to answer now for the whole of our Tribes; but when we go home, we will call together all the young men, and see how many will go to war.

PRESIDENT. How many do your Tribes consist of?

AMBROSE. It is not in our power to tell.

PRESIDENT. You, *Ambrose*, are of *St. John's*. How many men are there in your Tribe?

AMBROSE. Sixty men that are able to do duty.

PRESIDENT. How many of your men would be willing to engage in the war?

AMBROSE. It is impossible to tell certainly till we go home and call our men together.

PRESIDENT. Do you think that thirty would engage?

AMBROSE. We can get thirty men to go, and three Captains for certain. This man that is next to me will make one of the thirty that will go with me.

FRANCIS, (of the same Tribe.) I can go and fetch from *St. John's* twenty men myself. I will return, and bring twenty men with me.

PRESIDENT. How many men, *Joseph*, would go from your village, and how many does it consist of?

JOSEPH DENAQUARA. Twenty-five would go, and there are fifty in the whole.

PRESIDENT. How many men in your village, *Mattahu*, and how many would go?

MATTAHU. I can bring ten men, and could bring more, if I wasn't afraid of the *English* coming to attack our village while we were gone. We have eighty men.

PRESIDENT. How many men in your village, and how many would go, *Battis*?

JOHN BATTIS. We can produce fourteen, but must have some to take care of the women and children. We have forty men in our village.

PRESIDENT. I want to know how many men there are in your village, *Peter*?

PETER ANDRÉ. Sixty men.

PRESIDENT. How many men can your village furnish?

PETER. It is not in my power to answer with certainty, as I am going myself to General *Washington* directly.

PRESIDENT. Do you think twenty?

PETER ANDRÉ. Thirty.

PRESIDENT. How many are there in your village, *Sebattis*?

SEBATTIS NETOBCOBUIT. Fifty men.

PRESIDENT. How many would go to war?

SEBATTIS NETOBCOBUIT. Twenty-five.

PRESIDENT. How many villages are there of the *Mickmacs* not represented here?

[Here several of them consulted together, and then the answer was given.]

AMBROSE. Six.

PRESIDENT. How many villages are there represented here?

AMBROSE. Six.

PRESIDENT. Are the other villages as big as those six?

AMBROSE. Some much bigger.

PRESIDENT. What is the reason that the other six villages did not send delegates as well as those that have sent?

AMBROSE. The reason is, that General *Washington's* letter had not reached them. Some of our people went after them, but we have not heard from them.

PRESIDENT. Do you think that the other villages have as friendly a disposition toward us as you have?

AMBROSE. The same. We are all brothers and cousins. We are of the same flesh and blood, and can't make war or be attacked separately.

PRESIDENT. Would your warriors form a body in conjunction with a number of our people?

AMBROSE. Yes; we are brothers now, and for that reason we would join our hands with yours.

PRESIDENT. From what you now say, we depend that you are hearty to enter into the war with us.

AMBROSE. Yes, we are.

[Hereupon all the *Indians* came from their seats, and shook hands with the President, in token of their heartiness and sincerity.]

PRESIDENT. We look upon this as an expression of your readiness to join with us in the war, and, accordingly, I shall immediately consult my brothers of both Houses here present, and let you know presently what our determination is.

After consultation with the Council, and with the Speaker and gentlemen of the House of Representatives, the President then proceeded:

PRESIDENT. Brothers: I would now inform you what the General Court have agreed to upon your having signified your readiness to enter with us into the war. They have agreed that a regiment be employed in the Continental service, under the command of General *Washington*, to consist of five hundred of the *Mickmac* and *St. John's* Tribes, and two hundred and fifty of our people with them. These are to form one regiment, to act together. The Field Officers or the chief officers are to be *English*. The other officers of the regiment to be one-half *English*, and the other half *Indians*. With respect to the pay of the officers, it will be determined the next time the Court meets. With respect to the soldiers, both *Indian* and *English*, they will have the like pay, viz: forty shillings per month, equal to six dollars and two-thirds; and each of the *Indians* is to be allowed a rifle shirt, such as the Riflemen have, a blanket, shoes and buckles, or moccasins. You will also have provisions supplied you while in the service.

PRESIDENT. Do you understand perfectly what has been said?

AMBROSE. We understood it exceedingly well.

PRESIDENT. Do you approve of the establishment of such a regiment, consisting of *English* and *Indians*?

AMBROSE. We are very glad of it, and we repeat it again, we are very well contented and pleased with it.

PRESIDENT. Brothers, are you well equipped with guns, and all things necessary belonging to a gun?

AMBROSE. We have few or none; nor can we find any knives to buy.

PRESIDENT. How do you hunt without guns?

AMBROSE. We have got guns, but reserve them for our children to hunt with in our absence from home.

PRESIDENT. Those that engage in the service must bring their guns with them. Have you anything further to say at this time?

AMBROSE. We have nothing further to say. All we have said we consider as an oath.

PRESIDENT. The next time we meet together, we will let you know how the regiments are to be regulated.

Then the President drank prosperity to the *Indians* of the *Mickmac* and *St. John's* Tribes, and wished that the friendship now established might continue as long as the sun and moon shall endure, which was pledged by the *Indians*.

PRESIDENT. We will bid you farewell to night, and will see you again next *Tuesday*.

In the Meeting-House, Tuesday, July 16, 1776, P. M.

*The Conference was continued.*

PRESIDENT. Brothers, we hope we now see you well. At our last meeting, you desired that the goods we should

send to the Truck-House at *Machias* might be such as you most wanted. We should be glad you would now inform us what goods you want most, and like best, and we will endeavour the Truck-House shall be supplied with them, being desirous to accommodate you in the best manner in our power.

AMBROSE. We want strouds and blankets for winter and summer. Our children and families are always in want of those articles. We want powder, shot, flints, knives, and combs, hatchets, small axes of two different sizes, paint, some steel-traps to catch beaver, and we want guns, too, to go a-hunting with.

PRESIDENT. Major *Shaw* has delivered us a memorandum of a number of articles. We will order our Commissary to supply the Truck-House with them, if they can be procured.

AMBROSE. We are much obliged to you.

PRESIDENT. One of you desired yesterday that a Truckmaster, with goods, might be sent to *St. John's*.

AMBROSE. There is one *Adderton*, who lives a league from our village, who we should be glad might be appointed.

PRESIDENT. We should be glad to send a Truckmaster there; but as *St. John's* is not within the bounds of this Colony, we have no right to do it.

AMBROSE. We are much obliged to you.

PRESIDENT. Since we last talked together, we have received letters from General *Washington*, in which he mentions his brothers the *St. John's* and *Mickmac* Indians. As he thinks you are strong men and his good friends, and as you have expressed a great inclination to take part with him in the war, he desires you to come and join him at *New-York*, with all possible expedition. He wants five or six hundred of you; but if you cannot spare so many, desires you to speak to your brothers of *Penobscot*, *Passamaquoddy*, and other places, to come along with you, so as to make up that number in the whole. The pay and encouragement will be the same we mentioned to you last *Saturday*. We now desire your answer, that we may write it to General *Washington*.

AMBROSE. My brothers, it is not in our power to tell how many men we can raise. We will get as many as we can. We cannot say anything further. We will endeavour to furnish all we can.

PRESIDENT. You all promise to use your endeavours to engage all the warriors you can. They are to come here, and then go to *New-York* to join General *Washington*.

AMBROSE. Yes, we have said it already, that we will go and get all that we can.

PRESIDENT. You told us the other day how many you thought your several villages would furnish. We should be glad if you would mention the number again, according to the best of your judgment, that General *Washington* may know what to depend on.

AMBROSE. *St. John's* consists of sixty men, and will furnish thirty.

JOSEPH and CHARLES. *Windsor* consists of fifty men, and will furnish twenty or twenty-five.

MATTAHU. *Miramichi* and *Rechibucto* consist of eighty men, and will furnish ten.

JOHN BATTIS. *Cumberland Beausejour* consists of forty men, and will furnish fifteen, perhaps twenty-five.

PETER ANDRÉ. *Lehève* consists of sixty men, and will furnish fifteen.

SEBATTIS NETOBCOBUIT. *Gaspee* consists of fifty men, and will furnish twenty-five or thirty men.

PRESIDENT. How many can the other six villages furnish?

AMBROSE. We cannot tell. We would let you know it is not in our power to come this fall, except three, who are willing to go now. The rest say, they cannot come this fall.

PRESIDENT. If you cannot come yourselves this fall, perhaps some others of your Tribes can.

AMBROSE. When we go home, we will get all our people together, and advise with them, and we will certainly come in the spring.

PRESIDENT. General *Washington* writes he wants them now, as they are strong men, and his good brothers.

AMBROSE. We will endeavour to get them, and if it is possible, we will come this fall. We will get our men together, and come up, if it is possible.

PRESIDENT. Would the other six villages furnish any men?

AMBROSE. We are so far distant from each other, that it would bring it to Christmas before we could get together.

PRESIDENT. How long would it be before your people could get together?

AMBROSE. We are certain that we can all be here in the spring. It will be late before we can all get home, and it will be winter before our people will be able to get together.

PRESIDENT. Captain *Shaw* can carry you to *Machias* or *St. John's* quick, and you can be in your own country in a few days after.

AMBROSE. Some of us, after we get to *St. John's River*, have a great way to go, near two hundred leagues.

PRESIDENT. Those of the *St. John's* Tribe are near; they come in a short time.

AMBROSE. When we came from home, our Captain of the *St. John's* Tribe was gone to *Quebeck* to hear what news. He went to see the *Boston* people, not the King's troops. Perhaps when we get home, our Captain may be returned, and may bring the same tidings we get here. If not, as soon as he does return, we will endeavour to get the men here as quick as possible.

PRESIDENT. Do you think your neighbours, the *Passamaquoddy* Indians, can furnish any men? They are near.

AMBROSE. We will send people to inform them, and endeavour to get as many of them as we can.

PRESIDENT. Do you think the *Cape Sable* Indians can furnish any men?

AMBROSE. They are too far off to send to from *St. John's*.

PRESIDENT. Not if you can go across the *Bay of Fundy* to *Cape Sable*.

AMBROSE. We keep along the coast, except when we come across the rivers that are not too wide.

PRESIDENT. General *Washington* will depend on thirty men from *St. John's* to come up soon.

AMBROSE. Yes, all we can get.

PRESIDENT. Who lives next to *St. John's*?

AMBROSE. The *Mickmacs* are the nearest; they can't come this fall, for want of provisions for their families, who will starve if they come away.

PRESIDENT. Tell *Ambrose* that we thank him for his readiness to engage his people to come here as soon as they can; and we should be glad the rest of them would get their people together as soon as may be, and come to *Boston* with as many as they can get.

INDIANS. We will do all that we can.

PRESIDENT. When you get home, inform your Tribes and the other *Indian* Tribes what has been agreed between us. Such of the *Indian* warriors as incline to engage must come to this place; and General *Washington* says they must bring their own guns with them. Remember to tell them they must not fail to bring their guns, as General *Washington* depends upon it.

AMBROSE. Those that have two guns will bring one with them, and those that have but one gun must leave it at home.

PRESIDENT. Besides their wages, they will have a dollar for the use of each gun; and if their guns should be lost in the service, they will be paid for them. Everything else that's necessary will be supplied them when they come here. They must be very expeditious in coming. General *Washington* wants them immediately. Now you know what will be paid for your guns, you must prevail with your people to bring guns with them.

AMBROSE. Yes, we will all bring our guns, all that have any. We have all got guns, but they are not in very good order.

PRESIDENT. Bring the best you have got; you must come as quick as you can. We shall desire Major *Shaw* to procure you a passage up to *Boston* from *Machias*.

AMBROSE. If there was a vessel at *St. John's* we could come much quicker. We want to know who will carry us to *St. John's* now, for the sooner we can get home the sooner we can get together.

PRESIDENT. We shall desire Major *Shaw* to carry you to *Machias* certain; and if he can carry you to *St. John's* he will. When Major *Shaw* carries you to *Machias*, you must let him know when he must go there again to bring you up.



AMBROSE. We will let him know.

PRESIDENT. Your pay will commence on the day you sail from *Machias* to come up to *Boston*; our Commissary will send provisions for your passage up. The companies will be formed when you come here. You must engage and enlist for so long a time as General *Washington* shall want you, not exceeding two or three years, unless General *Washington* and you agree for a longer time; and from hence you will proceed to General *Washington*.

AMBROSE. We are willing.

PRESIDENT. Several of you, viz: *Joseph Donaguard*, *Sabattis Netobcobius*, and *Peter André*, offered themselves to engage in the war immediately; we thank them; we are much pleased they show so hearty a disposition to engage. We accept of their offer, and, according to their desire, will send them to General *Washington*, who will inform them what to do. The *St. John's* and *Mickmac* Tribes are now our brothers, and are become one people with the *United Colonies*. Those Colonies have lately, by their great Council at *Philadelphia*, declared themselves free and independent States, by the name of the *United States of America*. The certain news of it, and the Declaration itself, are just come to us; and we are glad of this opportunity to inform you, our brothers, of it. The said great Council, the "Representatives of the *United States of America* in General Congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of their intentions, do, in the name and by the authority of the good people of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare that these *United Colonies* are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the *British Crown*, and that all political connexion between them and the State of *Great Britain* is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that, as free and independent States, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent States may of right do: and for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, they mutually pledge to each other their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honour."

[Here the printed Declaration at large was produced to the *Indians*, and the Interpreter, Mr. *Prince*, fully explained it to them.]

AMBROSE. We like it well.

PRESIDENT. This is the Declaration of the *United States of America*. You and we, therefore, have now nothing to do with *Great Britain*; we are wholly separated from her, and all the former friendship and connexion with her are now dissolved. The *United States* now form a long and strong chain; and it is made longer and stronger by our brethren of the *St. John's* and *Mickmac* Tribes joining with us. And may Almighty *God* never suffer this chain to be broken. In pursuance and in full confirmation of what has, in these conferences, been agreed upon between us, we now lay before you certain Articles of Alliance and Friendship which, if you approve of them, we propose should be mutually signed, viz: by you, in behalf of the *St. John's* and *Mickmac* Tribes on the one part, and by us, in behalf of the *United States of America* on the other part.

The PRESIDENT then, holding out to them the Treaty, said, This is the Treaty to be read to you; if you approve of it, it will be fairly written and brought here again to be signed by you and us. I shall desire one of my brothers to read it to you, being obliged myself to go to *Boston*. Upon which the President, after shaking hands with the *Indians*, and bidding them farewell, retired.

The Honourable BENJAMIN GREENLEAF, Esq., then read the Treaty to the *Indians*, which was fully and clearly interpreted to them, and of which they expressed their entire approbation, and said they were ready to sign it. After mutual healths were drunk, the Conference was adjourned to the next day.

Wednesday, July 17, 1776.

The Council and the *Indian* Delegates being met, duplicates of the Treaty, fairly written, were produced and signed and exchanged.

Then the Hon. Benjamin Greenleaf, Esq., told them that the presents ordered them by the Government would be delivered to them as soon as they were ready.

The Conference being now ended, the *Indians* took leave of the Council and departed.

The following is a copy of the Treaty above referred to, viz: A Treaty of Alliance and Friendship entered into and concluded by and between the governours of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY and the Delegates of the *St. John's* and *MICKMAC* Tribes of *INDIANS*.

Whereas the *United States of America*, in General Congress assembled, have, in the name and by the authority of the good people of these Colonies, solemnly published and declared that these *United Colonies* are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the *British Crown*; and that all political connexion between them and the State of *Great Britain* is, and ought to be, dissolved; and that, as free and independent States, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent States may of right do: We, the governours of the State of *Massachusetts*, do, by virtue thereof, and by the powers vested in us, enter into and conclude the following Treaty of Friendship and Alliance, viz:

1st. We, the governours of the said State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in behalf of said State and the other *United States of America* on the one part, and Ambros Var, Newell Wallis, and Francis, Delegates of the *St. John's* Tribe, Joseph Denaguard, Charles, Mattahu Ontrane, Nicholas, John Battis, Peter André, and Sabattis Netobcobwit, Delegates of the *Mickmac* Tribe of *Indians*, inhabiting within the Province of *Nova-Scotia*, for themselves and in behalf of the said Tribes on the other part, do solemnly agree, that the people of the said State of *Massachusetts-Bay* and of the other *United States of America*, and of the said Tribes of *Indians*, shall henceforth be at peace with each other, and be considered as friends and brothers, united and allied together for their mutual defence, safety, and happiness.

2d. That each party to this Treaty shall and will consider the enemies of the other as enemies to themselves; and do hereby solemnly promise and engage to and with each other, that when called upon for that purpose, they shall and will, to the utmost of their abilities, aid and assist each other against their publick enemies; and particularly that the people of the said Tribes of *Indians* shall and will afford and give to the people of said State of *Massachusetts-Bay* and the people of the other *United States of America*, during their present war with the King of *Great Britain*, all the aid and assistance in their power; and that they, the people of the said Tribes of *Indians*, shall not and will not, directly or indirectly, give any aid or assistance to the troops or subjects of the said King of *Great Britain*, or others adhering to him, or hold any correspondence, or carry on any commerce with them during the present war.

3d. That if any robbery or outrage happens to be committed by any of the subjects of said State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, or of any other of the *United States of America*, upon any of the people of said Tribes, the said State shall, upon proper application being made, cause satisfaction and restitution speedily to be made to the party injured.

4th. That if any robbery or outrage happens to be committed by any of the said Tribes of *Indians* upon any of the subjects of said State, or of any other of the *United States of America*, the Tribe to which the offender or offenders shall belong shall, upon proper application being made, cause satisfaction and restitution speedily to be made to the party injured.

5th. That in case any misunderstanding, quarrel, or injury, shall happen between the said State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, or any other of the *United States of America*, and the said Tribes of *Indians*, or either of them, no private revenge shall be taken, but a peaceable application shall be made for redress.

6th. That the said Tribes of *Indians* shall and will furnish and supply six hundred strong men out of the said Tribes, or as many as may be, who shall, without delay, proceed from their several homes up to the town of *Boston*, within this State, and from thence shall march to join the Army of the *United States of America*, now at *New-York*, under the immediate command of his Excellency General *Washington*, there to take his orders.

7th. That each of the *Indians* who shall, by their respective Tribes, be appointed to join the Army of the *United States of America*, shall bring with him a good gun, and shall be allowed one dollar for the use of it; and in case the gun should be lost in the service, shall be paid the value of it; and the pay of each man shall begin from the time they sail from *Machias* for *Boston*, and they shall be supplied with provisions and a vessel or vessels for their passage up to *Boston*. Each private man shall receive the like pay as is given to our own private men. The *Indians* shall be formed into companies when they arrive at *Boston*, and shall engage or enlist for so long a time as General *Washington* shall want them, not exceeding the term of three years, unless General *Washington* and they shall agree for a longer time. And as *Joseph Denaguara*, *Peter André*, and *Sebattis Netobcobwit*, have manfully and generously offered to enter immediately into the war, they shall be sent, as soon as may be, to General *Washington*, to join the Army, and shall be considered as entering into our pay at the time of their arrival at *New-York*.

8th. The delegates above named who may return to their homes, do promise and engage to use their utmost influence with the *Passamaquoddy* and other neighbouring Tribes of *Indians* to persuade them to furnish and supply, for the said service, as many strong men of their respective Tribes as possible; and that they come along with those of the Tribes of *St. John's* and *Mickmac*. And the said governours of










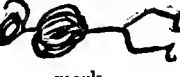
the said State of *Massachusetts-Bay* do hereby engage to give such of the said *Passamaquoddy* or other neighbouring *Indians* who shall enter into the service of the *United States of America* the same pay and encouragement, in every particular, as is above agreed to be given to the *St. John's* or *Mickmac Indians*, and to consider them as our friends and brothers.

9th. That the said State of *Massachusetts-Bay* shall any will furnish their Truckmaster at *Machias*, as soon as may be, with proper articles for the purpose of supplying the *Indians* of said Tribes with the necessaries and conveniences of life.

10th. And the said delegates do hereby annul and make void all former Treaties by them, or by others in behalf of their respective Tribes, made with any other Power, State, or person, so far forth as the same shall be repugnant to any of the Articles contained in this Treaty.

In faith and testimony whereof, we, the said governours of the said State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, have signed these presents, and caused the seal of the said State to be hereunto affixed; and the said *Ombrius Var*, *Newell Wallis*, and *Francis*, delegates of the *St. John's* Tribe, *Joseph Denaguara*, *Charles Mattahu Ontrane*, *Nicholas*, *John Battis*, *Peter André*, and *Sebattis Netobcobwit*, delegates of the *Mickmac* Tribe of *Indians*, have hereunto put their marks and seals in the Council Chamber at *Watertown*, in the State aforesaid, the nineteenth day of *July*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

JAMES BOWDOIN,  
B. GREENLEAF,  
CALEB CUSHING,  
RICHD. DERBY, Jun.,  
JOHN WINTHROP,  
THOMAS CUSHING,  
JOHN WHETCOMB,  
ELDAD TAYLOR,  
SAML. HOLTEN,  
MOSES GILL,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
BENJN. WHITE,  
EBEN. THAYER, Jun.,  
HENRY GARDNER,  
DANIEL HOPKINS,  
DANIEL DAVIS,  
JABEZ FISHER.

his  
OMBRIUS  VAR & Seal.  
mark.  
his  
NEWELL  WALLIS & Seal.  
mark.  
his  
FRANCIS  & Seal.  
mark.  
his  
MATTAHU  ONTRANE & Seal.  
mark.  
his  
NICHOLAS  & Seal.  
mark.  
his  
JOHN  BATTIS & Seal.  
mark.  
his  
CHARLES  & Seal.  
mark.  
his  
PETER  ANDRÉ & Seal.  
mark.  
his  
JOSEPH  DENAQUARA & Seal.  
mark.  
his  
SEBATTIS  NETOBCOBWIT.  
mark.

[Colony Seal appended.]

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATORS.  
Head-Quarters, August 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I had fully resolved to pay you a visit in *New-Jersey*, if the movements of the enemy, and some late intelligence, indicating an early attack, had not induced me to suspend it. Allow me, therefore, to address you in this mode, as fellow-citizens and fellow-soldiers engaged in the same glorious cause; to represent to you that the fate of your country depends, in all human probability, on the exertion of a few weeks; that it is of the utmost importance to

keep up a respectable force for that time; and there can be no doubt that success will crown our efforts, if we firmly and resolutely determine to conquer or die. I have placed so much confidence in the spirit and zeal of the Associated Troops of *Pennsylvania*, that I cannot persuade myself an impatience to return home, or a less honourable motive, will defeat my well-grounded expectation that they will do their country essential service at this critical time, when the powers of despotism are all combined against it, and ready to strike their most decisive stroke. If I could allow myself to doubt

your spirit and perseverance, I should represent the ruinous consequences of your leaving the service, by setting before you the discouragement it would give the Army, the confusion and shame of our friends, and the still more galling triumph of our enemies; but as I have no such doubts, I shall only thank you for the spirit and ardour you have shown in so readily marching to meet the enemy, and am most confident you will crown it by a glorious perseverance. The honour and safety of our bleeding country, and every other motive that can influence the brave and heroic patriot, call loudly upon us to acquit ourselves with spirit. In short, we must now determine to be enslaved or free. If we make freedom our choice, we must obtain it by the blessing of Heaven on our united and vigorous efforts.

I salute you, gentlemen, most affectionately, and beg leave to remind you that liberty, honour, and safety, are all at stake; and I trust Providence will smile upon our efforts, and establish us once more the inhabitants of a free and happy country.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Officers and Soldiers of the *Pennsylvania* Association.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL LIVINGSTON.

New-York, August 8, 1776.

SIR: Before this reaches you, you will undoubtedly have heard of the unexpected arrival of the *Carolina* Army on *Staten-Island*, which, added to the *Hessians* and foreign troops under Lord *Howe*, exhibits a force justly alarming. When I compare it with that which we have to oppose them, I cannot help feeling every anxious apprehension. The new levies are so incomplete, the old regiments deficient in their complement, and so much sickness, that we must have an immediate supply of men. I have therefore written to *Connecticut* and to the Convention of your Province to call out the Militia immediately; but as it may take some time, and the necessity admits of no delay, I have thought it proper to apply to you also, under the resolution of Congress of last *June*, (copy of which was sent you when Lord *Howe's* fleet first arrived,) to beg you would use your utmost exertions to forward this most necessary measure. The consequences to the *American* interest of any failure here, are so obvious, that I need not enlarge upon them. Your own good judgment will suggest everything proper.

It would be a great saving of time and expense, if the Militia, when they come, would always equip themselves with arms, ammunition, blankets, canteens, and kettles, as far as they can. And in any order given on the present occasion, I would wish you to notice it specially.

I am, with much truth and regard, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Brig. Gen. *William Livingston*, *New-Jersey* Militia.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL MERCER.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 8, 1776.

SIR: The account given you by a deserter, as brought me by Mr. *Tilghman*, is confirmed by two sailors who came off the night before last from the enemy—that General *Clinton* is arrived with his Army from *South-Carolina*, and that preparations are making for an early and vigorous attack. They further add, that last *Sunday* one thousand *Hessians* landed—part of twelve thousand, the remainder being left off the Banks of *Newfoundland*, that may be expected every hour. Under these circumstances, and considering how much deficient this Army is, from the not filling up the new levies, and sickness, I must desire you to send over one of the Rifle regiments, as we have not one corps of that kind on this Island. I leave it to you to fix upon that which you think will come with the most cheerfulness and are best appointed, but would not have any time lost. The Quartermaster may set out immediately to prepare for them. From all accounts, the grand attack will be made here and at *Long-Island*. I cannot find anything meditated against *New-Jersey* at present. I have written to the Convention of *Jersey* and to *Connecticut* to send on the Militia with all expedition.

I am, sir, with much regard, your most obedient, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To General *Mercer*, *New-Jersey*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, August 8, 1776.

SIR: By this I mean to communicate to your honourable body the substance of the intelligence I received yesterday, from two deserters that came the evening before from the *Solebay* man-of-war.

They inform that they were in the engagement at *Sullivan's Island*, and give nearly the same account as that transmitted by General *Lee*, which you would see published by Congress. They add, that they left *South-Carolina* about three weeks ago, with General *Clinton* and his whole Army, who are now arrived and landed on *Staten-Island*. They also say that part of Lord *Howe's* fleet, with *Hessian* and *Highland* troops on board, have got in, and that the remainder, with a considerable body, is hourly expected, which those that have come in parted from in a gale of wind off the Banks of *Newfoundland*.

As the accounts given by these men are direct and circumstantial, and their authenticity corroborated by many other things that have occurred, it is not to be doubted but the number of the enemy's Army will greatly exceed ours. Their force it was generally expected would be considerable of itself, and the unexpected augmentation of General *Clinton's* Army makes it more so. On the other hand, ours does not come up to the intended establishment.

Under these circumstances, and as we may expect the period just at hand when they will make their vigorous push, I submit it to the consideration of your honourable body whether it may not be necessary for your exertions to be employed in calling, in the most expeditious manner, such reinforcements as you can obtain, to the aid of this Army.

I have the honour to be, &c.

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President, &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, August 8, 1776.

SIR: I have been favoured with your letter of the 6th instant, and am happy to find the nomination I made of General *Clinton*, in consequence of your request to appoint an officer to the command of the levies on both sides *Hudson's River*, has met the approbation of your honourable body. His acquaintance with the country, abilities, and zeal for the cause, are the motives that induced me to make choice of him. However, I am led to conclude, from that part of your letter which desires me to transmit him his appointment, with the resolution subjecting the levies on both sides of the river to his command, that your honourable body entertain ideas of the matter somewhat different from what I do, or ever did.

When I was honoured with your letter of the 16th ultimo, with the resolves of Convention upon this subject, the state of the Army under my command would not allow me to send a General Officer in the Continental service to command the levies you then proposed to raise, supposing I had been authorized to do it. But considering myself without power in this instance, and the levies altogether of a Provincial nature, to be raised by you, and subject to your direction, I esteemed the nomination of a General Officer over them, intrusted to my choice, a matter of favour and of compliment, and as such I gratefully filled it. I am persuaded, that I expressed myself in this manner to the gentlemen who were pleased to attend me upon the occasion, and that they had the same ideas. Under the influence of this opinion, all I expected was, that an appointment would be made in conformity to my nomination, if there was no objection to the gentleman I proposed; conceiving then, as I do now, that if he was approved by Convention, he would be their officer, and derive his appointment and authority from them. In this light I presume General *Clinton* must be viewed, and his powers over the levies you allude to, flow from you. Lest accident may have mislaid the letter I wrote you on the subject, I have enclosed an extract of it, so far as it had relation to it.

It is not in my power to send an experienced officer at this time to the post you mention. I trust that Colonel *Clinton* will be equal to the command of both the *Highland* fortifications. They are under his direction at present.

In respect to the two Commissaries, I thought the matter had been fixed; but as it is not, I have requested Mr. *Trum-*

*bull*, who has the charge of this, to wait upon and agree with the Convention, on proper persons to conduct the business, and in such a way that their purchases and his may not clash; to him, therefore, I beg leave to refer you upon this subject.

I am extremely obliged by the order for the telescope. I have obtained it, and will try to employ it for the valuable purposes you designed it.

I shall pay proper attention to your members, and persons employed in their service, and give it in General Orders that they be permitted to pass our guards without interruption.

Before I conclude, I cannot but express my fears lest the enemy's Army, so largely augmented, should possess themselves of the whole stock on *Long-Island*. When the further reinforcement arrives, which they hourly expect, they may do it without a possibility on our part of preventing them. I wish the Convention may not see cause to regret that they were not removed.

I have the honour to be, &c.,  
Go. WASHINGTON.  
To the Hon. *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President, &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 2d instant is duly received. Enclosed you have a resolution of the Provincial Convention, which came to hand last evening, by which you will please to regulate your conduct. I must beg you to inform me, as soon as possible, what number your brigade now consists of, and what number it will contain when a fourth part of the Militia are draughted, agreeable to order of the Provincial Congress.

By intelligence received and movements observed of the enemy, we have the greatest reason to believe a general attack will be made in the course of a few days. Our numbers are much short of the enemy. I hope no time will be lost in marching the reinforcements expected, to our assistance, from different quarters, with all possible despatch.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *George Clinton*, New-York Militia.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MAJOR FRENCH.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 8, 1776.

SIR: I was unwilling to determine, hastily, upon your claim of a release, founded upon your parole; and therefore delayed the acknowledgment of your favour of the 22d of *July*, until I should fully inform myself. I had accordingly written to you yesterday, that I was so unhappy as to differ from you in the construction you had put upon it, but as there was reason to believe a general exchange of prisoners might soon take place, I should cheerfully facilitate your return to your friends.

Last night I received your favour of the 5th of *August*, waiving your claim of a release, which makes any further discussion of that matter unnecessary. Your other proposal, of being exchanged for Major *Meigs* or Colonel *Allen*, will meet with no objection from me. Should you write to General *Howe* on the subject, the letter shall be cheerfully forwarded, and his answer returned.

Should any difficulty arise in the exchange, I am doubtful how far I should be authorized, without consulting the Congress, to grant you an indulgence similar to that of Major *Meigs*, which I have been informed was allowed in consequence of his saving the life of a *British* officer either nearly connected with, or much esteemed by, General *Carleton*. However, you may assure yourself, sir, that both duty and inclination lead me to relieve the unfortunate, and that I agree with you, that your long and early captivity, gives you a very just claim to special notice; and I shall be happy in furthering your wishes, as far as my station will admit.

I am, sir, your most obedient, and very humble servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

To Major *French*.

DANIEL GOLDSMITH TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New Jail, New-York, August 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On *Tuesday* last Mr. Alderman *Blagge* sent for me, and showed me a petition he had received from

the enclosed petitioner, and informed me he never had any proof appeared against him; therefore he saw no just cause for detaining him any longer, and advised a discharge of the petitioner. I replied, that he was now an immediate prisoner under your honourable House, and of consequence not in my power to discharge him without your approbation; which the Alderman acquiesced in, and told me he would wait on you concerning it; but if he did not, advised me to wait upon some gentleman in the Congress, which I have done, and was by him advised to write to the whole House.

Your petitioner appears to me to be very friendly to the cause, and I have been informed by several officers that he is one of the most complete fuglemen upon the Continent, and has proved himself very useful in disciplining the *Jersey* forces. He seems very desirous to enter the service if discharged.

I am, gentlemen, your most obliged and most humble servant,

DANIEL GOLDSMITH.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York*, sitting at *Harlem*.

PETITION OF JOHN ANDREWS.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress for the Province of  
NEW-YORK:

The humble Petition of JOHN ANDREWS, of *POUGHKEEPSIE*, in the Province of NEW-YORK, most humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner about seventeen weeks ago was committed to the new Jail, in the city of *New-York*, by Alderman *Blagge*, on suspicion of theft; and no witnesses having appeared against me, I took the liberty of petitioning the above Alderman for a trial and discharge, who advised Mr. *Goldsmit*, Continental Jailor, to petition your honourable House, from whom, he informed me, I might expect impartial justice and mercy in this my deplorable situation. I am willing to swear on the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, that I am entirely innocent of the crime for which I am confined.

If you will be favourably pleased to take my unhappy case into your serious consideration, I shall, in gratitude, be in duty bound ever to pray, &c.

JOHN ANDREWS.

New Jail, August 8, 1776.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
Harlem, August 8, 1776. }

SIR: I am directed by the Convention of the State of *New-York* to enclose to your Excellency sundry resolutions which they have entered into in consequence of part of your letter of this date.

The Convention have further measures in contemplation for the security of this State, which they conceive of the utmost importance to the general cause of *America*. So soon as they are determined on, I shall give your Excellency immediate notice, and at the same time answer your two letters of this date in a more particular manner than the hurry of business will at present admit of.

I have the honour to be, respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

NATH'L WOODHULL, President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
Harlem, August 8, 1776. }

Resolved, That Colonel *Josiah Smith* be, and he hereby is, ordered immediately to march all his new levies to the western end of *Nassau Island*, and within two miles of Brigadier-General *Greene's* encampment; and that he obey such orders as he may receive from time to time from Brigadier-General *Greene*.

Resolved unanimously, That Brigadier-General *Clinton* be, and he hereby is, appointed to the command of all the levies raised and to be raised in the Counties of *Ulster*, *Orange*, *Dutchess*, and *West-Chester*, agreeable to the resolution of this Convention of the 16th day of *July* last.

Resolved, That General *Clinton* be informed of this appointment, and directed immediately to send expresses to the Counties of *Ulster*, *Dutchess*, *Orange*, and *West-Chester*,



and order them to hasten their levies, and march them down to the fort now erected on the north side of *King's Bridge*, leaving two hundred men under the command of a brave and alert officer, to take possession of, and throw up works at, the pass at *Anthony's Nose*.

*Resolved*, That General *Clinton* be requested to order the Troops of Horse belonging to the Counties of *Ulster*, *Orange*, and *West-Chester*, immediately to march to such posts as he may think proper that they should occupy, in order to watch the motions of the enemy's ships of war now in *Hudson's River*.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN TO HIS FRIEND IN NEW-YORK, DATED OFF FORT-WASHINGTON, AUGUST 8, 1776.

On the morning of the 4th instant I gave you a short account of our brush with the *Phenix* and *Rose*, men-of-war, off *Tarrytown*, on *Saturday* last. Give me now leave to add thereto the following remarks:

The force with which we were to attack these ships being entirely inferior to theirs, our dependance, under Providence, was to find them, or to force them into such a situation as they could not bring their broadsides to bear upon our galleys; and indeed in this situation the *Phenix* was about twelve hours before we got up to her, being at that time fast aground; but before we could reach them, both ships were entirely clear, with springs upon their cables, and their broadsides ready to engage us. Let me observe here, that this was not at any time the case with the frigates that were attacked by our gondolas at *Philadelphia*, which makes all odds. For had the tide or the channel prevented the *Phenix* and the *Rose* bringing springs upon their cables, and their broadsides to bear, our galleys would no doubt have managed them in our river without much difficulty. But our gallant commander was determined to exchange a few shots with them at all events. The enterprise was worthy of a people contending for their dearest rights. For it is a fact that the ground-tier of even one side of the *Phenix* was equal to all the force of our galleys put together. Judge then—let the world, let our enemies judge—if the sons of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*, from which States our galleys were almost wholly officered and manned, did not behave with a spirit and intrepidity becoming the descendants of such noble ancestors, in fighting, for two hours, an enemy of at least four times their force. Oh! ye despicable Ministerial bawlers! it could only have entered into such servilely dastard souls as your own to believe that the brave *Americans* were cowards.

COLONEL THOMAS TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Tarrytown, August 8, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday was brought before me *Joshua Ferris*, whom I send by the bearer, and whose examination is enclosed. He is an old offender, has been sought for long since by the Committee of this County to answer for his repeated offences, particularly in being in arms against this country. He was also suspected of being guilty of spiking up our cannon near the bridge. I therefore refer him to the honourable Convention of this State for trial.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

THOMAS THOMAS.

To the Hon. *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Harlem*.

P. S. *Philip Scureman* and *Frederick Secore*, who came on shore with the prisoner, having then made their escape, were immediately pursued by Captain *J. Vermilyea's* company of the Militia, who apprehended the prisoner.

EXAMINATION OF JOSHUA FERRIS.

*Joshua Ferris*, son of *Caleb Ferris*, being this 7th day of *August*, 1776, examined, saith, That he went on board of the *Phenix* last *Friday* week, (being the 26th day of *July* last,) and returned on shore the next day; that after having staid on shore until the *Wednesday* after, he returned on board again in the canoe, he put off in from *Benjamin Lefigys*; that he saw on board of the *Phenix* one *Bailey*,

*Philip Scureman*, and *Frederick Secore*, both of whom came on shore with this examinant last evening; that he saw also on board one *Lewis Purdy*, from *Croton River*. That he was on board when the ships were attacked last *Saturday* by our galleys, when, as he was informed, one man was killed and two wounded on board of the *Rose*.

EXAMINATION OF JOSHUA FERRIS.

*Joshua Ferris*, being examined, says, That on *Friday*, the 26th *July*, he went on board the *Phenix* in the night, and returned on shore the next day, and after staying on shore till the *Wednesday* following, then returned on board the said ship; that he saw one *Bailey* on board the said ship; that he saw two persons on board the ship who came from *New-York*, while he was on shore, one of them with a laced hat and one eye, but does not know their names. *Philip Scureman* and *Frederick Secore* went on board the ship and returned with him. That he also saw *Lewis Purdy*, of *Croton*, on board. That when the ship was aground, she ran about one-half of her lower-deck guns forward to lighten her. That he was on board at the time of the engagement, and understood there was one man killed and two wounded on board the *Rose*, but there were none hurt on board the *Phenix*.

JOSHUA FERRIS.

Taken at *Harlem*, the 10th *August*, 1776, before us,  
LEWIS GRAHAM,  
JNO. SLOSS HOBART.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

German-Flats, August 8, 1776.

SIR: Last night I was honoured with yours of the 18th *July*, with copy of the petition of Captain *Benedict*, of the 11th *July*, to Congress, and the resolution of Congress of the 16th thereon.

Captain *Benedict's* pay was stopped in consequence of an order from the honourable Commissioners of Congress, before whom, it seems, he had been charged with some malpractices in *Canada*. What were the particular charges against him I cannot determine; I was only ordered to stop paying until further orders.

Yesterday afternoon the conference with the *Six Nations* was opened in form, previous to which two of their Sachems requested that we should publicly condole the death of one of their Sachems who fell at the *Cedars*, or in Major *Sherburne's* rencounter. We instantly rejected the proposal with indignation, deprecating the insult and their want of faith, and they waived the matter. This morning our speech is to be delivered to them. By their answer I hope we shall be enabled to judge whether it will be prudent to offer them the hatchet. Our emissaries unanimously think it will not, and that it will greatly prejudice our interests, as the friends we have amongst them have used it as an argument of our sufficiency to cope with the enemy without their aid, as we have never asked it. Whatever the result of this meeting may be—whether they engage to take an active part with us, whether they promise to remain neuter, or give evident marks of an unfriendly disposition—it will be incumbent upon us to prepare for the worst, as their promises are not to be relied upon however solemnly made.

That an ignorant multitude, instigated not only by my own enemies, but by those of the country, should have been instigated to traduce my character, is not very surprising, and I had already made myself easy on that score; but a late transaction of a Council of Officers held at *New-York* is so injurious, that I have found it necessary to resent it in a letter to General *Washington*, copy of which I have requested his Excellency to lay before Congress.

Of the half million of dollars which Congress ordered on the 22d of *May* last, only two hundred thousand have reached the military chest in this department. Half was sent to the Army, and the remainder paid out as fast as the warrants could be drawn, much more than that sum being due when it arrived. And since that time the service has been carried on upon credit; but that, too, is exhausted, and we are driven to the necessity of borrowing money at interest, or leaving undone what is indispensably necessary to be done. But as no individual's estate is equal to the expense of supporting an Army, that mode will soon fail; and what the consequences will be is easily foreseen. Permit me,

therefore, to entreat the attention of Congress to this capital article.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. John Hancock.

CAPTAIN WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 8, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I find the saw-mill here could not supply the carpenters here with white-oak boards, which occasioned me to go to *Cheshire's*, where they told me there were no oak trees; upon which I took a party into the woods, and have got thirty saw logs at the mill, which I had floated down the creek; so that now we will be supplied with four batteau loads every day. I have also been to take a view of the road from *Cheshire's*, near *Fort Edward*, and have marked the road out for the party there; so that in a short time I expect we will have a considerably good road from there to *Fort Edward*, for they are now hard engaged. Our carpenters go on very smart here; so that we expect in a short time to finish three galleys.

I would be exceedingly glad if your Excellency could possibly spare my two companies which are now in the fort, as I have four companies of my regiment stationed at the *Mohawk River*, and have never seen officers or men, and have written several letters to them, and also to the Committees of the different places for a return of the officers' names, and have as yet had none. Whether my letters are miscarried, or whether they neglect to answer them, is unknown to me; so that if those two companies could join me here, I would choose to let Colonel *Cortlandt* go and inquire into the state of the warrants and names of the officers there. I have received a letter from the Convention of the State of *New-York*, stating that they never had a return from the Committees, and for that reason can't send up the commissions.

I am, dear General, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

CORNELIUS WYNKOOP.

DOCTOR POTTS TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort George, August 8, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: The return of the sick remaining in the General Hospital, which you were pleased to order to be made weekly, will be delivered you by Captain *Craig*. I hope you will not attribute its late appearance at this time to any neglect on my part, as I can with truth assure your Honour nothing is left undone in my power to reduce every matter relative to the Hospital into order. The number of the sick being great, they employ our whole time; and having but one clerk, who has to enter the names of every person admitted, discharged, died, or deserted, as well as to superintend to issuing of provisions, makes it almost impossible to comply with your order so punctually as I could wish.

I am your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

JONA. POTTS.

Return of the Sick of the General Hospital at FORT GEORGE, from the 12th to the 26th July, 1776, inclusive.

REGIMENTS.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Deserted.	Remaining.
Colonel Patterson's.....	73	26	8	-	39
Colonel Burrell's.....	164	69	8	2	85
Colonel Bond's.....	116	31	3	-	82
Artillery.....	56	24	-	-	32
Colonel De Haas's.....	118	22	1	-	95
Colonel Bedel's.....	21	1	-	-	20
Colonel Reed's.....	127	40	3	-	84
Colonel Maxwell's.....	172	83	5	-	84
Colonel Porter's.....	59	9	3	-	47
Colonel Groaton's.....	43	15	-	-	28
Colonel Winds's.....	129	35	5	-	89
Colonel Stark's.....	105	6	3	-	96
Batteaumen.....	2	-	-	-	2
Artificers.....	12	-	-	-	12
Colonel Van Schaick's.....	113	55	5	-	53
Colonel Wynkoop's.....	14	3	-	-	11
Colonel Wayne's.....	6	4	-	-	2
Colonel Van Dyke's.....	4	1	-	-	3
Colonel St. Clair's.....	83	13	6	-	64
Colonel Irvine's.....	31	2	1	1	27
Colonel Poor's.....	49	-	-	-	49
	1497	439	51	3	1004
Men for Nurses.....					106
Total.....					1110

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

Lebanon, August 8, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Thacher* came to me last evening, and showed me his orders. I apprehend the companies ordered to be raised are not filled. Those who are inlisted are marched. I sent out Circular Letters to the Civil Authority, Selectmen, Committees of Inspection, and all military officers in the respective towns in this State, to promote and facilitate further inlistments to complete the companies. It will be needful that officers to recruit be here till they find what can be done. The hurry of harvest will be soon over, and trust men will engage for the service.

The infection from the small-pox hath been matter of discouragement. It seemed to be removed in good measure on Major *Ely's* return. By the practice that is now carrying on by some companies from the *Massachusetts* and carpenters from *Providence*, in stopping on the way to inoculate, I fear a new spread of that infection. Men who have taken it by inoculation can't be fit for service and fatigue in less than three or four months. They are relaxed, liable to colds, &c.; so that it will be more for the benefit of the Army to have them return back than to join it; yea, they ought to meet some mark of displeasure. I wish this may be attended to. I have sent forward felling-axes, which hope are come to hand. Shall send clothing soon, and same route.

The matter of Chaplain, I supposed you would advise Colonel *Swift* of your intentions. Had heard of no mistake on that head till now; have enclosed a blank warrant, to be used as there may be occasion, and prevent uneasiness. No attention of mine shall be wanting to promote the service in your department. Regular returns will be necessary to show your numbers and condition. Shall send a post soon to *Skenesborough* and *Ticonderoga* by him. Shall expect all needful intelligence.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Brigadier-General *Waterbury*.

ANDREW WARD, JUN., TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Guilford, August 8, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: On receiving your Circular Letter yesterday afternoon, the Authority, Selectmen, Committee of Inspection, and Militia officers, immediately met, to consult what they could do more than they had already done towards promoting further inlistments, and were of opinion that there were but two methods which would effect their purpose: one by a subscription of money in addition to their premium; the other, if thirty or forty men would appear to join Captain *Meigs's* company for a short term of three or four months, on the encouragement the State had offered to others in the same regiment. I told them I did not know but that would procure the men. But Captain *Meigs's* orders were to inlist for one or two years; and whether it would be approved of by Governour *Trumbull* or Congress I know not. They desired I would request your Honour (if you thought it worth taking notice of) to give them your opinion. They further proposed the inlisting an Independent company, to go and join and do duty in any regiment thought best, as matters seemed so pressing at this critical time. They are warm in the glorious cause of liberty and their country, and will do everything in their power in compliance with your requisition.

I am, with the greatest respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW WARD, Jun.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

THOMAS MUNFORD TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Groton, August 8, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: As one of the Selectmen and Civil Authority of this town, yours of the 1st instant was delivered to me, requesting our influence and exertion in forwarding the inlisting of the troops lately ordered by this Colony. I have shown it to such of the Authority and Selectmen as I have seen, a number of whom desired I would inform your Honour what methods we had previously taken to encourage and forward the raising said troops.

I therefore take the liberty to inform you that a number of us advanced to the amount of fifteen dollars to each volun-

teer that would immediately enlist, besides which, I engaged myself to supply the families of any such needy volunteers with provisions during their absence; and if, when they returned, they were unable to pay, I would freely give what I had so advanced. This is all the encouragement we could think of offering.

The number that have enlisted into our fort, and what have gone otherwise into the service, has left us very bare of men. Scarce any are to be hired now for common necessary service.

I am, with great esteem and respect, your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

THOS. MUMFORD.

To the Hon. *Jona. Trumbull*, Esq.

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Woodstock, August 8, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: We take the earliest opportunity to inform your Honour, that in compliance with your Honour's requisition, in your letter of the 1st instant, we immediately, on receipt thereof, convened together; and having examined the state of our standing Militia, and the numbers gone forth from this town into the publick service, we find that seventy men have enlisted in and are gone from this town into the publick service since the last act of Assembly for raising troops for the three departments, viz: *Canada, New-York*, and *Boston*; which is near one-half the Militia in this town, as will appear to your Honour by your inspecting the return lately made to you of the Militia in the Colony, which is a much greater number than our proportion. But, notwithstanding our exertions have already exceeded our proportion, we are still ready, and ever shall be, to do everything in our power to advantage the publick cause at this critical day, as to forwarding enlistments, and every other way; and can assure your Honour that we ever shall be ready to coöperate with your Honour in promoting and encouraging any matter which you shall recommend for the defence of our cause, which your Honour so justly styles the "all-important cause;" and are, with the utmost respect and esteem, your Honour's most obedient and very humble servants.

Per order of the Civil Authority, Selectmen, Committee of Inspection, and Military Officers of the Town of *Woodstock*,

CHARLES CHURCH CHANDLER.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

WILLIAM WATSON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Plymouth, August 8, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Martindale*, the bearer of this, will inform your Excellency that he, when he was about to sail in the Continental armed brigantine the *Washington*, was obliged to draw on the Agent for sundry articles in the clothing way, (for the use of his people, who were almost naked, and without which they could not go to sea,) amounting to £80, lawful money; which were delivered, and by Captain *Martindale* charged to such persons as received them.

Captain *Martindale* had taken from him his books and all the papers which related to this matter, and cannot tell to whom, or in what proportion, the said goods were delivered.

I have conducted as Agent with integrity, and with a view to the publick good, and flatter myself that my services have been approved, and that your Excellency will not let me suffer by this unexpected event, and that your Excellency will please to direct in what manner I shall be reimbursed.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient, much obliged humble servant,

WILLIAM WATSON.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.

RICHARD DERBY, JUN., TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Watertown, Council Chamber, August 8, 1776.

SIR: We are informed that Major-General *Ward*, having leave from Congress, designs in a few days to retire from his military department. The troops at the lines in and about *Boston* will therefore soon be destitute of any General Officer. Such an officer is absolutely necessary to take the command of these troops, to give the necessary orders for

their pay and subsistence, as well as their being supplied with what ammunition they stand in need of, and also from time to time to make to the Congress the necessary returns of the state of the Continental Army in these parts. We thought it necessary to acquaint the Congress with this matter, that a General Officer may be directed to take the command of the troops here as soon as possible.

In the name and by order of the Committee of Council, I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD DERBY, JUN., *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, New-Hampshire, Exeter, }  
August 8, 1776. }

SIR: Having been encouraged by your honourable House of Representatives to expect the loan of a few large cannon to defend the extensive works at the entrance of our harbour, (which we cannot possibly obtain elsewhere,) if upon examination you could possibly spare them, we have directed *Pierce Long*, Esq., one of our body, to wait on you, and if you can do us so great a favour as to part with them, it will be esteemed a very particular kindness to the Colony; in whose behalf, as well as this Committee, I subscribe myself your humble servant,

MESHECH WEARE, *Chairman*.

To the Chairman of the Committee of War in the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

ETHAN ALLEN TO CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

Halifax, Nova-Scotia, August 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have been prohibited from writing to friends during the course of my imprisonment, but hope these lines may find a channel to reach you. If they fall into the enemy's hand, it can do me no harm, as I ever have talked the same language to the King's officers. The fear of retaliation has been the sole cause of preserving me from an ignominious death. I have suffered everything short of it. Imagination is insufficient to paint the evils, nor shall I here attempt it. The heavy leg irons and handcuffs so benumbed my limbs that I expected to have lost their use; but on the 8th of *January* last, having been released of them, I have recovered my health and suppleness of limbs, and ardently desire to be with you, as I am fired with adequate indignation to revenge both my own and my country's wrongs. I am experimentally certain I have fortitude sufficient to face the invaders of *America* in the place of danger spread with all the horrors of war. I am apprehensive that Governour *Tryon* and sundry of my old land-jobbing combatants from *New-York*, exercise their influence to detain me a prisoner, hoping a conquest of *America* may in future put it into the power of the *English* Government to proceed against me as a criminal for taking the fortresses on *Lake Champlain*. You are sensible my confidence in presuming upon those achievements was predicated on the good faith of *Connecticut*. I have never repented that I did it; and inasmuch as this is the Colony in which I received my first breath, and in which most of my acquaintance and connexions are, have addressed these lines to your Honours, and further assure you, provided you can hit upon some measures to procure my liberty, I will appropriate my remaining days, and freely hazard my life, in the service of the Colony and in maintaining the *American* empire. I thought to have enrolled my name in the list of illustrious *American* heroes, but was nipped in the bud. News has been kept as close as possible from me. I have nothing more to inform than that the King's officers express less assurance of the conquest of *America* than they did some time ago. I have great confidence in the unity, bravery and strength of the Colonies, as everything worth living for is apparently at stake. Never had any people upon earth greater inducement to fight, and play the man. You cannot—nay, you must not, give over the cause, though you have to wade through seas of blood.

The 5th instant I was landed, and the prisoners that have been with me, and put into the common jail in *Halifax*. We have the liberty of the yard in the daytime. In this prison I found the wise and patriotick Mr. *James Lovell*, from *Boston*, who has greatly contributed to conversable

happiness, and supplied me with the comforts of life. I am out of money, but am well supplied with clothes—a present from some gentleman in *Ireland*. I know nothing how long my confinement may continue, but if money could be communicated to me, it would put me out of the sovereignty of imperious officers. I cannot reconcile it to my feelings that the King's officers taken in *America* are treated as gentlemen, while I have but little, and, great part of the time, no distinction made between me and illiterate private persons. My compliments to my family and brethren, whom I have not heard from since I was taken, and to all my friends in *America*.

I subscribe myself your Honours' humble servant,

ETHAN ALLEN.

To the Honourable the General Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*, or to the worthy Council of War, for that Colony.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON FROM HIS CORRESPONDENT AT THE HAGUE, DATED AUGUST 9, 1776.

The differences between *Spain* and *Portugal* become daily of more importance; and we now plainly see that the war between *Great Britain* and *America* has a great influence over the above affairs. It is true that the Court of *France* pretends to be peaceably inclined; the Court of *Spain* pretends to be of the same inclination; but the whole *Spanish* nation (most undoubtedly led on by the nobles and grandees) all cry out for a war, insinuating that whilst *Great Britain* is so deeply engaged in a civil war, it will be impossible for her to defend *Portugal*. The whole Continent of *America* must then take part with the *Spaniards*; so that at any rate success is almost sure. The *British* Minister at *Madrid* openly declared that his *Britannick* Majesty would not leave his allies on account of the present civil war, *Minorca* and *Gibraltar* being well fortified, and battles by land and sea should be fought for the *Portuguese*, in case *Spain* insisted upon a war.

By the last advices from *Madrid*, dated the 11th ultimo, they were rather apprehensive that it would end in an open war. According to these advices, an army of forty thousand men were ordered to march towards the *Portuguese* territories, commanded by Count *Aranda*, the Duke of *Gaillon*, and Don *Pedro Cevallos*; and that the *Portuguese* Minister was just preparing to return to *Lisbon* when these advices came away. About ten thousand men were ordered to embark for *Buenos-Ayres*, notwithstanding it being almost too late in the season for that undertaking; nay, the intelligence from that quarter concerning the insolent behaviour of the *Portuguese*, is very alarming. On the other hand, we are astonished to find the obstinacy of the Court of *Lisbon*. In short, we may assert that several Courts of *Europe* are concerned in the affair; and though this dispute may appear trifling to many, yet it is the very beginning of a general war, in which many mighty empires may fall, and little ones grow opulent and powerful.

TO THE PRINTER OF THE PUBLIC LEDGER.

London, August 9, 1776.

SIR: The arrival of Mr. *St. Paul* from the Court of *Versailles* was unexpected at this critical juncture. You may assure the publick that he is charged with despatches from Lord *Stormont*, the delivery of which will much embarrass Administration.

Mr. *St. Paul* is a man of vigilance. He possesses that kind of penetration which renders it a very difficult matter to deceive him. During the absence of Lord *Stormont* he watched the motions of the Court of *France* with such success, that he traced the duplicity of that Court through all its different windings. He perceived that *France* intended secretly to afford *America* that assistance which she openly disavowed. He detected the Agents of the Cabinet in the very act of affording succours to the Colonies, and of giving every assurance of protection to the *American* leaders. Intelligence of this was communicated to Lord *Stormont* whilst his Lordship was in *England*. He was despatched in haste to *Versailles*, with instructions to remonstrate, in spirited terms, on the insult thus offered to the Court of *London*. Lord *Stormont* obeyed his instructions. He

pressed for a categorical answer. The reply was couched in the most ambiguous terms. The affair was dropped. The Court of *Versailles* was more narrowly watched than ever. Enough was discovered to convince Lord *Stormont* of the intentions of that Court. Mr. *St. Paul* is now sent over to assure our Ministry of the resolution of the Cabinet of *Versailles*, which is simply this: That if the declaration of the Congress, setting forth the independency of *America*, shall be generally relished by the people throughout the different Colonies, then *France*, in conjunction with *Spain*, will hazard a rupture with *Great Britain*, by openly assisting the Colonists on terms highly advantageous to the commerce of *France* and *Spain*.

I do not pretend to specify every particular; but this I will venture to affirm is the substance of that intelligence which Mr. *St. Paul* is sent over to communicate to Administration. The publick will from hence perceive that it is entire madness to place any reliance on the pacifick assurances of *France* and *Spain*. They will not wantonly plunge into war; but no person can expect that they will forego national advantages out of compliment to the *English* Ministry. The idea is chimerical. Mr. *St. Paul* hath by this time told Administration thus much. The publick have only to expect what hath been repeatedly foretold: that the rupture with our Colonies will end in the loss of *America*, and a war with *France* and *Spain*. If these are eligible events, the people are very right in supporting those plans which must produce them. If the loss of *America* (which implies the total ruin of our commerce) is not a thing to be desired, then are the people blind to their own interests in not ceasing to protect Ministers who have long ceased to pay any regard to the commercial welfare of their country.

MATTER OF FACT.

Williamsburgh, August 9, 1776.

By advices from *Hampton*, we learn that last *Wednesday* morning the Right Honourable the Earl of *Dunmore*, Viscount *Fincastle*, and Baron *Murray* of *Blair*, *Mouilli* and *Tillimet*, after dividing his fleet and burning ten or a dozen vessels, took leave of the Capes of *Virginia*, where he has, for more than a twelvemonth past, perpetrated crimes that would even have disgraced the noted pirate *Black Beard*. One part of the fleet was seen to stand to the southward, it is imagined for *South-Carolina*, the other to the northward, supposed for *New-York*. Their strength, from the information of two negro deserters who came up to *Hampton* in the evening, amounts to near four hundred—Regulars, Negroes, and Tories; that they were now tolerably healthy, and had lately got a supply of provisions, which they took from a *Rhode-Island* vessel. So respectable a band will no doubt be a most valuable acquisition to the Generals *Howe* and *Clinton*.

We have just got a supply of 290 half-barrels of gunpowder and 90 stand of arms; and 436 barrels, with 18 chests of arms, arrived safe some little time ago.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COMMITTEE OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY.

[No. 128.]

Annapolis, August 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Mantz's* company being completely armed, as well as good marksmen, were the causes that induced us to send him to occupy Captain *Thomas's* station, whom we thought it our duty to order to the Flying-Camp so soon as the enemy left *Potomack River*. But as you are of opinion that this company will not answer the end for which it was sent, we have ordered Captain *Mantz* to march immediately to *Annapolis*, and have sent Captain *Barry* in a boat to the mouth of *Patuxent* to take in his baggage.

We cannot, without contravening a resolution of the Convention, order that part of Captain *Beall's* company stationed at *Port-Tobacco* to *Saint Mary's*, but have ordered Captain *Forrest* to take Captain *Thomas's* station, and we must depend upon the Militia lending Captain *Forrest's* company arms until we can supply them, which will be soon, expecting some arms from *Virginia* that we have lately imported. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Saint Mary's* County.

P. S. We have received information by one of our boats that the enemy's fleet had anchored in *Hampton Roads*.



MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.  
[No. 129.] Annapolis, August 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have the pleasure to inform you that the enemy's fleet left *Potomack River* on *Friday* last, and is gone off down the Bay. They had collected a number of small vessels, which they had dismantled, and left on the point of *St. George's Island*, with intention to set fire to them, but a high tide floated them off, and they were driven on shore near our guard, who have taken possession of them, and have found sundry goods and other effects on board to the value of three or four hundred pounds currency. Some of the hulks may be repaired, and made fit for service. They burnt some other small vessels, and from appearances expect they are gone down to the Capes. Our pilot boat is just returned yesterday evening, and says he heard at *Pyanketank* that the men-of-war had stopped in *Hampton Roads* and were making demands of fresh provisions and water, and promised, on being supplied, to leave the Bay. The deserters, of whom many have come over to us, inform that the Tory families are going, some to the *West-Indies*, others to *Halifax*, and the *Roebuck* to *New-York*.

The Flying-Camp are beginning to move. Captain *Good's* company from *Frederick* will be with you by the time this comes to hand, and Colonel *Charles Greenbury Griffith*, with the battalion, with the remainder of the *Frederick* battalion, will follow him in a few days. Colonel *Griffith* appears to be active and spirited, and we beg leave to recommend him to your notice. Some little countenance from you might be of service to him. Captain *Mantz's* company were ordered to *St. Mary's*, but we have this day given an order for their moving to the northward. Captain *Thomas* is on the way to *Philadelphia*. Colonel *Ewing's* battalion is also under marching orders. Two or three companies of his battalion are nearly ready, and we are doing all we can to forward the others. They want everything. We have arms for one-half the battalion we keep, besides two hundred and seventy lately imported, not yet come to hand; these, with what we expect from the manufacturers, will enable us to complete Colonel *Carroll Hall's* battalion, which we propose to keep. Colonel *Kent* has resigned, and so we hear has Colonel *Earle*, both endeavouring to obtain a seat in Convention. Two or three *East-Shore* companies will be ready to march next week. Two other companies have borrowed arms, and are to supply the place of Captain *Veazey* and Captain *Hindman*; the rest will be very slow we fear in getting arms. Brigadier *Dent* hath also resigned, and is elected for *Charles County*. Under all these difficulties, arising from the want of arms and necessities, and also from resignations, we are exerting ourselves to the utmost. Money has flowed out of the Treasury very freely upon this important occasion. We hope for the approbation of the honourable Congress and Convention.

We shall say nothing particular about the elections, more than what relates to yourselves. *S. Chase* is in for *Anne Arundel*, *Wm. P.* and *Carrollton Carroll* for *Annapolis*. *T. J.* and *S. S.* are left out, and there is a very great change in the members in all Counties. According to the intelligence we have, Mr. *Stone* will have a list sent to him of all the Counties that we know, or have heard anything about, to which we refer you. There will be disputed elections we expect, particularly *Queen Ann's*, *Prince George's*, and *Anne Arundel*. We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress.

LIEUTENANT POWNALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
August 9, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: On the appointment of *Edward Tillard* to a Captaincy in the Flying-Camp from a Captaincy of a company of Militia in the Third Battalion of this Province, the Militia company, on *Edward Tillard's* completing his inlisting warrant for the Flying-Camp, wished to have a Captain. Accordingly, a majority of the company met, and Mr. *Benjamin Galloway* was unanimously chosen. I having been appointed to a first Lieutenantcy in the third company, and a commission conferred by the honourable Council of Safety at the time being, now beg leave to resign the same, (being enclosed,) having a daily expectation of a Marine commission from the honourable Continental Congress.

In the interim, am and shall ever remain a strenuous advocate for the welfare of *America*; and beg leave to subscribe myself, honoured sirs, your most obedient and obliged humble servant,

THOMAS POWNALL.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

SAMUEL CHASE TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, August 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Mr. *S. Adams* showed me your letter to him from *Tyonderoga*, of the 17th of *July*, wherein you write: "I desire, if *Chase* is returned to Congress, he may know how much I have been deceived and disappointed in being removed from a place where I might have done the publick service, and fixed in a situation where it is exceedingly doubtful if it will be in my power to be more than the wretched spectator of a ruined army." "Mr. *Chase* passed too speedily through this country; he saw superficially, and, like a sanguine man, drew conclusions from the consequence, not the cause. Tell him if he and I meet, he must expect to be called to a serious account upon this matter. I know he is my sincere friend; but I also know he has deceived himself and his friend. I am not angry: I am only vexed with him." After this recital of so unkind, so unfriendly, so injurious a letter, permit me to ask you a few serious questions: Why not write to me, if you considered yourself injured or deceived? How have you been deceived and disappointed by your removal from *New-York* to the command in *Canada*, in what particular, and by whom? Did I ever make a profession, or communicate an opinion, or relate a fact, in which I was not sincere and faithful? When did I pass too speedily through the country in going or returning from *Canada*? and to what does this relate? What things did I see superficially? Deal in particulars, and point out when I was mistaken as to men, things, or circumstances. I admit that I am constitutionally warm and sanguine; but be pleased to name the instances in which I drew conclusions from the consequences, and not the cause? If ever you and I should meet, I will, with candour and integrity, and as a friend, answer you in all your inquiries, or I will with pleasure, by letter, give you full satisfaction. I will now only ask you one more question: In what instance have I deceived myself or you?

I will not be angry with you; but I am not only vexed, but mortified, chagrined, and exceedingly hurt by your suspicious and very unfriendly expressions. You have held up your friend as a man who had deceived and disappointed you, as a superficial observer, and of so warm and weak a constitution as to draw conclusions from the consequence, and not the cause. An imputation on my understanding I can forgive; a charge that I have disappointed and deceived you, from want of knowledge and without design, I can forget. I will add no more, but that I always was, and still am, with sincerity, your affectionate and obedient servant,

SAML. CHASE.

To General Gates.

IN CONVENTION FOR THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Friday, August 9, 1776.

Whereas the time for which the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, as well as the times for which the Committees of several Counties of this State were elected into that office, are near expiring; and whereas the Associators of the said City and Counties, who compose a great majority of the electors, are or may be, at such expiration, absent in the service of their country, and it would be highly inexpedient that the said City or Counties should either be without such Committees, or that they should be partially elected:

Resolved, therefore, That the present Committees of the said City and Counties respectively shall continue to execute the duty of their said offices, until the Militia of such City and Counties respectively shall return, and other Committees be regularly chosen; excepting from this Resolve the Committees of the Counties of *Cumberland*, *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, and *Westmoreland*.

Resolved, That no Tavern-keepers or others take out any Licenses from the officers of the late Government of this State.

On motion, *Ordered*, That two thousand copies of the particulars of the Rations allowed for the Flying-Camp be printed and distributed among the men.

Pay of a Battalion in the Continental service.

Colonel.....	50 dollars per calendar month.
Lieutenant-Colonel.....	40 " " "
Major.....	33 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " " "
Captain.....	26 " " "
Lieutenant.....	18 " " "
Ensign.....	13 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " " "
Adjutant.....	18 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " " "
Quartermaster.....	18 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " " "
Surgeon.....	25, raised to 33 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> , June 5, 1776.
Mate.....	18 dollars per calendar month.
Chaplain.....	20, raised to 33 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> , July 5.
Sergeant.....	8 dollars per calendar month.
Corporal, Drummer, and Fifer, each.....	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " " "
Private.....	6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> . Light-Infantry the same.

Artillery.

Captain.....	26 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub> dollars per calendar month.
Captain-Lieutenant.....	20 " " "
First and Second Lieutenant.....	18 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " " "
Lieutenant Fireworker.....	13 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " " "
Sergeant.....	8 " " "
Corporal.....	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " " "
Bombardier.....	7 " " "
Matrossa.....	6 5-6 " " "
Sergeant-Major.....	9 " " "
Quartermaster-Sergeant.....	9 " " "
Drum-Major.....	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " " "
Fife-Major.....	8 " " "
Regimental Paymaster.....	26 " " "

The Ration for each man, as copied from the Minutes of the Honourable the Continental Congress, is as follows:

One pound of beef, or three-quarters of a pound of pork, or one pound of salt fish, per day. One pound of bread or flour per day. Three pints of peas or beans per week, or vegetables equivalent, at one dollar per bushel for peas or beans. One pint of milk per man per day, or at the rate of 1-72 of a dollar. One half-pint of rice, or one pint of Indian meal per man per week. One quart of spruce beer, or cider, per man per day, or nine gallons of molasses per company of one hundred men per week. Three pounds of candles to one hundred men per week, for guards. Twenty-four pounds of soft, or eight pounds of hard, soap for one hundred men per week.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, August 9, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of your Excellency's letter, Colonel Miles will march with all his Riflemen. The two battalions will make about seven hundred. As we have numbers of Riflemen lately arrived, it seemed to me more for the service to order the Second Battalion, and it will be more agreeable to the men. I hope they will be in time to render you essential service.

A cowardly infamous spirit of desertion prevails here too much. Your letter will be read to each corps, and must have good effects.

Some wagons have been discovered going from Billop's Point to-day, which confirms your former intelligence, and the enemy do not appear so numerous.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To His Excellency General Washington, Commander-in-Chief.

COLONEL GUY JOHNSON TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

Staten-Island, August 9, 1776.

MY LORD: I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that I arrived here the 29th ultimo, after a long passage, and much molestation from the Rebel vessels for the last three weeks, one of which attacked us near Bermudas, but was, after a pretty close engagement of an hour and a half, beat off with much loss, though she damaged our masts and rigging so much that we could not pursue her. My Surgeon is shot through the leg, and five others slightly wounded—a trifle, considering her great superiority, for she had more than double our complement of men, and carried fourteen six-pounders, and swivels, against our twelve three-pounders. My officers and the Indians behaved very well, and were very useful at small-arms.

The General had been arrived here some time with the troops from Halifax, and from him your Lordship will doubt-

less receive an account of affairs here. I, however, think it necessary to enclose your Lordship a copy of the best and latest intelligence I could procure respecting the back country and the Indians, and I have good hopes that my officers there have discharged their duty, and conducted the Indians agreeable to my instructions and the promises of the latter. At present everything awaits the grand operation, and on its issue our future measures must depend. I think the prospect is favourable, and that the declaration for an independency must totally silence any advocates they had in England. At all events, I flatter myself I shall discharge my duties as far as time and circumstances will admit; in good hope that I shall soon be enabled to meet our friends to the northward, when I shall endeavour to merit his Majesty's favour and your Lordship's patronage, by a zealous attention to the trust reposed in me. This moment an inhabitant of the Mohock River has found means to reach our camp, and informs that he had heard that Sir John Johnson had reached General Burgoyne; that a Colonel Dayton, with six hundred men, was repairing Fort Stanwix; and that General Schuyler had opened a Congress at the German Flats, but that only some of the Oneidas and Oughquagys attended it; and adds, that the Rebels had carried off my negroes, &c., and demolished everything on my estate. The Indians that attended Schuyler have been long under the influence of New-England missionaries, and I found some difficulty with them last year.

I beg to be honoured with your Lordship's commands; and I am, with very great respect, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and most humble servant,

G. JOHNSON.

To the Right Honourable Lord George Germaine.

Declaration of Mr. THOMAS GUMERSALL, Deputy Assistant to the Commissary-General of Stores and Provisions, born at LEEDS, in YORKSHIRE.

That he left the Mohock River about the beginning of June, of the present year, and had been for several weeks in that country, where he was acquainted. That Sir John Johnson, through intelligence he had received, partly by means of Mr. Gumersall, found it necessary to leave his home and withdraw to Canada; to effect which he procured three Indians from the adjacent village, as guides through the woods, and was accompanied by about one hundred and thirty Highlanders, and near one hundred and twenty other inhabitants of the country, attached to Government, with whom he proceeded from the house of Mr. McDonnell, called Callaghy, on or about the 13th of May last, for Oswegatchie, in Canada. That the said Mr. Gumersall, who was instrumental to him on the occasion, accompanied him a few miles further on his route, and then took his leave; after which, with much difficulty, after secreting himself and marching by night about five weeks, he arrived at Staten-Island (where his Majesty's troops were) on the 19th of July, and was by General Howe's favour (through the accommodation of John Small, Esq., Major of Brigade) appointed to his present office, in consideration of his sufferings and service, having been obliged to abandon a very advantageous branch of trade in which he was largely concerned. Mr. Gumersall further declares that he was credibly informed that John Butler, Esq., who was left at Niagara by Colonel Johnson Superintendent of Indian Affairs, with other officers, to encourage the Indians to join his Majesty's troops, this season received several letters from Mr. Schuyler, a Rebel General, inviting him down, and promising him protection, &c.; but at the same time employed the messenger, (an Indian,) in case he refused, to bring his scalp, for which he was to have a reward of one hundred dollars. That about three days after Sir John's departure, Lady Johnson received a letter from John Butler, Esq., addressed to Sir John, acquainting him that he had, agreeable to Colonel Johnson's instructions, assembled a considerable body of Indians ready to go on service, and only waited to receive news from Colonel Johnson, or orders to proceed; and Mr. Gumersall believes, and has heard, that the Indians had proceeded agreeable thereto, and that Lieutenant Gray, late of the Forty-Second, and Mr. Gumersall, helped to raise the men who accompanied Sir John, and Mr. Gumersall advanced them money on that occasion.

THOS. GUMERSALL.

Signed at Staten-Island, the 6th August, 1776, in presence of

JOHN DEASE,

GILBERT TICE,

JOSEPH, Indian Chief.

Copy of a Letter intercepted from S. KIRKLAND, a NEW-ENGLAND Missionary among the ONEIDAS, to Mr. SCHUYLER, a Rebel General and manager of their affairs.

Oneida, May 22, 1776.

BROTHER GOVERNOUR: We, the *Oneida* Chiefs, think proper to acquaint you with the result of the meeting at *Niagara* with Colonel *Butler*. This we do, at our own option, without being desired by the other parts of the Confederacy, though it has been reported among them that General *Schuyler* ought to be informed. We sent two *Oneidas* to hear what should pass at *Niagara*. They returned the night before last, and bring the following account:

The Representatives of the *Six Nations* delivered the answer to Colonel *Butler's* belts, that was formed and agreed upon in full council at *Onondaga*, of which we suppose you have been made acquainted. The purport of our answer was, that the *Six Nations*, with the *Caughnawagas*, and the *Seven Tribes* in that vicinity, had all united and resolved to maintain peace, both with the King and the *Bostonians*, and receive no axe from either.

Colonel *Butler* replies:

"Brothers: I am glad to hear you are all united, but I am surprised to find you talk of maintaining peace with the *Americans*, and at the same time support the King's peace or Government.

"Brothers, your resolutions are very surprising. Where is there any one or body of men to be compared to the King? As for General *Schuyler*, (and the other Commissioners,) of whom you boast so much, what is he? He was born but yesterday; just now, as it were, started up out of the ground, and to-morrow will return into the earth whence he came. It will not be the space of a month before you hear him cry. He has no men, guns, cannon and ammunition, or clothing; and should he survive the summer, he must perish by the cold next winter for want of blankets. But the King wants neither men nor money; there is no computing his numbers. As to the *Caughnawagas* claiming seven tribes as under their jurisdiction, it is false; they tell a lie. The *Caughnawagas* are by themselves alone, and they are become *Bostonians*. But the other six tribes in that vicinity, with all the back nations, are at the King's command and will take his side. And as for *Canada*, they are all (except twelve persons) returned to the King's side.

"Brothers, you had better recall your resolutions, and determine to keep the King's peace, and the King will then be glad to hear from you. What a wretched situation must you be in when the King attacks all the seaports of *America*, and comes in earnest to sweep off the *Americans*, if he finds you supporting the *Americans*!"

To this the Sachems made an immediate reply:

"Brothers, we will support the King's peace or Government, and we now speak from our very inside, and don't think it proceeds only from our lips."

For this, Colonel *Butler* returned thanks, and expressed great joy.

Then the commanding officer of *Niagara* (whom the *Indians* call *Oguhaenjes*) addressed the *Indians* as follows:

"Brothers: The King of *England* is very great and wise; he was never yet conquered. He has subdued both *France* and *Spain*. Pray, what can this handful in *America* do with such a King? The King is very subtle, he has deceived the *Bostonians* with a witness. He ordered his forces to continue at *Boston* till the *Bostonians* had collected all the cannon that could be found, from *Philadelphia*, *New-York*, and even from *Virginia*, and brought them to that place. The *Bostonians*, having all their force and cannon collected, were about to destroy the town; but the King's officer commanding there forbade them, telling them he would leave it in a peaceable manner, as the purpose of his coming there was now answered. And now, brothers, you will soon hear that the King's ships have laid waste all their seaports, as they can make no resistance, having sent all their cannon and stores to *Boston*. *Virginia* has had all already.

"Brothers: I shall not give up this post (*Niagara*) to the *Bostonians* without a struggle. My men must fall first before the *Bostonians* shall take possession."

After this Colonel *Butler* proceeds, addressing himself to the Sachems:

"Brothers: I propose to your consideration that a number of your warriors should go in quest of Colonel *Johnson*. Here is a large vessel ready for sailing; let them embark

who desire a speedy interview with Colonel *Johnson*. He must at this time be at *Quebeck* or in the rivers; and upon my hearing of his actual arrival, I shall immediately pursue, and will certainly see him. If the *Bostonians* should be betwixt me and Colonel *Johnson*, I will turn out of the road and pass by them. I have also another vessel prepared for the back nations, as soon as they come."

The Sachems reply:

"We shall not consider the matter, for we know it is already settled, and they are now embarking. Did we know that Colonel *Johnson* was actually arrived at any particular place, we would consider the affair."

Brother General *Schuyler*: We now inform that Colonel *Butler* prevailed, and upwards of fifty of the *Six Nations* have embarked, twelve days ago, in quest of Colonel *Johnson*, and a number of the back nations, the whole amounting to one hundred.

Brother, we dread the consequence. We this day send off four of our young men to acquaint you, and then proceed to *Caughnawaga* to inform them. The one from *Oriske* is a chief man, and one of the two sent to *Niagara*, and will give you particulars. The next, called *Kanaghwidiga*, is a young Sachem of great influence in this nation. The third, *Sewajis*, is chosen to a Sachemship. We, the Sachems of *Oneida*, send our love to you, and wish you success.

From your faithful Brothers,  
SUGHNAGEVRAT,  
JIMMEY,  
AGHSHINHARE,  
TIGAWI,  
TEKEONGO,  
KAGHNEGLORIES.

To the Hon. *Philip Schuyler*, Esq., Commissioner, &c.  
From the *Oneida* Chiefs.

[Enclosed in a letter from Colonel *Guy Johnson* to Lord *George Germaine*, dated *New-York*, November 25, 1776.]

Intercepted by *S. Kirkland*, and who hopes to write to his Honour very soon, if a safe conveyance presents.

A true copy from the original, compared by  
JOS. CHEW, Sec'y of Indian Affairs.

*New-York*, November 25, 1776.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL DUBOIS.

Head-Quarters, *New-York*, August 9, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 5th, by your brother, is received. By him, I forward you eight hundred dollars. Would have you order your regiment to march for this place as fast as an officer's party are inlisted. You will make a return to me immediately of the number of men already imbodyed, and continue to make your returns, by which you may call for money as wanted. I conceive that taking men from the four or five months' Militia will not answer our present necessity, as it will not add to the number in service; but of the Militia which is only ordered in for a few days or weeks, you have an undoubted right to take such as have a mind to inlist with you. Previous to your men arriving in this city, you will order a Field-Officer here, to take charge of them as they come in.

I am, sir, yours, &c., GO. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Lewis Dubois*, *Poughkeepsie*.

#### COLONEL HARDENBURGH TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

*New-York*, August 9, 1776.

SIR: As I am at *New-York*, with four companies of Militia from *Ulster* County and one company from *Livingston's* Manor, and as some of them have not got guns, cartridge-boxes, or any accoutrements of war, I think it very hard that men are taken away from their places and business, and brought down to defend their country without arms. I here enclose you a true state of the deficiencies of the five companies, by which you may see how the matter is. I have done all that lies in my power to get a supply for them while I have been in town, but cannot perform. I therefore once more, gentlemen, supplicate to your House, whether you cannot put me in some way to get a supply for these men. They are willing to allow for it out of their pay:

I am, with regard, sir, your very humble servant,  
JOHS. HARDENBURGH, Lieut. Col.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the Congress of the State of *New-York*.

HUGH WALLACE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, August 9, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Lord *Stirling* has acquainted the prisoners brought from *Long-Island*, that they are to attend your Excellency's orders to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, and to be then ready to be sent out of the Province.

I beg to let your Excellency know the unfortunate situation my brother and partner and I are under. Our books, papers, &c., are at the house at *Jamaica* chiefly, where they are very unsafe, only women to take care of the house and them; that we have also many valuable papers, &c., here, which we must leave behind. In short, this affair may probably ruin us.

Could your Excellency, in compassion to our distress, allow my brother to stay with his small helpless family, he could take care of our widely-scattered affairs, and he is satisfied to give security to remain on his farm. As for me, though in a very infirm and disagreeable situation, I must be content.

If your Excellency cannot indulge us in this request, will you be so good as to allow one of us to go to *Jamaica* this day, to bring clothes and necessities for our journey, and to secure our books and papers there in the best way we can, engaging, by all that's sacred and honourable, to be here by nine o'clock to-morrow, to receive your Excellency's commands. The other gentlemen will also beg to have clothes, &c., sent for. I am sorry thus to trouble your Excellency; hope my situation will be my excuse.

I am, respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HUGH WALLACE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

COLONEL MCDUGALL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Friday, August 9, 1776.

SIR: I have seen, in the hands of Mr. *Palfrey*, a copy of a resolution of the Continental Congress, resolving that a Paymaster be appointed to each regiment. If the appointment is in your Excellency, I should be glad Mr. *John Lawrence* (a person who has had some trouble with the papers respecting the payment of my regiment) may be appointed. I will engage for his faithful discharge of that duty.

I am your Excellency's obedient servant,

ALEX. MCDUGALL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

EBENEZER HAZARD TO GENERAL GATES.

New-York, August 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: This is at least the fifth letter I have written you since you left *New-York*, and I have not yet received one from you. As you remained silent so long, I began to suspect you considered me a troublesome correspondent, and intended to get rid of me by absolute neglect: the natural consequence of this, you know, was a determination not to be troublesome any longer; and I was just about concluding upon it, when our friend *Trumbull* told me you had complained of receiving no letters since you reached *Ticonderoga*. This absolutely astonished me, as I could not account for it without supposing some person or other guilty of villainous practices, which I was unwilling to do, but am forced upon the conclusion. The letters must have been stopped somewhere between *Albany* and *Ticonderoga*.

We have very little among us at present that is material. *Clinton* and Sir *Peter Parker* have fled from the southward, after being beaten by *Lee*, and have arrived at *Staten-Island* with the remnant of their fleet and army. About one thousand *Hessians* have arrived there, too; and in consequence of information received by two persons who left the enemy, and two gentlemen lately from *London*, by way of *Staten-Island*, we are in daily expectation of an attack. *Howe* musters now about thirteen thousand men in all, and affects to hold the "Rebel Army" in contempt. One would have thought experience had taught him better. The Vicar of *Roxbury* inquires very often after you, and wishes for a letter. Don't disappoint his wishes and mine. I send you some of the latest newspapers; and am yours, affectionately,

EBEN. HAZARD.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 9, 1776.

SIR: I am informed that there is a quantity of salt at *Norwich*, in the Colony of *Connecticut*, and its neighbourhood, in care of some person or persons to me unknown: I suppose in the hands of Mr. *Shaw* or Mr. *Stamford*, &c., which belongs to the Continent, and has been imported on their account, and has lately been offered for sale. I would humbly suggest to Congress the necessity of a large quantity of that article being secured by the Congress for salting provisions for the Army the next season, and wish that orders may be given Congress agents for that purpose.

I am, sir, with esteem and respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress of Delegates from the *United States of America*, *Philadelphia*.

New-York, August 8, 1776.

Yesterday two deserters came from the fleet, who say that Lord *Howe* is preparing for an attack; that the field-pieces were put on board a vessel, and it was supposed the forces would land on *Long-Island*, while the ships attacked the city.

We hear from *Elizabeth-Town* that on a late alarm there, when an immediate attack of the regulars was expected, and every man capable of bearing arms was summoned to defend it, there were three or four young men, brothers, going out from one house; when an elderly lady, mother or grandmother to the young men, (who, without betraying the least signs of timidity, had, with a resolute calmness, encouraged and assisted them to arm,) when they were ready to go, and just setting out, addressed them thus: "My children, I have a few words to say to you: you are going out, in a just cause, to fight for the rights and liberties of your country; you have my blessing, and prayers that *God* will protect and assist you; but if you fall, His will be done. Let me beg of you, my children, that if you fall it may be like men, and that your wounds may not be in your backs."

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, August 9, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Colonel *Hand* reports the three ships mentioned in my last evening's Report gone down the *Narrows*, are at anchor in and a little below the *Narrows*. I was at *Red Hook* this morning about three o'clock, but nothing further had been discovered, neither has there since, that has come to my knowledge.

General *Heard* gives furloughs to the troops of Colonel *Foreman's* regiment. I conceive it to be capitally wrong, and very injurious to me and Colonel *Foreman* both, as neither can know what to depend upon if the troops are furloughed without our knowledge or consent. This is not the only evil; for if the troops are refused the indulgence here they request, and get it elsewhere, it will naturally lead them to form an opinion that we are tyrannical. I must beg your Excellency to put a stop to it immediately.

I am, with all due respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

N. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Esquire, Headquarters, *New-York*.

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Harlem, August 9, 1776.

SIR: It is with peculiar pleasure that I acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's favour of yesterday, since I cannot but consider it as an additional mark of that confidence with which your Excellency has hitherto honoured me. I have made the proper use of it, and imparted it in confidence to those members of the Convention on whose secrecy I thought I could most safely rely, and from whose influence I hoped to draw the most effectual assistance.

I early foresaw what has since happened, and therefore made it my endeavour to enforce the drawing out as much of the strength of this State as could possibly be collected. I cannot but hope that the good effect of this measure will very shortly appear. A considerable body of troops will,



as we suppose, begin their march for *King's Bridge* to-morrow, and I flatter myself that in five or six days their number will be increased to sixteen or eighteen hundred men. Such is my idea of the importance of this post that I could wish your Excellency to count as little as possible upon the raw troops we send there, but to send thither all you originally designed for that station. Your Excellency is best able to judge whether it can be rendered tenable without some cannon, gunners, and Matrosses, and how far it is prudent to supply that want under which it now labours, by sending them from some other place.

Since I am upon this subject, I will take the liberty to hint what may possibly have escaped your Excellency's attention in the multiplicity of business in which you are involved; I mean the possibility of the enemy's destroying the bridge (if their fleet should get above the town) by means of a body of troops sent up the creek in boats, before any assistance could come in, unless some small work was thrown up for its defence, which the situation renders very practicable.

The troops raised on *Long-Island*, and which we have subjected to your Excellency's command, and ordered to join General *Greene's* brigade, may amount to about eight hundred men; but as part of them are very remote, they may possibly not all arrive at their stations in less than eight days.

We shall this morning endeavour to raise some more of our Militia, to occupy the passes in the Highlands, and that of the northern Counties which have hitherto been reserved in case of any misfortunes happening to the Army at *Ticonderoga*. I fear they will not come in time to assist your Excellency at *New-York*, if the enemy should be speedy in their attack, as they are very remote and but ill-armed. Perhaps we may be able to send some of the neighbouring Militia to General *Greene*, to be dismissed when the *Long-Island* levies are all come in.

Your Excellency may be assured that the little influence I have shall be exerted to forward any operations which your Excellency may form, since I am fully satisfied that they will always be directed by that spirit of patriotism which has so deservedly secured to you the esteem of this Continent, and shall therefore think it a happiness to be honoured with your commands.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

ROBT. R. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Esquire, Headquarters, *New-York*.

#### JOHN SCHENCK TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

In Committee, *Poughkeepsie*, August 9, 1776.

SIRS: From the present situation of publick affairs, the Committee of *Poughkeepsie* labour under many difficulties for the want of cash, as well to answer publick accounts already due, which they have become bound for, as to answer emergencies of which the following are instances: Colonel *Clinton* wrote us to send him a number of boards down to *Fort Constitution*, to make shelter for the troops then ordered there, which the barracks would not contain. On his request we purchased a quantity of Mr. *Child*, and sent them down. On return of the sloop, Mr. *Child* received an order on us for the money, which we could not pay; in consequence of which he returned the order to Colonel *Clinton*, which we are informed remains yet unpaid. Colonel *Clinton* also drew on us to pay the freight of the above boards.

Major-General *Schuyler* sent down a party of men for stores from the shipyards. These men called upon us to provide them provisions. We have to request the honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York* would intrust the Committee of *Poughkeepsie* with a sum of money as a bank, to answer publick emergencies, for which they will give any security that it shall be expended for the use and to the satisfaction of the State. We have herewith sent in our account against this State, which we request the Convention will order paid unto the bearer, *Robert North*.

Signed by order of the Committee, by, gentlemen, your most obedient,

JOHN SCHENCK, Secretary.

To the Hon. the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

#### RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 9, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Agreeable to my promise and duty, I do myself the honour to inclose you a return of the stores forwarded for *Tyonderoga* and *Skenesborough*. I am sorry to disappoint you in not sending the powder as soon as it might be expected by you; but it is not a neglect in me. I have endeavoured to procure wagons, but cannot get them now, in harvest, even for cash. The farmers complain that their wheat is blasted, and must be attended to. However, I expect that the whole, or at least the greater part, will be moved from hence on *Monday*. I shall try every means to effect it. Be assured, my dear sir, that I do not withhold either my time or attention from the publick interest. Some of the shot and of the blocks I do expect next week. I shall forward them as fast as possible. Some of the swivels will be sent as soon as Governour *Trumbull's* order can be obtained for sending them from *Salisbury* to this place. The anchors and cables sent from *New-York* are not yet arrived. I expect them, with some others, in three days. The handspikes and rammers, with sponges, will be finished next week, and forwarded, as also some powderhorns and priming-wires.

My respects to the gentlemen of your family. I remain, with every good wish, your most obedient and very humble servant,

RICHD. VARICK.

To the Honourable Major-General *Gates*.

#### COLONEL DAYTON TO INDIAN CHIEFS.

Fort Schuyler, August 9, 1776.

SIR: Yours of yesterday was just handed me. I observe the contents. By the bearer I send two barrels of powder. Lead, I have deferred sending any more for the present. As there is a probability of an attack being made here, cannot tell what we may have occasion for, and especially as I have understood our brothers at the Castle are not in much want of that article at present.

Three of the *Oneida* Indians are gone to *Oswego* for intelligence, which I hope will answer as well as though some of my people had gone with them. As I place the greatest confidence in the *Oneidas*, shall listen to what they say at all times.

I thank the great men very sincerely for their kind wishes respecting my health, and pray that the great and good Spirit may ever continue his protection to us all.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

ELIAS DAYTON.

P. S. We have a report here that a battle has lately been fought near *New-York*, and that General *Washington* has killed a great number of the Regulars; but for the truth of it, cannot positively say.

#### GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 9, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received your Honour's favour of the 7th instant, by Lieutenant-Colonel *Conner*, and have complied with your Honour's orders as to forwarding Colonel *Wingate's* and Colonel *Wyman's* regiments to *Ticonderoga*. The Militia that are still to come who have tents, shall be sent forward as fast as they shall arrive, by the orders that I shall receive. There are none of the troops who have tents, except the small parties of the *New-York* regiments.

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To the Honourable Major-General *Gates*.

#### GENERAL GATES TO CAPTAIN RICHARD VARICK.

Ticonderoga, August 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: This morning I was favoured with yours by Mr. *Hughes*, with the invoices enclosed. I am much obliged to you for your diligence and attention in forwarding to this post, and with such despatch, the articles of which we stand so much in need. Spades, and cartridge paper for muskets, are the things at present most in request. Flour will become scarce soon. I am told there are three thousand barrels at *Fort Edward*. Surely the harvest is now over, and the teamsters ready to serve the publick. As to money, I can have no idea that that can long be wanted; nor ought fellows who get so much from the *United States*

to hesitate at this time. They know they are sure of their pay. In case the enclosed packet gets early enough to *Albany* to go by the post on *Monday*, send it by that conveyance; if not, you will despatch a special express with it to General *Washington*. I fancy General *Schuyler* cannot have yet returned to *Albany*; so defer writing to him until to-morrow or *Sunday*, when perhaps I may have something material to say. There is nothing new since Messrs. *Cuyler* and *Gansevoort* left us. Yours,

HORATIO GATES.

To Captain *Richard Varick*.

OBADIAH JOHNSON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Canterbury, August 9, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I have concluded to have the Reverend *Ephraim Judson*, Chaplain to Colonel *Ward's* regiment, if agreeable to your Honour, &c. And if your Honour pleases to send warrants for Chaplain and Surgeon's Mate, or whatever commands, the bearer will convey them to me. The Surgeon's Mate agreed upon is Dr. *Thomas Shaw*.

I am, sir, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,  
OBADIAH JOHNSON.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*.

COLONEL COOKE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Danbury, August 9, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: Upon receipt of orders from your Honour of the 6th of *July* last, requiring that upon notice given me by General *Washington*, or the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United Colonies, of the necessity of assistance, I should call forth and march with all expedition so many of the able-bodied effective men of my regiment as might be necessary and convenient for the defence of the Colonies,—I immediately sent my orders to the commanding officers of the several companies in my regiment to have them properly equipped and hold them in readiness to march at the shortest warning; which I trust have been generally executed agreeable to your Honour's direction.

I would now acquaint your Honour that I this day received a letter from General *Washington*, dated 7th instant, informing me that General *Clinton* had brought his whole body of troops from *South-Carolina*; that the foreign troops are every day arriving; that he hath the most authentick intelligence that the enemy's Army in a little time will amount to thirty thousand men; and that a decisive attack will be made upon our Army, which, in its present situation, from sickness, the deficiency of regiments and other causes, is far short of its intended complement. His Excellency therefore requests me to call forth my regiment without delay, and have them equipped with blankets, arms, and ammunition, if possible, and march them immediately to *New-York*. Which orders I am carrying into execution with the utmost despatch, and expect to march in a very short time. I hope your Honour will order some small supply of money, without which it will be difficult to proceed, as many of the men will probably have none of their own; but I mean not to wait for that.

As the General says nothing about the time the Militia may be detained, I would beg leave to observe that the present season of the year is a very important season, especially to this part of the Colony, where large crops of wheat are raised, this being the usual time when the ground is prepared for seed, and about three or four weeks hence will be the proper seed time, upon which the hopes of a future harvest altogether depend; so that, should the whole Militia be detained much beyond that time, it would present a melancholy prospect for the ensuing year, especially when joined to a very scanty harvest the present year.

These, sir, are thoughts which very forcibly strike the minds of people, and would very much damp their zeal upon the present emergency, was it not for the expectation of being soon dismissed. I therefore hope your Honour will represent the matter to the General in such a manner that they may not be detained longer than absolute necessity requires.

I am, sir, with all due respect, your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

JOSEPH P. COOKE.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

COLONEL CRAFTS TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston, August 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer hereof, Lieutenant *Raney*, in the battalion under my command, has an inclination to serve his country in the sea department. As I am doubtful of my power to discharge him, have referred him to your Honours.

I am, with all due respect, your Honours' most obedient, humble servant,

THOS. CRAFTS.

To the Board of Council of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

TIMOTHY LANGDON TO JOHN AVERY.

August 9, 1776.

SIR: I should take it as a favour if you would look over the records of Council for *August* and *September*, 1775, and inform me if Lieutenant *Nathan Smith* delivered any paper relating to the schooner *Susannah*, *Gammon* or *Philips* Master. If there are any such papers, you will send me a pass from Admiral *Graves* that is amongst them, or a copy of it; you shall be satisfied for your trouble.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

TIMO. LANGDON.

To Mr. *John Avery*.

COLONEL MITCHELL TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Falmouth, August 9, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: As I have some particular business of a private nature which renders my being personally at *Boston* about the middle of *September*, of very great importance to me, I therefore take the liberty to ask your Honours' permission for leave of absence to go thither at that time, which (should you think proper to grant) I shall esteem a particular favour.

I can, with the greater freedom, solicit your indulgence herein, as we shall soon be in a tolerable state of defence at this place, and I hope as well prepared for the reception of the enemy as our number of men and cannon will permit. I wish to tarry no longer time than what is absolutely necessary for the accomplishing my business.

I am, with profound respect, your Honours' humble servant,

JONA. MITCHELL.

To the Honourable the Council of the State of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

In Committee of Council, August 14, 1776.

Ordered, That the prayer of the within Petition be granted, and that he, the said Colonel *Mitchell*, have a parole of absence to go to *Boston* and attend his own private business about the middle of *September* next, agreeable to his request, and to return to his duty as soon as he can.

JNO. AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

Watertown, August 12, 1776.

We hear that on *Wednesday* last was sent into *Portsmouth*, by the *Hancock* privateer of *Philadelphia*, a large ship (formerly a twenty-gun ship) now mounting fourteen guns, bound from *Jamaica* for *London*, having on board seven hundred hogsheads of sugar, two hundred of rum, besides other valuables; a fine prize. We hear she was taken by the following stratagem, viz: Just before dusk in the evening the *Hancock* came across her; the Captain of the prize taking the *Hancock* to be one of the tyrant's pilferers, was very much rejoiced to fall in with her, and doubtless *vice versa*; when the *Hancock* at night threw out a light for a signal as a pilot. At daylight the next morning, the vessels being near together, the Captain of the ship invited the Captain of the *Hancock* to come on board and take a breakfast; who replied, his hands were so few and sick, that he had not enough to man his boat and work the vessel, and in his turn invited the Captain of the ship to come on board him, which he readily complied with, by ordering his boat out, when he and about a dozen of his hands went on board the *Hancock*, and were taken as good care of as men in such circumstances could allow. The *Hancock* then sent an equal number of her own hands on board the ship, when, alas! she fell into the hands of the *United States of America*.

## COLONEL GALE TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

State of New-Hampshire, East Kingston, }  
August 9, 1776. }

Pursuant to orders from *Nathaniel Folsom*, Esq., Major General, &c., requiring me forthwith to raise and see equipped one hundred and eleven men out of the regiment under my command, to be ready to march and reinforce the Northern Army, in consequence of which orders, the number of the soldiers raised, equipped, and marched the 20th of *July*, are as followeth, viz :

1 Captain, 4 Subalterns, 5 Sergeants, 5 Corporals,	
1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, - - - - -	17
90 Privates, 2 privates marched the 25th, - - -	92
1 <i>Jonathan Carlton</i> inlisted from <i>Newtown</i> under	
Captain <i>Johnson</i> for the <i>Massachusetts</i> State in	
the same expedition, - - - - -	1
Total number of men, - - - - -	110

The above Return from Colonel *Josiah Bartlett's* regiment, exhibited by *JACOB GALE*, Lieutenant-Colonel.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety of said State.

## CHARLES W. F. DUMAS TO THE COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE, AUGUST 10, 1776.

M. A. L., par sa lettre du 11<sup>e</sup> *Juin*, m'apprennoit, que  
"Story goes from hence directly to America. A French

H o r t a l e z ,  
gentleman, named 613. 2. 17. 15. 19. 4. 5. 414. 207.  
h a v i n g s o m e t h i  
424. 69. 1. 16. 14. 104. 11. 9. 76. 13. 33. 613. 21.  
n g t o n e g o t i a t e  
27. 238. 34. 50. 51. 24. 476. 67. 52. 53. 75. 57. 26.  
f o r t h e C o n g r e s  
22. 94. 25. 61. 424. 29. 28. 9. 54. 561. 46. 32. 12.  
s z  
39. 226, I have given him your address."

La veille de mon départ d'*Utrecht*, j'écrivis ce qui suit à la personne que vous sâvez, Messieurs:

21<sup>e</sup> *Juin*.

"M.: Dans l'espérance que vous avez bien voulu me faire concevoir, que je pourrai quelque jour vous être utile, je crois devoir vous prévenir que je partirai demain de cette ville, pour aller passer l'été à une campagne à moitié chemin d'ici à . J'y recevrai en toute sûreté vos ordres, si vous envoyez vos lettres chez, &c. Je me propose d'ailleurs de passer à le plutôt que je pourrai, uniquement pour profiter de la permission que vous m'avez donnée de vous rendre mes devoirs de temps en temps. Sans avoir du nouveau à vous faire voir, l'ouvrage ébauché a besoin des vos bonnes directions pour le temps où vous ne résideriez plus à ; et je serois bien fâché de manquer l'honneur de vous entretenir au moins une fois encore avant votre départ, s'il étoit proche."

## RÉPONSE.

23<sup>e</sup> *Juin*.

"M.: J'ai reçu la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 21<sup>e</sup> de ce mois. Vous me flattez de l'espérance de vous voir à , dont vous rapproche le séjour que vous allez faire pendant l'été à une campagne. Cette proximité vous donnera la facilité de faire des voyages, dont je profiterai avec grand plaisir. Je sens l'estime qui vous est due, et l'avantage de mériter l'amitié d'un homme instruit tel que vous, réunissant la littérature aux devoirs de la société. Je vous entendrai toujours avec une grande envie de profiter, et cela sur toutes les matières qui ont intéressé la sagesse de vos réflexions. Je ne saï pas encore le temps que je resterai à . Peut-être sera-t-il assez long pour jouir plusieurs fois de l'honneur de vous recevoir; cela dépend des ordres qu'on me donnera de la cour; et rien ne paroît jusqu'ici devoir les accélérer. Nous sommes dans la saison la moins active, ou la plus dissipée. Les affaires ne reverdissent guère qu'à la chute des feuilles, ou même ne s'échaufent qu'au retour des glaces. Je parle du vieux monde: car je ne veux pas trop généraliser le tableau. Avez vous, Monsieur, des nouvelles du Docteur et de ses amis? Je vous serois très obligé de soigner à cet égard mon instruction. Je ferois volontiers les fraix d'un exprès que vous m'enverriez quand vous le jugeriez à-propos; sinon, la poste tout uniment.

S'il m'arrivoit à moi-même de voyager, j'aurois l'honneur de vous marquer mes stations et mon adresse. Je ne saurois trop vous exprimer, Monsieur, le désir que j'ai de vous servir, et de mériter une part dans vos sentiments," &c.

Environ 15 jours après, j'écrivis ce qui suit au même:

Juillet, 1776.

"M.: La lettre dont vous m'avez honoré en date du 23<sup>e</sup> *Juin*, m'a donné la sécurité qu'il falloit, pour me consoler des contre-temps qui m'ont retenu ici. Peut-être serai-je à *Lahaie* *Dimanche* matin. Soyez persuadé, M., que s'il me parvient quelque chose qui mérite votre attention, vous en serez instruit sur le champ. Je n'ai pas de raison pour m'attendre à recevoir sitôt des nouvelles directement. J'ai écrit deux lettres par deux différents vaisseaux partis d'*Amst.* pour *St. E.*; et j'attends qu'un autre vaisseau parte pour leur en dépêcher une troisième. Avant que j'aie réponse, il se passera bien du temps, et dans ce temps bien des choses. Il y a cependant un homme chargé de quelque commission de leur part, à qui l'on a donné à L. mon adresse; et j'ai reçu deux lettres de cette ville, l'une du 21<sup>e</sup> *Mai*, l'autre du 11<sup>e</sup> *Juin*, où l'on me prie de lui rendre service. Voilà tout ce que j'en saï; car cet homme n'a pas encore paru.

"Plus je suis favorisé de vos lettres, M., et plus j'ambitionne de mériter avec le temps que vous ayiez bonne opinion de moi. En attendant je dois me tenir en garde contre trop de présomption, et penser combien il est naturel de faire un accueil gracieux au serviteur pour l'amour du maître. Je vous avouerai, M., qu'en rendant compte au Docteur et à ses amis de notre correspondance, j'ai cru devoir les prévenir là-dessus, non que je doutasse de leur pénétration, mais de peur qu'ils ne soupçonnassent le geai de vouloir se parer des plumes du paon. Ils seront instruits de l'obligeant intérêt avec lequel vous me demandez de leurs nouvelles. J'espère que le temps viendra où vous pourrez me permettre de ne plus leur faire un secret de votre nom.

"Après y avoir longtemps et bien pensé, il me semble que pour répondre complètement à leur intention, je dois me p r é s e n t e r a u s  
76. 5. 60. 17. 24. 11. 13. 14. 15. 26. 25. 19. 3. 12.  
s i à l ' h ô t e l d ' E  
39. 16. 69. 4. 74. 424. 2. 33. 29. 18. 20. 183. 32.  
s p a g n e , p o u r y  
44. 172. 75. 104. 27. 35. 207. 185. 9. 10. 46. 40.  
ê t r e s i m p l e m e  
286. 34. 65. 38. 58. 21. 202. 186. 37. 41. 235. 48.  
n t c o n n u c o m m e  
51. 52. 28. 50. 54. 56. 42. 49. 67. 287. 371. 55.  
c h a r g é  
115. 613. 85. 78. 238. 77. d'une telle commission, m'ouvrir par-là les voies de servir mes commettants à l'avenir dans diverses occasions qui peuvent se présenter d'un moment à l'autre, et ne pas encourir le blâme, qui pourroit réjaillir u n e p  
jusque sur ces messieurs, d'avoir négligé 45. 63. 59. 295.  
u i s s a n c e s i d i  
81. 53. 87. 90. 120. 68. 124. 62. 93. 66. 71. 79.  
g n e a u s s i d e l e  
476. 86. 72. 147. 96. 101. 110. 98. 84. 82. 47. 89.  
u r c o n f i a n c e  
106. 91. 136. 94. 100. 22. 103. 155. 128. 181. 108.  
& r e c h e r c h e  
241. 107. 111. 227. 424. 114. 119. 252. 613. 116.  
Au reste je ne ferai ni ne dirai rien à cet égard, qu'après avoir eu l'honneur de vous voir, M.; et je vous supplie de croire, que j'observerai scrupuleusement la conduite et la discrétion que vous aurez eu la bonté de me prescrire là-dessus."

En conséquence je m'abouchai avec lui; nous convinmes de tout ce que nous dirions chacun; il alla dîner à cette même maison, dit que j'avois été chez lui, et que je lui avois dit que j'irois aussi à l'autre maison le lendemain à 11 heures. J'y fus effectivement. On me reçut tête-à-tête, en grande cérémonie, dans la salle d'audience. J'exposai brièvement mon sujet, et tirai un mémoire pour le lui lire. Il me dit qu'il ne pouvoit pas m'écouter sans ordre de son maître. Je lus pourtant, et il ne boucha pas ses oreilles. Je le priai de recevoir et garder le mémoire. Il refusa, alléguant toujours qu'il ne pouvoit rien sans ordre. Je tirai alors mes originaux, et lui montrai mes trois signatures, qu'il regarda avidement. En vous séparant je le priai de taire mon nom à ; il me dit qu'il le tairoit partout. Il me demanda pourtant si c'étoit mon vrai nom. Je l'en assurai.

Il me dit quelques gracieux étés personnelles: nous nous quit-  
tames; et je sus dès le lendemain par un autre canal, qu'il  
avoit pourtant rendu compte à son maître de cette visite;  
ce qui me suffit, car je n'ai proprement besoin, pour ce que  
vous savez, que d'une de ces bonnes maisons. J'y suis tou-  
jours bien poliment reçu, et en ami; c'est tout ce que je  
demande. Je n'y multiplie pas trop mes apparitions; mais  
pour les rendre toujours désirables, je n'y parois jamais sans  
avoir quelque chose d'intéressant à dire; et pour cet effet,  
les lettres de mon cher et digne correspondant de *Londres*  
me sont fort utiles. Ce dernier m'a adressé dernièrement  
quelqu'un, dont la conversation, jointe à ce que me disoit la  
lettre dont il étoit porteur, m'a servi à la composition d'un  
memoire qu'on a goûté, et j'ai lieu de croire qu'on l'a envoyé.

Ce quelqu'un m'a fait vous écrire une lettre, datée du 4<sup>e</sup>  
*Août*, par voie de *Bourdeaux* à *St. Domingue*, sous envel-  
oppe de M. *Caton*, marchand au *Port St. Nicholas*, dans  
cette Isle, d'ont voici l'extrait:

"A gentleman belonging to Jamaica, a particular friend  
of Dr. B. Fr., and very well known to him, m'a chargé de  
lui écrire, pour l'assurer de bonne part de l'estime singulière  
qu'a pour lui et ses amis ce qu'il y a de plus sensé en *Angle-  
terre*; qu'ils ne doivent pas croire, and that he prays him to  
let them know it, que la voix du Parlement actuel soit la voix  
du peuple *Anglois*; qu'il existe et se renforce a great body,  
qui, à la vérité, n'est pas le plus fort, mais qui regarde la cause  
des *Américains* comme la sienne propre, leur salut et leur  
liberté comme la sienne, qui préféreroit de les voir indépen-  
dants plutôt que subjugués, et qui fera à la future rentrée du  
Parlement les plus grands efforts en leur faveur; que la base  
de ce parti est déjà de 40 pairs, et de 160 membres des  
communes.

"Ce gentilhomme m'a avoué qu'il étoit un des plus actifs  
dans ce parti, qui seroit bien aise qu'il y eût en *H.* un homme  
de confiance, un agent de la part du Congrès. La lettre  
que ce gentilhomme m'avoit apportée débutoit ainsi:

"Dear Sir: This will be delivered to you by —, a  
friend of Dr. Fr., of liberty, and of *America*. He is a philo-  
sopher, very well instructed on the subject of *America*, and  
I trust will be both an agreeable and useful acquaintance  
while he remains near you."

"Cela me rassurant, je lui découvris que j'étois l'homme  
qu'il cherchoit, muni de créances et ordres suffisants du Con-  
grès, pour faire passer par mes mains tous les bons offices que  
voudroient lui rendre ses amis. Là-dessus je lui montrai ma  
créance; il en fut satisfait; nous nous donnâmes nos adresses;  
il me promit de m'écrire quand il en seroit temps; et nous nous  
separâmes satisfaits l'un de l'autre," &c.

Enfin ma dépeche C vous portoit aussi copie de deux  
lettres d'un officier fort habile dans la petite guerre, et des  
conditions aux quelles il passeroit au service des *Colonies*  
*Unies*. Un guerrier très expérimenté me l'avoit recom-  
mande non seulement comme excellent officier pour le com-  
mandement en chef, mais aussi comme très versé dans le  
génie. Mais lui-même m'écrivit qu'ayant négligé depuis  
longtemps cette partie de l'art militaire, il ne s'engageroit  
jamais comme ingénieur, mais pour la conduite d'un corps de  
troupes en chef, surtout pour la petite guerre, qu'il a étudiée  
à fond; et qu'en cette qualité il consacra avec plaisir et  
zele sa capacité et son zele en faveur de peuples qu'il admire,  
et avec lesquels il voudroit, lui et 6 enfants qu'il a, passer le  
reste de sa vie, aux conditions suivantes:

1<sup>o</sup>. Que le Congrès lui paiera au moins 1000*l.*, (c'est-à-  
dire, à peu près 100 livres sterling,) tant pour l'arrangement  
de ses affaires, que pour se pourvoir des choses nécessaires  
dans une pareille situation et pour le voyage, sans être obligé  
à rembourser cet argent.

2<sup>o</sup>. Que le Congrès lui donnera des assurances, qu'au  
cas qu'on ne lui procure pas un établissement solide, et  
équivalent à son emploi militaire, dans ce pays-là, à la paix,  
on lui paiera 1000 ducats, (environ 500 livres sterling,) pour  
dédommagement de ses peines et risques, et pour s'en  
retourner dans ses foyers.

3<sup>o</sup>. Qu'on sera payer par quelque négociant de ce pays-ci,  
pendant 2 années, à ses enfants, la pension qu'il tire actuelle-  
ment, et qu'il perdra, du moment qu'il quittera l'*Europe*,  
savoir, 600*l.* environ 60 livres sterling par an, de 6 en 6  
mois, chaque fois 300*l.*, ou 30 livres sterling. Cet article  
il le remboursera s'il reste en vie: mais s'il mourroit en route,  
ou s'il étoit pris par les *Anglois*, le Congrès continueroit  
cette pension pendant 6 ans.

4<sup>o</sup>. On lui confiera le commandement d'un corps de troupes  
légères, avec un grade proportionné, et la disposition de toutes  
les places d'officiers, et la liberté d'engager ici en *Europe* de  
bons sujets, d'une bonne conduite et capacité. Pour cet  
effet on lui fournira les pouvoirs et les moyens pour leur  
transport en *Amérique*. Cet article pourra être éclairci en  
son temps.

5<sup>o</sup>. Ses gages doivent être au moins de 125 dollars par  
mois courant.

Il est bon d'ajouter à ceci, que M. le Marquis d'*Engel-  
nelli*, en 1756, et après lui le Général *Wunsch* en 1758, lui  
ont offert une compagnie dans leurs régiments; ce dernier  
avec la majorité au service du Roi de *Prusse*. La même  
année M. *Van Hellen*, alors ministre de ce Roi à *Lahaye*, le fit  
venir chez lui par M. le Colonel de *Courvoisier*, lui offrit le  
commandement d'une troupe avec 200 ducats pour le voyage,  
et les postes franches du Roi. Mais n'ayant pu obtenir des  
sûretés pour sa capitulation, cette raison, et l'instabilité de  
ce service, l'ont empêché d'accepter ces offres.

J'ajouterai, Messieurs, à ce que vous venez de lire, que cet  
officier, qui est veuf, avec 6 enfants, *Suisse*, bon républicain,  
voudroit rester avec eux en *Amérique* après l'avoir servie. S'il  
est vrai ce qu'on dit, et ce que vos amis-mêmes me marquent  
de *Londres*, que vous n'avez pas assez d'officiers command-  
ants en chef pour l'étendue vaste de vos opérations, je crois  
qu'il seroit bon que vous prissiez celui-là pour la cam-  
paigne prochaine; il me semble que ces demandes ne sont pas  
déraisonnables: et comme il n'est pas apparent que vos enne-  
mis quittent la partie sitôt, je crois qu'il pourra vous être fort  
utile.

[Translation.]

CHARLES W. F. DUMAS TO THE COMMITTEE OF SECRET COR-  
RESPONDENCE.

August 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Arthur Lee*, in his letter of the 11th  
of *June*, observes, that "Mr. *Story* goes from hence directly  
to *America*. A French gentleman named *Hortalez* having  
something to negotiate for the Congress, I have given him  
your address." On the eve of my departure from *Utrecht*,  
on the 21st of *June*, I wrote as follows to the person whom  
you know:

"SIR: In the hope that you have consented to make me  
understand that I shall be one day useful to you, I think it  
my duty to advise you, that I shall depart to-morrow from  
this city, to pass the summer at a country house half way  
from here to . . . I shall receive there in all safety  
your orders, if you send your letters to, &c.

"I propose, also, to pass to . . . as soon as I can,  
merely to profit by the permission you have given me to ren-  
der you my services from time to time. Without having any  
new plan to propose, the work already marked out has need  
of your good directions, for the time which you will no  
longer reside at . . . ; and I shall be very sorry to fail  
of the honour of an interview with you at least once more  
before your departure, if it is near."

To this I received the following answer, dated *June 23*:

"SIR: I have received the letter you did me the honour  
to write me the 21st of this month. You flatter me with  
the hope of seeing you at . . . , to which you are brought  
near by the residence you intend to make during the sum-  
mer at a country house. This proximity will afford you  
opportunity to make journeys, by which I shall profit with  
much pleasure. I am sensible of the esteem which is your  
due, and of the advantage of meriting the friendship of an  
experienced man like yourself, uniting literature to the  
duties of society. I shall listen to you always with an eager  
desire of profiting by your counsels, and this on all subjects  
that have engaged your thoughts. I do not yet know the  
time that I shall remain at . . . . Perhaps it will be  
sufficiently long to enjoy often the honour of receiving you.  
This depends on the orders of my Court, and nothing has  
as yet appeared which will hurry them. We are in the  
least active, or most dissipated season. Business will not  
flourish much till the fall of the leaves, or even not get warm  
till the return of snow. I speak of the Old World; for I  
wish not to extend the picture too much.

"Have you any news of the Doctor and his friends? I  
shall be obliged to you to follow my instructions in this  
respect. I will bear willingly the charge of an express,



whom you may send to me when you shall judge proper; otherwise write uniformly by the post. Should I be on a journey, I shall have the honour to inform you of my residence and address. I do not know how to express to you sufficiently, sir, the desire I have to serve you and to deserve a place in your thoughts."

About fifteen days after, I replied to this letter as follows:

"SIR: The letter with which you honoured me, dated 23d of June, has given me the assurance which was needed to console me for the disappointments that have detained me here. Perhaps I shall be at the *Hague* on Sunday morning. Be assured, sir, that if anything comes to my knowledge worthy of your attention, you shall be informed of it immediately. I have no reason to expect soon to receive news directly. I have written two letters by two different vessels, that have sailed from *Amsterdam* for *St. Eustatia*; and I expect, when another vessel departs, to despatch a third. Before I have an answer much time will pass, and in this time many events. There is, however, a man charged with some commission on their part, to whom they have given my address at *Leyden*; and I have received two letters from that city, the one of the 21st of May, the other of the 11th of June, in which they pray me to render him service. This is all that I know of him, for the man has not yet appeared.

"The more I am favoured with your letters, sir, the more I wish to deserve your good opinion. In the meantime, I ought to be on my guard against too much presumption, and to think how natural it is to give a gracious reception to the servant for the love of the master. I own to you, sir, that in giving an account to the Doctor and his friends of our correspondence, I have thought proper to forewarn them thereon; not that I doubt their penetration, but from fear that they might suspect the jay of a desire to appear in the feathers of the peacock. They will be informed of the obliging interest with which you ask news of them. I hope that the time will come when you will be able to permit me to reveal your name to them.

"After having thought long and much, it seems to me, that in order to answer completely their intention, I ought to present myself also to the *Hotel d'Espagne*, to be known there simply as charged with such a commission, to open to myself thereby ways of serving my constituents on diverse occasions, which may present themselves at one moment or another, and not incur the blame, which may be reflected even on these gentlemen, of having neglected a power so worthy of their confidence and notice. For the rest, I shall not do or say anything in this respect till I have had the honour of seeing you, sir; and I pray you to believe that I shall observe scrupulously the conduct and the discretion that you have had the goodness to prescribe to me."

In consequence, I have again conferred with this gentleman. We agreed upon all that each of us should say. He went to dine at that same house, said that I had been with him, and that I told him I would go also to the other house the next day at eleven o'clock. I went in fact, and was received *tête-à-tête* with great ceremony in the hall of audience. I opened briefly my business, and drew out a memoir to read to him. He told me that he could not hear me without the order of his master. I read notwithstanding, and he did not stop his ears. I prayed him to receive and keep the memoir. He refused, alleging continually that he could do nothing without orders. I drew out then my originals, and showed him my three signatures, which he looked at eagerly. In separating, I asked him to keep my name concealed at ; he said to me that he would keep it secret everywhere. He asked me, however, if that was my true name. I assured him it was; he paid me some personal compliments, and we parted. I learned on the next day, by another channel, that he had, notwithstanding, given an account to his master of this visit; which suffices me, for I have need, as you know, of only one of these good houses. I am always very politely received, and as a friend. This is all that I ask. I do not multiply too much my visits; but to render them always desirable, I never appear there without having something interesting to say; and to this end the letters of my worthy correspondent at *London* are very useful to me. This last has addressed to me lately a person whose conversation, joined to the contents of the letter of which he was bearer, has served me in the composition of a memoir which they approve, and I have reason to think they

have sent. This person has induced me to write a letter to you, dated the 4th of August; by way of *Bordeaux* to *St. Domingo*, under an envelope of Mr. *Caton*, merchant at *Port St. Nicholas* in that Island, of which here is an extract:

"A gentleman belonging to *Jamaica*, a particular friend of Dr. *Franklin*, and very well known to him, has charged me to write to him, to assure him, on good authority, of the singular esteem that there is for him and his friends among the more judicious in *England*; that they ought not to think, and that he prays him to let them know it, that the present voice of Parliament is the voice of the *English* people; that there exists, and gathers strength, a great body, which, in truth, is not the strongest, but which regards the cause of the *Americans* as its own, their safety and liberty as its own, which would prefer to see them independent rather than subjugated, and which will make, at the future meeting of Parliament, the greatest efforts in their favour; that the basis of this party is already forty Peers and one hundred and sixty members of the Commons.

"This gentleman owned to me that he was one of the most active in that party, who would be very glad that there was in *H.* a man who could be confided in, an agent on the part of Congress.

"The letter which this gentleman brought me began thus: 'This will be delivered to you by Mr. *Ellis*, a friend of Dr. *Franklin*, of liberty, and of *America*. He is a philosopher, very well instructed on the subject of *America*, and, I trust, will be both an agreeable and useful acquaintance while he remains near you.' This assuring me, I discovered to him that I was the man whom he was seeking, provided with credentials and orders from Congress sufficient to do all the good offices that his friends could wish to render; thereupon I showed him my credentials; he was satisfied with them, and we exchanged addresses. He promised to write me when he had time; and we separated satisfied with each other," &c.

Finally, my despatch C carried to you also copies of two letters of an able partisan officer, and the conditions upon which he will enter the service of the *United Colonies*. An experienced soldier had recommended him to me, not only as an excellent superior officer, but also as well versed in engineering. But he has himself written to me that, having for a long time neglected that branch of military science, he would not engage as an Engineer, but as commander of a corps, especially for partisan service, which he has studied thoroughly; and that in that capacity he will, with pleasure and zeal, devote his ability and energy, in the service of a people whom he admires, and among whom, with his six children, he would wish to spend the rest of his life, on the following conditions:

1st. That the Congress shall pay him at least one thousand francs, (that is, nearly one hundred pounds sterling,) to enable him to arrange his affairs, and procure articles necessary for his situation, and for the voyage, without having to reimburse the money.

2d. That the Congress shall give him assurances that, in case they should not obtain for him a permanent situation, and equivalent to his military rank in this country, on the conclusion of peace, they shall pay him one thousand ducats, (about five hundred pounds sterling,) to remunerate him for his trouble and risk, and to enable him to return home.

3d. That they will pay, through some merchant in this country, for two years, to his children, the pension which he actually draws, and which he will lose the moment he leaves *Europe*, to wit: six hundred francs (about sixty pounds sterling) per year, every six months three hundred francs, or thirty pounds sterling. This he will reimburse if he lives; but if he should die on the way, or be taken by the *English*, the Congress shall continue the pension six years.

4th. They shall give him command of a corps of light troops, with a proportionate rank, and the arrangement of all the officers, and liberty to engage recruits in *Europe*, of good conduct and capacity. For this purpose, they shall furnish him with power and means for their passage to *America*. This article can be explained at a proper time.

5th. His pay shall be at least one hundred and twenty-five dollars per current month.

It is well to add to this, that the Marquis *d'Engenelli*, in 1756, and after him General *Wunsch*, in 1758, offered him a company in their regiments, the latter with the rank of

Major in the service of the King of *Prussia*. The same year, Mr. *Van Hellen*, then Minister of that King at the *Hague*, caused him to be brought to him by Colonel *Courvoisier*, and offered him the command of a troop, with two hundred ducats for the journey, and the posts of the King free; but having been unable to obtain sureties for his agreement, this reason, and the instability of the service, prevented his accepting these offers.

I will add, gentlemen, to what you have just read, that this officer, who is a widower, with six children, a *Swiss*, a good Republican, wishes to remain with them in *America*, after having served it. If it is true, as has been said, and as your own friends inform me from *London*, that you have not sufficient commanding officers for the wide extent of your operations, I think it would be well to engage him for the next campaign. It seems to me his conditions are not unreasonable; and as it does not appear that your enemies will give up the contest soon, I think he could be very useful.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

DUMAS.

ARTHUR LEE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

London, July 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: This will be delivered to you by Mr. *Ellis*, a friend of Dr. *Franklin*, of liberty, and of *America*. He is a philosopher, very well instructed on the subject of *America*, and I trust will be both an agreeable and useful acquaintance while he remains near you.

I thank you for your favour of the 21st of last month. By the last advices from *America*, General *Howe* was prepared to sail from *Halifax*, and, it is imagined, to land at *New-York*, where he will certainly be strongly opposed. He numbers ten thousand regulars, and it will be fortunate for us if he makes attempt before he is joined by the *Germans*, who sailed the 6th of *May*. The *Americans* have taken post upon the river *Richelieu* and the lakes. General *Lee* is in *Virginia*, with ten thousand men; expecting Lord *Cornwallis* and General *Clinton*. General *Washington* commands at *New-York*, and General *Ward* in *Boston*.

The strange timidity of *la Cour Française* requires great patience and management; but I think it will at last be brought to act an avowed and decided part. When that happens, *Angleterre* must submit to whatever terms they please to impose, for she is totally incapable of sustaining a war with *France*.

Adieu,

ARTHUR LEE.

SILAS DEANE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Paris, July 26, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed letter from Doctor *Franklin* will hint at my business in this city, where I arrived the 7th instant, and I should have sent forward this earlier had I not had hopes of having the honour of presenting it to you in person. This I now find I cannot expect, without delaying it beyond all bounds. I therefore forward it by the common conveyance, and inform you that my address in this city is to Messrs. *Germany, Guardot, & Co.*, Bankers; that I shall tarry here till the last of *August*, when I propose going to *Dunkirk*, thence to *Amsterdam* and *Hamburgh*, in which journey I hope for the pleasure of seeing you. In the mean time I shall be happy in a correspondence with you on the subject of the dispute between the *United Colonies* and *Great Britain*, or any other that shall be agreeable to you; and I wish to be informed if I shall be in danger of any disagreeable treatment in my journey through *Holland*, in a private capacity, though it should be known that I was in the service of the *United Colonies*. It has been suggested to me that I might meet with some interruption or difficulties from the friends of the *British Ministry*, which occasions my making this inquiry.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

P. S. I read and understand the *French* language tolerably well, though I am unable to write it.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED CAPE FRANÇOIS, AUGUST 10, 1776.

Although our Government appears here in a profound tranquillity, letters of undoubted authority, just arrived from *France*, inform us that an armament is now fitting out at

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*Brest*, of twenty sail of the line, twelve frigates, and fourteen thousand land forces, whose destination, it is presumed, is for this place. I think this armament will occasion no uneasiness to your Continent, as *France* has from the beginning shown such a partiality in favour of your cause, and now does in a more open manner. You have none but zealous friends in this Island, and if there be any Tories, they are from your parts. The *American* vessels have our ports open to them, and they will be protected.

Savannah, (in Georgia,) August 10, 1776.

A Declaration being received from the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., by which it appeared that the Continental Congress, in the name and by the authority of their constituents, had declared that the United Colonies of *North America* are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, and absolved from all allegiance to the *British Crown*, his Excellency the President, and the honourable the Council, met in the Council Chamber, and read the Declaration. They then proceeded to the square before the Assembly House, and read it likewise before a great concourse of people, when the Grenadier and Light-Infantry Companies fired a general volley. After this they proceeded, in the following procession, to the Liberty Pole: The Grenadiers in front; the Provost Marshal on horseback, with his sword drawn; the Secretary with the Declaration; his Excellency the President; the honourable the Council and gentlemen attending; then the Light Infantry and the rest of the Militia of the town and district of *Savannah*. At the Liberty Pole they were met by the *Georgia* Battalion, who, after reading of the Declaration, discharged their field-pieces and fired in platoons. Upon this they proceeded to the Battery, at the Trustees Gardens, where the Declaration was read for the last time, and cannon of the Battery discharged. His Excellency and Council, Colonel *Lachlan McIntosh*, and other gentlemen, with the Militia, dined under the Cedar Trees, and cheerfully drank to the United, Free, and Independent States of *America*. In the evening the town was illuminated, and there was exhibited a very solemn funeral procession, attended by the Grenadier and Light-Infantry Companies, and other Militia, with their drums muffled, and fifes, and a greater number of people than ever appeared on any occasion before in this Province, when *George the Third* was interred before the Court-House, in the following manner:

Forasmuch as *George the Third*, of *Great Britain*, hath most flagrantly violated his coronation oath, and trampled upon the Constitution of our country, and the sacred rights of mankind, we therefore commit his political existence to the ground, corruption to corruption, tyranny to the grave, and oppression to eternal infamy, in sure and certain hope that he will never obtain a resurrection to rule again over these *United States of America*. But my friends and fellow-citizens, let us not be sorry as men without hope for tyrants that thus depart; rather let us remember *America* is free and independent; that she is, and will be, with the blessing of the Almighty, great among the nations of the earth. Let this encourage us in well-doing, to fight for our rights and privileges, for our wives and children, for all that is near and dear unto us. May *God* give us his blessing, and let all the people say, *Amen*.

HUGH LYON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Prince George's County, August 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: To comply with your request for purchasing arms and blankets, the Committee of Observation for the County aforesaid find it necessary to have a sum of money, not exceeding £50, for that purpose. If you think proper, they would be glad to receive that sum by the first safe hand; and am, for and on behalf of the Committee, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

HUGH LYON.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

ARCHER AND HARRIS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Harford County, August 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a bill of what the hemp linen delivered to the Commissary of Stores cost us per yard, as near as we can make it out at this time, as we have not got all the materials which we purchased manufactured; when we have, shall cheerfully submit a just and true account

thereof to you, agreeable to our proposals. At this time we have as much thread spun as would answer our contract with the Convention, if we could get it wove; but there is great difficulty in procuring weavers, as great numbers in our parts have inlisted in the Flying-Camp, and those that remain have advanced their prices.

We have now delivered to the Commissary of Stores two hundred and sixty-nine yards of hemp linen, as per receipt, and hope in a short time to deliver a quantity more.

We are, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obliged and very humble servants,

ARCHER & HARRIS.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, August 10, 1776.

SIR: Conceiving it highly necessary that you should be informed as soon as possible of the promotions the Congress were pleased to make in the Army of the *American States*, I do myself the honour to enclose you a list of the same by express.

The Continental battalion commanded by Colonel *Haslet* will begin their march this day for the *Jerseys*, where, on their arrival at *Amboy*, the Colonel has orders to acquaint you of the same.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem and respect, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Washington*, *New-York*.

P. S. The enclosed letters please to order to be delivered. The commissions enclosed in each.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL HEATH.

Philadelphia, August 10, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having yesterday been pleased to appoint you a Major-General in the Army of the *American States*, I do myself the pleasure to enclose your commission. Confident of your zeal and attachment to the liberties of *America*, I am persuaded you will do everything to merit the honour your country has now conferred on you.

With the warmest wishes for your health and prosperity, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *William Heath*.

Same to Major-General *Joseph Spencer*; to Major-General *John Sullivan*; and to Major-General *Nathanael Greene*.

N. B. They are to take rank according to the order in which they stand.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL JAMES READ.

Philadelphia, August 10, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having yesterday been pleased to promote you to the rank of Brigadier-General in the Army of the *American States*, I do myself the pleasure to enclose your commission, and wish you happy.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Brigadier-General *James Read*.

Same to Brigadier-General *John Nixon*; to Brigadier-General *Arthur St. Clair*; to Brigadier-General *Alexander McDougall*; to Brigadier-General *Samuel Holden Parsons*; and to Brigadier-General *James Clinton*.

N. B. The said Brigadier-Generals are to take rank according to the order in which they stand.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO WILLIAM TUDOR.

Philadelphia, August 10, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from Congress to inform you that they have this day been pleased to give you the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army of the *American States*. It is their order that you repair, as soon as possible, to Head-Quarters, there to attend the execution of your office as Judge-Advocate-General. I have written to General *Washington* to acquaint him of your appointment, and that you will set out immediately for *New-York*.

Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To *William Tudor*, Esq., Judge-Advocate-General.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, August 10, 1776, six o'clock, P. M.

SIR: I am this minute honoured with your favour of the 8th and 9th instant, per post. Having sent off an express this morning, at which time I forwarded commissions for the General Officers appointed yesterday by Congress, I shall not detain the post to send the commissions ordered by the enclosed resolves. In the mean time, you will please to direct the persons to do such duty as you shall think proper. Their commissions shall be transmitted by the first opportunity. I will lay your letter before Congress on *Monday* morning, and immediately inform you of the result.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Washington*, *New-York*.

LETTER FROM WILLIAM FLOYD, OF NEW-YORK.

Philadelphia, August 10, 1776.

SIR: The situation of our Province or State is truly alarming; and it gives me concern that I cannot hear more particularly what its true state and circumstances are. I beg you would favour me with a few lines on that subject as often as your time will permit. Be pleased to let me know what you hear of the situation of our friends on the eastern part of *Long-Island*. What is become of General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, *Tredwell*, Mr. *Smith*, and others? Have you heard anything from my family? Have any of our friends got off the Island with their families, or what must they submit to? Despotism or destruction, I fear, is their fate. We have nothing new here; all important news is with you. Is our Convention sitting? Are they forming Government? Where are the two armies? What are their probable intentions? Is *New-York* to be evacuated, as well as *Long-Island*, without fighting? Or will our Army, like the *Romans* of old, consider the invaluable prize for which they are contending, and, with their fortitude, attack the enemy wherever they can find them, knowing that death is rather to be chosen than life upon the terms our enemies will suffer us to hold it? If our Convention is not sitting, please to inform me who I can draw upon for money to pay my expenses; and you will very much oblige, sir, your very humble servant,

WM. FLOYD.

IN CONVENTION FOR THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Saturday, August 10, 1776.

*Resolved*, 1, That the Commanding Officers of the several Battalions in the respective Counties of this State immediately march into *Jersey* with their whole Battalions.

*Resolved*, 2, That the Associators of the Counties of *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, *Northampton*, and *Westmoreland*, and the Guards of the City of *Philadelphia* retained by the Council of Safety, and two Companies of Colonel *Ross's* Battalion, and two Companies of Colonel *Slough's* Battalion, of about fifty men each, left to guard the prisoners, and about sixty carpenters and workmen retained by the Committee of *Lancaster*, be excepted out of the foregoing Resolve.

*Resolved*, 3, That a bounty of £3 be paid to every Associator who has entered, or will enter, into the service of the Flying-Camp, to continue until the first day of *January* next, if not sooner discharged, unless such as have already received a bounty.

*Resolved*, 4, That such Battalions as have, or shall furnish their quotas for the Flying-Camp, and have been in actual service six weeks, shall be permitted to return home, if the Generals and Field-Officers shall judge it consistent with the publick safety; and where the whole cannot be permitted to return, furloughs are to be granted in cases of particular necessity.

*Resolved*, 5, That three Commissioners be appointed to go to Head-Quarters in *Jersey*, to form the Flying-Camp.

*Resolved*, 6, That the Commissioners, with the Field-Officers of the Counties respectively, shall nominate the Officers for the Flying-Camp, where they are not already nominated.

*Resolved*, 7, That money be put into the hands of the Commissioners for the purpose of paying the bounty.

Extract from the Minutes.

JOHN MORRIS, JUN., *Secretary*.

## LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, Inspection, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 10th August, 1776:

Present: Mathias Slough, William Atlee, William Bowsman, Christopher Crawford, Henry Dehuff, Casper Shaffner, Daniel Elliot, Michael Musser, William Bowsman, John Miller.

*William Atlee* in the chair.

*Resolved*, That *Englehart Holtzinger*, an Associator in Captain *Morgan's* Company of Militia, being a Gunstock Smith, now at work with Mr. *Jacob Graeff*, ought not to be marched to the Camp with the Militia, but be continued at that work.

*Resolved*, That the men in Town of Captains *Pedan's* and *McKee's* Companies, amounting to about sixty, or between that and seventy men, of Militia of Colonel *Galbreath's* Battalion, ought to be marched for the Camp, and not be kept on billets in this Town; and if neither of their Companies receive additions by to-morrow at two o'clock sufficient to make up a full Company, that they be joined and marched together under the eldest Captain of those two gentlemen; being first mustered, and their advance paid them on the junction.

## IN CONVENTION OF THE STATE OF NEW-JERSEY.

Brunswick, August 10, 1776.

*Resolved*, That to prevent Desertion, no person or persons belonging to, or coming from, the Army in the State of *New-Jersey*, be permitted to go over any of the Ferries in, or travel through, said State, without a pass, signed either by General *Mercer*, General *Dickerson*, General *Livingston*, Colonel *Griffin*, or Colonel *Biddle*. And all persons in general, and in particular the members of Committees, Militia Officers, and owners or keepers of Ferries, are strictly enjoined to carry this Resolution into effect, by apprehending and securing every person belonging to, or coming from, said Army, who shall not have a pass signed as above directed, until he can be conducted to the Army aforesaid.

That no Troops in service of the *United States*, or of any of them, nor their Baggage, Ammunition, or their other Wagons or Carriages, shall pay for passing any of the Ferries within this State more than one-third part of the ferriage paid by such as are not in said service. And to prevent a misconstruction of this Resolve, it is hereby declared that Commissaries and other persons supplying the Army with Provisions, Stores, &c., are not intended to be included in said Resolve, so as to receive any private benefit from the same.

Extract from the Minutes.

WM. PATERSON, *Secretary*.

## GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, August 10, 1776, ten o'clock, A. M.

SIR: I received the favour of two letters from your Excellency this forenoon.

In consequence of these, I shall push forward to *New-York* as many of the troops as I can prevail on to march. Colonel *Atlee's* battalion of Musketry will march this afternoon. Col. *Miles's* two battalions of Riflemen set out this morning.

A tender, of ten carriage guns, came up this morning to *Billop's Point*; was under sail about an hour ago, seemingly with a view to pass up the Sound; the wind failed, and she is come to. The distance is too great to fire on her as yet; we are prepared when she comes near enough. As the enemy probably draw off from this end of *Staten-Island*, the tender may be sent to prevent our passing over.

Your letter I hoped would have had good effects on the Militia; but fear nothing will do. None have gone off from hence last night; but some battalions are in very ill-humour, and very abusive to their officers. Colonel *Dickinson* writes me that thirty of his men have gone off with their arms this morning. I have written to the Congress to take some measures to stop this infamous desertion, and to the Convention of *New-Jersey* to raise their Militia to take up the deserters, and to supply proper guards for these posts. I have ordered one company of General *Dickerson's* brigade to be stationed at *Trenton*, one at *Princeton*, and one at *Brunswick*, to stop all deserters.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To General Washington.

## RICHARD H. HARRISON TO GENERAL MIFFLIN.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 10, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency to request in his name your particular attention to the works erecting on the other side of *King's Bridge*. He conceives them to be of great consequence, and therefore is desirous that they should be carried on with every degree of diligence that the situation of affairs will admit of. As they are of such importance, and to make them more tenable against any attempt that may be made by the enemy to possess them, he desires that you will send five or six cannon from your post as can best be spared, and have them mounted immediately.

Apprehensive that the enemy, if they go up the *North River*, may attempt to go down the creek in their boats and destroy *King's Bridge*, his Excellency judges it necessary that you should direct Colonel *Putnam* and Monsieur *Wiebert* to mark out some convenient spot where a small work proper for its defence and security must be thrown up as speedily as may be.

His Excellency wishes you to sink as fast as possible the vessels, &c., for obstructing the channel; and should you want more, that you will certify General *Putnam* of the same.

Having set down the things given me in charge, and being in haste, I have only to add, I am, &c.

R. H. HARRISON.

To General Mifflin.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL HAY.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 10, 1776.

SIR: Your favours of the 2d and 7th instant, are duly received. The Commissary-General, to whom I had referred the matter of your appointment, was to have written and desired you to undertake the business. Since which, it is determined that those troops under General *Clinton* are to march to *King's Bridge*, and of consequence will receive their supplies from the general store there. It cannot be long before matters may take a capital turn this way. The issue will determine whether a post from your part of the country is necessary or otherwise. Any movements of the enemy, which you think may be of consequence, I shall be obliged if you will transmit me.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel Ann Hawkes Hay, Haverstraw.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO RICHARD VARICK.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 10, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 5th instant, with its several enclosures, is come safe to hand; and I now enclose you a list from the Colonel of Artillery and Quartermaster-General of what is, and will be, forwarded from this place; which is all that can be procured. There was some duck arrived at *Providence*, out of which I have requested Governor *Cooke* to supply the Northern Army, provided it is not otherwise disposed of. The water communication being yet stopped, makes it exceedingly difficult to transport these articles to *Albany*.

I am, sir, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Richard Varick, Esq., Secretary to General Schuyler.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO TIMOTHY EDWARDS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 10, 1776.

SIR: This will be delivered to you by *Samuel and John*, two of our friends of the *Stockbridge Indians*, who have been here, and expressed the desire of their people to become part of the Army of the *United States*. Having written to you fully on the 7th instant, and transmitted a copy of the resolution of Congress upon this subject, (which I presume will have reached you before this comes to hand,) I have referred them to you for information, in the instance of their application, and have only to request the favour of your early attention to what I then recommended to your care and direction.

I am, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Timothy Edwards, Esq., Commissioner of Indian Affairs.



AARON BURR TO TIMOTHY EDWARDS.

New-York, August 10, 1776.

DEAR UNCLE: I have received your letters from *Stock-bridge*, with my watch, for which I thank you. Our six galleys which went up the *North River* attacked the *British* ships. They behaved well, but were driven off with the loss of three killed and twelve or thirteen wounded. A second attack is proposed. Vessels and chevaux-de-frise are sunk in the *North River*. The channel is said to be effectually stopped. We are endeavouring the same in the *East River*. The *British* fleet have been largely reinforced at different times. They are now said to be upwards of two hundred sail within the *Narrows*. They have drawn up seven of their heaviest ships in a line, nearly two miles advanced of the rest.

By two *Virginia* gentlemen who went to *England* to take the gown, who returned in a packet and landed on *Staten-Island*, where they tarried several days, and were permitted to cross to *Elizabethtown* on *Thursday* last, we have some intelligence of the enemy. *Clinton* has arrived with his shattered fleet and about three thousand six hundred men. By this it appears that he has either fallen in with part of *Dunmore's* fleet, or picked up the remainder of his own, which had been separated, and were not in the action near *Charlestown*. Of the *Hessians* only thirteen or fourteen hundred have arrived. The remainder, about nine thousand, are daily expected. They were left near the Banks of *Newfoundland*. Those already here are not much esteemed as soldiers.

The King's land Army is at present about fifteen or sixteen thousand strong. They expect very soon to exceed twenty-five thousand. They have taken on board all their heavy cannon from *Staten-Island*, and have called in several of their outposts. Thirty transports have sailed under convoy of three frigates. They are to come through the *Sound*, and thus invest us by the *North* and *East Rivers*. They are then to land on both sides of the Island, join their forces, and draw a line across, which will hem us in and totally cut off all communication; after which they will have their own fun.

These *Virginia* gentlemen lodged in a house with several King's officers. They hold us in the utmost contempt. Talk of forcing all our lines without firing a gun. The bayonet is their pride. They have forgot *Bunker's Hill*.

Your nephew,  
A. BURR.  
To T. Edwards.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, August 10, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Hand* reports three ships at the *Hook*. A large schooner sailed from the watering-place late yesterday in the afternoon. She seems to direct her course towards *Amboy* this morning. From the firing heard at sea last evening, it is supposed the remainder of the *Hessian* fleet is at hand. Everything at the watering-place remains quiet.

Nothing remarkable has happened in this camp since yesterday's report.

I sent over nine suspected Tories this morning to the City Hall, under the care of Lieutenant *Randal*. I reported their names to Colonel *Harrison*. There is one *Benjamin Hewlet*, that lives on the Northside, who does not appear to be an object worth sending away.

There appears several insignificant characters amongst these last. How extensive their influence may be, I can't pretend to divine; but from their appearance, they don't look like doing much mischief.

Lieutenant *Skinner* is as industrious as possible in apprehending the disaffected. By what he writes to me, many have gone off. He says the Tories had an account amongst them that they were to be taken for several days before the attempt was made. I wonder whether anything of this sort has been in contemplation by the Provincial Congress. It is surprising to me how it could be known. They expected it was an order from Congress.

I am, dear sir, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

N. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, New-York.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, August 10, 1776, five o'clock P. M.

HONoured SIR: I congratulate you on the safe return of Major *Bigelow*, though his embassy may have proved abortive in some measure.

We hear the disagreeable truth that Captain *Wilson* and his party of near thirty men of our regiment, are taken prisoners, one killed. We also understand that the *Canadian Indians* are against us, and that sons of *Britain* will avow that they were present at the cruel murder and scalping at the *Isle-aux-Noix*.

The fleet, if of any use, ought to be lower down. The enemy might land on the eastern shore, fifteen miles from this, and could make such a lodgment in a short time as might prevent our vessels from going down.

We had an instance to-day of a false alarm from the Navy. The Regulars were said to have landed about nine miles off, and were intrenching. Was there a good lookout on the vessels lower down this could not happen.

In consequence of your orders to me, on the flag's going down, I have sent but few parties on the Lake.

I fear the orders from General *Arnold* were so positive that he (Captain *Wilson*) could not return before he was taken, without an apparent disobedience. Captain *Wilson* had notice that he was discovered by two scoundrels that went down in a canoe: the one is a step-brother and the other a tenant of *Gilliland's*. A point of honour, or something else, must have prevented him from returning back as soon as was prudent.

You will find that the enemy are coming up the Lake, but not in large bodies. This induced Major *Bigelow* to advise a party of seven to return from near *Gilliland's*, who were going down to *Cumberland-Bay* on the business I mentioned to you.

I have three men down toward *St. John's*, who do not appear yet to have been discovered. I have some hopes from them; and had the party not been so great under Captain *Wilson*, he might have returned, and our regiment not so materially injured. However, the treachery of the two men who were in the canoe ruined the scheme.

The important matter submitted by you to me is advancing fast towards maturity. A number of suspected men are hourly waiting on them. I have given them an additional pass, and all things seem to stand fair on their side. Should they have gone on, it would have been the worst policy in the world. The youth has been watching all our motions to-day. He shows much sagacity. To-morrow I shall be able to tell you of some matters of consequence, if I am not much mistaken.

I am, honoured sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,  
THOS. HARTLEY.  
To the Honourable Major-General *Gates*.

COLONEL RICHMOND TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Newport, August 10, 1776, }  
Ten o'clock, evening. }

SIR: This moment arrived Captain *Harris*, who brings us the following intelligence: That *Thursday* last he fell in with a fleet, and distinctly counted one hundred and eight sail, seventeen of which he took to be ships-of-war, the rest transports, about fifteen leagues, S.E. by S. from *Nantucket-Shoals*, their course W.N.W., close to the wind, about the latitude of *Sandy-Hook*. The next morning, ten o'clock, saw nine sail, supposed to be part of the same fleet.

I thought it to be my indispensable duty to give your Excellency the earliest intelligence, by express, of so important a piece of news, as without doubt they are destined for *New-York*.

I am, with respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM RICHMOND, Col. Commandant.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Lebanon, August 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed is copy of a letter from the Committee at *Albany*, by Ensign *John Fisk*, who escorted under guard, from *Albany*, twenty-three prisoners, represented to be inimical to the rights of these States, to be secured and

taken care of. The Jails here are so filled that it is difficult to find a proper place of security for this additional number. For the present they are ordered to the Jail in *New-London*, and shall expect soon a resolution from your Convention in what manner you would have them treated, and how or by what means supported.

The Mayor of *Albany*, and five others sent with him by the Committee of that city some time ago, are at *Hartford*. Those sent by your body under the care of Mr. *Depeyster* are imprisoned at *Hartford*, *Norwich*, and *Litchfield*.

The present necessity, attention to the service of the *United States*, and real affection to our sister State of *New-York* under the present calamities of a siege and invasion, induce us to receive such troublesome and inimical men into our care and custody. We wish to have them removed, and to be released from the trouble they occasion, as early as is convenient.

I am, with great truth and regard, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JONAS TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*.

Albany Committee, August 2, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to a resolve of this Committee we take the liberty to send to the care of your Honour the persons named on the within list, and have affixed to their names the crimes which they have committed.

We are of opinion that *Alexander Campbell*, *William Pemberton*, *Henry Van Schaack*, *Joseph Anderson*, and *John Munro*, and *Samuel Anderson*, are to be maintained at their own expense; and that *Frederick Williams*, *John Duzenberry*, *Walter Scott*, *John Scott*, *Samuel S. Gardiner*, *Benjamin Greenman*, *Dugald Campbell*, *Henry Westernhouser*, *Thomas Sword*, *Jacob Zimmerman*, *Nicholas Weaver*, *Owen Conner*, *Ralph Walton*, and *William McMullen*, are to be maintained at the expense of the publick.

The situation of this County as a frontier induces us to be particularly careful in lessening the number of our internal enemies, besides the great number of disaffected amongst us. Their constant meetings, plots, and conspiracies, oblige us to consult every method for placing them in a situation where they can do no injury to the general cause, by joining with the forces of the *British King*, assisting his army, or by opposing and preventing the support and preservation of our forces to the northward and westward. The influence of these men, if exerted, would, we conceive from their avowed principles, have been used against the *American States*.

The places of confinement here are full; and since the retreat of our Army from *Canada*, and the arrival of the regular troops at *New-York*, disaffected persons, whose principles before were concealed, are daily appearing in every part of the country; and by reason of the great numbers of men drawn from us for the publick service, we are unable to apprehend and guard with security all such persons as we are convinced, from the fullest proof, are inimical to the rights of *America*.

We would recommend it to your Excellency to separate them as far distant from one another as they conveniently can be, and to prevent any communication between the persons now sent from this County to your Honour's care and those formerly transmitted, as some of the persons now sent are particularly dangerous, though their abilities, their address and insinuation, may place them in a different point of light.

We are your Honour's most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN BARCLAY, *Chairman pro tem.*

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

Albany Committee Chamber, August 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In obedience to your resolve of the 26th day of *June* last, requesting this Committee to lay before your honourable Board the proceedings had against *Abraham C. Cuyler*, *Henry Cuyler*, *Stephen DeLancey*, *John Duncan*, *Benjamin Hilton*, and *John Monier*, inhabitants of this City and County, sent to *Hartford* in the Colony of *Connecticut*, and the misdemeanors with which they stand charged, this Committee beg leave to acquaint your honourable Board that the representation respecting *Henry Cuyler*

is groundless; and as to the others, we refer you to the matters contained in the paper herewith sent, distinguished by No. 1, which sets forth the conduct of some of them previous to this Committee's proceedings against them.

At a meeting of this Committee on the 9th day of *May* last, the said *Abraham C. Cuyler*, *Stephen DeLancey*, and *John Monier*, among other persons of this city, were judged to be notoriously disaffected to the *American* cause; whereupon it was resolved, that the said disaffected persons should be cited to appear before this Board, and that the Association made by your honourable Board the 27th day of *March* last should be tendered to them. They were cited accordingly, and appeared before this Committee on the 11th day of *May* last, which Association they refused to sign; upon which it was resolved that the said persons should be disarmed, as will appear by a certified copy of the Minutes of this Board, herewith sent, marked No. 2.

Respecting *Benjamin Hilton*, we refer you to Nos. 3 and 1.

The morning of the 4th of *June* was ushered in with the firing of guns, pistols, &c., by boys, negroes, &c., a circumstance not agreeable to the inhabitants of this city, knowing the scarcity of powder. We were no longer at a loss to guess from whence this untimely liberality proceeded than the evening following, when a number of unfriendly persons assembled at the house of *Richard Cartwright* in order to celebrate that anniversary. The Mayor was conducted to this noble banquet by *Thomas Barret*, a cooper, and *Charles Polliott*, a carpenter, supported by them under each arm. The unusual noise on this occasion alarmed many of the inhabitants of this city, who went to *Cartwright's*, to inform themselves of the occasion of this indecent meeting, when, to their astonishment, they found *Abraham C. Cuyler*, *Stephen DeLancey*, and *John Monier*, with a number of the lower sort of people, carousing, and singing *God save the King*, &c. Their former conduct having so exasperated the good people of this city that they could no longer refrain taking notice of this daring insult, upon which they rushed in, seized *Stephen DeLancey* and *John Monier*, among others, and committed them to the Tory Jail. The next day the petition No. 4 was presented to this Committee by a number of respectable inhabitants of this city. Shortly after, a verbal request was made to this Board by the said petitioners, praying that the said *Abraham C. Cuyler*, *Henry Cuyler*, *Stephen DeLancey*, *John Monier*, *John Duncan*, and *Benjamin Hilton*, might be removed out of this city. Whereupon this Committee, on the 13th day of *June* last, on motion, resolved that the said six persons above named, and Lieutenant *Angus McDonald*, should be removed under guard to *Hartford* in *Connecticut*. See the Resolve No. 5.

During the residence of these men in this place, our enemies were daily increasing in number and insolence, boasting that they were to make returns of their proceedings to some of the greatest men in the country. We plainly foresaw that nothing could be done with the rabble who were influenced by them till they were removed; and indeed the conduct of the Committee of *Albany* was freely and loudly censured by the good people of this County in all parts. Complaints were made that the most atrocious offenders were screened in *Albany*, while every poor low fellow was immediately prosecuted for only lisping out things which those people uttered daily in the most daring language. Since the removal of those leading enemies to our freedom and repose, this place has enjoyed much more tranquillity than heretofore. Many iniquitous plans have since been discovered, and their execution prevented; for they now, being destitute of council and support, when taken some of them have made full and free confession. We may also observe, that during the stay of these gentlemen in this place complaints have been made by the officers of almost every regiment that passed through here, that the minds of their men were immediately poisoned on their arrival, and many who had marched in the most peaceable manner from *Philadelphia* had deserted from here, and others turned almost ungovernable; which complaints have, since their removal, entirely subsided.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN BARCLAY, *Chairman pro tem.*

To the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

## COLONEL FITCH TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-Haven, August 10, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I received a letter from General *Washington* yesterday in the afternoon, requiring me to call forth and march my regiment forthwith to *New-York*, to the assistance of the Army there. I have accordingly drawn my orders to each Captain in the regiment. I sent to Colonel *Thompson* to march with the regiment, but he being sick as well as myself, I now hold the orders in my hands, as I cannot inform the Captains who will take the command of them. I desire that your Honour would order some field-officer in the Colony to take the command of the regiment, and let me know who it is, so that I may give out the orders, &c. I send, with the bearer, General *Washington's* letter to me, for your Honour to peruse, &c.

I beg leave to subscribe myself your Honour's most humble servant,

JONATHAN FITCH.

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

## MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO MAJOR HAWLEY.

In Committee of Council, August 10, 1776.

SIR: Your letters of the 31st ultimo and 5th instant are now before us, and we have thought proper to enclose you a copy of a resolve, passed the last session of the General Court, respecting the Test Act; and we apprehend your Honour has seen the last order of this Committee, calling upon all Magistrates, Sheriffs, Committees, &c., to be vigilant in causing the laws and orders of this State to be put into execution, to prevent the good people from being exposed by persons inimical; which we think is all that is necessary for us to do in the recess of the Court. As to passing a resolve similar to that passed by the Governour and Committee of Safety of *Connecticut*, it is not in our power. We have never seen it, and you have not furnished us with a copy of it.

We are sorry to hear of the mistake respecting the kettles and canteens; but as there is a Committee appointed by the Court to take particular care of this matter, and we have written to them not long since respecting the same, we cannot but think they will take effectual care about it.

We did not expect to raise and march the men without money, but we expected the Committee of *Hampshire* County would, agreeable to what the rest of the Committees have done, apply to us for a warrant on the Treasurer for the same, which we should readily have granted, it being to be made payable to them only. We should also have supplied them with blank commissions. Please to send down one of your Committee for these purposes.

We have not the pleasure of knowing Mr. *Cranston*, whom your Honour mentions, and we are at a loss to know how he could understand that we were not in haste to have the fifteen hundred men raised. We are sure we did not employ him to construe the resolve of the Court.

We are sorry to hear it is so difficult to raise men in your County to support the Northern Army; but we hope it will be otherwise when the harvest is over; and it gives me some satisfaction that they incline to support the lines at *Boston*, notwithstanding you are now in the midst of your harvest.

We do not pretend to say that the resolve for raising the men was the best that could have been formed, but look upon it as our duty to comply with every resolve of the Court, so far as it is in our power.

We are concerned to hear of any apprehensions of deficiencies of supplies at *No. 4*, and that you are assured that there will be no mileage paid there. We apprehend you have been misinformed with respect to this matter. Everything has been done agreeable to the resolves of Court. Everything in our power has been done to prevent any deficiencies of supplies at *No. 4*, and Commissary *Trumbull* has engaged to take proper care respecting the same; in answer to one of theirs upon this subject, he writes the Council the 21st of *July*, "that a person is at *No. 4*, and everything in readiness to receive and forward the troops from *New-England* going to *Crown-Point*, as fast as they arrive there, agreeable to your expectations and my engagements." We hope, therefore, the Committee will cause the men to march to *Ticonderoga* with all possible despatch.

In the name and by order of the Committee, I am, with great respect, your most humble servant,

THOS. CUSHING.

To Major *Hawley*.

## COLONEL STEPHEN TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA.

August 11, 1776.

SIR: The bearer is a native of *Hesse*, has seen a great deal of service, and seems to have a good military turn. He is lately arrived from *Eustatia*. If he cannot be employed here, I should think it advisable to send him to Congress. He might probably be useful in seducing the *Hessians*, as he is acquainted with their natural disposition, and seems to have a good deal of address. Please to introduce him to General *Lewis*.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ADAM STEPHEN.

To the Honourable *John Page*.

## COLONEL EWING TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, August 11, 1776.

HONOURED SIRS: I did myself the pleasure of writing to you the 7th instant per Lieutenant *Chew*, to which beg leave to refer. Since which have been honoured with yours of the 6th current, accompanied by Captain *Young* and his company. I observe you have given him £125, which he has laid out in shoes, stockings, hunting and body shirts, for his soldiers; he has laid out more, and has applied to me for more money. I would be glad if you would send him £60, or allow me to give it to him, as it will be for the good of his company, and of course of the service. The Committee cannot procure the quantity of guns ordered. Mr. *John Smith*, son of Captain *Young's* Lieutenant, tells me the Committee of *Harford* had thirty stand, and that Mr. *Richard Dallam* had thirty stand more completed. I shall be much obliged for an order for them to complete Captain *Young's* company, so as to send them off. You omitted enclosing me an order for necessaries to complete Captain *Young's* company, which please send me with the order you mention for the blankets. You will please likewise give me an order for the tents now made, or what you allow I should take with me. With respect to arms, I do not doubt but if I was to march all my battalion without arms to the camp at the *Jerseys*, there would enough of the gentlemen Militia be very glad to lend them arms, on account of being relieved by us. I understand some of the Militia are grumbling very much, and want to be relieved; and I am convinced Generals would rather have those whom they can with more propriety command. The Captains here have come to a resolution of buying linen and having hunting-shirts made for all their soldiers. Captain *Posey*, with his company, arrived here the 9th, and I expect Captain *Forrest* this day or to-morrow. You will please send an order for things to equip Captain *Forrest* out. Capt. *Posey* will write you for some money, which please send. The gunsmith wrought all night and works all this day. I am as industrious as I can be, but can do but little without your assistance. For *God's* sake, if any way possible, let me have some arms. The gentleman I sent to *Frederick* and *Virginia* has brought none, which is a great disappointment to me. He tells me they give £4 5s. in *Virginia*, for muskets, that currency.

The present accompanies Captain *John Hawkins's* son, who goes down to settle his account. I don't expect to be able to get his or any of the companies from this before *Wednesday* next. There will be a quantity of havers and knapsacks made together. You will please send me an order for a sufficiency to supply four companies, and I will not lift the others. I shall esteem it a favour your not detaining Captain *Lowe*, as he will be wanted here.

I am, with due respect, honoured sirs, your most obedient humble servant,

THOS. EWING.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*, *Annapolis*.

## CAPTAIN THOMAS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Head of Elk, August 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: After a tedious passage of almost four days, I arrived here this morning; the other boats are all in sight. On my arrival here I applied to Colonel *Hollingsworth* for provisions, and was informed by him that he had no orders from you for that purpose. However, I have procured what beef and bread I want for the present, and propose to start from here early on the morrow. Colonel *Hollingsworth*

informs me that if you would give him a general order to supply the troops that come here with provisions and baggage-wagons, he would take care to have all these necessities on the shortest notice; but without such an order, he thinks it would be wrong in him to do it. I have therefore mentioned it to you, submitting whether such an order would not be proper. One thing, also, give me leave to mention: the victualler at *Annapolis* will find the troops coming by water but little salt provision. I drew two days' provision, chiefly fresh; all the fresh was totally spoiled on the second day, so that we could not use a morsel of it; it must happen so to others, and I submit it whether it would not be better to direct him to furnish the troops going by water principally with salt provisions while the hot weather continues. For want of salt provisions, I have been obliged to buy on the passage at extravagant prices. I hope the freedom I have taken will be excused, by, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. A. THOMAS.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

JAMES GIBSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

August 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Whereas it does appear that Mr. *Nicholas Thomas* has resigned up his late warrant of Quartermaster in the Fourth Battalion of Militia: We therefore are in hopes this honourable Board will issue their warrant to a worthy gentleman who now applies, and also is recommended by us, the officers of the *Wye* company, *William Perry*, Esq., who offers his services as Quartermaster. He is well known by every man in the County. He ever appeared to be hearty in the cause of the liberty of *America*. He stepped forth early in the present cause, and his integrity seems to be supported with zeal and earnestness to the present cause. Your compliance, I make no doubt, will give great satisfaction to the people in general.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

JAS. GIBSON,  
ROBT. HALL,  
ROBT. DUGGINS.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*, now sitting.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, August 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 28th ultimo is come to hand, and I congratulate you on your late appointment. Colonel *Whipple* sets off to-morrow morning for *Portsmouth*, and takes with him your commission as Continental Agent, and will be able to inform you of everything relative to it. He will be likely to make a little stop at *New-York*, and will go by the way of *Providence*, and, if possible, procure the guns for your ship, &c., which stops may prevent his being with you as soon as this may reach you, but will no doubt in a few days after. He takes with him \$60,000 for the account of *New-Hampshire*.

By the publick prints you will see there is a new emission of Brigadier-Generals, and four of the former Brigadiers promoted to Major-Generals. We find some difficulty to give satisfaction in the appointment of officers; and, on the whole, it was thought the appointing the first Continental Colonel in the respective States to the rank of Brigadiers was the least liable to objection.

You have no doubt heard that *Clinton* and *Cornwallis*, since their defeat at *South-Carolina*, have joined General *Howe*. Governour *Dunmore* and his ragamuffins, it is said, have left *Virginia*, and are supposed to be going to join General *Howe*. I think we may expect that some important event will soon take place at or near *New-York*. God grant it may be favourable to the *United American States*.

August 13. Colonel *Whipple* left us for *New-Hampshire* yesterday at two o'clock.

I am your most obedient, JOSIAH BARTLETT.

STEPHEN PARKER TO JONATHAN SMITH.

Philadelphia, Saturday, August 11, 1776.

SIR: I am about returning to *Machias*, and your commands that way shall be proud to receive. My coming here has not been attended with such success as the deplorable

circumstances of that people constrain me warmly to wish. Conscious of the extreme disadvantages I labour under, unaided by purse, and unknown in person, I have thereby been prevented from making effectual applications in their behalf. I am not insensible how much complaints increase, and how indelicate it is to appear on that list, nor uninformed that imposture and knavery patrol this Continent, deceiving the Christian, benevolent, and honest. Since my arrival, I have taken all pains to engage lumber, but find the price here will scarcely more than pay freight, and already anticipate the distress our people will be thrown in when on return I inform them they can obtain no relief from hence. Money the inhabitants have not, what little was among them being sent away for provision long before my coming; and when I left, there were only two hundred bushels of *Indian* corn, one hundred of rye, a tierce or two of rice, with a small quantity of pork and flour, for one hundred and twelve families, besides a number of single men—families industrious, and many of them frugal, but wholly employed in the lumber way, and dependant thereon for support. Every avenue to *New-England*, the centre of our usual intercourse, is stopped, so that from thence we can receive nothing.

Our people, ambitious to pay an implicit obedience to the resolves of the honourable *American* Congress, and zealous to enthusiasm of exerting themselves in defence of invaded liberty, by securing Captain *Jones*, preventing his trade, seizing the tender, and arming a sloop to annoy the transports loading at *Nova-Scotia* for the use of the Crown Army, have thrown themselves into the arms of immediate want; and, to heighten the distress, a long winter is approaching on us, attended with all the horrors of famine. Oh, sir, though extreme modesty has hitherto prevented my mentioning these things fully to you, lest I should prove too impertinent by being troublesome, I beg leave to epitomise them here; painful the idea, but how heightened to such as are assured of exchanging sympathy, for suffering sensibility preponderates against the scale of selfishness, and makes our interest one. I find a willingness to sacrifice the trifle I own for their support; but could I negotiate it, it would be but small. Gratitude, powerful gratitude, would constrain all as one every way to exert themselves to make the speediest and justest returns, could they be so happy as to obtain credit, while the most indelible characters of thankfulness imprinted themselves on their hearts. With respect to myself, I can only say, were I influenced by the most abandoned principles that ever stood opposed to truth and justice, a regard for my interest, and a more tender one for my family, would constrain me to do everything for the welfare of that place, which only can thrive on the foundations of honour, honesty, and virtue. Were any gentlemen within the circuit of your acquaintance, in commiseration of our distress, pleased to afford us relief by crediting us with provisions, every assurance in my power shall be given them for the speediest payment possible; but can this not be, God only knows what will become of us. May I beg the honour of receiving your advice in these matters, your pardon for the intrusion on your moments, the absolute result of lively distress, and permission to subscribe myself, most respectfully, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

STEPHEN PARKER.

To Jonathan Smith, Esq., *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, August 11, 1776.

SIR: About twelve hundred spears are sent off, agreeable to your orders, by Mr. *Tilghman*. I shall push on as many of the Flying-Camp and volunteers as possible, but cannot, as yet, ascertain the number. Every assistance we can procure will be given to facilitate the passage of the troops at all the ferries.

The tender I mentioned yesterday keeps the same station as hitherto. We perceive no remarkable alteration in the numbers of the enemy on *Billop's Point* or *Staten-Island*. The *Pennsylvania* Associators continue to desert by bodies. Seventeen went off from the Fourth Battalion last night, and am just now informed of another party who have left camp. I hear of several companies about to join, and hope still to keep up a formidable appearance.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most humble servant,  
HUGH MERCER.



## GENERAL MERCER TO COLONEL DICKINSON.

Perth-Amboy, August 11, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour by Mr. *Brown*, and in consequence of your intelligence have sent off an express with letters, one to the Convention of *New-Jersey*, acquainting them of the desertion of numbers of the *Pennsylvania* Militia, and desiring them to order out their Militia, to guard the ferries and take other effectual steps to secure the deserters; the other to Congress, advising them of the unhappy condition of the Militia, and desiring them to take such steps as might seem necessary on the occasion, as these parts were like to be left exposed to the enemy. In consequence of a requisition from General *Washington*, I have ordered a number of troops to *New-York*. Colonel *Miles*, with about seven hundred riflemen, marches this day. Colonel *Atlee*, with his battalion, and a number more, will march to-morrow. To facilitate their march, I have thought some might be passed over in boats from *Crane's Ferry* to *Brown's Ferry*, on *Hackensack*. Therefore, all the boats that can be had up the river should be collected.

H. MERCER.

To Colonel *John Dickinson*, commanding at *Elizabeth-Town*.

[Thus endorsed by me: "This letter was received on the 10th of August, 1776, therefore dated wrong. Consulted the Committee on the measure proposed, who disapproved it. Acquainted General *Mercer* with the reasons." J. D.]

## GENERAL MERCER TO COLONEL DICKINSON.

Perth-Amboy, August 11, 1776.

SIR: I had intended to order Colonel *Grub's* battalion, of *Lancaster County*, to *New-York*; but I have ordered him to *Elizabeth-Town*. You will use your utmost address to induce the Militia to perform their duty at this critical time, when the fate of *America* is so near being determined. Colonel *Grub* is very willing to go anywhere. I have desired him to consult with you on the defence of the *Jersey* shore. Be so good as to point out to him the necessity of strong guards on *Bergen Neck*.

H. MERCER.

To Colonel *John Dickinson*, commanding at *Elizabeth-Town*.

## GENERAL MERCER TO COLONEL DICKINSON.

Perth-Amboy, August 11, 1776.

SIR: I wrote to you a few hours ago that Colonel *Grub* would march with his battalion for *Elizabeth-Town* to-morrow morning, which I hope will be time enough to reinforce your post. This morning I wrote to your brother, the General, to take the most effectual measures to coöperate with us.

H. MERCER.

To Colonel *John Dickinson*, commanding at *Elizabeth-Town*.

## LETTER FROM AN OFFICER TO COLONEL DICKINSON.

SIR: The company seem determined to go off to-morrow morning. Their going will, in my opinion, be followed by the First Battalion and the rest. The present is a matter of infinite consequence. If Colonel *Dickinson* will give his sentiments to the battalion this afternoon, I am convinced it would be effectual in quieting the present disturbance.

## VICE ADMIRAL LORD VISCOUNT HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

Eagle, off Staten-Island, August 11, 1776.

MY LORD: Conceiving it of the utmost importance, in pursuit of the objects of the special commission with which I had the honour to be charged by his Majesty, that the Colonies in rebellion should have the earliest information of his Majesty's most gracious intentions with respect to the restoration of peace, and the granting of pardons to such of his Majesty's subjects as, by a speedy return to their allegiance, might deserve the Royal mercy, I thought proper in the course of my voyage to prepare a Declaration to that

effect, together with a Circular Letter addressed to the Governors, or, in their absence, the Lieutenant-Governors or Chief Magistrates of the respective Colonies; copies of which I have the honour to enclose to your Lordship, No. 1 and 2. [Letter and Declaration, dated June 20, 1776.]

I had little expectation that these Letters and Declaration would reach the hands of his Majesty's Governors. My object was, that they should be circulated as much as possible throughout the Provinces; and I hoped to have found an opportunity of landing them soon after the time of their date by means of some vessel I might meet with upon the coasts; but no opportunity offered till I arrived off the harbour of *New-York* on the 12th of last month, when I despatched the First Lieutenant of the *Eagle* to *Amboy*, with those intended for the Colonies to the southward of *New-York*, directing him to deliver them to any person who might appear in authority, and to desire they might be forwarded by the post.

The enclosed printed paper, No. 3, which came accidentally to my hands, will inform your Lordship of the resolution of the General Congress, [of July 19, 1776,] upon their receipt of the above-mentioned packets, which it seems were transmitted by Mr. (called General) *Mercer*, the commanding officer at *Amboy*, to Mr. *Washington*, at *New-York*, and by him to the Congress.

Captain *Burnaby*, in the *Merlin* sloop, was charged with the packets for the Colonies of *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Rhode-Island*, *Connecticut*, and *New-Hampshire*, and directed to land them at *Rhode-Island*. On the 28th of last month he returned, with a letter to me from Mr. *Cooke*, acknowledging the receipt of my Letter and Declaration, and acquainting me that he had communicated them to "the General Assembly of that State," then sitting at *Newport*, who would transmit copies of them to "the most honourable the General Congress of the *United States of America*, to whom every application ought to be addressed, and must be referred." A copy of Mr. *Cooke's* letter to me is enclosed, No. 4, [dated *Newport*, July 21, 1776.]

As the issuing the above-mentioned Letters and Declaration is the only measure I judged necessary to take before I could have a conference with General *Howe*, I have nothing further to add in this separate despatch, but my hopes of being informed by your Lordship that my conduct is honoured with his Majesty's approbation.

I have the honour to be, &amp;c.,

HOWE.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE COMMITTEE OF QUEEN'S COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The publick exigencies having required my apprehending a number of suspected persons in your County, and sending them into another Colony for a short time, they have expressed some apprehensions that, in their absence, their property may be exposed to injury, and their families deprived of the support they would otherwise derive from it. I therefore beg leave to acquaint you that a temporary restraint of their persons is all that is intended by the present measure; and that it would give me much pain if it should be construed to extend to any depredation of property, that matter resting entirely within the jurisdiction of the civil authority of the Province. Until, therefore, some orders are received from them to that effect, I shall be happy in believing you will exert your whole power and influence to prevent the mischief which these gentlemen seem to apprehend.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Committee of *Queen's County*, *Long-Island*.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, August 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In answer to your favour of the 9th, with which I have been honoured, I beg leave to inform you that I neither wish nor expect anything more than that the levies raised by you will be in Continental pay from the time they were called into service. That troops employed in a general cause should be supported at the general expense, is so evidently just that I cannot see any objection to it.

It is true when the proceedings of your honourable body for raising these levies were first communicated to me, and it was mentioned by the Committee who brought them that it was expected they would be paid by the States, I did not think myself authorized to take into service so large a number of men, and therefore could not say the States would pay them; but the situation of our affairs being much changed, and requiring their service, I cannot but consider them as much entitled to Continental pay as any troops in this Army. In this light I am persuaded Congress will view them. It is so obvious and so equitable, that no application from me can be necessary. The bounty, I imagine, as you yourselves do, will be the expense of the State, for which indemnification will not be made by the publick. My letter of the 8th was not meant to comprehend this subject. It was particularly designed to explain my ideas of the authority from whence General *Clinton's* powers were derived.

I have requested Mr. *Trumbull* to take the direction of the Commissaries, and to see that the levies are properly supplied with provisions. I am extremely concerned that the quotas of men to be furnished by the neighbouring States have proved so deficient. The busy season and harvest, to which it has been ascribed, being now over in a great degree, I flatter myself, from the zeal they have heretofore manifested, they will afford every possible assistance. They are well apprized of the importance of this State in the present contest, and the necessity of maintaining it against the attempts of the enemy.

In respect to the Militia of *Albany* County, as you are pleased, in your proceedings of the 10th instant, to submit the propriety of calling them out to my determination, I would advise that they should not, unless the necessity for bringing them here should be extremely great; they otherwise should remain in their County, to afford succour to the frontier parts of the Government, if it should be necessary. I have enclosed a copy of Lieutenant *McMichael's* report, transmitted me by General *Schuyler*, from whence it will appear, if the intelligence contained in it be true, that their aid may be required there.

I have desired General *Greene*, on the application of the Committee sent to *King's* County, to afford them every assistance he conveniently can, for executing the business they are upon.

Before I conclude, I would observe, the letter of the 9th, which I have acknowledged to have received, is without any signature. I presume it has been omitted through the hurry of business.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President, &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, August 11, 1776.

SIR: Necessity obliges me to trouble your Honour with some more suspected persons, whose characters are such as to make it unsafe for them to remain at their usual places of abode on *Long-Island*; and there is no retreat in this Province where they may not do some mischief, or be less secure than our safety requires. As they are apprehended merely on suspicion, arising from a general line of conduct unfriendly to the *American* cause, I have given them reason to expect from you every indulgence which your good judgment will admit you to allow them, consistent with the publick safety. There are few of them who will not defray their own expenses, and those few their companions of better circumstances will assist, if convenience will admit their being together in the same place, which will be a saving to the publick. If there are any quite destitute, I presume they must be put on the footing of other prisoners in like circumstances. They express a very earnest desire to be permitted to choose their own lodging and accommodations, to which I see no objection. But as I have referred them entirely to you, I do not choose to enter into any engagements on this or any other point, only adding generally, that I could wish they might have every accommodation and indulgence, having a respect to their rank and education, which may be deemed consistent with safety; and they are given to understand that your humanity and politeness will most effectually prevent their being liable to any unnecessary hardships.

I am, with much respect and esteem, your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

P. S. I am just informed that Judge *Jones* has obtained some letters of recommendation to *Connecticut*, from which he expects to be permitted to stay at *New-Haven*. Unless very particular circumstances should require it, I cannot but think you will agree with me that these prisoners should be removed from seaport and post towns, as the intention of removal from hence is not fully answered, while they have opportunities of carrying on correspondence.

JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Camp, New-York, August 11, 1776.

HONoured SIR: Judge *Jones* being taken up and ordered to *Connecticut*, has applied to me for letters to my friends. I am a stranger to any particulars of his political character, except that he lately held a place under the Crown of *England*. His character as a gentleman I believe unexceptionable. He has shown me some civilities. I think I can assure him that he will be secure from any insult or abuse, and that he will experience from my friends and others every civility compatible with his situation.

I am, most affectionately, your son,

JED'H HUNTINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, August 11, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: There is no proper establishment for the supplying the Regimental Hospital with proper utensils for the sick. They suffer, therefore, for want of proper accommodation. There is repeated complaint upon this head. The Regimental Hospitals are and ever will be rendered useless, nay, grievous, unless there is some proper fund to provide the necessary conveniences. The General Hospital cannot receive all the sick, and those that are in the Regimental Hospitals are in a suffering condition. If this evil continues, it must greatly injure the service, as it will greatly dispirit the well to see the sick suffer, and prevent their engaging again upon any conditions whatever. Great humanity should be exercised towards those indisposed. Kindness on one hand leaves a favourable and lasting impression; neglect and suffering on the other, is never forgotten.

I am sensible there has formerly been great abuses in the Regimental Hospitals; but I am in hopes in general men of better principles are elected to those places, and that the same evils will not happen again. But the Continent had better suffer a little extraordinary expense than the sick should be left to suffer for want of those conveniences that may easily be provided.

I would beg leave to propose that the Colonels of regiments be allowed to draw moneys to provide the Regimental Hospitals with proper utensils; an account of the disbursements weekly or monthly to be rendered. This will prevent abuse and remedy the evil. Something is necessary to be done speedily, as many sick are in a suffering condition.

I am your Excellency's most obedient servant,

NATH. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, New-York.

N. B. The General Hospital is well provided with every thing, and the sick very comfortable. I wish it was extensive enough to receive the whole, but it is not.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp on Long-Island, August 11, 1776, }  
Sunday, 11 o'clock. }

DEAR SIR: Enclosed is a list of the principal Tories in the different towns, given before Mr. *Skinner*, a young gentleman bred to the practice of the law, and perfectly acquainted with almost all the political characters in the Province. Your Excellency will please to examine it, and if it meets your approbation, signify the time you will have

the execution take place, by giving your orders on the back of the list.

I have the honour to be your obedient servant,  
N. GREENE.

LIST OF TORIES.

Hugh Wallace, <i>Jamaica.</i>	William Thorn, <i>Great Neck.</i>
Alexander Wallace.	Justice Kissam.
Doctor Ardin.	Benjamin Hewlett.
Mr. Bethune, (should be secured.)	Richard Townsend, (North side.)
Nathaniel Mills.	Justice Clowes, <i>Hempstead</i> , (should
Jos'h French, (should be secured.)	be secured.)
Capt. Benjamin Whitehead.	David Beaty.
Richard Betts.	Doct <sup>r</sup> Seabury.
John Troup.	Benjamin Lester.
— Van Brunt, (at the Mill.)	Samuel Langdon.
Robert Ross Waddle.	George Hewlett, <i>Hempstead.</i>
Thomas Willett, Esq., Sheriff	Stephen Hewlett.
of <i>Flushing.</i>	John Miller.
Edward Willett.	James Coggeshall, (should be se-
David Colden.	cured.)
Judge Willett.	Richard Hewlett, <i>Rockaway.</i>
Joseph Field.	Doctor Martin.
Charles Willett.	Charles Hicks.
Jos. Griswold, (at the <i>Plains.</i> )	Whitehead Cornell.
Justice Isaac Smith.	Justice John Hewlett, <i>East Woods.</i>

ABR'M SKINNER.

GENERAL GATES TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Tyonderoga, August 11, 1776.

SIR: I must entreat your Excellency to pardon my so long delaying to send you a particular state of the Army of the *United States* in this department.

Upon my first joining the troops (or rather the Hospital) at *Crown-Point*, all was in the utmost disorder—the pestilence raging, not a cannon mounted, the vessels lumbered with stores, the men dispirited with defeat and fatigue, and, in short, the whole a scene variegated with every distress and disappointment that could conspire to ruin an army. In this miserable state, the first thing to be done was, if possible, to remove the pestilence. Accordingly the General Officers unanimously resolved to send all the sick and infected to the General Hospital at the south end of *Lake George*; to remove the main body of the Army to the important pass of *Tyonderoga*; to send the vessels with the utmost despatch to be refitted at *Skenesborough*; and to begin to erect strong works upon the ground described in the enclosed plan. These measures—thank the Giver of all victory—the enemy either have not had the means or the wisdom to prevent.

Our fleet, since the arrival of the reinforcement of carpenters, grows daily more and more powerful. Enclosed is a list of those manned, armed, and ready for action at *Crown-Point*. A schooner, a row-galley, and three gondolas, are rigging here, and will this week join those at *Crown-Point*, when General *Arnold* will sail with the whole down the Lake. Three fine row-galleys will be finished in a fortnight at *Skenesborough*, and will directly join the rest of the fleet under General *Arnold*. This is a naval force, when collected, that promises to secure the command of *Lake Champlain*.

I ordered Colonel *Trumbull* to send your Excellency a general return of the Army soon after our return hither, and desired him to write your Excellency an account of the then state of our affairs. Happy am I in saying they are so much altered for the better.

In the packet you will find a copy of my last letter to the most honourable the Continental Congress; also the report of Major *Bigelow*, who returned last night with his flag of truce, which he carried from hence the 23d ultimo with the resolves of Congress relative to the capitulation of the *Cedars* and the exchange of prisoners engaged for by General *Arnold*. General *Carleton's* orders issued in consequence of the despatch sent by the flag of truce, you will find enclosed. They astonish me; for with their prosperity, the Generals of the *British Army* seem to have lost their good understanding.

Enclosed is copy of a letter this moment sent off express to Major *Hawley* at *Northampton*. I must beg your Excellency's authority may be exerted to bring these delinquents to justice. If that cannot be had, let them feel all the shame and disgrace they so richly deserve from their injured country.

A Captain and thirty-nine carpenters from *Rhode-Island*, hired by the *United States* at prodigious wages, General

*Waterbury* writes me word, are inoculated at *Williamstown*. I beg you, sir, to write to Governour *Cooke* to dismiss them immediately. Pay, they do not deserve a penny; they should on no account be permitted to come to *Skenesborough*. I am confidently assured we can do without them. The *Massachusetts Militia*, I am told by Brigadier-General *Brickett*, who arrived here last night, are all near at hand, and have all tents and camp equipages with them. I am sorry to be informed that my respectable friends from *Connecticut* are coming without these necessary articles. *New-Hampshire* have sent their Militia equally deficient. Colonel *Wingate's* and Colonel *Wyman's* regiments from that Colony are now in this camp.

I am harassed to death with writing. The Congress, General *Washington*, General *Schuyler*, I am obliged constantly to correspond with; the whole business of this Army to direct, with all the variety of writing demanded thereby; and to make the load the heavier, my principal copyist is sick. Your son, who is very industrious, does all he can to aid me, but his own duty is enough for any one man. This, sir, must be my apology for all imperfections.

With the greatest respect, I am, sir, your Excellency's most faithful and most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

P. S. Your Excellency will please to communicate all, or any part of this intelligence, to the President of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL PUTNAM.

Tyonderoga, August 11, 1776.

DEAR PUT: Every fond mother dotes upon her booby, be his imperfections ever so glaring, and his good qualities ever so few. *Crown-Point* was not indeed your own immediate offspring, but you had a capital hand in rearing the baby. You cut all the logs, which are now rotten as dirt, and tumbled in the dust. No matter for that. Why should not you be fond of *Crown-Point*? If I live to be as old as you, I shall be as fond of *Tyonderoga*. I can assure you, I fancy already that my booby is a great deal handsomer than yours, and has a thousand excellences more than yours ever possessed. But don't be uneasy, the absurdities of your booby time will very soon obliterate; but mine will live for some future great engineer, like myself, to laugh at and despise. Joking apart: Have you blown up *Staten Island*? Have you burnt the enemy's fleet? Have you sent the two brothers to *Hartford*? What have you and what have you not done? Sense, courage, honour, and abilities, you know to be the great outlines of a General. My friend *Tom Mifflin* has an uncommon share of all four. Present my affectionate compliments to him. I shall preserve your letter for a winter evening's subject, when we three meet again.

Remember me affectionately, as you ought, and believe me, veteran, your sincere well-wisher and most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To General *Putnam*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WATERBURY.

Tyonderoga, August 11, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The enclosed letter to Major *Hawley*, I desire you will forward immediately by express, and order the express to wait for the Major's answer, and then return immediately to *Skenesborough*. You will send it directly to me.

General *Brickett* arrived here yesterday evening. He says the whole of the *Massachusetts Militia* have tents. The carts that carry them he thinks will be obliged to go by *Skenesborough*. As soon as they arrive there, you will send them under the care of proper officers to *Tyonderoga*.

The naval stores wanted at your post shall be sent to *Skenesborough* as fast as it comes to hand.

I would have the whole of the *Massachusetts Militia* sent here as soon as their tents come forward. If the carts with their tents get here by the road General *Brickett* came, I will let you know it immediately. Yours, &c.,

HORATIO GATES.

To General *Waterbury*.

GENERAL GATES TO MAJOR HAWLEY.

Tyonderoga, August 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: A villain of a Surgeon (or what is commonly called a Doctor) is inoculating the Militia as fast as they arrive at *Number Four*. Such a slave to private gain, who would sacrifice this Army for the sake of obtaining a few dollars to himself, deserves to be immediately brought to condign punishment. Were he within my reach, it would not be many minutes before he should feel the weight of my resentment. That not being the case, I must apply to you, to beg you would write to the Chairman of the Committee of *Number Four*, directing him to exert his utmost power to stop this most pernicious practice, and, if possible, to send the doctor instantly to jail. As fine an Army as ever marched into *Canada* has this year been entirely ruined by the small-pox. If the Militia, which ought long ago to have been here, are once infected, this country will infallibly be exposed to the invasion of the enemy. Such officers as have stayed upon the way to be inoculated, shall, they may depend upon it, be brought to a General Court-Martial as soon as they arrive at *Skenesborough*. The country is at an enormous expense for these troops. Individuals receive vast sums to go as substitutes in the Militia. The provisions and carriages are also provided at an amazing charge; and all this, that these men, rather than march where they are commanded, may get inoculated, by which a month of the short time they are engaged for elapses, and perhaps the health of the whole Army is endangered.

Our fleet flourishes to my wish; and all would be well in this quarter could the Militia be marched up immediately, and the pestilence kept from us. Our camp here and at *Skenesborough* have long been perfectly purged of it.

I am, dear sir, your affectionate humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Major *Hawley*, at *Northampton*.

COLONEL M. OGDEN TO AARON BURR.

Ticonderoga, August 11, 1776.

DEAR BURR: I yesterday received yours of *July 29th* and *August 2d*. The others I made mention of in the letter to Mrs. *Ogden* that I sent to you unsealed. In my last, you had a very particular account of the numbers, force, names, &c., of our Navy on the Lake. As to our leaving *Crown-Point* for this place, the Field-Officers knew nothing of it till it was concluded on by the Generals *Schuyler*, *Gates*, and *Arnold*.

General *Arnold* is taking a very active part—I mean in the command of the fleet. He will sail himself in a few days. He says he will pay a visit to *St. John's*. I wish he may be as prudent as he is brave. Well, now have at you for news. Last evening the flag of truce returned, bringing a letter directed to *George Washington*, Esq., and a truly ridiculous copy of a general order, which you will see at General *Washington's* by the time you receive this. But there is one part of it in which I think they in some measure accuse us justly: I mean that of assassinating, as they term it with too much truth, Brigadier-General *Gordon*. He was shot by the *Whitcomb* I mentioned in my last, who had been sent there as a spy. The act, though villainous, was brave, and a peculiar kind of bravery that I believe *Whitcomb* alone is possessed of. He shot *Gordon* near by their advanced sentinel; and, notwithstanding a most diligent search was made, he avoided them by mere dint of skulking.

I shall have the honour to command the *New-Jersey* redoubt, which I am now building, with the Regiment alone. It is situated on the right of the whole, by the water's edge. It is to mount two eighteen-pounders, two twelve, and four nine-pounders. In this I expect to do honour to *New-Jersey*.

I yesterday received a letter from Colonel *Dayton*, dated the 28th of *July*, at the *German-Flats*. He informs me that he is to take the command at *Fort Stanwix*.

Should there be anything to be had in *New-York* in the clothing way, I should be glad if you will lay some aside, no matter what—either small-clothes, shirts, stockings, or anything of the kind. My best compliments to General *Putnam*. If you will let *Robert* or *Sawyer* have the perusal of this, they would learn the news of this Army. Paper is so scarce, that one letter must serve both, unless something particular.

Yours sincerely,

MATT. OGDEN.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, August 11, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: The young man *Thomson*, who is clerk to Mr. *Midkiff*, and the *Frenchman*, *Anthony Gerchard*, arrived here the night before last. A canoe was immediately provided, and *Thomson* said they would set off in the morning. I gave him an additional pass, and fixed upon a proper person to seize them as soon as they were on board. Yesterday they staid all day; several suspicious persons were seen with them; and I expected we should have been able to have made some material discoveries. Just at dusk, yesterday, they got in their canoe, when they were seized, stripped, and their clothes and packs examined. We found some private papers, but no letters besides those which I now send by the bearer: they also, it seems, are of a private nature.

I fear there must have been a plan laid to have taken in the letters somewhere lower down on the Lake. A person might have gone from *Ticonderoga*, crossed above this, and went down on the east side to any particular place.

The lad had not a single letter to Mr. *Midkiff*. This seems very odd, as he had so much business to transact, that there should not be an answer from a correspondent.

*Thomson* possesses much knowledge and sagacity for his years. He is capable of conveying many verbal messages from the disaffected to the enemy. He has been in such places where we know there are numerous Tories.

He has been at *Philadelphia*, *New-York*, and *Albany*. He knows well the situation of our affairs, as well as the state of the Army and Navy in this department. In short, he is capable of giving our enemies almost every information they could wish.

In my opinion, it would be very wrong to let him or the *Frenchman* go down. They might be sent back to *Albany*, where they would be secure till such times as it were prudent to let them go home. I have the *Frenchman* under a guard. *Thompson* I have confined to Mr. *Lewis's* house. His money, amounting to upwards of \$500, is deposited as a security with Mr. *Lewis*. The sooner they are removed from hence the better. *Midkiff's* mill has been burnt; he lives within five leagues of *St. John's*; he is undoubtedly against us at present.

As great part of my original orders here fall within the Department of the Navy, I have now only one party of three men down the Lake. Should anything more in that way be expected, I will cheerfully send out small parties in canoes or small boats. If we had a few whale-boats or barges, they would be very useful, as I understand the enemy have large bark canoes, which will hold between twelve and twenty men, and run very fast. The enemy had some of those canoes when *Wilson* was taken, and he had a clumsy batteau.

I have sent up some more oars. I have still a party with the oarmakers.

If anything more is to be done before I am ordered away, I shall be happy in executing your commands.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most humble servant,  
THOS. HARTLEY.

To Major-General *Gates*.

MAJOR FRENCH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Hartford, August 11, 1776.

SIR: I was yesterday honoured with your letter, agreeing to my being exchanged for Colonel *Allen* or Major *Meigs*; in consequence of which I take the liberty of troubling you with a letter to General *Howe* on that subject; and though from my long having been honoured with his acquaintance, having frequently served under his command during the last war, I have not the least reason to apprehend a negative from him, yet I hope, should it prove otherwise, that you will get the consent of Congress to my being allowed the same privilege granted to Major *Meigs*.

Allow me, sir, to return you thanks for your attention to my situation, and to assure you that I am, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,  
CHRIS. FRENCH.

THOMAS CUSHING TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Referred to Committee for Indian Affairs.]

Watertown, August, 1776.

SIR: I have been desired by the Commissioners appointed by the Society in *London* for propagating the Gospel



among the *Indians* in *New-England* and the parts adjacent, to inform you that Mr. *Samuel Kirkland* has been employed by them as a Missionary among the *Indians* at *Oneida*, with a salary of £130 sterling per annum; more has been allowed him for a catechist; that Mr. *Crosby* has been employed as a Missionary among the *Indians* at *Onaquagh*, with a salary of £130 sterling per annum; and that Mr. *John Sargeant*, the bearer of this, has been employed as a Missionary among the *Indians* at *Stockbridge*, with a salary of £60 sterling per annum. These several salaries have been paid out of the moneys remitted from *London* by the Society, who have established a fund for these purposes. No remittances have been made from the Society to the Commissioners for the year past, and have been suspended by means of the cruel war commenced by *Great Britain* against these Colonies, so that the Commissioners are now without any fund to pay these Missionaries their salaries. Their residence among the *Indians* is certainly of great importance, and has been very useful and very serviceable to the common cause. The *Indians* are very desirous of their continuance; but as they are now destitute of a support, they will, unless speedily relieved, be obliged to quit this important service, so necessary to keep the *Indians* in the interest of the *United States* of *America* and from joining our enemies. It is therefore humbly submitted to the honourable Congress whether it would not be of great advantage to all the *United States* of *America*, for the reasons before mentioned, for the Congress to allow them, out of the Continental treasury, their usual salaries; and in case any remittances should be made from the Society in *London* for this purpose hereafter, the Commissioners have directed me to assure you that any sum the Continent may advance upon this occasion will be by them cheerfully refunded. The Commissioners request that your Honours would represent this matter to the honourable Congress, that they may take such order respecting the same as they may judge proper.

I am, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,  
 THOMAS CUSHING.

CASE OF STOCKBRIDGE INDIANS, AS RELATED BY MR. SARGEANT.

*Indians* at *Stockbridge*, in the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, are of the *Mohekon* tribe, and now number somewhat more than two hundred; the rest of the nation dispersed, residing chiefly in the State of *New-York*, and supposed to be about five hundred; consider *Stockbridge* as their capital; formerly, as their tribe was numerous and powerful, hath been held in great veneration by *Delawares* and *Shawanese*, especially the latter, with whom it hath long had alliances, offensive and defensive, and whom it hath several times assisted against their enemies; still keep up a correspondence with those two nations, as well as the *Canadian Indians*. This people have at all times been friendly to the *Americans*; generally attend the treaties between the Commissioners and the *Six Nations*. At *Albany*, in *August*, last year, declared they would join with the *United States*, and assist them against *Great Britain*, although the *Six Nations* should be neuter, or confederate with the other side; and some of them, for that purpose, went to the camp at *Cambridge*. Sent a message to the *Shawanese* this fall, inviting them to engage in the war with the *United States*. Mr. *Sargeant*, (father of the present Missionary to the *Mohekons*,) the first person employed in that function after the establishment of the Society for propagating the Gospel among the *Indians*, settled at *Stockbridge* about forty years ago, as it is supposed. The gentleman who succeeded him hath received no part of his stipend for twelve months past and upwards.

The *Mohekons*, in a speech to the Commissioners at *Albany* last year, after mentioning a dispute concerning their lands, declared their desire to have teachers and instructors among them, which the Commissioners promised, in their answer, to report to Congress.

London, September 26, 1776.

Advices have been received from *Canada*, dated *August* 12, which say that General *Burgoyne's* Army have found it impracticable to get across the *Lakes* this season; that the naval force of the Provincials upon the *Lakes* is too great for them to contend with at present; that they must build larger vessels for this purpose, and that these vessels cannot

be ready before next summer. The Army will therefore be obliged to winter in *Canada*; about *Montreal*, *St. John's*, &c., and they will be in want of provisions, unless supplied from *England*. General *Carleton* has requested that a sufficient quantity of provisions may be sent. The design was, that the two Armies, commanded by the Generals *Howe* and *Burgoyne*, should coöperate; that they should both be on the *Hudson's River* at the same time; and that they should join about *Albany*, and thereby cut off all communication between the Northern and Southern Colonies.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPE NICHOLA MOLE, DATED AUGUST 12, 1776.

From the best authority, I am informed that four *French* frigates are ordered to cruise about this Island to protect the *American* trade, and two *Spanish* ships are to do the same about *Porto Rico*, for the like purpose. There are about eight or ten thousand troops in this Island. Twenty-nine ships of the line are getting ready at *Brest*, and fourteen at *Toulon*, and twenty thousand land forces, to put to sea, but where bound is not known. Twelve *Spanish* ships of the line and six frigates, with many land forces, went by here some weeks past for the *Havana*, but for what end is a secret.

GENERAL ARMSTRONG TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 13, 1776.]

Charlestown, August 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: In the beginning of *May* last I wrote the honourable the Continental Congress the state in which I found the troops here, as being entirely upon the establishment of this Colony, and in no other respect Continental than that of the uniformity of their purposes to coöperate in the great Continental design. In that situation, and being without Continental troops, I did not debate for a dubious command, which, had it even been offered me, (as it was not,) I could not with propriety accept, but begged to be favoured with the further orders of Congress; and being candidly asked by the President and others to wait the event, I preferred the disagreeable situation of long suspense to a precipitate departure, for reasons I conceived to be prudential and rather tending to the publick tranquillity; determined at the same time to repair to any neighbouring Colony where the enemy should make their first impressions; but have not yet been so happy as to know whether my letter was received. In some weeks the *English* fleet appeared, when the town began to barricade such places as we supposed would most favour the enemy's landing. In these and various other cases I contributed any advice I could give to the President of the Colony for their defence, who joined me in urging the march of General *Lee* with Continental troops; to whom, when he came, the President resigned the command, notifying this to the Provincials and Militia of the Colony in writing. Brigadier *Howe* also came with General *Lee*.

At this time the enemy took possession of *Long-Island*, some eight or nine miles from *Charlestown*, whereby it was evident the town was not their immediate object. Upon this unexpected manœuvre, General *Lee* ordered me to encamp at *Haddrell's Point*, on the main, separated from the town by a bay of five miles over, with the command of the main, and the neighbouring Island of *Sullivan*, which is also divided from *Haddrell* by an arm of the bay, which, even with the benefit of an unstable bridge, prevents the communication betwixt these two important posts but at low water only—a secret, this, to General *Clinton*, as was the paucity of our numbers, otherwise, no doubt, his conduct would have been different from what it was.

In this command, at first small, afterwards about two thousand, complicated as it was by different corps, and as many different regulations for their government, I have only to inform you, sir, that these troops, crude as they were in point of discipline, discovered a laudable disposition to have met the enemy; and as long as their health served, were generally so far subordinate that we were tolerably harmonious amongst ourselves, and favoured with an exemption from any degree of surprise or insult from the enemy, who lay partly on the rear of *Sullivan* and flank of the camp on *Haddrell*, and whose approaches we waited near six weeks, as certain at one post or the other; more especially at *Haddrell's*, which

if gained, *Sullivan* must have fallen of course, without the risk of tarnish to the splendid walls of *England*, unequally arranged with indignant brow in battle's noisy line, against the feeble, the simple cabbage-stalk, but by secret and patriotic texture, the irrefragable palmetto.

General *Clinton*, probably misled by magnified reports of our numbers, cautiously declined the expected visit, and we, in the attitude of resistance, were too rigid to make the first bow, and unwilling to expose the young dancers to some awkward scrape on his slippery parade. In short, he was so surrounded by shipping, water, and impassable marsh, that we had no practicable access to him without a great many boats, and as these were collecting, he thought proper to decamp, and the last division of the fleet is now sailed from this bar about a week. I shall only add, the anxiety of many here to have eased your arms to the northward of the additional burden of these three thousand, that are now like to fall upon them.

The enemy being now far removed, and their return uncertain, I hope the honourable Congress will not consider me as regardless of their service when I beg leave to express my wishes to be recalled, conscious as I am that my constitution is too far run down by time to answer in any tolerable degree the designs of that appointment with which they have honoured me, in this very warm climate. The health I have enjoyed, and now do, depends, I am persuaded, on the benefit of the salts where I am situated, and of which I have no future certainty. Little, indeed, can I now promise my country in any situation, but still less here. On this consideration, General *Lee* has as good as promised my liberty from hence as soon as the season will admit me to travel; nor can there be any necessity of my stay at present, the troops being chiefly dispersed, except the town Militia and a few Colonial troops in the sundry forts; and should anything happen in the winter, which I must question, there are gentlemen at hand whose services cannot be inferior to mine, and to whom the climate is more familiar. And to these principal reasons of this request, collateral ones, not inconsistent with the duty of any man, might easily be added, which, if admitted, will serve to increase the obligation of your Honours' most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

P. S. Brigade-Major *Conner* has been very serviceable to the publick and to me. His commission not come to hand.

Charlestown, August 6, 1776.

His Excellency Major-General *Lee*, having thought proper to take the sense of Brigadiers-General *Armstrong* and *Howe*, and the Field Officers of the First, Second, Fourth, and Fifth Regiments of the *South-Carolina* forces, on a difference of opinion between his Excellency the President and General *Lee*, on the construction of a resolve of Congress, with respect to the above Regiments being in the Continental establishment, the following are the opinions of the above gentlemen on the subject:

Brigadiers-General *Armstrong* and *Howe* are clearly of opinion, from the face of the resolves of Congress, that the above Regiments are on the Continental establishment.

The other officers, being called upon, were as follows:

Colonels *Gadsden* and *Moultrie*, Continental.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Sumpter*, Continental.

Majors *Cathell* and *Elliot*, Continental.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Pinckney*, not Continental.

Lieutenant-Colonels *Motte* and *Robertson*, not Continental.

Major *Henderson*, not Continental.

ADDRESS OF BAPTIST CHURCHES IN VIRGINIA TO THE GOVERNOUR.

To His Excellency *PATRICK HENRY, Jun., Esq., Governour of the Commonwealth of VIRGINIA:*

*The humble Address of the Ministers and Delegates of the Baptist Churches met in Association in LOUISA, August 12, 1776, in behalf of their brethren:*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: As your advancement to the honourable and important station as Governour of this Commonwealth affords us unspeakable pleasure, we

beg leave to present your Excellency with our most cordial congratulations.

Your publick virtues are such that we are under no temptation to flatter you. *Virginia* has done honour to her judgment in appointing your Excellency to hold the reins of Government at this truly critical conjuncture, as you have always distinguished yourself by your zeal and activity for her welfare, in whatever department has been assigned you.

As a religious community we have nothing to request of you. Your constant attachment to the glorious cause of liberty and the rights of conscience, leaves us no room to doubt of your Excellency's favourable regards while we worthily demean ourselves.

May *God Almighty* continue you long, very long, a publick blessing to this your native country, and, after a life of usefulness here, crown you with immortal felicity in the world to come.

Signed by order: JEREMIAH WALKER, *Moderator.*  
JOHN WILLIAMS, *Clerk.*

ANSWER.

*To the Ministers and Delegates of the Baptist Churches and the Members of that Communion:*

GENTLEMEN: I am exceedingly obliged to you for your very kind Address, and the favourable sentiments you are pleased to entertain respecting my conduct and the principles which have directed it. My constant endeavour shall be to guard the rights of all my fellow-citizens from every encroachment.

I am happy to find a catholic spirit prevailing in our country, and that those religious distinctions which formerly produced some heats are now forgotten. Happy must every friend to virtue and *America* feel himself to perceive that the only contest among us, at this most critical and important period, is, who shall be foremost to preserve our religious and civil liberties.

My most earnest wish is, that Christian charity, forbearance, and love, may unite all our different persuasions, as brethren who must perish or triumph together; and I trust that the time is not far distant when we shall greet each other as the peaceable possessors of that just and equal system of liberty adopted by the last Convention, and in support of which may *God* crown our arms with success.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

P. HENRY, Jun.

August 13, 1776.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL EWING.

[No. 130.]

Annapolis, August 12, 1776.

SIR: We send you an order on the Commissary of Stores for camp-kettles, knapsacks with haversacks, and wooden bottles, for Captain *Young's* company. Tents, gun-slugs, cartouch-boxes, and bayonet-belts, you will be pleased to get, if you have not already done it, for the three companies, viz: *Posey's*, *Lowe's*, and *Young's*. Captain *Forrest* we have ordered to remain in *St. Mary's* County, to supply the place of *Thomas's* Independent Company; he will be obliged to borrow arms from the Militia. We wish to forward you all in our power, but cannot agree to spare the arms in the hands of the *Harford* Committee, or in *Dallam's* possession. The companies of the battalion we propose to keep are not half armed. You must depend on your former order to the Committee. We have advanced the sum of £125 currency each to Captains *Posey* and *Lowe*. You are to account with Captain *Lowe* for £200 which he says you have already furnished him with. We expect to have the pleasure of seeing you in *Annapolis* before you go, when you have sent off the three companies. We are obliged to transmit our accounts to Congress, and therefore request you to come prepared to settle your whole account. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Thomas Ewing*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GERARD HOPKINS.

[No. 131.]

Annapolis, August 12, 1776.

SIR: We have heretofore given Colonel *Charles Greenbury Griffith* an order for sundries for his battalion; but Captain *Burgess's* company is coming this way, and being more forward than the rest of the battalion, we request you would deliver him eighty-six gun-slugs, eighty-six bayonet-

belts, fifteen camp-kettles, ninety cartouch-boxes, and ninety brushes and priming-wires, and deduct so many of each from the former order. We are, &c.

To Gerard Hopkins, Deputy Commissary.

JAMES CUNNINGHAM TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Annapolis, August 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When I was last before you, you were pleased to allow me a few days to consider on what I had best do to get a living for myself. I think, as this is the County in which I expect to live and spend my days, I cannot do better than enter into the service of this country. Though it may appear a little odd that I should be so ready to enter into the service of the States of America after being so long with Lord Dunmore, yet I am in hopes that it will not appear so when I tell you that I was, long before I left the fleet, looked upon as what they call a Rebel. I have been, by order of his Lordship, tried for such, and with great difficulty could get clear. I had a commission, which I was prevailed upon to accept by my friends, which I gave up in a very few days, since which I never took up arms against America. His Lordship, after that, endeavoured to distress me by every means. At last I formed the scheme of throwing myself upon the country which I once injured, to get clear of the most despotick wretch. Hoping, gentlemen, you will take my case into consideration, I remain your humble and obliged servant,

JAMES CUNNINGHAM.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

BALTIMORE COUNTY COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, August 12, 1776:

Present: William Lux, Chairman; A. Buchanan, C. Ridgely, (of Wm.) W. Wilkinson, J. Standeford, W. Tolley, Jun., J. Calhoun, B. Griffith, W. Aisquith, A. Britain, G. Vaughan, T. Sollers, J. Moale, D. Shaw.

Henry Carback having enrolled in Captain Job Garrison's Company, an order was given to Captain John Tully Young to redeliver his Gun in the same order in which it was received.

Mr. Ridgely brought in three Muskets which he purchased at £12, and two Matchcoats at 30s.

The Fines imposed on Robert Evans and William Sinclair, as Non-enrollers, are remitted, they having enrolled in Captain Vaughan's Company. Benjamin Riston's fine is remitted, he having enrolled with Captain Shaw. Robert Cowell's fine is remitted, he being upwards of fifty years of age.

Messrs. William Lux, William Aisquith, and James Calhoun, are appointed a Committee to settle all Accounts against the publick, and exhibit them to the Committee on Monday next.

Mr. Caleb Merryman delivered ten Matchcoats and three Firelocks, which he purchased.

Captain James Bosley delivered two Guns, which were appraised on oath by Job Garrison and William Raven, viz: one the property of William Gad, 15s; one the property of Benkid Willson, £1 10s.

Attest:

GEO. LUX, Secretary.

JOHN ADAMS TO MRS. ADAMS.

Philadelphia, August 12, 1776.

Mr. A.\* sets off to-day, if the rain should not prevent him, with Colonel Whipple of Portsmouth, a brother of the celebrated Miss Hannah Whipple, a sensible and worthy man. By him I have sent you two bundles of letters, which I hope you will be careful of. I thought I should not be likely to find a safer opportunity. By them you will see that my private correspondence alone is business enough for a lazy man. I think I have answered all but a few of those large bundles.

A French vessel, a pretty large brigantine, deeply laden, arrived here yesterday, from Martinique. She had fifty barrels of limes, which are all sold, already, at such prices that the amount of them will be sufficient to load the brig with flour. A trade, we see, even now, in the midst of summer, is not totally interrupted by all the efforts of our enemies. Prizes are taken in no small numbers. A gentleman told me a few days ago that he had summed up the

[\* Samuel Adams.]

sugar which has been taken, and it amounted to three thousand hogsheds; since which two other ships have been taken and carried into Maryland. Thousands of schemes for privateering are afloat in American imaginations. Some are for taking the Hull ships, with woollens for Amsterdam and Rotterdam; some are for the tin ships; some for the Irish linen ships; some for outward bound, and others for inward bound Indiamen; some for the Hudson's Bay ships; and many for West-India sugar ships. Out of these speculations many fruitless and some profitable projects will grow.

We have no news from New-York. All is quiet as yet. Our expectations are raised. The eyes of the world are upon Washington and Howe and their armies. The wishes and prayers of the virtuous part of it, I hope will be answered; if not, yet virtues grow out of affliction. I repeat my request that you would ask some of the members of the General Court if they can send me horses; and if they cannot, that you would send them. I can live no longer without a servant and a horse.

JOHN ADAMS TO MRS. ADAMS.

Philadelphia, August 12, 1776.

Mr. A. and Colonel Whipple are at length gone. Colonel Tudor went off with them. They went away about three o'clock this afternoon. I wrote by A. and Colonel Whipple too. By the latter I sent two large bundles, which he promised to deliver to you. These middle States begin to taste the sweets of war. Ten thousand difficulties and wants occur which they had no conception of before. Their Militia are as clamorous and impatient of discipline and mutinous as ours, and more so. There has been seldom less than four thousand men in this city at a time, for a fortnight past, on their march to New-Jersey. Here they wait, until we grow very angry about them, for canteens, camp-kettles, blankets, tents, shoes, hose, arms, flints, and other dittoes, while we are under a very critical solicitude for our Army at New-York, on account of the insufficiency of men.

I want to be informed of the state of things with you; whether there is a scarcity of provisions of any kind, of West-India articles, of clothing? Whether any trade is carried on, any fishery? Whether any vessels arrive from abroad, or whether any go to sea upon foreign voyages? I wish to know, likewise, what posture of defence you are in? What fortifications are at Nantasket, at Long-Island, Pettick's Island, &c., and what men and officers there are to garrison them? We hear nothing from the Massachusetts lately, in comparison of what we did when the Army was before Boston.

I must not conclude, without repeating my request, that you would ask some of the members of the General Court to send me horses, and if they cannot, to send them yourself.

GENERAL MERCER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 13, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

Woodbridge, August 12, 1776.

SIR: Since break of day this morning, upwards of eighty sail of ships have been seen standing in from sea towards New-York. At the requisition of General Washington, Colonel Miles's two battalions of Riflemen have gone on to reinforce his Excellency's Army, also Colonel Atlee's battalion of Musketry. About four hundred set off from Amboy this afternoon, and as many of the Flying-Camp and volunteers as will make up two thousand I shall have ready at Newark and Bergen, to assist in the defence of New-York, if required.

Notwithstanding the desertion of many of the Associators, we shall have a respectable force here. The Militia of this State are to be arranged universally; and the greatest number by far of the Pennsylvania gentlemen are actuated by the most laudable spirit, and voluntarily engage to serve their country wherever they are required to go.

Colonel Griffin will transmit a return of the force collected here by to-morrow. We require the indulgence of Congress on this head; but really such has been the various movements and dispersed situation of the troops, that regular reports could not be obtained. Among the variety of military arrangements that appear in this camp, some are inconsistent with regular duty. Colonels Miles and Atlee will not serve under the orders of Brigadiers Roberdeau and Ewing.

The Commissioner appointed by the Convention will have it in his power to regulate the rank to the satisfaction of all parties, by doing justice to the merit of the Colonels, who have long ago served with fidelity and honour. I beg the interposition of Congress on this matter; and have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. I am this moment informed that since I left *Amboy* the number of the enemy's ships at *Sandy-Hook* is upwards of one hundred.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Woodbridge, August 12, 1776.

SIR: Give me leave to introduce to your Excellency's notice Colonel *Atlee*, of the *Pennsylvania* troops. His experience and attention to every part of the service intrusted to his direction will, I am persuaded, secure to him your regard. Colonel *Burd* will march this afternoon with about three hundred men of the Flying-Camp, including one company of Riflemen, volunteers from *Cumberland*, commanded by Captain *Steel*.

I intend to have ready at *New-York*, as speedily as possible, two thousand men to reinforce the Army at *New-York*, if you think their services there necessary.

I received your letter of yesterday, written probably under the apprehension that these posts were in danger of being abandoned. In consequence of the postscript, signifying your desire that no more troops, after Colonel *Atlee's*, should be sent to *New-York* from hence, I shall not send any more over the ferries till I hear from Head-Quarters.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN THE SECOND BATTALION OF PHILADELPHIA, DATED AMBOY, AUGUST 12, NINE O'CLOCK A. M.

We have now in sight upwards of sixty sail of topsail vessels coming into *Sandy-Hook*. I suppose many more will appear, for every quarter of an hour they make their appearance round the Highlands. I suppose this is their grand fleet. Our battalion is ordered for *New-York*. *Saturday* Colonel *Miles's* two battalions, and this morning Colonel *Atlee's* battalion, and part of the *Jersey* Militia, marched for *New-York*; and in a few days most of the troops that are here will march for the same place, where they are in great want of men.

P. S. Half-after ten o'clock, ninety sail in sight.

WILLIAM LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Elizabeth-Town, August 12, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Your letter of the 8th instant I received on a journey to *Brunswick* on *Friday* last, when I had an opportunity of conferring with our Convention, and urging your Excellency's requisition relating to the Militia, the propriety of which is so obvious. I returned on *Saturday* evening, and delayed answering your favour in hopes of receiving the resolution of Convention thereon. I have just been favoured with a rough draught of their ordinance, which I shall send you as soon as I get a correct copy.

The outlines are, that the one-half of the whole Militia, without exception, be immediately called out, and join the Flying-Camp. That every person refusing his attendance be fined £3. That they be formed into thirteen battalions, and to remain on service one month, and then to be relieved by the other half.

There being no mention made of any number to be forwarded to *New-York*, I take it for granted the whole are to be under your Excellency's direction as to their station, &c.

The two thousand men for the Flying-Camp, under General *Dickerson* are in great forwardness, and (although very little acquainted with their duty) might answer a valuable purpose in *New-York* on the present emergency, especially as their places will be so soon filled by the half of the Militia now to be raised. A considerable body of the Militia must be kept here to supply the place of the *Penn-*

*sylvania* Associators, who are deserting their post in considerable numbers, notwithstanding the most spirited exertions of their officers, and particularly their Colonel, whose behaviour does honour to his Province in particular and *America* in general. We have taken such measures as I hope will put a stop to any further behaviour of this kind. This corps, since our Militia were dismissed, have not carried on any of the works at the Point, which, as soon as they are relieved by any men under my command, I shall order to be prosecuted with all possible vigour, as it is more than probable the enemy will attempt an incursion into this Province, to which its present defenceless state in this part seems strongly to invite them.

I am, with much truth and regard, your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

WIL. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 14, 1776.]

*New-York*, August 12, 1776.

SIR: I have been duly honoured with your favours of the 8th and 10th instant, with their several enclosures.

I shall pay attention to the resolution respecting Lieutenant *Josiah*, and attempt to relieve him from his rigorous usage. Your letters to such of the gentlemen as were here, have been delivered; the rest will be sent by the first opportunity.

Since my last of the 8th and 9th, the enemy have made no movements of consequence. They remain nearly in the same state. Nor have we any further intelligence of their designs. They have not been yet joined by the remainder of the fleet with the *Hessian* troops.

Colonel *Smallwood* and his battalion got in on *Friday*; and Colonel *Miles* is also here, with two battalions more of *Pennsylvania* Riflemen.

The Convention of this State have been exerting themselves to call forth a portion of their Militia to an encampment forming above *King's Bridge*, to remain in service for the space of one month after their arrival there; and also half of those in *King's* and *Queen's* Counties, to reinforce the troops on *Long-Island* till the first of *September*, unless sooner discharged. General *Morris* too is to take post with his brigade on the *Sound* and *Hudson's River* for ten days, to annoy the enemy in case they attempt to land; and others of their Militia are directed to be in readiness in case their aid should be required. Upon the whole, from the information I have from the Convention, the Militia ordered are now in motion, or will be in a little time, and will amount to about three thousand or more. From *Connecticut* I am not certain what succours are coming. By one or two gentlemen who have come from hence, I am told some of the Militia were assembling, and from the intelligence they had, would march this week.

By a letter from Governour *Trumbull*, of the 5th, I am advised that the troops from that State, destined for the Northern Army, had marched for *Skenesborough*. General *Ward* too, by a letter of the 4th instant, informs me that the two regiments would march from *Boston* last week, having been cleansed and generally recovered from the small-pox. I have also countermanded my orders to Colonel *Elmore*, and directed him to join the Northern Army, having heard, after my orders to *Connecticut* for his marching hither, that he and most of his regiment were at *Albany* or within its vicinity. General *Ward* mentions that the Council of the *Massachusetts* State will have in from two to three thousand of their Militia to defend their lines and different posts, in lieu of the regiments ordered from thence agreeable to the resolution of Congress.

The enclosed copy of a resolution of this State, passed the 10th instant, will discover the apprehension they are under of the defection of the inhabitants of *King's County* from the common cause, and of the measures they have taken thereupon. I have directed General *Greene* to give the Committee such assistance as he can, and they may require, in the execution of their commissions; though, at the same time, I wish the information the Convention have received upon the subject may prove groundless.

I would beg leave to mention to Congress, that in a letter I received from General *Lee*, he mentioned the valuable con-



sequences that would result from a number of Cavalry being employed in the Southern Department. Without them, to use his own expressions, he can answer for nothing; with one thousand, he would ensure the safety of those States. I should have done myself the honour of submitting this matter to Congress before, at his particular request, had it not escaped my mind. From his acquaintance with that country, and the nature of the grounds, I doubt not he has weighed the matter well, and presume he has fully represented the advantages that would arise from the establishment of such a corps. All I mean is, in compliance with his requisition, to mention the matter, that such consideration may be had upon it, if not already determined, that it may be deserving of.

I have transmitted a general return, whereby Congress will perceive the whole of our strength, except the two battalions under Colonel Miles, which coming in since it was made out, are not included.

I have enclosed a letter just come to hand from *Martinique*. Congress will please to consider of the purport, favouring me with their answer and a return of the letter.

This moiment (ten o'clock) report is made by General *Greene* that a man-of-war came in yesterday, and that sixty sail of ships are now standing in. No doubt they are a further part of the *Hessian* troops.

I have the honour to be, with all possible respect, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, at Harlem, August 10, 1776. }

Whereas this Convention has received information that the inhabitants of *King's* County have determined not to oppose the enemy:

*Resolved unanimously*, That a Committee be appointed to repair forthwith to the said County, and inquire concerning the authenticity of such report; and in case they find it well founded, that they be empowered to disarm and secure the disaffected inhabitants; to remove or destroy the stock of grain; and, if necessary, to lay the whole country waste; and for the execution of these purposes they be directed to apply to General *Greene*, or the Commander of the Continental troops in that County, for such assistance as they shall want; and ordered that Mr. *Duer*, Colonel *Remsen*, Mr. *Hobart*, and Colonel *De Witt*, be the said Committee.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 6, 1776.

(Parole, *Canterbury*.)

(Countersign, *Durham*.)

One hundred and fifty men, with a Field-Officer, three Captains, six Subalterns, six Sergeants, six Corporals, and six Drums and Fifes, to proceed to *Burdett's Ferry*, opposite *Mount Washington*, to relieve the party now there. For this purpose to parade to-morrow with arms, on the grand parade, at seven o'clock, apply to General *Putnam* for boats, and attend to the tide.

Every Commanding Officer of a Regiment or Corps in future is to account, on the back or at the bottom of his Return, for all the officers and men returned to be on command, expressing the place and service in which they are engaged.

Notwithstanding the orders issued, and the interest the troops have in it, complaints are made of the bad behaviour of the troops to people at market, taking and destroying their things. The General declares, for the last time, that he will punish such offenders most severely; and in order that they may be detected, an officer from each of the guards nearest to those markets where the country-people are, to attend from sunrise till twelve o'clock; and he is strictly enjoined to prevent any abuses of this kind, to seize any offender and send him immediately to the Guard-House, reporting him also at Head-Quarters. The officers of guards in future will be answerable if there are any more complaints, unless they apprehend the offender. A copy of this order to be put up in every Guard-House in the city.

*James McCormick*, of Captain *Harrington's* Company, Colonel *Sergeant's* Regiment; *Thomas Williams*, of Captain *Barnes's* Company, and the same Regiment; *Peter Burke*,

of Captain *Ledyard's* Company, *John Green*, of Captain *Johnson's* Company, both of Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, all tried by a General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Webb* was President, and convicted of "desertion," were sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes each. The General approves the sentences, and orders them to be put in execution at the usual times and places.

*Hugh Lacey*, of Captain *Stewart's* Company of Highlanders, tried by the same Court-Martial, and found guilty of "impudence and disobedience to the orders of his Captain," was sentenced to receive twenty lashes. The General is pleased to pardon him, on condition that he makes a suitable acknowledgment of his fault to his Captain.

*Hendrick Lent*, *Jacob Lent*, *Elias Lent*, *Peter Brewer*, *Jeremiah Hewson*, *Oronimus Ackerman*, all of Captain *Hyatt's* Company, and Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, having been confined some time for "desertion," and no evidence appearing against them, they are ordered to be discharged for want of prosecution.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 7, 1776.

(Parole, *Essex*.)

(Countersign, *Fairfield*.)

The order of the 28th of *July*, respecting the removal of the sick from the Regimental to the General Hospital, having been misunderstood by some, the General directs that it be taken with the following explanation: The Regimental Surgeons are to send at any time, with the usual ticket, any patient to the General Hospital, whose case requires it, (putrid and infectious disorders always excepted.) Whenever the Director-General, or any Surgeon of the Hospital, by his direction, visits the Regimental Hospitals, they are to direct what patients are proper to be removed. But it is expected that when any Surgeon visits the Regimental Surgeon, and if they should differ in opinion, they will refer it to the Director-General, who has, by the resolutions of Congress, a superintendency over the whole. The General most earnestly recommends to the gentlemen in both departments to cultivate harmony and good agreement with each other, as conducive to their own honour and the good of the service.

A subaltern and twenty men to be placed at *Hoebuck Ferry* for examination of passengers: the officer to receive his orders from the Adjutant-General at Head-Quarters.

The Paymaster having received a supply of cash, the Colonels or commanding officers of Regiments are to apply for their *June* pay, and make up Pay-Rolls for *July*, and deliver them to their respective Brigadiers for examination.

As many soldiers discharge their pieces under pretence of ignorance of General Orders, and others having leave to do so from their officers because they cannot draw the charge, the General directs that the Colonel of the Regiment or commanding officer cause a daily inspection to be made of the state of the arms; and when any are found loaded which cannot be drawn, they are to cause such men to assemble on the Regimental parade, or some other convenient place, but at the same time, viz: retreat beating, and then discharge those pieces. No alarm will then be given, and the officers will see there is no unnecessary firing. It is the duty of the Colonel, and the reputation of his Regiment so much depends upon the good order of the arms, that the General hopes he, as well as every other officer and the men, will pay a special attention to it.

*John Palsgrave Wyllis*, Esquire, is appointed Brigade-Major to General *Wadsworth*, and *Mark Hopkins*, Esq., to General *Fellows*. They are to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 8, 1776.

(Parole, *Greenwich*.)

(Countersign, *Kensington*.)

Passes signed by the President of the Convention of *New-York* are to be deemed authentick, and noticed as such by officers attending at the ferries.

As the movements of the enemy, and intelligence by deserters, give the utmost reason to believe that the great struggle in which we are contending for everything dear to us, and our posterity, is near at hand, the General most earnestly recommends the closest attention to the state of the men's arms, ammunition, and flints; that if we should be suddenly called to action, nothing of this kind may be to provide; and he does most anxiously exhort both officers

and soldiers, not to be out of their quarters or encampments, especially early in the morning, or upon the tide of flood.

A flag in the daytime, or a light at night, in the fort on *Bayard's Hill*, with three guns from the same place, fired quick but distinct, is to be considered as a signal for the troops to repair to their alarm posts, and prepare for action. And that the alarm may be more effectually given, the drums are immediately to beat to arms upon the signal being given from *Bayard's Hill*. This order is not to be considered as countermanding the firing two guns at *Fort George* as formerly ordered. That is also to be done upon an alarm, but the flag will not be hoisted at the old Head-Quarters in the *Broadway*.

Colonel *Parson's*, Colonel *Reed*, Colonel *Huntington*, Colonel *Webb*, Colonel *Wylls*, Colonel *Bailey*, Colonel *Baldwin*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Ritzema*, and Lieutenant-Colonel *Sheppard*, to attend at Head-Quarters, this evening, at six o'clock.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 9, 1776.

(Parole, Lexington.)

(Countersign, Maryland.)

Captain-Lieutenant *Sergeant*, of the Artillery, with two field-pieces, to attach himself to General *Heath's* Brigade, with the ammunition-carts, as ordered by Colonel *Knox*, while time will permit. He must manœuvre with the Regiments of the Brigade, and practise as much as possible. The horses not to be taken away from the carts, but kept with the driver, in some convenient place contiguous to the Brigade, so as to be ready at a moment's warning.

Captain-Lieutenant *Carpenter* to do the same with Lord *Stirling's* Brigade. Captain-Lieutenant *Johnson* to do the same with General *Spencer's* Brigade. Captain-Lieutenant *Crane* to do the same with General *Fellows's* Brigade.

An ammunition-cart is provided for each Regiment, with spare cartridges. These carts are immediately to join the several Regiments to which they belong, and keep with them in some safe place, near the Regiment.

The Quartermaster-General to have the water-casks replenished.

The Commissary-General to deliver to the Colonel of each Regiment, rum in the proportion of half a pint to a man. The Colonel to make a return of the number of his men, for this purpose, and see that it is properly dealt out, by putting it under the care of a very discreet officer.

As there are some Regiments yet deficient in arms, the General directs that the Colonels, or Commanders of Regiments, see what good arms there are belonging to the sick, and put them into the hands of those who are well. If there should still be a deficiency, they are then to apply to the Adjutant-General.

The General Officers to be at Head-Quarters this evening, at six o'clock precisely.

The General exhorts every man, both officer and soldier, to be prepared for action; to have his arms in the best order; not to wander from his encampment or quarters; to remember what their country expects of them; what a few brave men have lately done in *South-Carolina*, against a powerful fleet and army; to acquit themselves like men; and, with the blessing of Heaven on so just a cause, we cannot doubt of success.

*Nicholas Fish*, Esq., is appointed Brigade-Major to General *Scott*. He is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Colonel *Glover's* and Colonel *Smallwood's* Regiments are to be under the immediate direction of Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, till some further arrangement is made of the Brigades.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 10, 1776.

(Parole, Newcastle.)

(Countersign, Onslow.)

Great complaints are made of the soldiers taking away the flat-bottomed boats, which may now be wanted for the most important purposes: The General absolutely forbids any person meddling with them at the place where they are stationed, but by order of General *Putnam*, in writing, or by one of his Aids-de-Camp; and the officer of the main guard is to detach a subaltern and thirty men, who are to mount guard over them, taking further orders from General *Putnam*. The General will be much obliged to every officer or soldier, who, seeing them out of their places, will bring them to their station.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 11, 1776.

(Parole, Portsmouth.)

(Countersign, Roxbury.)

No furlough or discharges are after this day to be granted to officers or soldiers, without the knowledge and consent of the Commander-in-Chief. When an action is hourly expected, a case must be very extraordinary which can warrant an application of this kind; but if such should happen, the Colonels are to satisfy their Brigadiers in it first; the Brigadiers, if they concur in it, are then to apply to Head-Quarters, from whence only furloughs are to be issued till further orders.

The honourable the Continental Congress have been pleased to allow a Paymaster to each of the established Regiments, and directed the General to appoint them, he desires the Field-Officers of each Regiment to recommend to him suitable persons; they are to be persons of good integrity and fidelity, and good accountants and fair writers. The pay is twenty-six dollars and two-thirds per calendar month.

When a prisoner is put under guard, the officer sending him is not only to put down the crime he stands charged with, but the Regiment and Company to which he belongs; and he should also note the witnesses' names to prove the charge.

The Court-Martial to sit to-morrow as a Court of Inquiry, upon Lieutenant *Mesier*, of Colonel *Lasher's* Regiment, for misbehaviour to his superior officer.

*Joseph Martin*, of Captain *Hurd's* Company, Colonel *Silliman's* Regiment, tried by a General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Wylls* was President, for "abusing and robbing a woman in the market," acquitted for want of evidence.

*Hugh Cahaggan* (a transient person) and *Richard Keif*, belonging to Colonel *Nicolson's* Regiment, convicted by the same Court-Martial of "stealing a coat and several fire-locks from Captain *Dickson's* Company," were sentenced to receive thirty-nine stripes each. The General approves the above sentences; orders *Martin* to be discharged, and the sentences upon *Cahaggan* and *Keif* to be executed to-morrow morning at guard mounting. A drummer from each Regiment in General *Wadsworth's* Brigade to attend the executing the sentence upon *Cahaggan*, and then he is to be turned out of the camp, and taken up if ever found in it again.

The practice of sentries sitting down while on their post is so unsoldierly, that the General is ashamed to see it prevail so much in the Army; at night, especially, it is of the most dangerous consequences, as it occasions a sentinel sleeping on his post, when otherwise he would be watchful. The General requests the officers, especially those of guards and visiting rounds, to caution the soldiers against it, and have all conveniences for that purpose removed.

Officers and soldiers will be very careful in case of damp weather to have their arms kept dry, and fit for action.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 12, 1776.

(Parole, Stowe.)

(Countersign, Temple.)

The business of granting passes proving burdensome to Messrs. *Berrien*, *Ray*, and *Wilmot*, three others are added to them, viz: *William Goforth*, *John Campbell*, and *Samuel Couperthwaite*. Any passes signed by either of them are to be allowed.

The honourable the Continental Congress have been pleased to appoint the following gentlemen Major-Generals of the Army of the *United States*, viz: *William Heath*, Esq., *Joseph Spencer*, Esq., *John Sullivan*, Esq., *Nathaniel Greene*, Esq. And the following gentlemen Brigadier-Generals: *James Read*, Esq., Colonel *John Nixon*, Colonel *Arthur St. Clair*, Colonel *Alexander McDougall*, Colonel *Samuel Holden Parsons*, Colonel *James Clinton*. They are to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

*Jacob Jones*, in Captain *Stewart's* Company, late Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, tried by a Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Wylls* was President, and convicted of "sleeping on his post," sentenced to receive thirty stripes. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed at the usual time and place.

A quantity of spears being arrived, the General Officers commanding posts where they may be wanted, are to make report and draw for them through the Adjutant-General.

*After Orders*.—That as little shifting of Regiments, and change of alarm posts may take place as possible, at a time when an attack may be hourly expected, the General orders and directs that the following arrangement of the Army,

in consequence of the late promotions, shall take place, till some new disposition can be made, viz: *Glover's*, *Smallwood's*, *Miles's*, and *Atlee's* Regiments, to compose one Brigade, and to be under the command of Brigadier Lord *Stirling*.

Late *Nixon's*, *Prescott's*, *Varnum's*, *Little's*, and *Hand's* Regiments, to form another Brigade, and be commanded by Brigadier-General *Nixon*.

Late *McDougall's*, *Ritzema's*, and *Webb's* Regiments, and the Artificers, to be another Brigade, under the command of General *McDougall*.

Late *Parsons's*, *Huntington's*, *Ward's*, *Wyllis's*, and *Durkee's* Regiments, to compose another Brigade, under the command of General *Parsons*.

Late *Clinton's*, *Read's*, *Bailey's*, *Baldwin's*, and *Learned's* Regiments, to be another Brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General *James Clinton*.

*Sergeant's*, *Hutchinson's*, and *Hitchcock's* Regiments, to be added to General *Mifflin's* Brigade.

General *Heard's* whole Brigade is to move over to *Long-Island*. Colonel *Gay's* Regiment is to join his Brigade in the City of *New-York*. Colonel *Hitchcock's* Regiment is to relieve the detachment at *Burdett's Ferry*, where it is to remain, and receive orders from Brigadier *Mifflin*. Lord *Stirling*, and the Colonels of the Regiments in his Brigade, are to fix upon a Brigade parade, convenient to the several encampments thereof. General *McDougall* is to do the same with his Colonels. All the other Brigades, parades, and alarm-posts, are to be as last settled.

The Brigadier-Generals *James Clinton*, *Scott*, and *Fel-lows*, are to be under the immediate command of Major-General *Putnam*. The Brigadiers *Mifflin* and *George Clinton's* Brigades, to be commanded by Major-General *Heath*. Brigadiers *Parsons's* and *Wadsworth's* Brigades to be under the command of Major-General *Spencer*. Brigadiers *Nixon's* and *Heard's* Brigades, to be commanded by Major-General *Greene*. Till General *James Clinton* can join his Brigade at this place, Colonel *Reed* is to command it. Under this disposition, formed as well as times will allow, the united efforts of the officers of every rank, and the soldiers, with the smiles of Providence, the General hopes to render a favourable account to his country and posterity of the enemy, whenever they choose to make the appeal to the great Arbiter of the Universe.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Tyler* is appointed Colonel of the Regiment late *Parsons's*, and Major *Prentice* Lieutenant-Colonel thereof.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Durkee* is appointed Colonel of the Regiment late *Arnold's*, and Major *Knowlton* Lieutenant-Colonel of said Regiment.

The Congress have likewise been pleased to appoint *Rufus Putnam*, Esq., an Engineer, and have given him the rank of Colonel in the Army.

Major *Henly* (for the present) is to do duty as Brigade-Major in General *James Clinton's* Brigade; Major *Box* in General *Nixon's*; Major *Livingston* in Lord *Stirling's*; and Major *Peek* in General *Parsons's*; and *Richard Platt*, Esq., is to do the duty of Brigade-Major in General *McDougall's*. All of which are to be considered and obeyed as such.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 12, 1776.

SIR: This will be handed you by Colonel *Campbell*, from the Northern Army, whom the enclosed letter and proceedings of a General Court-Martial will show to have been in arrest, and tried for sundry matters charged against him. As the Court-Martial was by order of the commander in that department, the acts committed there, the trial there, I am much at a loss to know why the proceedings were referred to me to approve or disapprove. As my interfering in the matter would carry much impropriety with it, and show a want of regard to the rules and practice in such instances, and as Colonel *Campbell* is going to *Philadelphia*, I have submitted the whole of the proceedings to the consideration of Congress for their decision upon his case, perfectly convinced that such determination will be had therein as will be right and just.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

Tyonderoga, July 21, 1776.

SIR: Upon my arrival at *Crown-Point* with General *Schuyler*, I found Colonel *Campbell*, the Quartermaster-General in this department, in arrest by order of Brigadier-General *Sullivan*. The day I left *Crown-Point*, a Court-Martial was ordered for the trial of Colonel *Campbell*, which General *Arnold* has transmitted me, and which I have now the honour to enclose to your Excellency. General *Schuyler* being at the *German-Flats*, upon the *Mohawk River*, at an *Indian* treaty, and Colonel *Campbell* being ordered down the country to settle his accounts with the Congress, I thought it best to send your Excellency the Court Martial, it not being in my power to approve or disapprove the proceedings. General *Sullivan*, who is probably at *New-York*, knows the circumstances, and the reasons that induced him to confine Colonel *Campbell*, to whom I beg leave to refer your Excellency. I shall write to your Excellency this day, or to-morrow, upon the state of affairs here. As it is uncertain when Colonel *Campbell* may get to *New-York*, I think it better to send my despatches by express.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL LEE.

New-York, August 12, 1776.

MY DEAR LEE: Notwithstanding I shall probably feel the effect, I do most cordially and sincerely congratulate you on your victory over *Clinton* and the *British* squadron at *Sullivan's Island*. A victory undoubtedly it is, when an enemy are drubbed and driven from a country they were sent to conquer. Such is the case of *Clinton* and Sir *Peter Parker*, who are now with the fleet and army at *Staten-Island*, where General *Howe* and the troops from *Halifax* have been ever since the last day of *June*, and Lord *Howe* since the 12th of *July*. Some *Hessians* and pretty many of the *Scottish* laddies have got in, and the residue of the fleet parted with off the Banks of *Newfoundland* hourly expected. When the whole arrive, matters will soon come to a decision, everything being prepared on both sides for the appeal; and, on ours, I hope it will be obstinate, if not successful. The latter it is not in the power of mortals to command; but they may endeavour to deserve it; and this, I am persuaded, our troops will more than ever aim at, as I have impressed upon their minds the gallant behaviour of the brave few who defended *Sullivan's Island*.

At present, the enemy can bring more men to a point than we can, and, when reinforced by the *Hessians* (unless the Militia, faster than heretofore, come to our aid) their numbers, when the *Hessians* arrive, cannot, by the best intelligence we can get, fall short of twenty-five thousand men; ours are under twenty, very sickly, and posted on *Governour's Island*, *Long Island*, at *Powles Hook*, *Horn's Hook*, and at the pass near *King's Bridge*. More Militia are expected; but whether they will be in time, time only can tell, as also where the point of attack will be. An opinion prevails, countenanced by hints from some of the principal Tories, and corroborated by intelligence from *Staten Island*, that part of the enemy's fleet and army will go into the Sound, whilst another part of it runs up the *North River*, thereby cutting off all communication by water with this place, whilst their troops form a chain across the Neck, and stop an intercourse with *Connecticut* by land. Others think they will not leave an army in their rear, whilst they have the country in their front, getting, by that means, between two fires, unless it is intended as a feint to withdraw our troops from the city, that they may slip in and possess themselves of it. All this is but a field of conjecture.

Our affairs in the North have been growing from bad to worse, till I hope they will mend, as one great source of evil is in a way of being removed—I mean the small-pox. But the Army have retreated from place to place, till they are now got to *Ticonderoga*, opposite to which, on the east side of *Lake Champlain*, they are about to establish a post, which, they say, will be invulnerable. But whether it may not be somewhat like the man who built a mill on account of a beautiful fall, and then had to consider whether it was practicable to bring water to it, remains in some measure to be determined, as it is the opinion of some (I know nothing of the country myself) that the enemy may pass this post and get into *Lake George* without receiving the least annoyance.

from this work. Whether they would choose to leave a post in their rear, without establishing one themselves sufficient to keep it in awe, is the point in question.

It gives me a very singular pleasure to hear of the gallant behaviour of your young Aids, and Mr. *Jenifer*; as also of Colonels *Moultrie* and *Thompson*. To be the means at any time of rewarding merit will add greatly to my happiness; and whenever you can point out a mode that can be adopted consistently, you shall find me very ready. But you know the temper of the troops in this quarter as well as I do, and how impracticable it is to bring in a person, let his merit be ever so great, without throwing a whole corps into confusion. This will also apply to Captain *Bullitt*. What vacancies there may be in your department that he has his eye to, and could be appointed to with propriety, you must know better than I. That there is none here I can undertake to say. I have no doubt but that Congress would annex the rank of Colonel to his office of Adjutant. I believe they have done it in the instance of *Griffin*, who is appointed Deputy-Adjutant to the Flying-Camp. If this would add anything to his satisfaction, I should have no objection to the mention of it.

With every wish for your prosperity and success, I remain, with sincere regard, your most affectionate and obedient,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To General *Lee*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As the time is certainly near at hand, and may be hourly expected, which is to decide the fate of this city and the issue of this campaign, I thought it highly improper that persons of suspected character should remain in places where their opportunities of doing mischief were much greater than in the enemy's camp. I therefore have caused a number of them to be apprehended, and removed to some distance, there to remain until this crisis is passed. Having formerly mentioned this subject to your honourable body, I would not again trouble them in a business which former connexions, obligations, and interests, must make very unpleasant, and which, I apprehend, must have been in danger of failing in the execution, unless done with all possible secrecy and despatch. I postponed this most disagreeable duty till the last moment; but the claims of the Army upon me, and an application from a number of well-affected inhabitants concurring with my own opinion, obliged me to enter upon it while time and circumstances would admit. I have ordered a very strict attention to be paid to the necessities of the gentlemen apprehended, and to their comfortable accommodations in every respect, both here and at the places of their destination. I have also written to the Committee of *Queen's County*, that this step is not to be construed as making their property liable to any injury or appropriation, unless they should receive directions from your honourable body, to whom I have referred them on this subject; being resolved in all cases, where the most absolute necessity does not require it, to confine myself wholly to that line which shall exclude every idea of interfering with the authority of the State. Some of these gentlemen have expressed doubts and raised difficulties, from engagements they lie under to your honourable body, or to some Committees. They do not appear to me to deserve much attention, as they cannot, with any propriety, be charged with a breach of any parole under their present circumstances; but I beg leave to submit to your consideration the propriety of removing the pretence.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect and regard, your most obedient, humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL WARD.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 4th instant is safe to hand. An answer to the several particulars it contains will be given soon. Time will but allow me to request your forwarding, with all possible despatch, two thirteen-inch sea mortars, of the best in *Boston*, to this place, with their beds and every thing complete.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Ward*.

COLONEL McDUGALL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, August 12, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to your Excellency's favour of the 9th, I take the liberty to enclose you a recommendation of Mr. *John Lawrence* as a Paymaster to the regiment, signed by the Field-Officers of it, and all the Captains then in camp. I pledge myself that he will discharge the office to the satisfaction of the General and the corps.

I have the honour to be, your very humble servant,

ALEX. McDUGALL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

New-York, August 9, 1776.

We the subscribers, Field-Officers and Captains in the First Regiment of the *New-York* troops, in the service of the *United States of America*, do hereby recommend Mr. *John Lawrence* as a fit person to be appointed as a Paymaster to the said Regiment.

ALEXANDER McDUGALL, *Colonel*.  
H. ZEDTWITZ, *Lieutenant-Colonel*.  
BAR. TUTHILL, *Major*.  
JOHN JOHNSON, *Captain*.  
BENJ. LEDYARD, *Captain*.  
DAVID LYON, *Captain*.  
ABM. A. VAN WYCK, *Captain*.  
JOHN WILEY, *Captain*.  
EZEKIEL HYATT, *Captain*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

RECOMMENDATION OF ROBERT PROVOOST.

New-York, August 12, 1776.

We the subscribers, Field-Officers of the Third Regiment of *New-York* troops, well knowing the integrity and fidelity of Mr. *Robert Provoost*, Quartermaster in said regiment, do, agreeably to General Orders of yesterday, recommend the said *Provoost* to his Excellency the General, as a proper person for a Regimental Paymaster, he also being a fair writer and a good accountant. We shall be happy, therefore, in his being appointed to that office.

RUD. RITZEMA, *Colonel*.  
FRED. WEISENFELS, *Lieut. Col*.

LIST OF OFFICERS OF COLONEL LASHER'S REGIMENT.

Colonel, John Lasher.	Quartermaster, Matthew Davis.
Lieut. Col., Andrew Stockholm.	Adjutant, Jeronemus Hoogland.
Major, William Smith Livingston.	
1st Capt., James Abeel.....	{ 1st Lieut., John Banker;
	{ 2d Lieut., Thomas Beekman.
2d Capt., Abraham Van Dyck...	{ 1st Lieut., John Anthony;
	{ 2d Lieut., Henry Breevoort.
3d Capt., William Leonard.....	{ 1st Lieut., John Harbeck;
	{ 2d Lieut., Oliver Meldeberger.
4th Capt., Theophilus Beekman..	{ 1st Lieut., Ethan Sickels;
	{ 2d Lieut., Thomas Lawrence.
5th Capt., David Dickson.....	{ 1st Lieut., Joseph Fortin;
	{ 2d Lieut., Robert Troup.
6th Capt., William Willcocks....	{ 1st Lieut., Ralph Thurman;
	{ 2d Lieut., Edward Dunscomb.
7th Capt., Charles Dickenson....	{ 1st Lieut., Abm. Mesier;
	{ 2d Lieut., Thomas Warner.
8th Capt., Jacob Wright.....	{ 1st Lieut., Jeffrey Hicks;
	{ 2d Lieut., Benjamin North.
9th Capt., Jaques Repalje.....	{ 1st Lieut., George Carpenter;
	{ 2d Lieut., John Vredenburgh.
10th Capt., Viner Van Zandt....	{ 1st Lieut., Frederick Stymets;
	{ 2d Lieut., Samuel Johnson.

August 12, 1776.—The above is a true Return, made out by Colonel *Lasher*, and desired by him to be by me this day delivered to Congress, in order to procure, as soon as possible, the several commissions.

WM. LIVINGSTON.

LIST OF OFFICERS OF VAN SCHAICK'S, NICOLSON'S, AND WYN-KOOP'S REGIMENTS.

VAN SCHAICK'S REGIMENT.

Goose Van Schaick, <i>Colonel</i> .	Peter B. Tears, <i>Adjutant</i> .
Peter Gansevoort, Jr., <i>Lieut. Col</i> .	——— Budd, <i>Surgeon</i> .
* Eleazer Curtis, <i>Major</i> .	
Captains.	First Lieutenants.
Joseph McCracken,	Guy Young,
† James Van Rensselaer,	John Barnes,
Andrew Fink,	Henry Deffendorf,
Benjamin Hicks,	Charles Parsons,
Job Wright,	Ebenezer Hill,
David Van Ness,	Holtham Dunham,
Robert Edmonston,	Peter J. Vosburgh,
Moses Martin.	Michael Ryan.

\* Belongs to *Connecticut*.

† Resigned.



## Second Lieutenants.

Job Cook,  
Tobias Van Veghten,  
James Clark,  
William Moulton,  
Manning V. Der Heyden,  
George Lythes,  
John J. Van Ness,  
Philip Conyne.

## Ensigns.

Luther Bissel,  
Thomas Hoit,  
John McClung,  
John Denny,  
Jonathan Brown,  
George Palmer,  
Nicholas Kettle,  
John Perkins Wendell.

## NICOLSON'S REGIMENT.

John Nicolson, *Colonel*.  
John Visscher, *Lieut. Colonel*.  
———, *Major*.

John Brogdon, *Adjutant*.  
Israel Evans, *Chaplain*.  
Joseph Marvin, *Surgeon*.

## Captains.

Gershom Mott,  
Elisha Benedict,  
John Graham,  
Robert Johnston,  
Ezekiel Cooper,  
Benjamin Evans,  
Dirck Hanson,  
John Copp.

## First Lieutenants.

Digby Odum,  
John G. Lansing,  
William Martin,  
Timothy Hughes,  
Isaac Hubbell,  
John Brogdon.

## Second Lieutenants.

Isaac Nichols,  
Nathaniel Henry,  
Francis Brendly,  
Thomas Nicholson,  
William Belknap,  
Thomas McClallen,  
Isaac Guion,  
John Blackney.

## Ensigns.

Charles F. Van Weisenfels,  
Francis Shaw,  
Asa Holmes,  
Peter Hartan,  
Thomas Lennington,  
Samuel Prebble,  
John Blackney,  
Thomas Lagan.

## WYNKOOP'S REGIMENT.

Cornelius D. Wynkoop, *Colonel*.  
Philip Cortlandt, *Lieut. Colonel*.

———, *Major*.  
Thomas Williams, *Quartermaster*.

## Captains.

Cornelius Van Santvoort,  
John H. Wendell,  
Samuel Van Veghten,  
Horman Vosburgh,  
Gerrit Veeder,  
Henry O'Hara,  
Robert McKean,  
Jacob Seeber.

## First Lieutenants.

Barent S. Van Salsbury,  
John Ten Broeck,  
Solomon Pendleton,  
Abner French,  
Abraham Becker,  
Jacob House,  
John Hogherk,  
Abdiel Sherwood.

## Second Lieutenants.

Isaac Bogert,  
John Welch,  
David Bates,  
Albert Van Der Werken,  
Obadiah Vaughan,  
John Seeber,  
John Ball,  
Levi Stockwell.

## Ensigns.

John Ostrander,  
Abraham Hardenburgh,  
Ephraim Snow,  
Samuel Wilson,  
David Becker,  
John Dunn,  
Daniel Everitt,  
William Scudder.

The above is a List of the Officers in the three above-mentioned Regiments. Those of *Van Schaick's* and *Nicolson's* are placed in the order in which they rank in their respective regiments. The order of rank of those of *Wynkoop's*, I am informed, is not ascertained.

*A Return made, NEW-YORK, AUGUST 12, 1776, to his Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, by order of Colonel STEPHEN MOYLAN, Esq., Quartermaster-General, of sundry articles, delivered in good order, by HUGH HUGHES, Assistant Quartermaster-General, to CHRISTOPHER HART, who engages to convey them in the like condition to the \*Hon. Major-General SCHUYLER, or his order, at ALBANY, the danger of the road excepted.*

For 24-pounders: 300 empty Paper Cartridges, 300 empty Flannel Cartridges.  
For 12-pounders: 400 empty Paper Cartridges, 600 empty Flannel Cartridges, 200 Fixed Tubes.  
For 6-pounders: 400 empty Paper Cartridges, 600 empty Flannel Cartridges, 500 Fixed Tubes.  
For 3-pounders: 250 empty Paper Cartridges.  
400 pounds Slow Match.  
5 dozen Port Fires.  
1 pair Callipers.  
12 reams Cartridge Paper.  
2 Spy Glasses.  
5 Speaking Trumpets.  
8 reams Writing Paper.  
200 Quills.  
57½ pounds Sheet Copper.  
1 barrel Brimstone—weight 3 cwt. 0 qr. 6 lbs.  
6 dozen Bolt-Rope Needles.  
1 piece Blue Bunting.  
2 Ensign Colours.  
2 boxes Tin.  
10 Tinman's Bick-Iron.  
10 dozen Gimlets.  
7 boxes Grape Shot—18 cwt. 3 qrs. 19 lbs., net.

STEPHEN MOYLAN, Q. M. G.

The above articles packed in five hogshheads, one barrel, and fourteen boxes, marked G. S.

## DOCTOR MORGAN TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 12, 1776.

SIR: Sensible of the value of your time, I should not now encroach upon it, were not some further regulations of Con-

\*It was intended at first to send these articles all the way by land, but since concluded to ship them at *Poughkeepsie*, or the most convenient landing above the men-of-war, &c.

gress necessary, or at least some explication of those already formed, respecting the appointment and subordination of officers in the General Hospital.

On my return from *Cambridge* to *New-York*, I found a number of sick had been sent here to the General Hospital from the Northern Department. Various applications were made to me from thence, as Director-General, by different officers in the service, and some of them in the Hospital there, in behalf of the sick. Large quantities of medicines were sent for by the Commissary and others, and by Dr. *Stringer* himself, Director in that district, which seemed to imply a full persuasion of a claim to and dependance on my care; but as I had not then received any regular information of the nature of Dr. *Stringer's* or Dr. *Potts's* appointments, I at first doubted whether those gentlemen had a right to depend on me for assistance, and accordingly wrote so to Dr. *Stringer*. I afterwards was informed, from what I conceived to be good authority, that the Congress had determined to assemble the various parts of the Hospital under the Director-General. This answering the idea I ever had of the nature of a General Hospital, readily obtained credit with me; yet not having received any instructions on that head, I thought it my duty to ask leave to visit *Philadelphia*, to learn the intentions of Congress, and to confer upon the necessary regulations for the better government of the Hospital, that I might not incur blame either for neglect of my supposed duty, or for intermeddling in matters not committed to my charge. After three days' conference with the Doctors' committee, and having made every necessary inquiry, I returned here with a full persuasion of there being but one General Hospital, (in the Northern Department,) though consisting of divisions, each under a separate Director, all united under one head, viz: the Director-General. As to Dr. *Stringer* and Dr. *Potts*, I learned that neither of those gentlemen had a power of appointing Surgeons to act under them, and Dr. *Potts* applied to me, as though he had been commanded to do it, for advice and assistance; yet, till I knew what would be the result of the Congress's determination, I forbore to give any order, but sent a quantity of medicine with him at his setting out for *Lake George*. As I was the person who proposed an augmentation of Surgeons in the General Hospital, on the same footing as the first appointment, and an allowance of other necessary officers, which was adopted by Congress, I had no doubt but the appointment of those additional Surgeons was intended by Congress to be intrusted with me; especially as it did not appear by any vote of Congress that the power of making that appointment was reserved to itself, and no other person but myself could be supposed to enjoy it. At the same time there being above three thousand sick reported to me in the Northern Department, I should have deemed myself culpable indeed if I had not sent the quantity of medicines sufficient for six more regimental chests, and more, named a Surgeon to assist in the care of the sick, and an Apothecary to dispense those medicines, since from the late regulations the Regimental Surgeons were authorized to draw upon the Hospital in their department for medicines. At the same time, the appearance of an approaching siege at *New-York*, requiring further chirurgical assistance, and there being no time to be lost in preparing for it, I was happy to have it in my power to nominate an additional Surgeon, one of my own choice, Dr. *James Armstrong*, who was luckily on the spot, (son of General *Armstrong*, a gentleman of liberal education, tried abilities, and established character in his profession,) for the Hospital at *New-York*. It was not till some time after I had settled those appointments, that I received a recommendation from Congress in favour of Dr. *Senter*. Wishing to employ him, I proposed his going as Surgeon of the Hospital to the northward, where the great number of sick and few Surgeons seemed to call more loudly for his assistance. In the meanwhile, Dr. *McHenry*, whom I had sent to *Philadelphia* for medicines for the northern Army, returned, and told me he had received information, as coming from you, that those gentlemen who were appointed for the northward by any other authority than of the Congress, (immediately,) might look for their pay where they could get it. I do not presume on any right to transgress the known orders of Congress, or pretend to know all the regulations it may have come into; but after I had been to *Philadelphia* on purpose to inquire, and from all I could then learn, as well as from anything I can yet discover in the

resolutions of Congress of *July 17th*, I thought it was clearly and indispensably my duty to make the appointments I did, in which I was actuated by no other motive than what I conceived to be for the good of the service; and should have deemed myself answerable to and reprehensible by Congress, had I neglected or deferred it. I have, indeed, been since told, that at the appointment of *Dr. Stringer*, it was evidently the intention of Congress to give him the same power in his department as the Director-General enjoyed in his: thus that a power was given him of appointing Surgeons and Nurses, &c. But I know that to be a mistake; for by the resolves of Congress of *September 14*, at which time he was appointed, no more power was given to him than is allowed to every Surgeon chosen by the Director-General, of choosing his own Mates. Seeing, then, if we may judge from the past, the Congress only reserved to itself the nomination of the Director-General and Directors, granting to the Director-General, and, as far as I know, to him only, the choice of Surgeons, allowing the Surgeons to choose their Mates, it does not appear from anything made publick that the Congress have resumed the power already granted.

I still flatter myself, from the manner in which I have discharged the duties of my station ever since I joined the Army, that Congress does not intend, unless the good of the service makes it necessary, to abridge the Director-General, in my person, of that authority which was deemed so proper in the person of my predecessor; and yet I fear in later appointments, for want of keeping up that idea of subordination so necessary in an Army, or want of attention to explain properly the nature and extent of those appointments, so as not to interfere with those which are prior, some resolves of Congress have been incautiously entered into, (I speak with reverence,) or titles of rank and distinction given, which have a tendency to interfere with mine. If you would wish to be further informed hereof, I would beg leave to refer you to what I have written on this subject to my worthy friend the Honourable *Thomas Hayward*. *Dr. Stringer's* sentiments on this subject, who is now gone to *Philadelphia* to lay his claims before Congress, may throw further light on the insufficiency of the present regulations respecting the rank and subordination of the different officers in the General Hospital department.

After all I have said, I cheerfully submit the propriety of my conduct in making the before-mentioned appointments in the General Hospital, and am desirous of conforming strictly to my instructions. If I have exceeded my commission, it has been for want of knowing the designs and resolves of Congress, or their being misunderstood. Should the Congress, on that footing, annul my appointments and make others, I must at least stand acquitted of intentionally going beyond the line of duty; and it will behooove Congress to be more explicit in respect to its intentions; for if the Congress does not suppose the appointment of any new Surgeon rests with me, of what use is it to recommend one to me for my approbation? I must pay an implicit obedience to their simple recommendation. In that case, I do not imagine there will be the same security for harmony, or for having the business of the Hospital so well executed, as where the choice of the Surgeons is left to the Director-General, which is an additional incentive to industry and an obliging behaviour in the Surgeon thus freely elected, to approve himself worthy of the choice. Be that as it may, wherever the path of duty is plain, I shall endeavour to walk steadily in it, having no design or inclination to exceed those bounds which the good of the service or the wisdom of Congress may prescribe to me.

I entreat your excuse for this long letter, and beg permission to subscribe myself, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN MORGAN.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp at Brookland, August 12, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Colonel *Hand* reports this morning a twenty-gun ship that came in last evening, fired as she passed through the *Narrows*, and was answered by the Admiral. Four ships went through the *Narrows* yesterday; they are at anchor along *New-Utrecht* shore. Twenty-five sail of ships are seen at a great distance at sea, coming in.

If your Excellency thinks Colonel *Varnum* deserving promotion, and another Brigadier is to be appointed, I wish he may be appointed.

I am your Excellency's most obedient servant,

N. GREENE.

LAST ORDER ISSUED TO GENERAL HEATH'S BRIGADE.

August 13, 1776.

The honourable Continental Congress having thought fit to promote Brigadier-General *Heath* to the rank of Major-General in the Army of the *United States of America*, and the Commander-in-Chief having thought fit to appoint him to the command of the division of the Army at *King's Bridge*, the Major-General most heartily thanks the officers and soldiers of his late Brigade for their soldier-like and orderly behaviour during the time he had the command of them, and for the great cheerfulness with which they have so remarkably performed the great and necessary fatigue of the campaign thus far. He laments the present sickly state of the Brigade, and implores the Great Physician of body (as well as soul) soon to send to them help. The day seems nigh at hand when they will be called to face the enemy in defence of everything dear in life, and he is confident that they will nobly distinguish themselves in their country's cause. And may the Lord of Hosts crown them with success. Should it ever be in the power of the Major-General to serve the officers or soldiers of his late Brigade, he will do it with the greatest pleasure.

RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 12, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 9th was delivered me last evening. Since the date of your letter, one hundred and eleven axes and one hundred and eighty-seven spades have been forwarded to *Fort George*, and I shall continue forwarding them as fast as I can. Musket cartridge-paper, or any other, it is out of my power to furnish you with. I have written this day to *New-York* for thirty reams of that article and the bullet-moulds. Three barrels of tar and eighty-one bars of iron have been sent to *Skenesborough* on *Saturday* and this day.

I am happy in informing you that five hundred and thirteen thousand dollars are arrived this morning, and the harvest is almost over. We shall not again experience the want of carriages or difficulty of transportation, except from the badness of the roads.

I am weary of importuning tradesmen and others for the publick, who are almost too lazy to earn their bread, when money is offered to the wagoners, who are backward when most wanted. I wish a Quartermaster were appointed here, that I may no longer do that extra duty, when others have the merit and can receive no blame.

Yours to his Excellency General *Washington* goes by this day's post. I had detained *L'Oiseau* and *Allaine*, and sent your letter forward to the General. Agreeable to your directions by Mr. *Clayton*, I shall take care of them till the General's return, who is positively to leave the *German-Flats* to-morrow.

In consequence of Mr. *Egbert's* requisition, by your order, three dozen broadaxes shall be sent by the first conveyance. The grubbing-hoes are making, and the scales and beams will be sent, if to be had, at least part of them. The weights I have ordered him to send for to *Livingston's Manor*. Small cartridge paper will be sent as soon as it arrives. Thread is sent, and the bar lead is now casting into musket balls of various sizes and buckshot. The boxes are numbered, beginning with the smallest size. Part is sent up; the remainder will be sent as soon as finished; as also two hundred buckets, axes, nails, and packages, now in store.

I have received large iron, which I sent for to *Livingston's Manor*, and the grapplings are begun here this day.

I have this day procured a sufficient quantity of sheet lead, (for aprons of guns,) which came from the country, in exchange for bar lead. I could not get it on any other terms, and it will be easier to procure cast than sheet lead for balls. I will order it up immediately. Some handspikes are now making here. I believe it will be easier to have them made there. I have sent nails, and will send some dressed skin for sponges to-morrow or next day. No tin or tinman is yet to be had here, nor have I yet got the copper.

I do myself the honour to enclose you copy of an invoice of such articles as General *Washington* has ordered from *New-York* to this place. In this list copper is mentioned. I am at a loss what to do now; I do not think that enough will be sent up from *New-York*.

This day I have procured three new sails, which were ordered to be made for the schooner *Liberty*, on *Lake Champlain*, by Governour *Skene*, before the commencement of his misfortunes. I shall send them up as a cover over the powder, instead of oil cloths. The powder would have gone off this day, but the bad weather has prevented it. The blocks and slow-match are momentarily expected from *Poughkeepsic*.

I am, with compliments to Colonel *Trumbull* and the gentlemen of your family, dear sir, yours, with every sentiment of esteem and respect,

RICHARD VARICK.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. I enclose copy of a return of cannon and grape-shot which I have ordered from *Livingston's Manor*, in consequence of General *Arnold's* requisitions.

Were my services not done to the benefit of my country, I should be much mortified, for I have frequently good reason to conclude, with the *Latin* poet—

“Hos ego versiculos feci, tulit alter honores;”

though I shall cheerfully do all in my power to advance the publick interest.

R. V.

I enclose you last *Monday's* paper. The attack is every day expected, and foreign troops coming in.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED ALBANY, AUGUST 12, 1776.

General *Schuyler* has returned from the Congress at the *German-Flats*, where he had to satisfy near two thousand *Indians*. They promise a strict neutrality. Some scalps have been taken near *Oneida Lake*. A scouting party of ours were attacked by a party of *Indians*, three killed and scalped, two wounded and escaped, who fell in with some of the *Indians* that had been at the treaty, who brought them safe to *Fort Stanwix*. A report of a large body of troops from *Canada* at *Fort Ontario*, and that *Clause* and *Builer* are there.

You will see *Carleton's* orders of the 14th of *August*, that were brought by Major *Bigelow*, who went with a flag of truce to carry the Declaration of Independency and the resolutions of Congress relative to the affairs of the *Cedars*. An officer of ours, who went to reconnoitre *St. John's* and *Chambly*, fell in with a regular officer on horseback, alone, on the road between *La Prairie* and *St. John's*, summoned him to surrender himself prisoner, but, clapping spurs to his horse, he rode off. Our officer fired at and shot him. It turns out to be a General *Gordon*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ALBANY, DATED AUGUST 12, 1776.

I find the more thinking sort of people do not credit the news of the *French* fleet being in *St. Lawrence River*. They rather think it is a story given out by *Burgoyne* to put our people off their guard. This day we have advice that there are two thousand *Indians* with General *Schuyler*; that he began the conference with them last *Tuesday*.

Mr. returned from the *Lake*, who was ordered there by Congress to inspect into the state of our Army. He says that our Army consists of five thousand effective men, hearty and in high spirits; that they have built complete fortifications; have sixty pieces of cannon, from nine to eighteen-pounders, mounted; that in a fortnight they will have upwards of one hundred pieces mounted; they have now in the *Lake* nine gondolas, two row-galleys, and three schooners, all complete and fit for service; that we shall have twenty-five or twenty-eight of those vessels in the *Lakes*, which will carry sixty pieces of cannon, one hundred and seventeen swivel-guns, and about five hundred men. That there were two officers sent out as spies some time since, one of whom returned while he was there, who reports that the enemy had about two thousand men at *St. John's*, one thousand at the *Isle-aux-Noix*, and one thousand or fifteen hundred at *Chambly*; that they had about thirty batteaus in the *Lake*, and no other vessels, nor any preparation for building more; that it appeared very clear to him that the

enemy did not mean to attack us, but expected to be attacked, for that they are only preparing for defence by enlarging their forts and erecting new ones. General *Gates* says it would not give him the least concern if the enemy were to come with twenty thousand men.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 12, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The weekly returns not being made out and forwarded by this boat was by reason of the great rain yesterday, which detained the boats bringing the returns from *Cheshire's*, but shall be forwarded with all possible despatch, with the true state of every corps.

His Honour the Governour's letter came this moment to hand, and I thought it of the utmost importance to be forwarded, and not wait for the return.

I am, dear General, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL GATES TO DOCTOR POTTS.

Ticonderoga, August 12, 1776.

SIR: I am informed that the Baron *De Woedtke*, some time before his death, made a solemn declaration to you of matter that highly concerns the interest of the *United States*. You will please forthwith to communicate to me the substance of the Baron's declaration. The bearer, Mr. *Lucas*, has my orders to wait for your letter, and return with it immediately to me.

I would not wish to give unnecessary trouble; once a fortnight is full often enough to make a general return of the Hospital.

I desire Dr. *Stringer* may come here as soon as he arrives at *Fort George*, and bring with him a good Surgeon, properly provided, for the service of the fleet.

I am, &c.,

HORATIO GATES.

To Dr. *Potts*, at *Fort George*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, August 12, 1776.

SIR: I am now to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 25th and 31st ultimo, and that of your Secretary, Mr. *Varick*, of the 3d instant; and have the pleasure to inform you that Captain *Van Buren* has succeeded so far as to purchase all the sail cloth, and part of the cordage it is expected he will be able to procure at *Middletown*. Whatever number of swivels can be had at *Salisbury*, will be spared for your use as requested. At present it is not in my power to inform you how many you may depend upon, or when it will be most convenient to deliver them, but shall take the earliest opportunity to advise you of both.

Such of the sea Captains you mention as are in this Colony I have written to, and expect their answer soon. Two of them, to wit: *Francis Brown* and , are abroad. I shall inquire after, and endeavour to engage some suitable persons, and advise you what you may expect, as soon as possible.

The residue of one thousand felling axes, with so much clothing as to make up two loads with the axes, I have sent forward to *Skenesborough*, and have written to General *Gates*, requesting him to give orders to some proper officer or other person to receive them.

I have received advices from Governour *Cooke*, of *Rhode-Island*, that one hundred and twelve sail of ships, seventeen of them men-of-war, the rest transports, were seen the 8th instant, fifteen leagues southeast by south from *Nantucket Shoals*, standing to the westward. Probably they are *Hessians* and *Highlanders*, bound to *New-York*, and arrived there before this time.

The bearer, *Brown*, our postrider, goes directly to *Ticonderoga*, and will send off an express to *Albany* from that part of his route nearest to it. I shall hope in future you will procure a post to meet him and change packets at such place as you think proper, and advise me of the time and place when and where such exchange will most conveniently be made. I am, &c., &c.,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

## GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

Lebanon, August 12, 1776.

SIR: I enclose you the copy of a letter to Brigadier-General *Waterbury*, of the 8th instant, and desire your attention to the matter of the infection of the small-pox therein mentioned. I flatter myself the measures taken for completing the regiments destined to join your Army will prove effectual, unless that distemper should again break out in it; but should that be the case, recruits would be procured in this State with the utmost difficulty.

The residue of the felling axes to make up one thousand are gone forward, with two loads of clothing for the use of the Army, (the axes included in them.) They are ordered to *Skenesborough* by the way of *Bennington*, where I hope they will meet your orders for their delivery to the proper officer, or such person as you shall appoint.

By a letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, of the 7th instant, I have intelligence that General *Clinton* and Lord *Cornwallis*, with the southern Army, have arrived from *South-Carolina*, and are landed at *Staten-Island*, in number between three and four thousand; that a fleet which came in a few days since are *Hessians* and *Scotch Highlanders*, part of twelve thousand who were left off *Newfoundland*, and that an attack upon some of our posts at or in the neighbourhood of *New-York*, may be very soon expected; that the enemy are moving all their heavy cannon and most of their field-pieces on board their ships, and had launched eight gondolas, and, in general, seemed preparing for an attack. In consequence of which, I have ordered the Militia of this State, of fourteen regiments, to march with all expedition and join General *Washington*, and hope they will arrive in season to take part in the defence of those important stations.

The controversy with *Great Britain* seems now approaching fast to a crisis. May the Great Ruler of all grant that the event may correspond with the justice of our cause.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

## REV. WILLIAM GORDON TO GENERAL GATES.

[Roxbury, August 12, 1776.]

FRIEND GATES: These *American* dog-days almost demolish me; they lay me under a universal lassitude of body and mind, so that I am neither fit for walking, nor talking, nor writing; but finding by your Adjutant's letter to *Julia* that a word from this civilized quarter revives the inhabitants of *Ticonderoga*, I must send you a few, as an expression of my desire to lessen the uncomfortableness of your dreary situation. From the account he has transmitted, I am convinced that you have had enough to exercise your patience; but you know it is one excellence of a good soldier to command his temper as well as his troops. By-the-by, as it comes in apropos, the *Howes* have been juggling together to learn his Excellency's temper, and, to their great mortification, have discovered that it is to be resolutely steady and immoveable. This is my interpretation of their proceeding in continuing to urge his acceptance of the letter. I suspect that your antagonist will not be so much for hurrying the war to a close, as for securing the present opportunity for the purpose of recruiting his broken fortunes. I still expect that we shall be saved by Providence, and not by luck; and am more than ever convinced, that if we are saved, it will be by Providence. The dilatoriness with which the reinforcements have been procured and sent on to the different camps, would have been the ruin of our affairs, had not the interposition of Heaven prevented. We have scarce any but west and southwest winds, chiefly the latter, which have retarded the ships amazingly.

I consider the southern expedition of the enemy as demolished, and give you joy upon it. Whether there will be hot work or no work at *New-York*, and the summer be spent in watching and skirmishing, must be left to futurity to discover. But you certainly have the post of honour, for you have the care of the weakest quarter, and are the most ill provided; a fine field for glory; the more difficulties, the more a man's abilities in surmounting them; the fewer and worse his tools, the more his dexterity and genius in finishing the work after a masterly manner. These

reflections have so often occurred to you, that they are quite stale; but they may suit well enough for your little man of an Adjutant: I would not say your little Adjutant, because that might have been thought a designed affront by a person whose heart is somewhat captivated by that bauble—alias bubble—honour.

Pray, have you any preaching among you? If so, does your Adjutant attend? If he attends, is he not taught not to seek honour from men, and to propose a better, lest he should have no other reward? Now the Parson shows himself. Well, and what if he does? What hurt of that? Every one ought to be consistent, and not ashamed of his commission. And if I have a commission from one that was crucified, but is now exalted above all, he would despise me, were I afraid to own or to act up to it. Well, then, that matter is settled; and I may go on to beseech that care may be taken of the soldiers' morals; that these may be good, as well as their quarters. Let not any future historian have to remark, as Lieutenant *Biggs* did, referring to the *Old England* troops: that the best in the world were most given to cursing and swearing. Put a stop to these unprofitable practices, that so, if I come to the camp, I may not be affronted and disgusted, and I promise you—health and strength permitting—I will endeavour to visit you before the campaign is over. Am plotting to set off the beginning of *September* for both camps. Doubt not but I shall meet with a hearty welcome from both his Honour and his Excellency; and I shall be greatly delighted to see them in the happy character of glorious conquerors, loved and admired by all about them for having been instrumental in saving the liberties as well as the necks of the *Americans*.

We get in a few *West-India* ships by way of a prize, to sweeten the sourness of the times and keep up our spirits. *Great Britain* will be all in a flame either at the Ministry or at us. I had rather at the former, as that may be best for our native country; but I am not afraid of the latter. The Powers of *Europe* will not always sleep. 'Tis likely that *France* and *Spain* have been only sleeping cat's sleep, and that they will suddenly jump upon their prey, when they see it is within their reach, and there is no danger of missing it.

I have not received your answer to my long letter, designed for you before you left *New-York*, but that friend *Hazard* sent after you. By whom or which way do you send it? Or have you not yet finished writing it?

The above was written the beginning of last week. Since this have been to *Providence*. Am now got to *Monday*, the 12th of *August*. Having heard no bad news from your quarter, am in hopes that Mr. *Burgoyne's* complaisance has given you an opportunity of preparing to receive him warmly whenever he shall advance on you.

The old forty-gun ship, with a thousand hogsheads of sugar, rum, and madeira, besides cotton, with some iron nine-pounders, and brass six-pounders, from *Tortola*, carried into *Portsmouth* last week. Arrived at *Boston* last *Saturday*, sent in by a couple of *Yorkers*, a ship from the *Granadas*, with four hundred bags of cotton, an article much wanted, and three hundred hogsheads of sugar. The merchants will certainly clamour.

*Julia* sends respects, as does Mrs. *Gordon*; take your own share of mine, and then proportion the remainder among friends. Wishing you protection and success, not only in stopping, but driving the enemy, I am your very sincere and affectionate friend,

WILLIAM GORDON.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

## GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, August 12, 1776.

SIR: This day I have forwarded one hundred barrels of powder for *Norwich*, there to be deposited agreeable to your directions. I have also forwarded a chest of arms to the care of Messieurs *Huntington*, to be by them sent to *New-York*; an invoice of them is here enclosed.

*Whetcomb's* regiment marched the 8th instant, and *Phinney's* the 9th, for *Ticonderoga*.

Last week Mr. *Glover*, the Agent, was in town, and informed me that he could not find the trowsers mentioned in the invoice of the cargo, and which your Excellency wrote for, and says they were not on board, unless they are in some



of the packages that are forwarded to *New-York*, which he did not open.

I am your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,  
ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

Received from *John Bradford, Esq.*, 27 Firearms, with-out Bayonets; 10 Cartridge Boxes; 2 Shot Bags; 2 Hair Knapsacks; 71 Canvass Knapsacks; 7 Slings.

NATHL. BARBER, JUN.

Boston, August 9, 1776.

JOHN BRADFORD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, August 12, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your Excellency's signature, under the 5th instant, directing me to take the necessary care of all the warlike stores and necessities for an Army, till I receive orders from proper authority. Your Excellency may rely on the strictest punctuality in complying with any future orders I may receive.

I have not omitted, since I have been in this department, giving a particular caution to each commander to prevent any embezzlements, and have furnished them with the resolve of Congress on that head; but it signifies little, for great complaints are made by those who came in the last prize, that they acted more like pirates than men who were so honourably employed. I am taking every measure to efface that notion of their being privateers; for while they continue in it they will act like such. Great need there is of a reform in our little Navy, which I hope in time may be effected.

I have the honour to be, with great truth, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

JNO. BRADFORD.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO MAJOR HAWLEY.

Watertown, August 12, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of Council have received your letter of the 5th instant, by Major *Pyncheon*. We are glad to hear that five companies of the men you were to raise for the Northern Department have already marched. We hope the other three marched by the time you mention. We trust that the Committee will forward those who have enlisted, and are now under inoculation, to their place of destination as soon as they have recovered their health. We have, agreeably to your desire, forwarded the blanks for the Staff-Officers by Major *Pyncheon*, and have furnished him with the necessary commissions for the officers that may be appointed to command your part of the fifteen hundred men destined to *Ticonderoga*, as also with the money for the bounty, advance pay, and for the blankets and guns.

We must entreat you would use your utmost exertions to raise and march these men to *Ticonderoga* as soon as possible, as they are much wanted there. The lower Counties' proportion of the fifteen hundred men were raised fifteen days ago, and are waiting to know what number we raised in the County of *Hampshire*, in order to determine into what regiment they shall be embodied. It is desired you would make a return to the Council as soon as these men are raised.

In the name and by the order of the Committee of Council.

I am, with great respect, your most humble servant.

To Major *Hawley*.

COLONEL HURD TO MESHECH WEARE.

Haverhill, August 12, 1776.

SIR: The intention of the Committee was to have got Colonel *Porter* off this morning; but he says he has tried every step in his power to prevent being sent to *Exeter*. He has petitioned the Committee of this town, and been soliciting several persons of the other Committee, for a new hearing, under pretence that he has not had opportunity to vindicate himself, nor to procure such evidence in his favour as he can do, if more time was allowed; but the truth is, I am persuaded, that he thinks and has brought over Mr. *James Bayley*, Chairman of the *Haverhill* Committee, and two or three other persons, to be of the same opinion, that he

ought not to be sent out of the County for trial; that as this district is not represented, and has remonstrated against our form of Government, the Colony Committee of Safety have no authority to order him to *Exeter*. I have therefore been obliged to exert myself in this matter, as Captain *Woodward* can inform you, and have had a hard struggle to obtain the point—some objecting, too, that we ought not to send *Porter* away, unless we send the whole number; but it is the general opinion, besides ours of the Committee, that he is a dangerous person to tarry among us. For my own part, I shall not be easy to have him remain here longer, as I can more particularly hereafter inform you, and my reasons. In the mean time, I trust your Committee will order Colonel *Porter* to be properly taken care of. I would not recommend a close imprisonment, but that he is well secured.

If you think proper to allow him a hearing before the General Court should meet, you will please to inform us by Captain *Woodward's* return, that the evidences may be sent down to confront him, which we shall look upon as absolutely necessary, especially Mr. *Daniel Hall*, and whether it be advisable to send the others who belong to *New-York* Government.

We have had much trouble in this business, as you may well think, and I am sorry to give you so large a share by my long letters, which I beg you will excuse; and am, respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. HURD.

To the Honourable *Meshech Weare, Esq.*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

ETHAN ALLEN TO CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

Halifax Jail, August 12, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: In addition to my letter of the 8th instant, I have to inform, that intelligence was yesterday received in this place that General *Clinton* had failed in an attempt to take *Charlestown* by water; that a fifty-gun ship and two frigates were almost destroyed; that a third was burnt by the *Americans*, and that two or three more were so surrounded by batteries and shivered to pieces, that they were unable to get out to sea; and that *Clinton* was returned to Head-Quarters, *Staten-Island, New-York*, where the King's Army were encamped, and that no action of moment had happened at *New-York*.

I greatly rejoice to hear that the States of *America* have declared for independency. I am the more confirmed in its importance, in consequence of many political arguments from a *French* gentleman. He assures, that on a supposition of that declaration, the *French* and *Spaniards* will assist, and come into alliance with *America*; and I assure you that the *English* rascally treatment to me has wholly erased my former feelings of parent State, mother country, and, in fine, all kindred and friendly connexion with them. I have never asked better treatment than what the laws of arms give to prisoners between foreign nations; but instead of that, have been crowded into the most filthy apartments of ships, among privates, where I have, almost the whole of my time since taken, been covered with lice; and though I have genteel clothes, could not, for this reason, wear them till since I have been confined in the common jail of *Halifax*, which is about a week. The prisoners have the liberty of the yard; but there is no distinction between gentlemen and others. If I must suffer the vengeance and ignominy of tyrants, it would be more graceful for *Turks, Moors*, and barbarians. The names of the prisoners that were taken with me are as follows, namely: *Roger Moor, Peter Noble*, (who made his escape from a man-of-war at *Cape-Fear*,) *Levi Barnem, Barnabas Cane, Preston Denton, John Gray, Zachariah Brimsmaid, William Drinkwater, Jonathan Maho, Levi Mearson, Samuel Lewis, William Gray, David Goss, Amos Green, John James Burque, Ithuriel Flower, Charles Stuard, Ebenezer Mack, and Adonijah Maxam*. Thirteen *Canadians* were taken with me: one is dead since, the other twelve are at work in the King's yard. Sundry are sick with the scurvy, but are getting better.

I remain your humble servant,

ETHAN ALLEN.

To the Honourable the General Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*, or to the Council of War of the same Colony.

N. B. We know not the cause why we are not yet exchanged, as it seems the King's troops might be compelled

to it, inasmuch as you have so many prisoners in your hands, more especially as you have many of the King's officers. I will lay my life on it, were you to treat them as they have me, they would willingly have exchanged us before. Now, we are destitute of cash, friends, &c., everything desirable.

E. A.

ARTHUR LEE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

London, August 13, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I answered your last letter immediately. I now enclose you several pamphlets, which contain such an authentick state of facts, and such arguments on the *American* question, as will enable its advocates with you to maintain their ground against the pensioner of this Court. I beg particularly that you will send some of them to the gentleman who has answered *Pinto*, the pensioner of this Court.

The pamphlet entitled the *Rights of Great Britain*, &c., is full of the grossest falsehoods. A very material one is exposed by the enclosed extracts from the acts of Parliament granting bounties upon *American* produce, which proves by their own words, that those bounties were given for their own interests only. Yet that pamphlet has given a long list of the amount of those bounties, and charged it to the Colonies. The fact is as Dr. *Smith*, a *Scotchman*, and an enemy to *American* rights, has stated it, in his late laboured and long-expected book on the *Wealth of Nations*. "Whatever expense," says he, "*Great Britain* has hitherto laid out in maintaining this dependancy, has really been laid out in order to support their monopoly." Speaking of the debt incurred last war, he says: "This whole expense is in reality a bounty, which has been given in order to support a monopoly. The pretended purpose of it was to encourage the manufactures, and to increase the commerce of *Great Britain*." The operation of this monopoly against the Colony he states thus: "The monopoly of the Colony trade, therefore, like all the other mean and malignant expedients of the mercantile system, depresses the industry of all other countries, but chiefly that of the Colonies."

When you write to the Congress it would be well, I think, to mention that as all the evils have been produced by *Scotch* counsel, and those people prosecute the business with more rancour and enmity, a distinction ought to be made between the treatment of them and other people, when made prisoners.

We expect every day some decisive news from *New-York*. The last Gazette gives us no reason to fear anything but the chance of war, against which no prudence can provide. We have certain intelligence from *Canada*, that it will be the last of *August* before the boats will be ready upon *Lake Champlain* for the Ministerial Army; so that there is no possibility of their joining *Howe*. They are putting eleven ships of the line in commission here, which is kept very secret, or it would shake the stocks exceedingly.

Adieu,

ARTHUR LEE.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL HYDE.

[No. 132.]

Annapolis, August 13, 1776.

SIR: As we are very desirous of having the troops stationed at *Baltimore* under your command armed as speedily as possible, and as we are informed the Committee of Observation of *Harford* County have about sixty stand belonging to this Province, we request you will immediately send up for them, and deliver them, on receipt, to your companies. Enclosed you have an order on the Committee for them.

We are, &amp;c.

To Colonel *William Hyde*.

JOSEPH RICHARDSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Dorchester County, August 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We herewith send you, under guard, *John Price*, who was taken in the service of *Dunmore*, with *Wheeland*, *Evans*, and *Howith*, whom we sent you some time since. *Price* was in the small-pox when the others were sent, which occasioned the delay of sending him with them. The charge against him will appear in the depositions of *Yell* and *Mareman*, already transmitted to you.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

Signed by order of the Committee.

JOS. RICHARDSON, Chairman.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

FRANCIS BAKER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Talbot County, August 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I herewith have the honour to return you my commission, it not laying in my power to discharge the trust under the present resolves of Convention.

I am, gentlemen, your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

FRS. BAKER.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, August 13, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I wrote you some time ago acquainting that I had two schooners which were sunk at the mouth of this harbour, by order of the Committee, for upwards of three months. An allowance has been made me to put the vessels into as good order as when they were taken away; but I am told an application must be made to the Council of Safety for payment of the damages. I should be glad to know when it would be proper to apply, and what vouchers the Council will require, to ascertain the time the vessels were out of my possession. If necessary, I can make it appear that I have paid considerable sums for freight of other vessels during the time my own were sunk. I hope you will excuse my being troublesome to you. I do not want to come down to *Annapolis* until I am prepared with the necessary vouchers to complete the business. You will oblige me very much by giving me an answer at your convenience.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

ROBT. CHRISTIE, JUN.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*.

THOMAS STONE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, August 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am very glad to be informed that Lord *Dunmore* and his fleet have quitted the Bay, and am hopeful this circumstance will induce your Militia to lend assistance to their neighbours with more alacrity than could have been expected while an enemy was hovering on their coast. You may be assured they are much wanted in the *Jerseys* and at *New-York*, where an attack is daily expected, and at both which places our strength is by no means sufficient to oppose the enemy with that certainty of success which every man who considers the importance of the event must wish.

Captain *Thomas* is arrived with his company. I shall rejoice to see Colonel *Griffith* with his troops, and shall with pleasure afford him and all other officers and troops from *Maryland* any assistance in my power. I shall show particular attention to Colonel *Griffith*, your recommendation entitling him to particular notice.

The difficulties you have experienced in raising your quota of the Flying-Camp I am convinced have been distressing; but I hope they are now pretty well over. You may have any money you want from Congress, upon application. The enemy's strength at *Staten-Island* is fifteen thousand men. The *Hessians* are daily expected: by the last accounts, they were shipping their men, and making all necessary preparations for an attack. General *Washington* is not so strong as he could wish. Upon these movements of the enemy, he ordered a reinforcement of two thousand from *Jersey* to *York*. The *Maryland* battalion was immediately sent to him; but I believe the camps in *Jersey* were too weak to spare any more. I observe many of the Militia of this State in motion; but many are leaving the camp, and are not to be kept there by threats or persuasions. I intend to leave this city on this day week, till which I shall be ready to execute your orders; being, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

T. STONE.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Congress Chamber, August 13, 1776.

SIR: I have nothing in charge from Congress to communicate to you. Had not the honour of a letter by the post. I judge the return express is on the road, by whom wish to have an agreeable account of the state of the Army.

I am, with perfect esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

MEASE AND CALDWELL TO RICHARD PETERS.

Philadelphia, August 13, 1776.

SIR: The honourable Congress having been pleased to direct us to provide a large quantity of necessary clothing for the use of the Continental Army, of which felt hats and coarse yarn stockings are very material articles, and in order to secure the quantity requisite in proper time, they must be engaged now from the manufacturers, as we find that private speculations are beginning to engross them; we have therefore to request you will lay this before the Board of War, in order that application be made to General *Mercer* for the discharge of *Joseph Kerr*, hatter, of Captain *Wills's* company, in the first battalion; and *Philip Mause*, stocking-weaver, of Captain *Kling's* company, in the fourth battalion of *Philadelphia* Militia; as these two men will be exceedingly useful to us in providing those essential articles, having found them so last fall, when they assisted us with great address and fidelity. If we did not know how usefully we could employ them in procuring the above articles, and how necessary it is they should be immediately engaged, we should by no means wish for their discharge from the Army at this juncture.

We are, sir, your very humble servants,

MEASE & CALDWELL.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary at War.

At a Board of War, August 13, 1776, P. M., agreed to report to Congress:

That Monsieur *Weibert*, now serving in the Continental Army at *New-York* as an Engineer, be appointed Assistant Engineer, with the rank and pay of Lieutenant-Colonel; and that his pay commence from the time of his engaging in the service.

That General *Mercer* be directed to discharge or grant furloughs to *Joseph Kerr*, Hatter, a private of Capt. *Wills's* company, in the First Battalion, and to *Philip Mause*, a Stocking Weaver, a private in Captain *Kling's* company of the Fourth Battalion of *Philadelphia* Militia, these two persons being applied for by Messrs. *Mease & Caldwell*, Commissaries, to whom their services are indispensably necessary in making and providing clothing for the Army.

That the Council of the *Massachusetts-Bay* be requested to appoint one of the General Officers of their Militia to command the Troops which that State has ordered for its defence in the room of the Continental Regiments lately ordered from *Boston* to *New-York* and *Ticonderoga*, which General Officer shall be invested with the same powers and subject to the same duties within that State, and be upon the same establishment with the Continental General Officers, during the continuance of the said troops in the Continental service.

JOHN HUBLEY TO WILLIAM ATLEE.

Philadelphia, August 13, 1776, three o'clock, P. M.

SIR: I have received your favour, with the money and letter enclosed for Mr. *Cox*, which I delivered to him immediately, and now enclose you a receipt. Mr. *William Cox* tells me that your privateer is almost finished and already manned; that his brother has been offered five-and-twenty per cent. profit on his shares. When I received yours I had just come from Convention, and by the way heard that our Militia were marching from *Amboy* to *New-York*; that one hundred and four vessels were just arrived, which it was supposed contained the foreign troops; but I went immediately to do your business, and have not time at present to inquire into the truth of the report, as the Convention meets again at four o'clock. By my brother I have sent for your Committee some resolves. I had not time to pack up and direct them properly; you will be kind enough to excuse the manner in which they come. Mr. *Ross*, with two other Commissioners, set out this day from Convention to form the Flying-Camp.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HUBLEY.

To *William Atlee*, Esq., Lancaster.

P. S. 14th.—I refer you for particulars to Mr. *Lanman*.

CHESTER COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation }  
for Chester County, August 13, 1776. }

Pursuant to several resolves of the honourable Committee of Safety, recommending the respective Committees of Inspection, &c., of this Province to appoint suitable persons to provide for the distressed families of Associators when they are in actual service: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the following persons be, and are hereby, appointed for that purpose, viz:

Robert Witherow,	Jonathan Pugh,	David John,
Caleb Way,	John Pugh,	David Davis, Charles-
William Kenedy,	Paul McKnight,	town.
John Smith,	John Gruber,	Jenkin Davies,
Richard Cheyney,	Israel Longacre,	David Davis, Tredyf-
Samuel Holliday,	William Worral,	fryn,
Francis Alexander,	Lewis Davis,	James Davis,
William Irwin,	Adam Grubb,	Benj. Bartholomew,
Jeffrey Bentley,	Thomas Hinkson,	David Cloyd,
Thomas Trueman,	Robert Pennell,	William Trimble,
Thomas Evans,	James Lindsey,	George Thomas,
Joseph Treago,	Richard Reyley, Esq.,	William Hunter,
Francis Gardner,	Mordecai Cloud,	John Steel,
Robert Ralston,	Robert Finney,	Joshua Evans,
Henry Acre,	David Wherry,	Griffith Jones,
John Robinson,	Samuel Fathy,	Edward Jones,
David Thomas,	Samuel Ramsey,	Samuel Brookes,
John Lloyd,	John Glascow,	John Morris,
Theophilus Reese,	Robert Wilkin,	Isaac Davis, Esq.,
John Wagoner,	John Fulton,	Henry Hayes.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM EVANS, *Chairman*.

GENERAL HOWE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Staten-Island, August 13, 1776.

General *Howe* desires to know if General *Washington* has any objection to Mr. *Robert Temple's* being landed at *New-York*, and going from thence to his family in the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 13, 1776.

SIR: As there is reason to believe that but little time will elapse before the enemy make their attack, I have thought it advisable to remove all the papers in my hands respecting the affairs of the States from this place. I hope the event will show the precaution was unnecessary, but yet prudence required that it should be done, lest by any accident they might fall into their hands. They are all contained in a large box, nailed up, and committed to the care of Lieutenant-Colonel *Reed*, brother to the Adjutant-General, to be delivered to Congress, in whose custody I would beg leave to deposite them until our affairs shall be so circumstanced as to admit of their return.

The enemy, since my letter of yesterday, have received a further augmentation of thirty-six ships to their fleet, making the whole that have arrived since yesterday morning ninety-six.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. I would observe, that I have sent off the box privately, that it might raise no disagreeable ideas, and have enjoined Colonel *Reed* to secrecy.

G. W.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, August 13, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 6th instant I received this morning by *Bennet*. The reports made by the emissaries, who have been among the *Indian* nations, appear not so promising as I could wish. However, I trust as so many have come to the treaty, their views are friendly, and though they may not consent to take an active part, that they will not arm against us.

The difficulties attending the vessels fitting for the Lakes I am well apprized of. My late letters will inform you that I have taken every measure in my power to facilitate the work. Before this comes to hand the Paymaster, I expect, will have received a supply of money. The extract of Mr. *Varick's* letter shows it was much wanted. I have not failed in any instance to communicate your wants of this

article to Congress when they have been mentioned to me; urging, at the same time, not only the expediency, but necessity of keeping the military chests constantly furnished. It will be well for you always to give them early notice of what you may have occasion for, that their remittances may be adequate. In future I presume they will have the fullest information upon that subject, having, by some late resolves, enjoined their commanders in every department to transmit them monthly a list of the warrants they grant, the Paymasters to return a weekly state of their military chests, and the Commissaries and Quartermasters of what they receive. I have not these regulations by me, but if my memory serves, they were passed the 2d instant, and have been forwarded to you. I have always laid before Congress copies of your letters and their enclosures, when they were of a publick nature, or contained intelligence in any way material, except when advised that you had done it yourself. I shall here take occasion to request, that whenever you write to them and me of the same things, you certify me thereof, to prevent me transmitting useless information.

In respect to Colonel *Nicolson's* regiment and the places where it should be stationed, you certainly can determine better than I, having more in your power intelligence of the enemy's movements and designs.

I would observe, in answer to that part of your letter which mentions that a Council of Officers or a Court-Martial had been convened and held here to decide upon the Council of those who had sat at *Crown-Point*, that your information is wrong. No Council, no Court of Inquiry, nor Court-Martial, upon that subject, sir, was ever convened by my order or their own accord. When intelligence was first received here that *Crown-Point* was abandoned, it was the cause of a general alarm, and filled the minds of most who heard it with no small degree of anxiety; some judging from the commonly accepted opinion, and others from their knowledge and acquaintance with it and the country round about it, that it was of the last importance to us to possess it, to give us, in conjunction with the vessels we were about to build, the superiority of the Lake, and to prevent the enemy from penetrating into this and the Eastern States. Among others, some of the General Officers, from their own knowledge, and the rest from the ideas they had formed as the matter was occasionally mentioned, delivered their sentiments to this effect, as did every person I heard speak of it at the time the account first came. From the universal chagrin that took place, the regret that every person expressed upon the occasion, the Remonstrance of the Officers which you transmitted, and which appeared to contain many weighty reasons, I felt myself much concerned, as everybody else did, and wished, according to my information and opinion at that time, the post had been maintained. I do not wish to dwell longer upon the subject, and therefore shall only add that your letter of the 24th ultimo (or at least a copy of it) was transmitted to Congress as soon as it was received; nor shall I have any objection to sending a copy of the one before me now, when I have an opportunity to make it out, if it shall be your inclination and request.

I have no news of any importance to communicate, unless that the enemy are daily becoming stronger. On *Monday* they received an augmentation of ninety-eight ships to their fleet, with a further part of the foreign troops it is probable. They seem to be making great preparations, and we have reason to expect they are upon the point of making an attack. The letters which accompany this you will be pleased to deliver to Generals *Gates*, *Reed*, and *St. Clair*; they came to hand on *Sunday*. And wishing you, and the Army under your command, health, and the smiles of a kind Providence on all your efforts, I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

GENERAL HEARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, August 13, 1776.

SIR: Please to grant an order on the Paymaster General for the payment of my brigade to the 1st of this instant, as the greatest part of them are under the necessity of receiving their wages before they move; which granted will oblige your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANIEL HEARD.

JOSEPH REED TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 13, 1776.

SIR: The critical situation of the Army at this time required the removal of all persons of suspected characters. Among others, the two gentlemen who will have the honour of waiting upon you with this have been apprehended and brought to this place. As there were no specific charges against them, but the measure was merely cautionary, his Excellency indulged them on their parole with personal liberty; and though he removed the others to *Connecticut*, for some special reasons, and a confidence which he reposed in Captain *Hamilton* and Mr. *Young*, he permitted them to go to *Philadelphia*, there to be subject to the orders of the honourable Congress; for which purpose they now wait on you.

I have the honour to be, most respectfully, sir, your obedient and very humble servant,  
JOS. REED.

STEPHEN MOYLAN TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 13, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency the General sent me yesterday copy of a resolve of Congress, passed the 2d instant. In compliance therewith, I have the honour to enclose you an account of all moneys I have received from the Paymaster-General since my appointment to the Quartermaster-General's office, until this day. I shall henceforward send weekly returns thereof; and as soon as possible transmit returns of the stores under mine and the assistants' directions, with the distribution of them.

I have the honour to be, with very great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant, STEPHEN MOYLAN.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

BARON DE CALBIAC TO RICHARD PETERS.

New-York, August 13, 1776.

SIR: I received from you, through the hands of General *Washington*, part of some papers I left with Colonel *McKean*. There are other very material ones, which I left at the same time, which have not been transmitted to me. I should suppose Colonel *McKean* sent to your office the whole of the papers together. I have written to him on the subject; but in case you may not hear from him soon, should esteem it a great favour that you would examine in the office if there are no other papers of mine, which have been overlooked. The papers which are wanting are my passport from *France*, and two letters of service from the *French Court*.

You will excuse the trouble I give you, from your most obedient, very humble servant,

LE BARON DE CALBIAC.

GENERAL SCOTT TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, August 13, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Willet Taylor* is a prisoner. He is an infirm man, his father-in-law, Mr. *Bogart*, a staunch Whig. No difficulty can arise from the interposition of the Congress in his affair. I am sure the General will not be displeased with it. I am told Mr. *Taylor* is willing to give assurances on oath; and very probably his father-in-law will undertake for him. For the sake of his family, and particularly his wife, who is far gone in her pregnancy, I could wish the Convention of the State of *New-York* would do something in the case. If he is left to me, I must of course order him to *Connecticut*.

If Congress will interfere in the affair, I will answer for it to the General. I should be glad to know their determination on the subject.

I am, sir, with all imaginable respect, their and your most obedient servant, JNO. MORIN SCOTT.

To the Honourable the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, Harlem, August 13, 1776. }

Resolved, That General *Scott* be empowered, with the permission of his Excellency General *Washington*, to dispose of *Willet Taylor*, Esq., within this State.

A true copy from the Minutes:

JOHN MCKESSON, Secretary.



## SAMUEL LOUDON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, August 13, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have been informed that there is another sum of money to be soon printed by order of Congress. If I am honoured with their command to print it, there will be absolute necessity to remove my press to some place of safety and convenience for the purpose.

I have thoughts of taking down my press to-morrow, but where to remove it I know not. The situation here at present is dangerous. I mean to continue my newspaper, and remove to such place as the posts may meet, which, I suppose, will not be far from the city. If I can be serviceable to the honourable Congress of this State, I am ready to obey their order, by removing to such place as they may think fit.

I shall be glad of your answer and advice on this subject; and am, dear sir, your most humble servant,

S. LOUDON.

To John McKesson, Esq.

## GENERAL WADSWORTH TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, August 13, 1776.

HONoured SIR: Received yours of the 6th instant to Colonel Dyer; and having been previously informed that circular letters had been issued by your Honour to the civil authorities, &c., to promote enlistments into the several regiments in my brigade to complete the same, had sent recruiting officers into Connecticut to facilitate the enlistment; which I did as soon as I judged the pressing necessity for labour was so far over as to afford the least prospect of success. Am informed Major St. John is coming down with the Militia. If so, I think it would be best he should muster the troops here, unless some more eligible mode may be suggested. I herewith transmit a copy of the last brigade return, by which it appears Colonel Gay's regiment is at Long-Island, but has now orders to return into the city. In the present hurry of business, must beg leave to refer your Honour to Colonel Dyer and Mr. Law for intelligence.

I am, with great esteem and regard, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES WADSWORTH, JUN.

To the Hon. Governour Trumbull.

## ROBERT YATES TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Poughkeepsie, August 13, 1776.

SIR: Your Excellency's letter of the 21st ultimo arrived here at a time when this Committee was dispersed, and the members gone different ways on different business. It was, however, sent by express to Mr. Jay, who was then in Connecticut, endeavouring to procure cannon for the defence of Hudson's River; and we have the pleasure of informing your Excellency that we have obtained ten twelve, and ten six-pounders, with fifty rounds of shot for each cannon; four of the twelve are now at Fort Montgomery.

We have paid a second visit to the forts, and were pleased to find the fortifications at the West-Point, opposite to Fort Montgomery, going on with spirit. We think it a most important post, and are confident that if it be well fortified and defended, it will, together with Fort Montgomery, effectually secure that important pass. The attention General Clinton has paid to that work, as well as other objects of publick concern, merits approbation. Several of the garrison have been put to exercising the artillery, and we hope a number of good matrosses will in that way be made.

The chain intended for the Sorel is arrived, and will form a quarter part of the one designed for Hudson's River. The iron for the remainder is come to hand, and the smiths begin this day to forge it. We have agreed to fix one end of it at Fort Montgomery, and the other at the foot of a mountain called Anthony's Nose. It will cross the river obliquely, and for that reason be less exposed to the force of the tide, and less liable to injury from the ships of the enemy. The length of the chain will, at least, be twenty-one hundred feet.

We have purchased and are now fitting out two sloops, each of sufficient force to manage a tender, and have appointed Captain Benson (who will be the bearer of this letter) commander of the one, and Captain Castel of the other. The late levies have so far drained the country of men, that

we fear it will be impracticable to man these vessels unless the officers be permitted to enlist them from among the levies. Between fifty and sixty men for each vessel will be sufficient. Should this expedient meet your Excellency's approbation, we flatter ourselves the vessels would in a very short time be fit for service.

We are much obliged to your Excellency for communicating to us the agreeable intelligence of the success attending the bravery of our Carolina friends, as well as for your constant and unwearied attention to the safety and defence of this State.

We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect and esteem, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servants. By order of the Committee:

ROBERT YATES, Chairman.

To His Excellency General Washington.

## CAPTAIN SMITH (PRISONER) TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Esopus, August 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When Captain Biddle, of the Congress armed vessel the *Andrew Doria*, on the 29th May last, took the *Oxford* transport, on board of which was a company of his Britannick Majesty's Forty-Second Regiment of Foot, Captain Biddle, upon taking the officers out of the *Oxford*, only allowed them to take their bedding and a few shirts with them, and told them that by orders of the Continental Congress all that was the private property of the prisoners that were taken, should be allowed them, and that he would return the officers their swords upon coming on shore.

My reason for troubling you with this, gentlemen, is, that you mentioned that when any prisoners had business of any kind, they were to apply to you. Now I, and the rest of the officers of my company, who were taken on board the *Oxford*, will be glad to be informed whether or not we will be allowed our baggage, and what was our private property, that was on board at the time we were taken. All my clothes and other baggage, and about sixty guineas in cash, were on board; as likewise Lieutenant Franklin's, who is prisoner with me here, and Lieutenant Monroe's and Ensign Campbell's, whom Captain Biddle carried to Rhode-Island with him. Captain Biddle gave the command of the *Oxford* to one of his Lieutenants, a Mr. McDougall, and a Mr. Tribbet.

I should be very much obliged to you, gentlemen, if you will be so kind as to let me have an answer to this as soon as it is convenient.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN SMITH, Captain in  
His Britannick Majesty's 42d Reg't.

To Jno. Brown, Esq., and the other gentlemen appointed by Congress for the disposition of Continental prisoners.

## GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, August 13, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 7th instant, by Mr. Root, and the intelligence it contains, have given me great concern and anxiety. The soon expected strength of the enemy, and the weakness of your Army, were equally unforeseen and surprising. Though I never gave credit to the publick accounts of your numbers, yet I could not suspect they fell so much short of the numbers proposed as I find they do.

Immediately upon receipt of your letter I summoned my Council of Safety, and ordered nine regiments of our Militia, in addition to the five Western regiments, (fourteen in the whole,) to march without loss of time and join you, under the command of Oliver Wolcott, Esq., Colonel of the regiment, as their Brigadier-General, who is appointed and commissioned to that office. These orders are accompanied with the most pressing recommendation of speedily carrying them into execution, enforced by communicating as much of the intelligence you was pleased to favour me with, of your situation and danger, as I thought prudent and necessary.

I have likewise proposed that companies of volunteers, consisting of able-bodied men not in the Militia, should associate and march to your assistance, under officers they should choose, and have promised them like wages and allowance of provisions, &c., as the Continental Army receive. Some such companies are formed, and I expect more will be.

Whatever their numbers may be, they will be ordered to join some one of our Militia regiments, and submit themselves to the command of their field officers while they continue in service. Colonel *Ward's* regiment is on their march to join.

I am far from trusting merely in the justice of our cause. I consider that as a just ground to hope for the smiles of Heaven on our exertions, which ought to be the greatest in our power.

These fourteen regiments, sent on the present emergency, consist of substantial farmers, whose business requires their return when the necessity of their further stay in the Army is over; and doubt not your attention thereto, and that you will dismiss them in whole or in part as soon as you think safe and convenient.

Captain *Bacon* has not been with me, though I have heard of him, and that he is returned without going to *Rhode-Island*. Captain *Van Buren* has been here upon the same errand, and has procured all the sail-cloth that was wanted, and part of the cordage, and has a prospect of obtaining the rest of the cordage in this Colony. I have, notwithstanding, forwarded your letter to Governour *Cooke*, and likewise given him the intelligence I received from you, agreeable to your request.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, August 13, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you yesterday, since which Captain *Seth Warren*, one of the sea Captains you mention, came to me, and hath consented to undertake and raise a company of seamen for the Lake service. He informs me that he can soon procure twenty seamen here, and as many more out of the companies in Colonel *Mott's* regiment, which went from his neighbourhood, and are at or on their march to *Skenesborough*. I have conferred with him, and, on consideration, offered the following encouragement to such able-bodied seamen as shall enlist into the service, to wit: Bounty, (\$20,) £6; premium for blanket, 12s.; premium for gun, 6s.; cartouch-box, belt, and knapsack, 2s.; wages per month, £2 8s.: they to be held in service from the day of their enlistment until the 25th day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged, and to have the same allowance and marching money as the other troops in Continental service. The premia and first month's wages to be paid before they begin their march.

I shall, per next opportunity, send you an account of the cost of the felling-axes and advance pay to the carpenters, and an estimate of the sums necessary to be advanced for premia and first month's wages for the seamen now to be raised, which I shall hope to receive. The other Captains I expect here soon, and trust they will undertake the service.

I am, sir, with great truth and regard, your obedient and humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

Lebanon, August 13, 1776.

SIR: This day Mr. *Daniel Strong*, a wagoner from this place, set out with a load of axes and clothing for your Army. Enclosed is account of packages, with an invoice of sundry articles of clothing. At *Farmington* he is to fall into company with an ox-team which brings on more clothing. On their arrival, they will need your directions for the delivery. Another team will set out from *Windham* on *Thursday* or *Friday* next with more clothing, and will meet your directions.

A post-rider will pass in course from this place to *Ticonderoga* or *Skenesborough*, as may be thought necessary, as frequently as that stage can be performed. I have desired General *Schuyler* to order another to meet him and exchange mails at the nearest place to *Albany*.

Every intelligence you may think proper to give me will be acceptable to, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

HENRY BROMFIELD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, August 13, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your Excellency's favour of 24th *June*, which came to hand at a time when I was absent on a journey in the country. This, with a great uncertainty whether to undertake the task assigned me therein, has been the reason that I have not returned an earlier answer; at length, however, upon the consideration of the delay a refusal must occasion, and that the excuse I might allege in my favour might be pleaded by others who most probably must have been in the same situation, viz: an unacquaintedness with the value of the various articles to be appraised, has determined me to undertake the trouble, in conjunction with Mr. *William Davis*, merchant of this town, on behalf of Captain *Manley* and his crew. We have spared no pains to ascertain the value of the different articles, in order to which we have applied to all the traders and mechanicks most conversant therein, and have, from the information received from them, and others most capable of giving it, endeavoured to make an estimation as near to truth as might be, which, however it may deviate, I am conscious on my own part cannot be attributed to inattention or neglect, and hope will be such as to meet the approbation of your Excellency and the honourable Congress.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY BROMFIELD.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Esq.

COLONEL FITCH TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-Haven, August 13, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I think it my duty to acquaint your Honour of the condition and circumstances of the soldiers in my regiment, as they are now all ordered off to *New-York*. Their complaints are without number. I will mention a few. In some parishes but one or two are left; some have got ten or twelve loads of hay cut, and not a man left to take it up; some five or six, under the same circumstances; some have got a great quantity of grass to cut; some have not finished hoeing corn; some, if not all, have got all their ploughing to do, for sowing their winter grain; some have all their families sick, and not a person left to take care of them. I could mention as many more excuses as would fill up a sheet of paper which they have made to me, &c.

I would, with submission, beg of your Honour to inform his Excellency General *Washington* of the condition of this regiment, so that they may be released as soon as they possibly can be, consistent with the safety of the Army. It is enough to make a man's heart ache to hear the complaints of some of them.

I would ask your Honour whether it is safe to have all the Militia taken from the sea-shore at this time, when we expect two or three men-of-war in our Sound. Colonel *Jabez Thompson* has undertaken to command the regiment at last, and is now gone to *New-York*. He desired me to mention to your Honour that he thinks, as he has been in the service so long, he ought to rank with a Colonel, and, if it can be done, desires you to give him such appointment, &c.

I beg leave to subscribe myself your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JONA. FITCH.

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

N. B. I beg your Honour to sign the enclosed letter, and send it to me.

JACOB BAYLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Newbury, August 13, 1776.

SIR: I was employed by his Excellency General *Washington* to cut a road from this to *St. John's*. I had proceeded thirty miles, when I had news of General *Sullivan's* retreat. I then brought in my party, and held them in readiness. I informed his Excellency, and wait for further orders. The whole way is well marked, and cattle may be easily driven to *St. John's*, if wanted there by our Army. On the shortest notice, I will proceed on the road to complete it. I know it is of the greatest importance. I was lately at *Watertown* and *Exeter*. Gentlemen of the first character say they will immediately turn out volunteers to

assist in *Canada*, if wanted. I believe four or five thousand may be had at *St. John's* fifteen days after notice.

The bearer, *Thomas McKeach*, soldier in Colonel *Bedel's* regiment, doubtless was enticed from his duty, as the next day after he came to me, and was ready to return. I advised him to stay a little for some of the *Cedar* men, who now are returning with him. Must beg, sir, you will pardon him. His character is good with us, and the people of his country with us are friendly to our cause.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JACOB BAYLEY.

P. S. I have sent for the *Hessian* deserter at Mr. *Metcalf's*, and shall leave one of our men in his room, to watch the motions of Regulars, &c.

Halifax, Nova-Scotia, August 13, 1776.

We have undoubted authority that two thousand *Highlanders*, under the convoy of three frigates and three armed schooners, on a new construction for drawing the least quantity of water, have been despatched by Lord *Howe* up the *Bay of Fundy*, to penetrate by that side into the *New-Hampshire* Government; and that Colonel *McLane*, with three thousand of the lower country Militia of *Canada*, and six hundred *Indians*, are on their full march to join that body of *Highlanders* at the head of the river *St. John's*, and to coöperate with them.

*Saturday* night last arrived below, and *Sunday* morning came up to town, his Majesty's frigate *Liverpool*, from Head-Quarters, and brought in with her a *Jamaica* ship and *Antigua* brig, retaken; also, a *Philadelphia* sloop, bound to some port of *New-England*.

We hear that a *Spanish* vessel, with a large quantity of cash on board, was taken going up the *Delaware* river to *Philadelphia*, by one of his Majesty's ships-of-war cruising off there; and that a ship from *Hamburgh*, laden with woollen cloth and all sorts of linen, &c., was likewise taken, bound for the above port.

On the 2d instant arrived his Majesty's frigate *Milford*, Captain *Burr*, from a cruise, and brought in a prize schooner, loaded with fish and lumber for the *West-India* market; also, the *Princess Royal*, a homeward *Jamaica* ship, loaded with rum, sugar, and other valuable articles, which, having parted her convoy, fell in, off the *Bermuda* Islands, with a letter-of-marque schooner, in the *American* service, of six guns and some swivels, bound to *Santa Croix*, who took her and put an officer and twelve men on board. But after they had her in possession sixteen days, he fell in with the *Milford*, in *Boston* Bay, who retook her, but the prize-master and his men took to their boat, and got on shore before the *Milford* came up.

*An authentick List of the Naval and Military Force in the Province of NOVA-SCOTIA, August 13, 1776, collected from the best authorities in the Province.*

In the Harbour of *Halifax*: The *Milford* and *Liverpool* frigates, of 28 guns; the brig *Hope*, of 12 guns; the new sloop of war, fitting out, called the *Albany*, (late the *Rittenhouse*, belonging to *Philadelphia*), to carry 16 guns, *Mowatt* Commander.

*August 16.*—Since writing this List, the *Milford* and *Liverpool* frigates sailed; and the 17th, (to-morrow,) the brig *Hope* will sail for *Louisburgh*.

In the Town of *Halifax*: Two battalions of Marines, the whole nine hundred rank and file; near two hundred invalids; twelve Artillery men; one company of the Fourteenth Regiment of Infantry, forty-seven rank and file; one company of the *Royal Highland Emigrants*, thirty-nine rank and file, six brass field-pieces, six and three-pounders.

Fortifications in the Town and Suburbs: A five-sided redoubt, about one hundred paces west of the dock-yard; a redoubt on a hill called *Padley's Hill*, about one and a half mile northwest of the dock-yards; a redoubt, four sides, about five hundred paces southwest of the dock-yard; a small breastwork on a hill called *Still-House Hill*, about forty paces north of the dock-yard, small block-houses to be built in each of the above redoubts; a block-house, twenty feet by thirty, at the northwest corner of the dock-yard, and another of the same dimensions at the southwest corner; a small block-house, fifteen feet by eight, each side of the dock-yard gate.

The foregoing works had no cannon mounted when I left *Halifax*, August 16th.

A large square breastwork for cannon, almost finished, on the top of *Citadel Hill*, mounting twelve twenty-four pounders, three each way, viz: north, east, south, west. The eastern side fronts the harbour. A block-house, forty feet by sixty, erecting in said works.

In the County of *King's County*: Part of the *Royal Highland Emigrants*, consisting of two hundred and thirty-seven rank and file.

In the County of *Cumberland*: The regiment of *Royal Fencible Americans*, commanded by Colonel *Gorham*, consisting of two hundred and seventy-two rank and file when the last accounts came away; but frequent desertions lessen their numbers.

The dock-yard is situate upon low land, about one mile north by west of the middle of the town of *Halifax*, surrounded with a stone wall, ten feet high, but is not strong enough to resist the enchantment of a three-pound ball.

JOHN HANSON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 7, 1776.]

St. Croix, August 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: To say anything in recommendation of myself will be presumption; to promise much will be idle; for events depend on the Almighty. I foresee an Independency must of necessity be declared. I am a friend, and ever have been, to the righteous cause of *America*; and as such I offer you my heart and hand. If I can be of service at this critical moment, and if my service is accepted, please to inform me time enough to settle my affairs here, and send a fast-sailing frigate to conduct myself and family to *America*. If she is of force, I may probably bring one of *King George's* frigates with me.

I am, with hearty wishes for your success, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANSON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

COLONEL THOMPSON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Charlestown, South-Carolina, August 14, 1776.

SIR: As no greater honour can be conferred on a faithful servant of the publick, so next to a consciousness of having done his duty, nothing can afford so much pleasure to such servant as the thanks of the people. I must confess, sir, I had not entertained the smallest expectation of such distinguished notice as the Congress have been pleased to take of my endeavours to assist in repelling the attempts of the fleet and army upon this State on the 28th of *June* last. I was conscious of having acted honestly in the cause, according to the best of my poor abilities, and there my ideas rested. However, sir, I am not insensible of the very great honour which, for barely having done my duty, I have now received from the Congress; and I beg leave to return you my particular thanks for the very polite manner in which you have transmitted their resolution of the 20th *July* in your favour of the 22d, which I have communicated to the officers and soldiers of my regiment.

Permit me to request, sir, you will be pleased to present my humble respects and assurances to the Congress that my life and fortune are devoted to the cause of the thirteen *United States of America*, and to the general propagation of liberty, and that while my health and strength will permit me, I shall hold myself at the command of my country.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

WM. THOMPSON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Honourable the Representatives of the Thirteen *United States of America*, in Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

Charlestown, South-Carolina, August 14, 1776.

His Excellency General *Lee* and Brigadier-General *Howe* have set out for *Georgia*. Ten very fine double-fortified nine-pounders, lately belonging to the *Acteon* frigate, and several anchors, spars, &c., which the men-of war thought prudent to leave behind them on the night of the 28th *June*, have been taken up and brought to town. The search is still continued, and it is expected most of the guns will be got up.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A FIELD-OFFICER OF SOUTH-CAROLINA, DATED CAMP AT KEOWEE, AUGUST 14, 1776.

On the 6th instant I marched from my camp, about two miles below this place, with about seven hundred chosen men, to surprise *Cameron* and the *Indians*, who were said to be encamped at *Oconousel*. When I arrived there, I found the camp deserted. I destroyed the houses and corn that were there. I then proceeded towards *Toogola*, where, when I arrived, I found the houses all burnt down on the other side of the river, but the corn and all the houses on this side standing, which I entirely cut down and destroyed, and detached one hundred men on horseback, who destroyed another place, and the corn, &c., about six miles distance, and took about three hundred raw deerskins. The 9th I marched for and destroyed the corn at *Estatoc*, having before sent off Captains *Anderson* and *Pickens* to reconnoitre the mountains near the river, who returned and informed me that they had seen several *Indians* on the hills on each side the river. I marched at five o'clock next morning, and in fording the river about a mile above where I encamped, the front, being advanced about half way over, was fired upon by a considerable body of white men and *Indians*, who had taken the advantage of the ground along the river side, and on a high hill, which commanded the ford and landing place; being but a few men, they retreated to the bank, where they returned the fire with spirit. A general fire now ensued on both sides the river, which is here about forty yards wide; being betwixt the two parties, I ordered out a party to proceed up the river about half a mile, in order to endeavour to cross there and take them behind, but found it impracticable, the enemy having secured every part. I then ordered a strong party on a hill which commanded an open field and part of the hill on the other side, and had the *Indian* canoes brought over the river, in which about two hundred and twenty men crossed it, about two in the afternoon; which the enemy perceiving, quitted the ground, and left me in possession thereof, where I found nothing but some marks of blood. I do not know the number of killed and wounded of the enemy; on my side one Lieutenant and four privates are wounded, but none of them dangerously. I had the houses and corn here also burnt and destroyed, and encamped on a convenient spot till the next morning, the 11th, when I marched, burnt and destroyed the houses and corn on *Brass-Town Creek*. Here I encamped. The 12th I proceeded about twelve miles to *Tomisie*, where I found a large quantity of corn, and detached Captain *Pickens* with sixty men to reconnoitre the hills, where, about three in the afternoon, they discovered a spy from the enemy, on whom they fired and followed; and after running some small distance, about thirty-five of them engaged a large number of the enemy. On hearing of the firing at *Tomisie*, I immediately hurried to their assistance, with about one hundred and fifty men, and came upon their back about a mile from *Tomisie*, when a sharp firing ensued, which lasted about an hour and a quarter, when the enemy gave way with considerable loss, fifteen dead bodies being found in about the space of one hundred and fifty yards, whom our people scalped. They were so nearly engaged, that three of the *Indians* were killed by our people with their own knives and tomahawks. From apparent circumstances, I cannot think there could be less than sixty *Indians* killed and wounded in this affair. We had one man killed and fifteen wounded, three of which have since died, and the rest are in a fair way to do well. Here I encamped for the night, and the next day, 13th, reached this camp late in the evening.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

[No. 133.]

Annapolis, August 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You will be pleased to deliver to Captain *James Nicholson*, or order, the powder, arms, and osnaburghs, imported in the *Molly*, Captain *Conway*, and which you were so obliging as to land in a place of security. We shall be happy in having it in our power to render you the like good offices, and will most cheerfully repay you every expense that you have been put to on account of this importation. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Northumberland County*, in *Virginia*.

JOHN DALTON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Alexandria, August 14, 1776.

SIR: By an account received from Messrs. *Daniel* and *Samuel Hughes*, this Commonwealth became indebted to your Province for the expense of powder, &c., expended in proving the two eighteen-pounders for the galleys. Enclosed is an order for the amount from the honourable Privy Council, £28 2s.; on the receipt of which, you will be pleased to have a receipt directed to me.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN DALTON.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*,  
President of the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

SAMUEL NICHOLLS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Wye River, August 14, 1776.

SIR: I received yours bearing date the 9th instant, in regard to the flint-stones at *Emmerson's Landing*. I believe there are two tons at least that are very readily got at.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL NICHOLLS.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*.

DOCTOR WEISENTHALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Annapolis, August 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When I was before the Council the time before I set out for *New-York*, I was desired to furnish the Council a memorandum concerning the direction of physical matters of the military in the Province, and that it was unavoidable, the nature of the circumstances requiring it; which memorandum you intended to lay before the Convention; but as, immediately after, Doctor *Tootell* was appointed for the present battalion, and acting at the same time as director, it gives me room to suppose myself superseded, and consequently discharged from any Provincial employment. My commission being Surgeon to the battalion of Colonel *Smallwood*, I never looked upon to be what I intended, but accepted it merely since the other was not as yet established. Should my suggestions of my discharge be your intention, be then pleased to give Dr. *Tootell*, or anybody else, an order for the delivery of the remaining medicines of the Province now under my care; and as there will be a balance coming to me, both for the battalion, as well as the attendance at *Baltimore Town* and *Fort*, you will please to issue your order for that purpose.

I have the honour to be, with due respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,

C. WEISENTHALL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CAPTAIN LOWE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, August 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As I had unfortunately engaged the hunting-shirts for my company before I waited on you, not doubting but that your Honours would have furnished me with cash to have paid for them; and as you did not, I was under the necessity of paying for them with the money you furnished me with to carry the said company to *Philadelphia*; that, together with sheaths for a parcel of bayonets, shoes, hats, and body shirts, (which articles the said company could not march without,) has taken the most of the money you gave me for the purpose of carrying the company to *Philadelphia*. I am, therefore, under the necessity of begging your Honours to grant me a further supply by the return of Colonel *Ewing*, or an order on him to supply me with what will be necessary for that purpose, as it is impracticable for me to pretend to march my company without. I have no way without to furnish them with necessaries of life.

I am, gentlemen, your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

JNO. HAWKINS LOWE.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

COLONEL HOLLINGSWORTH TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Head of Elk, August 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your several letters relative to forwarding the troops I have received. I have given every assistance in



my power; but having found much difficulty in some cases to give that despatch I could have wished for, (on account of our wagons being taken on to *Philadelphia*, so that the next troops were obliged to wait till their return,) it hath from necessity induced me to form the plan which I flatter myself will be approved of by your Honours:

The troops as they arrive are to be provided with wagons at *Elk*, to carry the baggage, &c., to *Christeen*, where shallops are provided; or if not there, at *Newport* or *Wilmington*, where, at furthest, our wagons are to be relieved, where there are barracks provided for a battalion, and where I have, by the advice and recommendation of Brigadier-General *McKinley*, appointed Mr. *Jonathan Rumford* to provide provisions, shallops, and wagons, as occasion may require, to forward them to *Chester*; where there are good well-furnished barracks for a thousand men, and where, by the General's recommendation, I applied to *David Copeland* to provide provisions, open the barracks, &c. &c. So that by this method of proceeding the troops will make the march from *Elk* to *Philadelphia* in three days, (one day of eighteen and two of fifteen miles,) and may have good barracks and fresh provisions at each stage; by which means the tents and three-fourths the baggage may go by the shallops, as also the sick or ailing; and in some cases, where there is room, a company or two may go. In this, gentlemen, I have far surpassed my orders. Captain *Allen Thomas* was with me, who highly approved the mode of proceeding. By him I acquainted the honourable members of Congress for this Province. As this matter appears to me most comfortable to the troops, the cheapest, and liable to the least delay, I flatter myself of your Honours' and their approbation. As these things are attended with considerable expense, for which (with some arms I am completing here for Captain *Alexander's* company) I have advanced freely, I submit it whether some person, being appointed in this County to pay the several expenses, may not be conducive to the service; and am your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

H. HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

ROBERT MORRIS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, August 14, 1776.

SIR: You have annexed, an extract of a letter we have just received from Messrs. *Clarke & Nightingale*, merchants in *Providence, Rhode-Island*. This letter was laid before Congress, who ordered this Committee to inform your Excellency of the powder therein mentioned, and to desire you would take possession of it, granting a receipt for the same to those who have it in keeping, in order that we may account hereafter for the value of such part as may be adjudged to the privateer that retook it.

By order and on behalf of the Secret Committee, I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient servant,

ROBT. MORRIS, *Chairman*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Extract of the Letter from Messrs. CLARKE & NIGHTINGALE.

A few days ago we received intelligence that the sloop *Nancy* was retaken by the *Schuyler* privateer, Captain *Pond*, and carried into *Fury Inlet Bay* on *Long-Island*. We therefore despatched Captain *Potter* immediately to make inquiry whether the report was true; he has returned, and confirms it, and further says she was in possession of the enemy but five or six days, and that she is pillaged of almost everything. Out of all the arms she had, there are but three muskets and fifteen pair of pistols left. They have got two cutlasses and the four swivels on board the privateer. Seventy-one kegs of powder and one bag saltpetre, they have stored in *Huntington*; also one large case of linens, cotton stockings, and two or three pieces cambric. The case of flints, containing ten thousand, are sent forward to *New-York*, to his Excellency General *Washington*. One half cask of powder, containing fifty weight, they have put into store at the south side of *Long-Island*. This is all that remains of the cargo.

JOHN ADAMS TO MRS. ADAMS.

Philadelphia, August 14, 1776.

This is the anniversary of a memorable day in the history of *America*: a day when the principle of *American* resist-

ance and independence was first asserted and carried into action—the stamp-office fell before the rising spirit of our countrymen. It is not impossible that the two grateful brothers may make their grand attack this very day. If they should, it is possible it may be more glorious for this country than ever: it is certain it will become more memorable.

Your favours of *August* 1st and 5th came by yesterday's post. I congratulate you all upon your agreeable prospects. Even my pathetick little hero *Charles*, I hope, will have the distemper finely. It is very odd that the Doctor cannot put infection enough into his veins; nay, it is unaccountable to me, that he has not taken it the natural way before now. I am under little apprehension, prepared as he is, if he should. I am concerned about you much more. So many persons about you sick, the children troublesome, your mind perplexed, yourself weak and relaxed. The situation must be disagreeable. The country air and exercise, however, will refresh you.

I am put upon a Committee to prepare a device for a golden medal, to commemorate the surrender of *Boston* to the *American* arms, and upon another, to prepare devices for a great seal for the confederated States. There is a gentleman here of *French* extraction, whose name is *du Simitiere*, a painter by profession, whose designs are very ingenious, and his drawings well executed. He has been applied to for his advice. I waited on him yesterday, and saw his sketches. For the medal he proposes, *Liberty*, with her spear and pileus, leaning on General *Washington*; the *British* fleet in *Boston* harbour with all their sterns towards the town, the *American* troops marching in. For the seal, he proposes, The arms of the several nations from whence *America* has been peopled, as *English, Scotch, Irish, Dutch, German, &c.*, each in a shield. On one side of them, *Liberty* with her pileus; on the other, a Rifle in his uniform, with his rifle-gun in one hand, and his tomahawk in the other: this dress, and these troops, with this kind of armour, being peculiar to *America*, unless the dress was known to the *Romans*. Dr. *Franklin* showed me yesterday a book, containing an account of the dresses of all the *Roman* soldiers, one of which appeared exactly like it. This M. *du Simitiere* is a very curious man. He has begun a collection of materials for a history of this Revolution. He begins with the first advices of the tea ships. He cuts out of the newspapers every scrap of intelligence, and every piece of speculation, and pastes it upon clean paper, arranging them under the head of that State to which they belong, and intends to bind them up in volumes. He has a list of every speculation and pamphlet concerning independence, and another of those concerning forms of Government.

Doctor *Franklin* proposes a device for a seal: *Moses* lifting up his wand, and dividing the *Red Sea*, and *Pharaoh* in his chariot overwhelmed with the waters. This motto, "Rebellion to Tyrants is obedience to God."

Mr. *Jefferson* proposed, The children of *Israel* in the wilderness, led by a cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night; and on the other side, *Hengist* and *Horsa*, the *Saxon* Chiefs, from whom we claim the honour of being descended, and whose political principles and form of Government we have assumed.

I proposed, The choice of *Hercules*, as engraved by *Gribelin*, in some editions of Lord *Shaftesbury's* works. The hero resting on his club; *Virtue* pointing to her rugged mountain on one hand, and persuading him to ascend; *Sloth*, glancing at her flowery paths of pleasure, wantonly reclining on the ground, displaying the charms both of her eloquence and person, to seduce him into vice. But this is too complicated a group for a seal or medal, and it is not original.

I shall conclude by repeating my request for horses and a servant. Let the horses be good ones. I can't ride a bad horse so many hundred miles. If our affairs had not been in so critical a state at *New-York*, I should have run away before now. But I am determined, now, to stay until some gentleman is sent here in my room, and until my horses come. But the time will be very tedious.

The whole force is arrived at *Staten-Island*.

CÆSAR RODNEY TO THOMAS RODNEY.

Philadelphia, August 14, 1776.

SIR: I sent by Mr. *Robinson* (without having time to write) the thread you committed to my charge, converted

into stockings; but whether the weaver has discovered as much care and ingenuity as the spinner, on that occasion, I cannot say, as I had but little time to inspect them. I wrote to you by young Mr. *Loockerman*, who promised you should have the letter as soon as he got home, but I do not recollect when he left home, but imagined you ought to have received it before you wrote to me, and yet do not find it mentioned.

Agreeable to promise, I sent some time ago to Mr. *Killon*, by *Matthew Henry's* vessel, in the care of *Richard Lockwood*, Esq., a quire of post paper. I have not heard yet whether it got safe to hand, and had not when I sent it time to write to him about it.

By your letter, I stand informed as to the names of your antagonists in the ensuing election; and am pleased to find you hope to succeed. But are you not too sanguine in your expectation? I wish your ticket may be supported by the freemen of the County, because I believe those men wish to have the great work in which we are now engaged finished in such a manner as to afford to the community at large that personal safety, security of property, free enjoyment of religious persuasion, and that equal and easy distribution of justice, which they have a right to expect, and without which they cannot be happy.

I did not expect to be carried in the other ticket, because I see some names there who I believe are too far gone in personal prejudice and private enmity to do justice to merit, or to consider the rights and privileges of the people at large *their* interest. But if the people cannot or will not see these things, though glaring, they must and will suffer.

The time is now big with importance, as to Continental as well as Governmental matters. The armies at *New-York* are like to come to blows in a few days. One hundred and some odd transports, with *Hessians*, arrived at the *Hook* the day before yesterday. The *English* Army is supposed to be upwards of twenty thousand strong; ours better than thirty thousand, in high spirits, and eager for action, &c. I shall be able perhaps to write you more on that head in a few days.

I am, with much love to all friends, yours,

CÆSAR RODNEY.

To *Thomas Rodney*, Esq., *Dover*.

FRANCIS LEWIS TO MRS. GATES.

Philadelphia, August 13, 1776.

DEAR MADAM: I was favoured with your letter of the 6th instant, which gave me the greater pleasure as it was delivered me by your son. He set off this morning for *Princeton* in order to settle some matters with Mr. *Witherspoon*. In my conversation with *Bob* upon the present state of the college, I found his inclination was to return home. I advised him to the contrary, but that he should consult Dr. *Witherspoon*, and be governed by his advice, and as I expect the Doctor in town this day, shall advise with him. I am under no apprehension of any personal danger at *Princeton*; at present I think it safer than in this city.

I perceive by your letter that you are alarmed at my son *Morgan's* coming down express to Congress. He brought nothing material, more than the then state of the Army at *Ticonderoga*, much reduced by the small-pox and other disorders, but since their removal from *Isle-aux-Noix* they were recovering daily, and reinforcements arriving, so that when he left *Ticonderoga* they were thought sufficient to oppose General *Burgoyne* on that quarter, who is, on his part, fortifying *St. John's*, and building boats, &c., in order to cross the Lake. The principal reason for *Morgan's* coming down was briefly this: General *Gates*, when appointed to the command of the Army in *Canada*, was empowered to appoint such officers as he thought proper. In consequence thereof he nominated *Morgan* Deputy Quartermaster-General. When General *Gates* got to *Albany* the troops under *Sullivan* had evacuated *Canada*, therefore General *Schuyler* claimed the command of that Army whilst in the Colony of *New-York*, as senior officer, and of course General *Gates's* appointments for *Canada* were null. This brought *Morgan* down to solicit redress from the Congress, as he had been put to a considerable expense in equipping himself for the appointment. General *Sullivan* also was so disgusted at General *Gates* being appointed to that command, that he requested to resign; however, that he has withdrawn.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

At present our greatest anxiety is for the fate of *New-York*, which I greatly fear is devoted to destruction. The Ministerial Army on *Staten-Island* are said to be thirteen thousand strong, with a considerable naval force, and we hourly expect to hear the city is attacked. If so, there is, in my opinion, little probability of its being saved.

I can assure you that General *Gates* and the Army under his command were by their last letters in high spirits, and under no apprehension of danger from that quarter this campaign. Whatever material may happen I shall advise you.

I am, dear madam, sincerely, your very humble servant,  
FRANS. LEWIS.

#### REGULATIONS FOR THE SALE OF SALT.

In Convention for the State of Pennsylvania, }  
Saturday, August 14, 1776. }

Whereas it appears to this Convention, upon due inquiry and information of the circumstances, that the Salt now in this city has been imported at low prices, and under moderate insurance; and whereas divers persons, in contempt of the just and wholesome regulations of the Committee, &c., of *Philadelphia*, under directions of Congress, have continued to dispose of their Salt at most exorbitant prices, to the great grievance and distress of their fellow-subjects of this State:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the said regulations be hereby confirmed, and all persons whatever are hereby strictly enjoined to pay due obedience thereto. And the said Committees are authorized and directed to seize and take into their possession the Salt belonging to such persons as have refused, or shall refuse, conformity to the regulations so established, or shall altogether withhold or refuse to sell their Salt during the continuance of such regulations, allowing to the said persons, upon the sale thereof, the fixed and settled prices, first deducting the expenses incurred upon the sale.

And whereas it is but reasonable that every part of this extensive State should be accommodated as nearly as may be with their proportion of this article, so justly esteemed a necessary of life:

Be it *Resolved*, That the Committee of *Philadelphia* are hereby further directed to distribute the Salt that may as aforesaid come into their possession in equal quantities in the several Counties, having regard to the reputed number of inhabitants contained in the said Counties.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN MORRIS, Jun., *Secretary*.

Philadelphia, August 14, 1776.

Last *Wednesday* was launched the third Continental frigate built here, called the *Washington*.

*Monday* last arrived here the brig *Polly*, Captain *Mermahe*, in twenty-four days from *Martinico*, who has brought a quantity of powder, sulphur, some arms, coffee, &c. In latitude 19° longitude 64° he spoke the brig *Mermaid*, Captain *Sawyer*, from *New-York*, out twenty-two days. None of the enemy's ships were at the Capes when the above vessel came in.

#### LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, Inspection, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 14th *August*, 1776:

Present: William Ailee, Matthias Slough, Ludwick Lowman, Henry Dehuff, Christ. Crawford, John Miller, Casper Shaffner, Jacob Krug.

*William Ailee* in the chair.

It being represented that a number of troublesome and dangerous persons are strolling about the country near the town of *Lebanon*, and that they threaten the inhabitants; and it appearing that Colonel *Curtis Grubb* hath left *John Sweitzer*, *Michael Winter*, and some others of his battalion, with orders to guard and assist the inhabitants in the absence of the Associators who have marched to the camp, and the said *Michael Winter* requesting some Ammunition from the Magazine,

It is *Agreed and Ordered*, That Mr. *Bowsman* deliver to said *Michael Winter* three pounds of Powder and twelve pounds of Lead, for the use of the Guard for the purpose aforesaid.

Lieutenant *Christopher Crawford*, of a detachment of Associators who have acted as guard in the town, exhibited a Pay-Bill for the Troops under his command, amounting to £223 8s. 2d., which, being examined, is allowed and passed in Committee, and ordered to be paid by *William Atlee*, Esq., the Committee Treasurer and Paymaster.

And as it appears there are a number of persons included in the said Pay-Bill who have joined his detachment and have really done duty, but have not signed the Association in any Company or Battalion, and are therefore subject to being marched from here, Mr. *Crawford* is directed to tender to them the Association, to be signed by them as members of some particular Company here, and those who refuse are to be discharged. And Mr. *Crawford* is directed to discharge from his detachment the following persons, who appear to the Committee unfit for duty, and therefore think they ought not to receive pay, viz: *Frederick Bauder*, above fifty years of age, and very infirm; *Henry Lindeman*, above fifty years of age, lame and infirm; *Adam Froult*, above fifty years, and a Non-Associator; *Jacob Steigleman*, above fifty, and a Non-Associator; *John Gouter*, a lad of about fourteen years of age, and a Gunsmith's apprentice.

Lieutenant *Casper Shaffner*, of Captain *Klatz's* Company of Militia, doing duty in *Lancaster*, exhibited a Pay-Bill for the Company now under his command, (Captain *Klatz* being absent,) amounting to £230 16s. 5d., which, being examined, is allowed and approved in Committee, and ordered to be paid by *William Atlee*, the Committee Treasurer and Paymaster.

Lieutenant *Christian Petre*, of Captain *Yeates's* Company of Militia, of Colonel *Slough's* Battalion, now doing duty in *Lancaster*, exhibited a Pay-Bill for that Company, now under his command, (Captain *Yeates* being absent,) amounting to £237 6s. 2d., which, being examined, is allowed and approved in Committee, and ordered to be paid by *William Atlee*, the Committee's Treasurer and Paymaster.

Captain *John Henry*, of Colonel *Ross's* Battalion of Militia, now doing duty in *Lancaster*, exhibited a Pay-Bill for that Company, now under his command, amounting to £272 18s. 8d., which, being examined, is allowed and approved in Committee, and ordered to be paid by *William Atlee*, the Committee Treasurer and Paymaster, deducting £100 heretofore advanced to Captain *Henry* by Mr. *Lowman*, and repaid to Mr. *Lowman* by the Paymaster in *Philadelphia*, so that the sum of £172 18s. 8d. is to be paid to Captain *Henry*.

Captain *Peter Hoofnagle*, of Colonel *George Ross's* Battalion of Militia, now doing duty in *Lancaster*, exhibited a Pay-Bill for that Company, now under his command, amounting to £282 16s. 10d., which, being examined, is allowed and approved of in Committee, and ordered to be paid by *William Atlee*, the Committee's Treasurer and Paymaster, he deducting £120 heretofore advanced to Captain *Hoofnagle* by Mr. *Christopher Wirtz*, and repaid to Mr. *Wirtz* by the Paymaster in *Philadelphia*, so that the sum of £162 16s. 10d. is to be paid to Captain *Hoofnagle*.

August 16, 1776.

The same Members present as on the 13th.

*William Atlee* in the chair.

Resolved, That the following persons, to wit: *Marcus Nagle*, *Nicholas Scove*, *Thomas Nabury*, *Peter McMullen*, *John Jones*, (Stocktaker,) in the service of Colonel *Peter Grubb*, at his forge in the manufacture of Gun-scalps, &c., be left in that employ, and be not marched with the Militia.

*George Sand*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, servant to Ensign *Gordon*, and *John Willson*, are permitted to go to *York*, and continue there under the directions of the Committee there, that Committee having agreed to it, and these people have before been permitted to be at *York* as servants with the officers, and were lately sent by that Committee from thence.

*Daniel Campbell*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *John Lightner* at the Weaving business.

*John Farnell*, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with *Cornelius Taylor*, Shoemaker, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the resolves of the Committee.

*Daniel Campbell*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is per-

mitted to work with *John Lightner* at the Weaving business, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the resolves of Committee.

Committee Chamber, in *Paxtown*, 14th of *August*, at Mr. *George Fries's*, in *Middletown*, 1776:

On motion, Resolved unanimously, That this Committee make application to the County Committee for one hundred and thirty-five pounds of Gunpowder, for the use of this Township, as we do not know the day or hour we may be attacked by a frontier enemy; thirty-five pounds of which Powder and one hundred and fifty-pounds of Lead and Shot lies in Mr. *John Harris's*; and five hundred pounds of Lead which lies at the house of Mr. *Carrous*; and as we look up to you in all cases of emergency, we hope you will consider our distressed situation, and that you will direct under whose hands said Ammunition shall be lodged.

Also, on motion, Resolved unanimously, That all the Gunsmiths of our Township be set to repair all Arms in said Township that are not fit for service, at the expense of the publick, and that your honourable Board will empower this Committee to oblige all the Gunsmiths in that Township to fall to work at said Guns immediately.

By order of Committee:

ANDREW BERRYHILL, *Chairman*.

To the Chairman of *Upper-Paxtown* Township Committee, when sitting, at the request of Captain *Devlar* and a number of others then present, and also I send you a copy of our resolve in regard of putting in our fall crops:

Resolved, That it is the advice and opinion of this Committee that there shall be four men chosen in each company or district, and are hereby appointed, to give their assistance and advice to the utmost of their power and abilities to take care and have the fall crops of each man in each district that is gone abroad in defence of his country, put in in proper time and season, as far as in them lies, and according to the choice of the members of the Committee in each district. The following men were chosen for the said purpose, by order of Committee:

August 13, 1776.

ANDREW BERRYHILL, *Chairman*.

Mr. JOHN GARBER: You are desired to send this paper to the Committee of *Upper-Paxton*, or to Captain *Devlar*.

Paxton, August 27, 1776.

Mr. *Berryhill* has been wrongly informed respecting the quantity of powder in *John Harris's* possession, (of his own,) which said *Harris* informed Mr. *Bowman*, of *Lancaster*, by letter, was one-quarter cask, to wit: twenty-five pounds of gunpowder, which should be procured, if wanted, for the common defence of *American* liberty, though not included in the military stores of *Lancaster* County, nor any lead. Witness the return made when the military stores were inspected into by the said *Harris* and others, appointed by the Committee of said County.

And whereas it is reported that several evil-disposed persons in the frontiers of *Upper-Paxton* township and *Hanover* township, above the *Kittatinney* Mountains, are robbing houses, frightening women and children, &c., the said *Harris* thinks it very proper that the bearer, *Ludwick Gratz*, appointed by the township of *Upper Paxton*, to apply for one-quarter cask of gunpowder at the magazine of *Lancaster*, and an order for about sixty or seventy pounds of lead, be delivered said *Gratz* by Mr. *Carson*, to save the trouble of carriage from *Lancaster* of said lead within mentioned, on condition that the said *Gratz* give security that said ammunition shall be detained in said *Upper Paxton* township to oppose all enemies, Tories, robbers, &c., when needful. And the said *John Harris* chooses to keep his own ammunition in store until wanted for said purposes within mentioned.

JOHN HARRIS.

To the Committee of Correspondence and Observation, &c., of *Lancaster* County.

CLEMENT BIDDLE TO RICHARD PETERS.

Perth-Amboy, August 14, 1776.

SIR: Since my arrival here, I have from time to time written to Mr. *Gustavus Risberg*, at *Philadelphia*, to procure such articles as were necessary for furnishing the Flying-Camp

and Militia as were in service here, and to apply, if need, at your office. Indeed I found they wanted everything; and I have proceeded with as much caution and economy as was in my power, in providing and supplying them, consistently with the good of the service. However, I find it will be necessary to have some method established by which the different regiments of Militia and Flying-Camp are to account for necessaries and accoutrements furnished them, and beg you will lay before the honourable Board of War the state of this affair for their determination.

I was empowered by the honourable Continental Congress to name one Assistant Quartermaster General, and accordingly named *John Shaw*, Esq., who remains at *Trenton*. I wrote to Colonel *Moylan* on this subject, and he informs me I must employ as many trusty persons as are necessary to forward the service. It is essentially necessary that some person be appointed Assistant Quartermaster General at *Philadelphia*; and as Mr. *Risberg* is fully acquainted with the business, and has the whole of my affairs under his care there, with proper assistance in providing necessaries for the Army, I wish him to be confirmed therein, the office to give weight to his acting therein; and that any application to your Board may come through him. I can't possibly do without one (or more occasionally) here, with storekeeper, clerk, &c.; and I shall proceed in the expensive department under my care with caution and attention to saving as much as the service will allow. I beg you will lay this also before the Board, and favour me with any directions herein or relative to my office that may be thought necessary.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

CLEMENT BIDDLE, D. Q. M. Gen.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary of War, *Philadelphia*.

GOVERNOUR TRYON TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

Ship *Dutchess* of *Gordon*, off *Staten-Island*, }  
August 14, 1776. }

MY LORD: I have been honoured with your Lordship's several despatches by the *Sandwich*, Lord *Hyde*, and *Halifax*, packet boats, to No. 4 inclusive. I am happy to learn my endeavours to promote the interest of the present great national cause has been so well accepted by his Majesty. I wish the strength of my constitution could keep pace with my inclinations to serve my Prince; broken and impaired as the former is, I am nevertheless not without the hope of having a share in the restoration of the publick tranquillity.

The confederated Colonies have declared themselves independent States. Enclosed is a printed copy of their Declaration of Independency, which was published through the streets of *New-York* the middle of last month, where the King's statue has been demolished, as well as the King's arms in the City Hall, the established churches shut up, and every vestige of Royalty, as far as has been in the power of the Rebels, done away; the persons of the Mayors of the cities of *New-York* and *Albany*, Judges, Counsellors, Magistrates, and principal gentlemen of the country, that are not in rebellion, seized and secured, and even down to the meanest planter, persecuted and tyrannized over.

The whole armament destined for this part of *America*, except the last division of the *Hessians*, being now assembled here, I expect, by the courage and strength of this noble Army, tyranny will be crushed and legal Government restored.

As the military and naval operations do not lie within my department, I shall leave the relations of them to those gentlemen who have the honour to guide them.

I am, with all possible respect, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient servant,

WM. TRYON.

To Lord *George Germaine*.

P. S. August 15, 1776. Yesterday evening Sir *Peter Parker* brought into the *Hook* a fleet of twenty-five sail from the southward. Lord *Dunmore* and Lord *Wm. Campbell* are on board that fleet.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 15, 1776.]

New-York, August 14, 1776.

SIR: Since I had the honour of addressing you on Monday, nothing of importance has occurred here, except that

the enemy have received an augmentation to their fleet of ninety-six ships; some reports make them more. In a letter I wrote you yesterday by Lieutenant-Colonel *Reed*, I advised you of this; but presuming it may not reach you so soon as this will, I have thought proper to mention the intelligence again.

Enclosed I have the honour to transmit a copy of the examination of a deserter, sent me this morning by General *Mercer*, to which I beg leave to refer Congress for the latest accounts I have from the enemy. Whether the intelligence he has given is literally true I cannot determine, but as to the attack we daily expect it.

Your favour of the 10th, with its enclosures, was duly received, and I have instructed the several officers who were promoted to act in their stations, as you requested, though their commissions were not sent.

As we are in extreme want of tents and covering for this Army, (a great part of them are outposts, having nothing to shelter, nor houses to go in,) I submit it to Congress whether it may not be prudent to remand those that were sent to *Boston* lately, where there are no troops at present; and if there were, the necessity for them would not be great, as the town and barracks at several of the posts would be sufficient to receive them.

The enclosed letter from Lieutenant-Colonel *Henshaw* will discover to Congress his views and wishes, which they will consider and determine on, in whatever they may think right and conducive to the publick good, meaning only to lay his letter before them.

I take the liberty of mentioning that Colonel *Varnum*, of *Rhode-Island*, has been with me this morning, to resign his commission, conceiving himself to be greatly injured in not having been noticed in the late arrangements and promotions of General Officers. I remonstrated against the impropriety of the measure at this time, and he has consented to stay till affairs wear a different aspect than what they do at present.

Eleven o'clock.—By a report just come to hand from General *Greene*, seventy ships more are coming in.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the highest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Camp Long-Island, July 6, 1776.

SIR: Upon a recommendation from General *Ward* to your Excellency in my favour, you were pleased to say I deserved a regiment; but as so many regiments were ordered to be reduced at the end of last campaign, I could not have one then without doing injustice to some others who were deserving; which I did not then, nor do now, desire. Your Excellency will please to note I commanded a regiment in the country where I dwell when at home, before this unnatural war broke out, and marched with it to *Cambridge* at the battle of *Lexington*, and continued in the service five or six weeks; my business at home being in such a situation at that time as required my presence, I requested a discharge from the Army, which was granted; soon after was desired to engage in the service again as Adjutant-General, which I did, and continued therein until superseded by General *Gates*. In the present campaign I was appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel under Colonel *Little*, which reduced the rank I formerly held in the service, and exposes me to be commanded by many who have been on command under me; which your Excellency is sensible must be disagreeable to every person who has any feelings, and which nothing but the noble cause we are engaged in could have induced me to submit to. I have no doubts in my mind, sir, but that you will take my case into consideration, and grant me the rank I have heretofore held, when you can without injuring the service or doing injustice to others. Happy shall I esteem myself when I can retire from the service without injuring the cause or dishonouring myself.

I am, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

WILLIAM HENSHAW.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

The Examination of *THOMAS GIVENS*, a Private of the Sixty-Fourth Regiment, who deserted from *STATEN-ISLAND* by swimming over to *AMBOY*, August 13, 1776, at nine o'clock.

He informs, that six companies are quartered near *Billog's* farm, and two at the house above. That General *Agnew*



is quartered at *Billop's* house.\* That all the troops expected are arrived. That about five hundred *Hessians* and six marching regiments arrived yesterday, which, having been refreshed at *Halifax*, are not to be landed at *Staten-Island*, but to continue on board till the attack is made. That five thousand *Hessians* had arrived before. That it is supposed the whole force consists of about twenty-six thousand men. That he heard of no intention of attacking *Amboy*, but that they expected soon to attack *Long-Island* and *New-York*. That three brigades are to stay on the Island when the attack at *New-York* and *Long-Island* is made, viz: one opposite *Amboy*, another at the *Narrows*, and the third at *Elizabethtown Point*. The soldiers are healthy, but have no fresh provisions. That there were about nine thousand effective men when they left *Boston*, and that three thousand unfit for duty were left behind at *Halifax*. That about five nights ago, two men from *Amboy* came over to the Island, being inhabitants of this place, (*Amboy*), but cannot remember their names; that the sentries had orders to let them pass and repass at pleasure. That there are four brass pieces (two twelve and two three-pounders) opposite *Amboy*, which are all that belong to the brigade. That there are eight companies to a regiment, besides Grenadiers and Infantry, and each company consists of thirty-six privates, and each brigade of three regiments. A subaltern and sixteen men mount guard in the day, and at night they are reinforced with a Captain and twenty-eight men, who mount at the tent near the Point. That General *Clinton* and the troops from *Carolina* had arrived, and that the Fiftieth Regiment were almost cut off at *Sullivan's Island*. That it is in the orders of this day (13th) that the men be immediately furnished with three days' provision, ready cooked, and be ready at a moment's warning. That they have gondolas and floating batteries. The gondolas carry two guns and thirty oars each, and one designed to cover the men when they land. That at reveille beating the men are under arms an hour.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 14, 1776.

SIR: This will be delivered you by Captain *Mocballe*, a Dutch gentleman from *Surinam*, who has come to the Continent with a view of entering into the service of the States, as you will perceive by the enclosed letters from Mr. *Brown*, of *Providence*, and General *Greene*. What other letters and credentials he has, I know not, but at his request have given him this line to Congress, to whom he wishes to be introduced, and where he will make his pretensions known.

I have ordered the Quartermaster immediately to write to Mr. *Brown* for the *Russia* duck he mentions, with directions to have it instantly made into tents there, being in great distress for want of a sufficient number to cover our troops.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
GO. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL JAMES CLINTON.

Head-Quarters, August 14, 1776.

SIR: I have the pleasure of forwarding you by this opportunity a letter from Congress enclosing your commission for a Brigadier in the Continental Army; on which appointment please to accept my hearty congratulations. As the post you are now at is an object of great importance, and I am acquainted with the officers under you, must request you will remain there till you hear further from me.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Brig. Gen. *James Clinton*, *Fort Montgomery*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL GATES.

New-York, August 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I yesterday morning received your letter of the 29th ultimo, by *Bennet*, the express, and am extremely sorry to find that the Army is still in a sickly and melancholy state. The precaution taken to halt the reinforcements at *Skenesborough*, which are destined for your succour, is certainly prudent. They should not be exposed or made liable to the calamities already too prevalent, unless in cases of extreme necessity. Dr. *Stringer* has been here with Dr.

\* *Billop's* house is opposite *Amboy*.

*Morgan*, and is now at *Philadelphia*. I trust he will obtain some necessary supplies of medicines, which will enable him, under the smiles of Providence, to relieve your distresses in some degree. By a letter from General *Ward*, two regiments (*Whitcomb's* and *Phinney's*) were to march to your aid last week. They have happily had the small-pox, and will not be subject to the fatal consequences attending that disorder.

I am glad to hear the vessels for the Lakes are going on with such industry. Maintaining the superiority over the water is certainly of infinite importance. I trust neither courage nor activity will be wanting in those to whom the business is committed. If assigned to General *Arnold*, none will doubt of his exertions.

In answer to those parts of your letter which so highly resent the conduct of the General Officers here, I would observe, sir, that you are under a mistake when you suppose a Council of Officers had sat upon those who composed the board at *Crown-Point*. When intelligence was first brought that that post was evacuated, it spread a general alarm, and occasioned much anxiety to all who heard it; it being almost universally believed that it was a post of the last importance, and the only one to give us, in conjunction with our naval force, a superiority over the Lake, and for preventing the enemy's penetrating into this and the Eastern Governments. As this matter was occasionally mentioned, the General Officers (some from their own knowledge, and others from the opinion they had formed) expressed themselves to that effect, as did all I heard speak upon the subject. Added to this, the remonstrance of the officers, transmitted by General *Schuyler*, at the same time the account was brought, did not contribute a little to authorize the opinion which was generally entertained. They surely seemed to have some reasons in their support, though it was not meant to give the least encouragement or sanction to proceedings of such a nature. Upon the whole, no event that I have been informed of for a long time produced a more general chagrin and consternation. But yet there was no Council called upon the occasion, nor Court of Inquiry, nor Court-Martial, as has been suggested by some. I will not take up more time upon the subject, or make it a matter of further discussion, not doubting but those who determined that the post ought to be abandoned, conceived it would promote the interest of the great cause we are engaged in, though others have differed from them. By-the-by, I wish your description perfectly corresponded with the real circumstances of this Army.

You will have heard, before this comes to hand most probably, of the arrival of *Clinton* and his Army from the southward. They are now at *Staten-Island*, as are the whole or the greatest part of the *Hessian* and foreign troops. Since *Monday*, ninety-six ships came in, which we are informed is the last division of Lord *Howe's* fleet which touched at *Halifax*, and (by a deserter) are not to land their troops. We are in daily expectation that they will make their attack; all their movements, and the advices we have, indicating that they are on the point of it.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Gates*, *Ticonderoga*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 14, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 30th ultimo, in behalf of the honourable Council of the *Massachusetts* State, is duly received. Through you, I beg their acceptance of my most hearty thanks for their readiness in undertaking the late treaty. I likewise congratulate them on the success with which it was attended, and wish an early arrival of such of their tribes as intend joining us in the present controversy. The four under care of Mr. *Shaw* have arrived, and promise to take an active part with us.

By intelligence received this morning from *Staten-Island*, we have the greatest reason to suppose a very few days will determine the fate of this city. A deserter mentions the arrival of their whole force, and that it was the orders of yesterday to have three days' provisions ready cooked, and be ready at a moment's warning; he mentions their numbers to be twenty-six thousand, and in general very healthy. The Army under my command (which amounts to little more than half the number of effective men) are in good spirits, and will, I hope, act becoming men fighting for every-

thing worth fighting for, everything worth living for. In this case, with the smiles of Providence, I have not a doubt but that we may render a good account to our country and posterity of these mercenaries.

With particular compliments to the several members of your honourable body, I am, sir, with sentiments of esteem, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *James Bowdoin, Esq.*

GENERAL SCOTT TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, August 13, Evening, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: While I confess I am much honoured by the respectable Convention of the State of *New-York*, in trusting *Willet Taylor* to my discretion, I am reduced to much difficulty to determine how to dispose of him. I advised his father-in-law, *Mr. Bogart*, whom I know to be a staunch friend to liberty, to send for him home, and require him to submit to the orders of the Convention. It is, I suppose, in consequence of that advice that he has returned to *Harlem*. *Mr. Bogart* told me *Taylor* would bind himself by oath neither to speak, write, or act against the *American* cause. His oath the Convention can take, but I cannot do it. If further security should be necessary, by *Mr. Bogart's* entering into recognizance with him, the Convention can take it, but I cannot. If, nevertheless, it should still be their opinion that I am to deal with him, I shall obey their commands, for I shall ever think it an honour to me, both as a member of their body and as a military officer of their appointment, implicitly to execute their orders. Be pleased to commend me to them, and assure them that nothing but the expectation of an attack prevents my having the honour of being with them. I am, sir, your humble servant,

JNO. MORIN SCOTT.

To *John McKesson, Esq.*

P. S. The messenger had just left me when *Major Fish* informed me that the officers of my brigade will not receive their commissions, because, being dated yesterday, the date will render them juniors to many. They entered into the service the 14th *June*. Be pleased, sir, to get a new set of that date. *Major Fish* thinks it hard to be left without a commission. The entry in the records respecting him will show when his commission is to be dated.

*A Roll of the Commissioned Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates, of the Troop of Horse of KING's County, which were upon duty in order to drive off the stock. Commenced AUGUST 14, 1776.*

Upon duty and came over from LONG-ISLAND.      Upon duty, but remained upon LONG-ISLAND.

Daniel Rappelye, 1st Lieutenant.  
Jacob Bloom, 2d do.  
Peter Vandervoort, Ensign.  
Hendrick Johnson, Sergeant.  
John Blanco, Trumpeter.  
Reyner Suydam, Private.  
John Vanderveer, do.

Lambert Suydam, Captain.  
Peter Wyckoff, Quartermaster.  
Hendrick Suydam, Clerk.  
John Nostrand, do.  
Jacob Suydam, Private.  
Isaac Snediker, do.  
Isaac Boerum, do.  
John Rierson, do.  
Rutgers Van Brunt, do.  
Charles De Bevoort, do.  
Benjamin Seaman, do.  
Roelof Turhume, do.  
Andrew Casper, do.  
Thomas Betts, do.  
Martin Kershaw, do.  
Peter Miller, do.  
Hendrick Wyckoff, do.

DANIEL RAPPELYE, Lieutenant.

*A Roll of the Commissioned Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates, of the Troop of Light-Horse of QUEEN's County, which were upon duty in order to drive off the Stock. Commenced AUGUST 14, 1776.*

Upon duty, and came over from off LONG-ISLAND.      Upon duty, but remained upon LONG-ISLAND.

William Boerum, 1st Lieutenant.  
Jacob Sebring, Ensign.  
Isaac Sebring, Private.  
Joseph Sebring, do.  
John Hicks, do.  
George Powels, do.  
William Ellsworth, do.  
Jeremiah Brower, do.  
James Casper, do.  
William Boerum, do.  
Adolphus Brower, do.

Thomas Everit, 2d Lieutenant.  
Joseph Smith, Private.  
William Everit, do.  
Abraham Rappelye, do.  
Stephen Schenck, do.  
Robert Galbreath, do.  
Samuel Etherington, do.  
Nicholas Van Dam, do.

WILLIAM BOERUM, Lieutenant.

JOHN BROOME TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Harlem, August 14, 1776.

Owners of the privateer sloop *Harlequin*, *Daniel Shaw* commander, viz: *Samuel Broome & Co.*, *John Broome*, *John Woodward*, *John Livingston*, *Daniel Shaw*, *Thomas Crab*, *Abraham P. Lott*, *Stockholm & Dickson*, and *Abraham & E. Lott*.

The above privateer sloop is about seventy tons burden, mounts fourteen double fortified four-pounders, navigated and manned with ninety men; provisions, forty barrels of beef and pork; arms and ammunition, one thousand pounds of powder, fifty small-arms.

The subscriber being one of the forementioned owners, requests from the Convention of the State of *New-York* a commission for the above vessel.

JNO. BROOME.

Know all men by these presents, That we, *Daniel Shaw*, *John Broome*, and *Thomas Crab*, of the City of *New-York*, in the sum of six thousand dollars are held and firmly bound to the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Congress of the United Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Rhode-Island*, *Connecticut*, *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent*, and *Sussex*, on *Delaware*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, *North-Carolina*, *South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, to be paid to the said *John Hancock*, or his certain attorney, executors, administrators, or assigns, in trust for the use of the said United Colonies: To which payment well and truly to be done, we do bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals, dated the sixteenth day of *August*, in the year of our Lord 1776.

The condition of this obligation is such, That if the above bounden *Daniel Shaw*, who is commander of the sloop called the *Harlequin*, belonging to *John Broome*, *Samuel Broome & Co.*, of *New-York*, in the Colony of *New-York*, mounting fourteen carriage guns, and navigated by ninety men, and who hath applied for a commission or letters of marque and reprisal, to arm, equip, and set forth to sea, the said sloop as a private ship of war, and to make captures of *British* vessels and cargoes, shall not exceed, or transgress the powers and authorities which shall be contained in the said commission, but shall in all things observe and conduct himself and govern his crew by and according to the same, and certain instructions therewith to be delivered, and such other instructions as may hereafter be given to him, and shall make reparation for all damages sustained by any misconduct or unwarrantable proceedings of himself or the officers or crew of the said sloop, then this obligation shall be void, or else remain in force.

DANIEL SHAW,  
JNO. BROOME,  
THOMAS CRAB.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of,

DANIEL PHENIX,  
Witness to Captain Shaw and John Broome.

ROBERT YATES TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Poughkeepsie, August 14, 1776.

SIR: As we are informed that the little powder belonging to the State is dispersed through the Counties for the use of the Militia, we find ourselves under the necessity of requesting an order from your Excellency to Captain *Benson*, on *Mr. John R. Livingston*, for as much powder as may be necessary for our two armed vessels.

We have directed him to procure a proper number of hand-grenades. There is reason to expect he may be able to purchase them. Should he fail in this, and the publick stores admit of such a supply, we also beg of your Excellency to give him the necessary orders for that purpose.

We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect and esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

ROBERT YATES, Chairman.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 14, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I would inform your Honour that the three galleys are planked, but we have had such a flood of

water for two days, that the mill at this place has not been able to go, which has been some set-back to our getting plank; but we expect her to go this day. The road proving very bad between *Cheshire's* and *Fort George* road, I would send more help to that post, if it be agreeable to your Honour. We are not provided with deck nails: if there be any at *Ticonderoga*, I should take it as a favour to have them forwarded, as they will soon be wanted. And am, with the greatest esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To the Hon. Major-General Gates.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WATERBURY.

Tyonderoga, August 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I desire you will immediately send to *Tyonderoga* all the troops belonging to *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire*, now at *Skenesborough*, and as fast as more arrive from those Provinces, you will, without delay, send them also forward to this post. Such of the tents belonging to the Bay forces as are come to *Skenesborough*, you will forward with the troops. When the three galleys and gondolas now building are launched, and fitted with all that is requisite to be done to them at *Skenesborough*, you will yourself, with one regiment of the *Connecticut* troops, embark on board of them, and proceed to *Tyonderoga*, leaving Colonel *Wynkoop* in command at *Skenesborough*.

Governour *Trumbull* writes me word that he sent one thousand felling-axes to *Skenesborough*: five hundred of them may be sent forward under proper care to me, the rest to be left at *Skenesborough*, under the care of Colonel *Wynkoop*. All the spades not wanted at your post should be sent here directly. Let me have an immediate answer to this letter, with as good an account as you can give so suddenly, of the number of the Militia now at your post. Are any of the Continental regiments from *Boston* come, or, as you hear, coming?

I am, sir, &c.,

HORATIO GATES.

To Brigadier-General Waterbury.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL GANSEVOORT.

Tyonderoga, August 14, 1776.

SIR: Many things which I have lately written for to Captain *Varick*, and which he acquaints me with having sent forward, are not arrived here, particularly cartridge-paper. I desire you will immediately oblige the Conductor at *Fort George* to give you a signed return of everything at present under his care, and let me know what cartridge-paper, musket-balls, buckshot, and flints, are in his hands now; all which I desire you will see immediately forwarded by a careful officer to me. I beg you will keep a watchful eye over this Conductor, and see that no stores of any kind are delayed at *Fort George* in their passage hither.

Be sure you acquaint the Director of the Hospital that all persons recovered of the small-pox must be perfectly cleansed from all infection before they are sent hither: their clothes, blankets, &c., well washed. Too much care cannot be taken in this business. I am, sir, &c.

HORATIO GATES.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Gansevoort.

P. S. Spades are much wanted here.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, August 14, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I congratulate you on the safe arrival of the three men whom I sent to *St. John's*. They bring most perfect intelligence from that quarter. You may depend upon the truth of what they allege.

You will have an exact account of the boats and vessels at that place, as well as a pretty near estimate of the troops there, and a state of the works, &c. From the whole, I understand that they have only one vessel of force, and that not finished: no more on the stocks. They seem to be drawing their strength towards the *Isle-aux-Noix*, and I presume mean to pay us a visit. These men have behaved with great address, not only in saving themselves, but in procuring the intelligence. They are brave men, yet cautious.

Had the taking away a life or two been of any use, they would have effected it easily. Their canoe was too small to carry a prisoner, could they have taken one.

I am happy in this regiment having rendered any service to the publick: we would wish to be more useful. Mr. *Thomas McCoy*, one of the men, formerly held an Ensigncy in the *Pennsylvania* service. I promised him an Ensigncy in this regiment, in case he behaved well. I mentioned this to your Honour; you were pleased to say you approved of my engagement. There is a vacancy now in this regiment; you will therefore be pleased to grant him an Ensigncy in it. General *Arnold* engaged that they should have a pecuniary reward in case they made any discoveries. You also mentioned that you would reward merit in that way on proper occasions. I hope you will consider this as one, and give *Gilbert McCoy* and *Power* such a reward as their services deserve.

I am forming an intrenchment round my camp, which will effectually serve us against any attempt of the savages, *Canadians*, or the light troops of the enemy. We have made a considerable progress in it.

It will always give me satisfaction to find that in the above, or any other part of my conduct, I meet with your approbation.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble and obedient servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

P. S. *Thomas McCoy*, *Gilbert McCoy*, and *James Power*, I send up with this letter.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

Lebanon, August 14, 1776.

SIR: Dr. *Russell*, Surgeon of Colonel *Swift's* regiment, now at *Skenesborough*, came to me this morning for a supply of medicine for the use of his regiment. I concluded what was necessary would be furnished from the Continental Hospital stores; but as Dr. *Russell* informs me he had applied to you for an order on Dr. *Stringer*, and received for an answer that he could not be supplied there, I have ordered him a small supply from hence for the present, until the Continental stores are replenished.

The distressed, broken and dejected state of the Army which retreated out of *Canada*, has given pain and anxiety to every friend to this country, especially to the inhabitants of these Northern Colonies. I am happy to hear that they begin to emerge from their state of distress and dejection, and that there is reason to hope we may yet, in the course of this campaign, see them upon a respectable footing and in condition to act with vigour and spirit in defence of their country.

The friends of those soldiers from this State who are and have been sick in Hospital at *Fort George*, are particularly anxious on their account. I apprehend they will naturally divide into three classes: such as recover and become fit for duty; such as will at length recover their full health and strength; and such as will probably never regain their health so as to be fit for duty, or at least not till their term of service is expired. May I not be permitted to suggest to your consideration, as the two last classes are at present worse than useless to the Army, whether it would not be expedient that those of the last class should be discharged, and some of the convalescent officers employed to supply their places with fresh recruits, and that those of the second class might be permitted to return home on furlough for a short time, that their health may be fully reestablished? In this way I flatter myself that some lives may be saved, and at the same time the real strength of the Army not diminished. Should any be permitted to return, I trust care will be taken that they may not bring the infection of the small-pox, and scatter it in the country.

A report prevails here, and gains some credit, that General *Burgoyne* has retreated to *Montreal* and *Quebeck*. Should this report prove true, and the new levied troops go on to join you, as is expected, we shall hope not only to see you strong enough to resume and fortify the strong post at *Crown-Point*, but also *St. John's* and *Montreal*.

I am, sir, with sentiments of the highest respect, your obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General Gates.

## NORWALK (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

Whereas the Committee of Inspection of the Town of *Norwalk*, on the 28th day of *February* last past, for good causes them thereunto moving, resolved that no article of any kind be exported by land or water out of this Town, without first obtaining a permit from a Sub-Committee then appointed by them for that purpose:

Notwithstanding the above resolution, one Captain *Thomas Grenel*, and his son *Thomas Grenel*, both now resident in said *Norwalk*, without desiring such permit, and in open defiance and contempt of this Committee, conveyed two boxes of Tea, under arms, on board a boat to be transported abroad. And also the said *Grenel*, before the conveyance aforesaid, had declared his spite and contempt against said Committee, by saying "Damn the Committee," and swore by the Almighty, that if any man or men opposed him in the delivery of said Tea, he would send him or them to the other world, or words to that effect. Whereupon, on the 8th day of *August*, 1776, this Committee resolved that the said *Thomas Grenel*, and his son *Thomas Grenel*, are dangerous persons, and ought to be disarmed.

And moreover, the said *Thomas Grenel*, by citation, appeared before this Committee, with regard to his price in selling *Bohea Tea*; to whom he replied, owned, and declared, that he had sold quantities of Tea for a greater price than was set by the Continental Congress, (although this Committee were informed that the said Mr. *Grenel* was one who made application to the honourable Continental Congress for the sale of such Teas.) Which complicated iniquities have a dangerous tendency to draw the incautious into many snares and troubles; which to prevent, and also that our constituents should not be imposed on in any such wicked practices,

*Resolved*, That the said *Thomas Grenel* is a staunch opposer of the proceedings and resolutions of the honourable Continental Congress, and also of this Committee and their constituents, and appears to this Committee to be a haughty, disaffected, unfriendly person to the *United States*. And all persons are requested to have no further dealings, intercourse, connexions, or correspondence with said *Thomas Grenel*; and that the same be published.

By order of the Committee:

Attest: *JESSE RAYMOND, Clerk.*

*Norwalk*, August 14, 1776.

## COLONEL HINMAN TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

*Woodbury*, August 14, 1776.

SIR: I received your Honour's orders of the 6th *July* last, requiring me (on notice given by General *Washington*, or the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the *United Colonies*, of the necessity of assistance) to call forth and march with expedition so many of the able-bodied and effective men of my regiment as would be necessary, &c., to be under the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, and give immediate notice thereof to your Honour.

In obedience to said orders, I would hereby inform your Honour, that, on the 10th instant, I received (per express) a letter from General *Washington*, dated *New-York*, the 7th instant, informing of the necessity of assistance, requesting me to call forth my regiment without delay, and have them equipped with blankets, arms, and ammunition, and march them immediately to *New-York*; upon the receipt of which, I without delay gave orders to all my Captains to call forth their respective companies, have them equipped according to the above request, and march them immediately to *New-York*. A number of said companies have marched, others are now going off, and to-morrow the whole will be on the way. Major *Canfield*, I am informed, went off yesterday. I am now going off myself, with Lieutenant-Colonel *Mosely*, and expect in two or three days to be in *New-York* with my regiment. We must be deficient in numbers, notwithstanding we take almost every man. I shall transmit to your Honour a return of those of my regiment which are in said service as soon as it comes in my power.

I am, sir, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,  
*BENJAMIN HINMAN.*

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull, Esq.*, Governour and Captain-General of the Colony of *Connecticut*, at *Lebanon*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN HENRY BARNES, OF THE *EAGLE*, BELONGING TO WHITEHAVEN, ENGLAND, TO HIS OWNERS, DATED RHODE-ISLAND, AUGUST 14, 1776.

I sailed from *Barbadoes* the 21st of *June*. On the 12th of *July*, made a sail astern: she soon came up with us, though we little imagined her to be an *American* privateer, being then in latitude 32° 25', longitude 52°. At half-past eight in the night, she fired a gun to leeward, from which we concluded she was an *English* cruiser; but were too soon convinced to the contrary. When we first made the sloop, she appeared large from the crowd of sail she carried; but, on a nearer survey, we found her to be very small, painted black, with ten guns, fifty men, and every necessary for a cruise. She is called the *Montgomery*, Captain *Bucklin*. They took out all the *Eagle's* people but myself, the boatswain, and a boy, and conveyed us to this place.

My people are all well. We are supported at present at the expense of the owner of the privateer, and indulged with the liberty of going about where we please, and are, in every respect, treated with the greatest kindness and civility. We are the seventh *West-Indiaman* taken by this privateer. Numbers of vessels have been taken coming from the *West-India Islands*.

## MAJOR HAWLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

*Northampton*, August 14, 1776.

GENERAL GATES: I this minute received your favour of the 10th instant, and carefully mark the contents, and shall, dear sir, do everything in my power as soon as possible to effect what you have been pleased to ask. Your Honour will please to be informed that *Number Four* is upwards of seventy miles from this place. It is directly counter to the orders of the Council of this Government that a man should tarry to inoculate. I have been so happy as to effect the march of about seven hundred good men from this County, without any delay for inoculation.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

*JOSEPH HAWLEY.*

## MAJOR HAWLEY TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

*Northampton*, August 14, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: I conceive it to be my duty to acquaint you that this day I saw a young man sent by Mr. *Farnsworth* to inform the three Continental regiments and Colonel *Willard's* regiment, (if he could find them,) that it was impossible to provide rations for them or any of them at *Number Four*.

Your Honours will determine what orders are proper to give on this occasion. He also declared that they would make good provision for them all at *Bennington*.

I am, with great respect, the Council's servant,

*JOSEPH HAWLEY.*

## BENJAMIN GREENLEAF TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

*Newburyport*, August 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have this moment received the enclosed letter by a gentleman from *New-York*, and take the first opportunity to forward it to you. As soon as I have despatched a piece of business now in hand, and which it is necessary I should attend to, I shall do myself the honour of waiting on you at *Watertown*; as, in the interim, I am, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servant,

*B. GREENLEAF.*

To the Honourable Council of *Massachusetts* State.

P. S. Captain *Wingate Newman* is just arrived at the entrance of this river with a prize-ship, nearly four hundred hogsheads of sugar, and nearly one hundred hogsheads of rum.

## MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO COMMITTEE AT SALEM.

In Committee of Council, August 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee of Council have duly considered your memorial respecting Messrs. *Daitt* and *Lawless* having taken their passage for *France* on board a vessel fitted out by the *United States*, under the command of Captain *Cleveland*. The character you suppose these gen-



lemen sustain makes it very important for them to embark for any part of *Europe* at this time. You are therefore directed to use your utmost endeavours to prevent these gentlemen from sailing in the vessel aforesaid, or in any other, until the further order of the Council.

To the Committee of Safety, &c., *Salem*.

JACOB EMERSON TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Reading, August 14, 1776.

Colonel *Campbell*, stationed at *Reading*, has dismissed four of his servants, *Charles McArthur*, *Archibald Baxter*, *John Nicholson*, and *Robert Hill*. *Hill* has contracted for the present with one of his trade, a cordwainer in this town, for his support. The other three are on charge exceeding the rations of *American* soldiers. A person by the name of *Munroe*, boarding with Quartermaster *Ogilvie* and Surgeon's Mate *Burns*, according to appearance, passes and repasses as far as a sea-port.

By order of Committee:

JACOB EMERSON, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable Council of the *Massachusetts* State.

Worcester, August 14, 1776.

Last week *Richard Green*, late of *Boston*, merchant, a noted Tory, went through this town into exile, agreeable to his sentence.

WARWICK (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

Warwick, Massachusetts-Bay, August 14, 1776.

The Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, of the town of *Warwick*, having had many complaints of the inimical temper and disposition of Mr. *Lemuel Hedge*, of said *Warwick*, towards the grand struggle for the liberties of the *American* States, and the said Mr. *Lemuel Hedge* showed contempt in refusing to appear, it is therefore,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Lemuel Hedge*, in speaking contemptuously of the honourable Continental Congress, and also setting forth how the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* had trampled on the King's laws and his officers, and also many other unfriendly speeches; it is therefore the opinion of this Committee, that the said Mr. *Lemuel Hedge* is inimical to these *American* States, and that he ought to be dealt with accordingly. It is therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said Mr. *Lemuel Hedge* be disarmed, and confined to the limits of his farm, unless by a permit from the Committee of said Town.

*Voted*, That the foregoing proceedings with regard to Mr. *Lemuel Hedge*, be inserted in the *Hartford* paper.

By order of said Committee:

JOSIAH POMEROY, *Chairman*.

Secretary's Office, Halifax.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas discovery has been made that some disaffected persons have endeavoured, by promises and other arts, to seduce Seamen from his Majesty's service, and engage them in the cause of rebellion, with assurance, in further prosecution of the said design, to convey them out of this harbour by means to be provided for that purpose: This is therefore to give notice, that the master of any ship, boat, or vessel, who shall take on board any person or persons to carry or convey them from hence, without having first obtained from this office a pass for the departure of such person or persons, will be liable for the penalty of fifty pounds for every such person so conveyed away, and such master shall be prosecuted for the same as the law directs.

By command of the Lieutenant-Governour:

RICHARD BULKELEY, *Secretary*.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, September 13, 1776.

General *Lee* writes from *Purysburgh*, of August 15, that he is going to break up *East Florida*. President *Rutledge*, in a letter to the Council, writes that the *South-Carolinians* had destroyed five *Indian* towns in the lower settlements, and laid waste their fields of corn. They have had two skirmishes, in both of which the *Carolinians* have been successful. They supposed they killed between sixty and seventy men.

By letters from *Cape Nichola Mole*, of the 28th ultimo, we learn that two frigates had lately arrived at *St. Domingo* from *France*, completely manned, in order to cruise off that Island and protect all *American* vessels within their limits. Two more frigates were daily expected for the same purpose. These four frigates are to act in conjunction with two *Spanish* frigates, which are stationed at *Porto Rico* for the protection of all *North American* vessels. The *Spanish* Captains are to pay equal attention to the General of *St. Domingo's* orders as to those of the Commander at *Porto Rico*. There is every appearance of a speedy rupture between *France*, *Spain*, and *Great Britain*, as *Spain* and *Portugal* are absolutely now at war.

Williamsburgh, August 15, 1776.

All persons who have bought goods at the sale of Lord *Dunmore's* Estate, and have not already given bond in those instances where credit was allowed, or paid the money where prompt payment was requirable, are desired to comply with the terms of the sale, without further delay. The Commissioners will attend for that purpose at the house of the Attorney-General on *Saturday*, the 24th of this month. Such of the purchasers as live too remote to comply with this request are earnestly desired to save the Commissioners all further trouble, by sending their bonds as soon as possible.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COL. HOLLINGSWORTH.

[No. 134.]

Annapolis, August 15, 1776.

SIR: We request you will provide provision and baggage wagons at the head of *Elk* for our troops as they arrive there on their march to *Philadelphia*, and from time to time transmit us your accounts. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*.

MAJOR BROOKE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Lower District, Frederick County, August 15, 1776.

SIR: Finding my enemies have been so far successful in poisoning the minds of the Twenty-Ninth Battalion of Militia that a majority are against my acting as Major, I therefore take the liberty of enclosing you my commission. I would not have it understood by this resignation that I have deserted the common cause; no, sir, I will most cheerfully, when necessary, hazard my life and fortune in defence of the rights and liberties of *America*. Impressed with the deepest concern, and warmed with resentment of the measures pursued by a venal and corrupt Parliament, I stepped forth with the foremost of my countrymen in opposition to the tyrannical encroachments of *Great Britain*. Appealing to that Divine Being who searches the heart, I can safely declare I have been actuated by no other motive than the publick good; and I flatter myself that every impartial person who takes a retrospective view of my conduct will find it uniform. If I have erred, it has been the fault of my head, and not of my heart.

With the most ardent wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the *United States of America*, I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD BROOKE.

To the Honourable *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., President of the Convention of *Maryland*.

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, August 15, 1776.

SIRS: I am going on about the timber and other things for the gondolas, which I shall purchase and bring into the yard as fast as possible, but have made no bargain with you about it. I shall charge the same for my time as when I superintended the frigate business, which was 22s. 6d. per day, and I had the liberty of furnishing her with all the bar iron delivered at the place, at £26 per ton—I mean Mr. *Wells's* shop; and the pitch, tar, and turpentine, at the market price in *Baltimore*, and paid all my bills for money advanced for all kinds of necessaries, such as she wants. Sirs, you may at first look on this as too much; but I have a good deal of my own business to do, and a great amount of other people's. I have myself and two as good clerks as any in *Baltimore*, and we are early and late at our business. I am on horseback from morning till night, driving amongst the people;

have another riding after teams, getting necessities, and two horses are not enough sometimes, nor two clerks, with myself at the head of them. I shall be from home in *Patapsco* the next two weeks, getting timber, with twenty hands from home day and night, and two or three teams, up to my middle or neck in water, rafting, and fretting myself, and a thousand disappointments that you know nothing of. I shall be as reasonable as possible in my charges, and do your business as well as I possibly can, and make the best bargains I can for you; but I declare if any person will do it on better terms, I should be pleased. The timber is purchased ready, and most of it down, and I will hire them my carriages (as there is no other) at a moderate rate, if any person will now bring it into the yard on better terms than the proposals I make. We shall lay one of the keels this day, and the other next week, I hope, but expect a line from you on the before mentioned matters. I have furnished the yard with rum at market prices, and my charges of every kind have been thought reasonable; and they beg of me to be ready for them again with all my teams, carriages, and hands.

Be pleased, gentlemen, to write me, and if the rum is to be furnished for the yard, two drinks of grog a day, and no more; the carters and people rafting and getting timber must have rum; in that I want neither more nor less than I had with the frigate, but thought it my duty to explain my bargain to you, that you might know the matter.

I have bought a scow that will carry six hundred bushels, for £28, a very good one: please send for her. I have sent some coffee, tea, and nails, to *Annapolis*, and some pots to Captain *Veazey*, at *Newtown*. I never heard if they were received. Please let me know about the bales I wrote by Mr. *Hawkins*. Excuse this long letter. Please answer it.

From your humble servant,

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

JOHN VEAZEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, Cecil County, August 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We wrote you on the 6th instant, informing you of our proceedings respecting the two companies raised in this County for the Flying-Camp; and lest it should have miscarried on its way, we now send you a duplicate of that letter, as we have not as yet received any answer to it. We now inform you that the different officers are collecting arms as expeditiously as possible. Captain *Alexander* has got fourteen guns in the neighbourhood, which he paid for, and Colonel *Hollingsworth* is to supply him with twenty more, which is to be charged to your Board. We fear, from Captain *Alexander's* report, that he will not be able to procure more than twenty others. He will get a sufficient number of blankets. Captain *George* has got fifty guns, which are paid for, and will be able to procure a sufficient number for his company. He has also got fifty-four blankets, which are paid for, and will get the remainder that his company may want. We have followed your instructions in the purchase of guns. We have been obliged to give such prices for blankets as they could be purchased for. The cash in our hands is expended; and if you wish us to proceed any further, a supply will be necessary, as these necessary accoutrements cannot be had without it. We further desire to know whether these troops are to be continued in quarters. If cartouch boxes are difficult to be procured with you, they may be had here at the same price as in *Philadelphia*. We have purchased six canteens, at 4s. 6d. each, fearing you might want them.

I am, in behalf of the Committee, gentlemen, your most obedient,

JOHN VEAZEY, Jun., *Chairman*.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

WILLIAM COX TO RICHARD PETERS.

Philadelphia, August 15, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Mr. *William Strong*, a person I have been acquainted with for several years past, is from *New-York*, with a letter of recommendation to Mr. *Hancock* and Mr. *Ellery*, Delegate from *Rhode-Island*, soliciting employ in some publick office as a clerk; but those gentlemen's thoughts having been taken up about matters of far greater consequence, nothing as yet hath been done for him; and he greatly disliking an idle life, hath prevailed upon me to

recommend him to you as a person well qualified in business, he having been chiefly employed in publick offices; therefore, should you be in want of such a one, or know of any gentleman that is, I doubt not but he will make it his study to please. I dare say he can produce reasonable proof of his being a friend to the *American* States, and says he is willing, upon a prospect of staying here, to become an Associator, and in that respect would be glad to serve under you.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

WM. COX.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary of War, in *Philadelphia*.

THE PETITION OF RETURN JONATHAN MEIGS, IN BEHALF OF HIMSELF AND OTHERS.

[Read August 15, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the Congress of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

The Petition of RETURN JONATHAN MEIGS, in behalf of the Officers and Soldiers taken prisoners on the 31st day of DECEMBER last, at the storming of QUEBECK, humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioner, with many officers and soldiers in the Continental service, were unhappily made prisoners of war in the attempt upon *Quebeck*. That the officers and soldiers now confined in the said garrison have it not in their power to negotiate bills or obtain sufficient credit in their present situation, so as to enable them to live with decency; and as they have expended what they could obtain upon credit, they must, without assistance, live in great want of many of the comforts of life, not being looked upon by their captors as prisoners of war. That your Petitioner, the other officers and soldiers, prisoners as aforesaid, humbly hope and anxiously wish that this honourable House will, in as short time as possible, settle a cartel for exchange of prisoners.

Your Petitioner, therefore, humbly hopes that your Honours will take the premises into consideration, and grant such relief to the sufferers as in your wisdom shall seem meet; and they will pray.

RETURN JONA. MEIGS.

Philadelphia, August 15, 1776.

PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Council of Safety, August 15, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer of each Battalion or Company of Associators belonging to this State be required forthwith to return to the Council of Safety a list of the names of the Associators who have deserted from their respective corps, that they may be dealt with according to their deserts.

Ordered, That the above Resolve be published in all the publick papers of this city.

Extract from the Minutes:

JACOB S. HOWELL, *Secretary*.

READING (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

Reading, Berks County, August 15, 1776.

In pursuance of a Resolve of the late Committee of Safety "for making provision for distressed families whose husbands are now in actual service, and appointing a number of judicious persons to distribute the same," the Committee of this County, agreeable to the recommendation of the Council of Safety, have appointed the following persons for that purpose, who are requested to inform this Committee what moneys will be necessary in their several Townships for this charitable and necessary work:

Reading—*Henry Hawn, Peter Feather*.

Alsace—*Deiter Beidelman, Christopher Spingler*.

Amity—*Henry Vanreed, John Griner*.

Albany—*Michael Hagenback, Henry Reichelsdorffer*.

Bern—*Samuel Philbert, Valentine Epler*.

Brunswick—*Jacob Sheffer, Michael Diver*.

Brecknock—*John Pennybecker, Henry Brindle*.

Bethel—*William Krickbaum, Christian Poffenberger*.

Cumry—*Michael Ruth, William Hottenstein*.

Colebrookdale—*Jacob Mechlin, Mathias Roth, Sen.*

Caernarvan—*David Jones, Aaron Rutue, Sen.*

Douglass—*Peter Yocum, Valentine Keihle*.

Exeter—*James Boone, Jacob Bechtel*.

Greenwich—*Frederick Kruner, Michael Leshner*.

Heidelberg—*Frederick Gerhart, John Moyer.*  
Hereford—*Christopher Schultz, Christopher Meschter.*  
Long-Swamp—*Nicholas Schwartz, Martin Kercher.*  
Maxatawny—*Andrew Sassamunshausen, Nich. Schweyer.*  
Maiden Creek—*George Gernant, John Reeser.*  
Oley—*Jacob Schneider, Casper Griesemer.*  
Pine Grove—*George Guthman, Philip Lorentz.*  
Richmond—*George Merckel, Peter Biehl.*  
Ruscomb Manor—*Adam Schmehl, Jost Wagner.*  
Rockland—*Peter Keiffer, Peter Loback.*  
Robeson—*Valentine Hahn, Herman Umsted.*  
Tulpehocken—*Christian Laner, Jacob Fisher.*  
Union—*John Godfrey, Jacob Ratche.*  
Eastern District—*Nicholas Imbody, Conrad Keim.*  
Western District—*George Klauser, Daniel East.*  
Windsor—*Michael Kreischer, Conrad Kirschner.*

By order of the Committee:  
COLLINSON READ, *Secretary.*

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.  
Powles Hook, August 15, 1776.

SIR: I was at *Elizabeth-Town* when your letters of the 13th and 14th reached me. The men who had been prepared to join the Army at *New-York* lay at *Newark*. The posts along the *Jersey* shore opposite to *Staten-Island* are sufficiently guarded, and more troops are daily arriving. If you approve of it, a body of four hundred men, well accounted, from the *Delaware* Counties, may be stationed at *Powles Hook*, and four hundred of the *Jersey* men for the *Flying-Camp* at *Bergen-Town*, besides what we may spare to be ready in case of emergency at *Newark*. Eight hundred men will cross to-day to join you. If more are necessary, please to inform me. I shall be to-night at *Newark*.  
I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
H. MERCER.

A General Return of the Army in NEW-JERSEY, under the Command of the Honourable HUGH MERCER, Brigadier-General in the Continental service; PERTH-AMBOY, August 14, 1776.

	Commissioned Officers present.							Staff Officers.				Non-Com'd Officers.		Rank and File.				
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	1st Lieutenants.	2d Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present fit for duty.	Sick.	On furlough.	Total.
Colonel Thompson .....	1	1	1	8	7	-	7	-	1	1	-	-	28	15	386	14	2	402
Colonel Read .....	1	1	1	5	5	-	5	-	1	1	-	-	18	6	252	8	-	260
Colonel Dickinson .....	1	1	2	8	7	7	11	-	1	1	1	2	25	12	263	8	24	299
Second Battalion, Colonel Bayard .....	1	1	2	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	31	10	309	-	-	309
Third Battalion, Colonel Cadwalader .....	1	1	2	7	7	8	11	-	1	1	1	1	33	14	339	7	13	357
Fourth Battalion, Colonel McKean .....	1	1	2	5	6	7	9	-	1	1	1	1	28	12	162	11	-	173
Fifth Battalion, Colonel Clymer .....	-	1	2	3	8	5	-	-	1	1	1	1	14	6	96	13	6	115
Major McVain .....	-	-	1	4	4	4	5	-	1	-	1	-	17	9	138	-	-	138
Colonel Montgomery .....	1	-	1	8	9	9	8	1	1	1	1	1	28	7	388	5	1	193
First Battalion of Cumberland .....	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	8	4	121	1	-	122
Colonel Hill .....	-	-	2	3	7	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	10	6	153	1	-	154
Colonel Dill, Fifth Battalion York County .....	-	-	1	2	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	63	-	-	63
Colonel Guyger .....	-	-	-	3	3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	12	6	104	-	-	104
Colonel Hart .....	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	58	-	-	58
Colonel Lewis .....	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	46	-	-	46
Colonel Moore .....	1	1	2	5	6	6	4	1	1	1	1	-	20	6	191	10	2	203
Colonel Ross .....	-	-	1	2	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	14	5	124	-	-	124
Lieutenant-Colonel Donaldson .....	-	1	1	6	6	5	6	-	1	1	1	-	23	8	254	2	2	258
Colonel Grub .....	1	1	1	11	11	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	44	19	335	-	6	341
Colonel Thomas .....	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	-	1	1	1	-	24	6	150	-	-	150
Troops sent to New-York .....	2	4	5	37	48	37	25	2	4	4	3	3	123	59	2,075			4,070

To His Excellency General Washington, Head-Quarters, New-York.

GENERAL HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.  
Head-Quarters, Staten-Island, August 15, 1776.

MY LORD: I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches of the 11th and 12th of June, by the *Halifax* packet, arriving here the 11th instant.  
On the 12th the two fleets, under convoy of Commodore *Hotham* and the *Repulse*, met off this harbour, and came in together. The Guards and *Hessians* on board are reported to be very healthy. The camp equipage is also come, and no time will be lost in proceeding upon the operations of the campaign.  
Lord *Dunmore* and Lord *William Campbell* arrived yesterday from the southward, with Sir *Peter Parker*. Being anxious to send off this packet, I defer being more particular until the next departure.  
I have the honour to be, &c.,  
WILL. HOWE.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.  
New-York, August 15, 1776.

SIR: As the situation of the two Armies must engage the attention of Congress, and lead them to expect that each returning day will produce some important events, this is meant to inform them that nothing of moment has yet cast up.  
In the evening of yesterday, there were great movements among their boats, and from the number that appeared to be passing and repassing about the *Narrows*, we were induced to believe that they intended to land a part of their force upon

*Long-Island*; but having no report from General *Greene*, I presume they have not done it.  
I have the honour to be, with my duties to Congress, your and their most obedient servant,  
GO. WASHINGTON.  
P. S. Your favour of the 13th was received by yesterday's post. I wrote on *Monday* by the return express, as you supposed.  
GO. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL ORDERS.  
Head-Quarters, New-York, August 13, 1776.  
(Parole, Weymouth.) (Countersign, York.)  
*Thomas Hendly* and *Israel Keith*, Esquires, are appointed Aids-de-Camp to Major-General *Heath*. They are to be respected and obeyed accordingly.

The Court-Martial to sit to-morrow, for the trial of Lieutenant *Holcomb*, of Captain *Anderson's* Company, Colonel *Johnson's* Regiment, under arrest for "assuming the rank of a Captain, and mounting guard as such."  
The Colonels of the several Regiments, or Commanding Officers, are to send their Quartermasters to the Laboratory for the ammunition cart to be attached to each regiment, with spare ammunition; to have it posted in some safe and proper place near the regiment, so as to be ready at a moment's warning: the horse and driver to be also kept near the regiment. It is the Quartermaster's duty to attend to this, and in case of action to see the cartridges delivered as they are wanted.  
The enemy's whole reinforcement is now arrived, so that

an attack must and will soon be made. The General therefore again repeats his earnest request that every officer and soldier will have his arms and ammunition in good order; keep within their quarters and encampment, as much as possible; be ready for action at a moment's call; and when called to it, remember that liberty, property, life, and honour, are all at stake; that upon their courage and conduct rest the hopes of their bleeding and insulted country; that their wives, children, and parents, expect safety from them only; and that we have every reason to expect Heaven will crown with success so just a cause. The enemy will endeavour to intimidate by show and appearance, but remember how they have been repulsed on various occasions by a few brave *Americans*. Their cause is bad; their men are conscious of it; and if opposed with firmness and coolness at their first onset, with our advantage of works and knowledge of the ground, victory is most assuredly ours. Every good soldier will be silent and attentive, wait for orders, and reserve his fire till he is sure of doing execution. The officers to be particularly careful of this. The Colonels, or Commanding Officers of Regiments, are to see their supernumerary officers so posted as to keep the men to their duty; and it may not be amiss for the troops to know that if any infamous rascal, in time of action, shall attempt to skulk, hide himself, or retreat from the enemy without orders of his Commanding Officer, he will instantly be shot down as an example of cowardice. On the other hand the General promises that he will reward those who shall distinguish themselves by brave and noble actions: and he desires every officer to be attentive to this particular, that such men may afterwards be suitably noticed.

General *Greene* to send for ten of the flat-bottomed boats, which are to be kept under guard at *Long-Island*. No person to meddle with them but by his special order.

Thirty-seven men (sailors) are wanted for the galleys.

Eighty men, properly officered and used to the sea, are wanted to go up to *King's Bridge* with the ships and rafts. They are to be furnished immediately, and parade with blankets and provisions, but without arms, at General *Putnam's*, at two o'clock, and take orders from him.

*John Gardiner*, of Captain *Trowbridge's* Company, Colonel *Huntington's* Regiment, tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Wyllys* was President, and convicted of "desertion," ordered to receive thirty-nine lashes.

*John Morgan*, of Captain *Johnson's* Company, Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, tried by the same Court-Martial and convicted of "sleeping on his post," sentenced to receive thirty lashes.

*Francis Claudge*, of Captain *Speakman's* Company, Col. *Glover's* Regiment, tried by the same Court-Martial, and convicted of "desertion and reenlistment," sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes, thirteen each day successively.

The General approves each of the above sentences, and orders them to be executed at the usual times and places.

The Court of Inquiry having reported that Lieutenant *Mesier* had behaved unbecoming an officer, to one of superior rank, the Court directed a Court-Martial, unless he ask pardon of the officer he affronted; but that officer having represented to the General that he is willing to pass it over, the General, at his request, orders Lieutenant *Mesier* to be discharged.

*After Orders*.—Colonel *Miles's* and Colonel *Brodhead's* regiments of Riflemen to discharge and clean their rifles to-morrow, at troop-beating, under the inspection of their officers. Colonel *Smallwood's* and Colonel *Atlee's* Battalions of Musketry to fire at the same time with loose powder and ball.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 14, 1776.

(Parole, *America*.)

(Countersign, *Liberty*.)

*Alexander Scammell* and *Lewis Morris*, Esqs., are appointed Aids-de-Camp to Major-General *Sullivan*. They are to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

The divisions of the Army under Major-Generals *Putnam* and *Sullivan* having undertaken some special works, are to be omitted out of the general detail of guards and fatigue for the present.

The General orders three days' provision to be cooked immediately, that the soldiers have their canteens filled, and be ready to meet the enemy on a short notice.

Such Colonels of Regiments as have not sent for their ammunition carts, or drawn for rum for the refreshment of their men in time of action, as per order of the 9th instant, are to do it immediately, and the Quartermaster must take care that it be used properly; the allowance is half a pint per man.

The Brigadier-Generals will please to recollect that there are a number of spears at the Laboratory, which will be of great use at the posts, and are waiting to be distributed.

In case of alarm, the men are immediately to repair to their usual parade, where the roll is to be called, and then march, join in battalion, and march to their respective alarm posts; absentees will be considered as cowards, and treated as such.

The General flatters himself that every man's mind and arms are now prepared for the glorious contest upon which so much depends. The time is too precious, nor does the General think it necessary to spend it in exhorting his brave countrymen and fellow-soldiers to behave like men, fighting for everything that can be dear to freemen. We must resolve to conquer or die; with this resolution and the blessing of Heaven, victory and success certainly will attend us. There will, then, be a glorious issue to this campaign; and the General will reward his brave fellow-soldiers with every indulgence in his power.

The whole line to turn out to-morrow morning and march to their several alarm posts, in all points ready for action, and continue until nine o'clock, or further orders.

*William Peek* and *Charles Whiting*, Esqs., appointed Aids-de-Camp to Major-General *Spencer*. They are to be respected and obeyed accordingly.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 15, 1776.

(Parole, *Charlestown*.)

(Countersign, *Boston*.)

*William S. Smith*, Esq., appointed to act as Aid-de-Camp to General *Sullivan* during the absence of Major *Scammell*, and to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

*Henry Williams*, of Captain *Parke's* Company, Colonel *Shepard's* Regiment, convicted by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Wyllys* was President, of "desertion," sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed at the usual time and place.

Lieutenant *Holcomb*, of Captain *Anderson's* Company, and Colonel *Johnson's* Regiment, tried by the same Court-Martial for "assuming the rank of a Captain, wearing a yellow cockade, and mounting guard in that capacity," it appearing to be done through misinformation and want of experience, the Court are of opinion he should be cautioned by his Colonel to make himself acquainted with his duty, and that he be released from his arrest. The General approves thereof, and orders that he be discharged.

Mr. *William Caldwell* is appointed Paymaster to Colonel *Baldwin's* Regiment; Mr. *John Lawrence* to the Regiment late *McDougall's*.

The General directs and requests that every officer will see the men's arms and ammunition put in order as soon as it clears up; and for that purpose have them paraded and carefully inspected; an enemy often presumes upon neglect at such time to make an attack.

Mr. *Robert Prevost*, Jun., is appointed Paymaster to Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment.

Colonel *Glover's* Regiment to move to-morrow to *Greenwich*, and join General *Fellows's* Brigade.

General *Putnam's* Division to be put into the general detail of duty as before.

Captain *James Chapman* to do the duty of Major to Colonel *Tyler's* Regiment (late General *Parson's*) till further orders. Captain *James Mellen* to do the same in Colonel *Ward's* Regiment.

Captain *Thomas Dyer* to do the duty of Brigade-Major to General *Parson's* Brigade till further orders.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 15, 1776.

SIR: This serves only to advise you that I have this day drawn on you in favour of Colonel *Thomas Lowrey*, of *New-Jersey*, on account of a quantity of pork supplied to the Army by him some time since, for six thousand twenty-nine



and one-third dollars, which you will please to pay, and charge to my account accordingly.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress of Delegates from the States of *America*, at *Philadelphia*.

P. S. Since writing the above, I have drawn another list of bills on you, in favour of Colonel *Lowrey*, for twenty thousand dollars, for supplying the Continental troops in *New-Jersey*, which you will please to pay, and charge accordingly. If the communication should be cut off by the enemy between us here and the troops in *New-Jersey*, I hope the Congress will from time to time supply him with money, as occasion may require in that department, and charge the same to me, taking his receipts to account to me or themselves for the expenditure thereof.

Yours, *ut supra*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Long-Island, August 15, 1776.

SIR: It having appeared in orders that Colonel *Hitchcock's* regiment is to take possession of the post opposite to *Fort Washington*, I beg leave to acquaint you that their peculiar attachment to the old regiments that are here, their thorough knowledge of the ground, their discipline, and the good order in which they are respecting arms, make me desirous of their remaining here, if it can possibly be dispensed with, and absolute necessity does not require their removal. The most of the troops that come over here are strangers to the ground, undisciplined, and badly furnished with arms. They will not be so apt to support each other in time of action as those who have long been acquainted, and who are not only attached to each other but to the place. I have made this application in consequence of my own observations; and to evince the propriety of it, send you enclosed the arrangement for your inspection.

Colonel *Hand*, about eight o'clock yesterday evening, reported that the *Hessians* were landing on *Staten-Island* to a considerable number; that after their landing they paraded upon the beach, and marched up the hill towards the flag-staff. I have received no report from him this morning, owing, as I suppose, to the inclemency of the weather. Should he not send one speedily, I shall despatch an express to inquire the cause.

I have made choice of Mr. *William Blodget* and Major *William Livingston* for my Aids-de-Camp. Should it meet with your approbation, you will please to signify it in orders.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the troops appear to be in exceeding good spirits; and make no doubt that if the enemy should make their attack here, we shall be able to render a very good account of them.

I am carrying into execution the late resolve of Congress respecting the removal of the cattle, dismantling of the mills, removing the grain already thrashed, and having that which is still in sheaf so stacked and disposed of, that in case of an attack it may easily be destroyed.

The Militia of the County that were ordered here have not as yet made their appearance, notwithstanding the promise I received from the Lieutenant-Colonel that they should be here last night. Should they delay coming in any longer than this day, I am determined not to be trifled with, and shall let them feel my resentment by vigorous and spirited exertions of military discipline and those powers with which I am invested. A part of the Militia, from the east end of the Island, under the command of Colonel *Smith*, are arrived.

I am very sorry that I am under the necessity of acquainting you that I am confined to my bed with a raging fever. The critical situation of affairs makes me the more anxious, but I hope, through the assistance of Providence, to be able to ride before the presence of the enemy may make it absolutely necessary.

I am, with respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 15, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I do myself the honour to enclose you a return of stores forwarded since the 8th instant. As the General is momentarily expected, I have hitherto detained your despatches, and shall deliver them as soon as he comes. I had prepared copies to enclose to his Excellency, but being informed that he will certainly be here in a few hours, I must beg your pardon for the detention. I am confident the General will have some observations to make on the orders of *Carleton*, as they militate with resolves of Congress I sent him on the 10th, in the evening.

Some of the stores are arrived at *Poughkeepsie*; some blocks, three coils  $4\frac{1}{2}$  and  $4\frac{1}{4}$ -inch cordage, and some small cordage, with several old sails, and a few anchors and cables. More  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch cordage is to be had at *Poughkeepsie*. I think we had better send for it to supply the three-inch cordage ordered by the requisition. Above four hundred pounds of slow-match is arrived; this, together with fifty dressed skins, some powder-horns, one hundred pounds of twine, two fishing nets, grubbing hoes, and intrenching tools, will be sent by the first wagons.

I shall soon send you some grapplings. From their size, I supposed them to be in lieu of small anchors, and have ordered them to be made so. Spikes are making, and I have sent for iron, in consequence of General *Arnold's* requisitions from *Skenesborough*.

When my General arrives, I shall consider myself in some measure discharged from the extra offices his absence has imposed on me; but shall at leisure see to it that the requisitions are complied with as soon as possible.

I am, my dear sir, with every sentiment of respect, and the most profound esteem, your obedient and very humble servant,

RICHD. VARICK.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

*L'Oiseau* and *Allain* are confined in the Tory Jail; the others not yet arrived. They had no papers, and from their examination, appear almost incapable of deception.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 15, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received your favour of the 14th instant, and am now sending off the troops according to order. Your Honour's letter of the 11th directed me to send the troops down to *Ticonderoga* when the tents should arrive. As the tents did not arrive, I thought it to be my orders not to send the troops, till your Honour's letter of the 14th came to hand. I hear the tents are likely to come to this place to-morrow, and if they should, I shall send them immediately down to *Ticonderoga*, without loss of time.

As to the Continental regiments that your Honour desired me to acquaint you with, there is not one arrived at this place, neither can I get any intelligence where they are. As to the Militia, they come in very slowly, and what is the reason I cannot tell.

Your Honour may depend I shall do all in my power to get the galleys ready as soon as possible, and embark on board of them, according to orders. We are kept back by the mill being put out of order by the great flood of water; but I hope we shall soon get her agoing. I fear we shall want for oakum and deck nails. I hope we shall not be kept back for want of anything, for I think our shipping must be a great terror to our enemy.

As to the axes that Governour *Trumbull* wrote about, they have not arrived, but as soon as they arrive I shall attend to the orders, in sending one-half down to *Ticonderoga*.

We are behindhand on account of plank for sealing, by the mill being out of order. The carpenters could not all work at the three on the stocks, and so went to work at others, and have two almost ready to raise; but I will keep as many as possible at work to get those three off the stocks.

I can spare fifty spades, and the rest I have on hand I think I can employ to good advantage. Those fifty I send to *Ticonderoga* are new, and are not helved. Those that I received from *Ticonderoga* are but little worth; they are old, and bend when used.

I am, with the greatest esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. I hear that the Militia from *Connecticut* that have not yet arrived are near at hand.

COLONEL GANSEVOORT TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort George, August 15, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: The enclosed letter, directed to your Honour, with the return, signed by Mr. *Rensselaer*, was delivered to me just now by Mr. *McElhenny*, who informed me that the enclosed letter, with the return, was left in his markee by Mr. *Shepherd*, Conductor at this place. I immediately sent for Mr. *Shepherd*, and inquired from him where he had got the enclosed letter with the return. He informed me that he had seen the aforesaid letter with the return, in this condition, in the possession of Mr. *Beames*, who left here this morning for *Ticonderoga*. I examined Mr. *Shepherd's* receipts, and find them to agree with Mr. *Rensselaer's* return, except fifty papers of blacking: he can only account for twenty-eight, and does not account for any pencils.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

P. GANSEVOORT, *Lieut. Colonel*.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL HARTLEY.

Tyonderoga, August 15, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of yesterday by Mr. *McCoy*, and have at your request appointed him Ensign in the Sixth Battalion of *Pennsylvanians*. I at the same time offered a pecuniary reward to his two companions, but they absolutely refused taking any, saying their sole motive was to serve their country. I meet with very few such truly publick-spirited men. General *Arnold*, who gives you this letter, will immediately make a cruise down the Lake. It will be, therefore, proper for you to remain at your present post. I highly approve of your intrenching your people and keeping a good lookout. You will send forward, with all possible despatch, the letters or reports from General *Arnold*.

HORATIO GATES.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley*, *Crown-Point*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM TICONDEROGA, DATED AUGUST 15, 1776.

I came over here to conduct a *Canadian* from *St. Francois* to Head-Quarters. He assures me that the *Indians* in general have resolved not to join in the war. Things here begin to wear a different face. The greatest harmony reigns among the General Officers. Order is taking place in the Army, and the men are in high spirits. Great numbers are coming in from *New-England* to *Skenesborough*. General *Carleton* has barbarously used the *Canadians* who favoured us. General *Burgoyne* has endeavoured to persuade some tribes of *Canadian Indians* to join the *British Army*, but they absolutely refused to take any part, adding, that if *Great Britain* and *America* should become reconciled, they should be the greatest sufferers, and therefore were determined to be neuter. We have received a large supply of fresh beef, which has been of great service in the recovery of the sick. Our maritime force consists of eight gondolas and four schooners. We are going from here down the Lake, in order to retake *St. John's*, which General *Burgoyne* has possession of at present. As we have numbers, and our Army are determined, I do not entertain the least doubt of success.

Ticonderoga, August 15, 1776.

Our fleet on *Lake Champlain* consists of the *Royal Savage*, Captain *Wynkoop*, twelve carriage nine, six, and four-pounders, ten swivels, and fifty men; *Enterprise*, *Dixon*, twelve carriage guns, nine, six, and four-pounders, ten swivels, and fifty men; *Revenge*, *Laman*, ten carriage guns, four and two-pounders, ten swivels, and thirty-five men; *Liberty*, *Primer*, ten carriage guns, four and two-pounders, eight swivels, and forty-five men; four gondolas, Captains *Mansfield*, *Simmons*, *Sumner*, and *Ustins*. Each gondola carries three guns, one twelve and two nine-pounders, eight swivels, and forty-five men. Three row-galleys, just ready to launch, and ten more gondolas, will soon be ready.

GEORGE PITKIN TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, August 15, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: The importance of *Chap-lains* in an army I need only suggest to your Honour; therefore wait on your Honour by this to know your Honour's pleasure in allowing and appointing one to the Nineteenth Regiment of Militia, ordered to *New-York*. In conversation with the Rev. Mr. *Perry*, of *East-Windsor*, he manifested his willingness to undertake in that character, who I can recommend, and am very desirous of having appointed. A doctor likewise is very necessary to a regiment. Your Honour's directions for filling up vacancies of officers, if there should be any, is strongly desired.

If it were possible, after seeing the regiment arrived at *New-York*, for me to retire, leaving the command to Major *Terry*, (my constitution and state of health at present being such that I cannot undergo the duty of a camp,) I submit to your Honour. May Almighty *God* deliver this land from its present dire calamities.

With submission, I subscribe myself, with the highest esteem, your Honour's most obedient servant,

GEORGE PITKIN.

To the Hon. Governour *Trumbull*.

N. B. The bearer will wait an answer.

OLIVER WOLCOTT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Litchfield, August 15, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I have just now received your Honour's favour of the 12th instant, and am thereby acquainted with the honour done me in appointing me to the command of the Militia lately ordered to *New-York*. I shall most cheerfully render my country every service in my power, and am sorry my health is not better to go through the duties of a military life, and more so that my inexperience and want of knowledge in this service are so very considerable. But as this is well known, candour will not require what it has no reason to expect. All I can engage is, an upright endeavour to discharge the duties of my appointment, in humble trust of the Divine guidance and protection.

I am, with great esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

OLIVER WOLCOTT.

COLONEL LEWIS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Straitsford, August 15, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: These inform that I received your orders dated the 6th *July*, directing me, "on notice given by his Excellency General *Washington*, to call forth and march with all expedition so many able-bodied and effective men of the regiment under my command as are necessary and convenient for the defence of the Colonies, to be under the Commander-in-Chief of the Army;" whereupon I gave orders to the commanding officers of the several companies in my regiment to draught every able-bodied man in their companies, and see that they were well equipped, and to hold themselves in readiness to march on the shortest notice, and make returns, &c.

On the 9th instant I received a letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, bearing date *August 7*, requesting me to call forth my regiment without delay, and to march them immediately to *New-York*, with which request I have endeavoured to comply without loss of time. I gave orders immediately to the several Captains and officers commanding the several companies in the regiment to call forth their companies, see them well equipped, and march them, and meet me at *Fairfield* on *Tuesday*, the 13th instant, where they might expect orders to march to *New-York*; at which time and place the Captains with their companies generally attended.

I would inform your Honour that Captain *Daniel Hill*, of *Redding*, and his company, did not appear nor comply with my orders, and gave no attendance; that Captain *Cooley*, of *Northfield*, did not attend. Lieutenant *Squier*, of Captain *Cooley's* company, attended, and informed me that Captain *Cooley* had never read any orders to his company that I had sent him, and utterly refused to take up arms against the King's forces. Whereupon I gave orders to Lieutenant *Squier* to call out the company, and march them, and join the regiment without delay. Captain *Henry Summers*, of *North-Fair-*

*field*, attended at *Fairfield* with seven men. His Lieutenant is bound over to the Superior Court to answer for a misdemeanour. His Ensign is in the Army. He informs that his company are chiefly Tories, and refuse to obey him. I admitted Captain *Summers* to return home, and desired those privates (which were only three) to join some other company. Some of the companies in the regiment had one or more of their commissioned officers in the service, and a considerable part of the companies have joined two together, by their consent, where it was convenient and agreeable to them, so that these companies are now full; and others, where it was not so convenient and agreeable, remained as they were, and the regiment marched for *New-York* from *Fairfield* yesterday, in number about four hundred and twenty. Lieutenant *Squier*, of *Northfield*, had not then joined the regiment with his men. Captains that marched: *Dimon*, *Coe*, *Tomlinson*, *Wheeler*, *Andrus*, *Bennett*. Subalterns that commanded companies, their Captains absent or otherwise: Lieutenants *Davis*, *Lyon*, and *Penfield*, and Ensign *Silliman*.

This, honoured sir, is the number and state of my regiment, as nearly as I can give it at present. Myself and the Major set out for *New-York* to-morrow morning.

From your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,  
ICHABOD LEWIS.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Captain-General.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO COLONEL HERRICK.

Council Chamber, August 15, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby directed and commanded to cause the second company in your regiment, together with the alarm-list within the limits of the same, to be duly notified to assemble together at some convenient place within such limits, and at such time as you shall appoint, and require them to make choice by ballot of one Captain and two Lieutenants, in the room of Captain *Samuel Flint*, Messrs. *Daniel Putnam* and *Joseph Putnam*, Jun., who have declined accepting commissions to command said company; and you are requested to be present at said meeting, and to preside as Moderator; which choice you are immediately to certify to the Secretary of this State.

In the name and by order of the Council:

JEREMIAH POWELL, *President*.

To Colonel *Henry Herrick*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO THE COMMITTEE OF READING.

Watertown, August 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Board have received your letter of the 14th instant, informing that Colonel *Campbell* has dismissed four of his servants, one of whom has let himself out to work for his living; the rest have declined. The Board therefore order, that the three soldiers before mentioned be immediately sent to the Sheriff of the County of *Middlesex*, who is hereby directed to confine them in the jail of said County, provided the Committee should find they still refuse to go to work for their support. As to *Munro*, the Council think you have full power to take proper care of him if he prove an enemy to the State.

JEREMIAH POWELL, *President*.

To *Jacob Emerson*, Chairman to the Committee of Reading.

JAMES BOWDOIN TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston, August 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Adams*, of *Taunton*, carries on a considerable deal of business as a nailer and cutler, and he wants a couple of men (prisoners) who are now at *Worcester*, named *Francis Hall* and *Thomas Taft*, acquainted with manufacturing in that way. The men are willing to engage with Mr. *Adams*, and his son (the bearer) waits upon you to desire the favour that those men may be allowed to go with him to *Taunton*, to be employed at his manufactory, which I think would be of publick utility, and therefore suppose your Honours will be inclined to grant his request.

I am, respectfully, your Honour's most obedient servant,  
JAMES BOWDOIN.

To the Honourable Council.

In Council, August 16, 1776.

Ordered, That the Sheriff of the County of *Worcester* deliver the above two persons, *Francis Hall* and *Thomas Taft*, to the above Mr. *John Adams*, if they are not already engaged, or under contract with any other person or persons, provided the said two men are willing to go with him.

In the name and by the order of Council:

JER. POWELL, *President*.

Boston, August 15, 1776.

Last Lord's day the Declaration of Independence was published in the several Churches in this town, agreeable to an order of the honourable Council of this State.

Last Sunday was sent in here by the brig *Enterprise* and sloop *Beaver*, two letters of marque vessels belonging to *New-York* and bound for *St. Eustatia*, a ship from *Grenada* bound for *London*, laden with sugar, rum, cotton, &c.

Yesterday being the Anniversary of the 14th of August, 1765, the Sons of Liberty, with a number of their friends, met at *Liberty Hall*, and erected a pole on the stump of Liberty Tree, (the body of which was cut down by our worse than savage myrmidons the last winter,) where they hoisted the red flag, or flag of defiance. At twelve o'clock a number of patriotick toasts were drank, which came too late for this day's paper.

A select number likewise met at the *Bunch of Grapes*, in *King street*, where flags were also displayed; and at one o'clock a company of the Train was paraded in *King street*, with two field-pieces, which were discharged thirteen times; after which a number of patriotick toasts were drank, and three cheers given.

We hear that on *Wednesday* last was sent into *Portsmouth*, by the privateer *Hancock*, of *Philadelphia*, the *Re-ward*, of six hundred tons, a large ship (formerly a twenty-gun ship) now mounting fourteen guns, bound from *Tortola* for *London*, having on board seven hundred and fifty hogsheads of sugar, two hundred hogsheads of rum, five thousand weight of cotton, and a number of pieces of cannon. We hear she was taken by the following stratagem, viz: Just before dusk the evening the *Hancock* came across her, the Captain of the prize taking the *Hancock* to be one of the tyrant's pilferers, very much rejoiced to fall in with her, and doubtless *vice versa*, when the *Hancock* at night threw out a light for a pilot. At daylight the next morning, the vessels being near together, the Captain of the ship invited the Captain of the *Hancock* to come on board and take a breakfast; who replied, his hands were so few and sick, that he had not enough to man his boat and work the vessel; and in his turn, invited the Captain of the ship to come on board him, which he readily complied with by ordering his boat out, when he and about a dozen of his hands went on board the *Hancock*, and were taken as good care of as men in such circumstances could be. The *Hancock* then sent an equal number of her own hands on board the ship, when alas! she fell into the hands of the *United States of America*. The letters by her inform us that every sort of provision was very high; flour, scarce a barrel to be had at any price; butter at £6 12s. currency per firkin;—all wishing the dispute settled with *America*, and in great expectation that matters would be accommodated by the discretionary powers of Lord *Howe*. This ship was taken in latitude 28° north, longitude 62°. The prize-master, Mr. *Barton*, informs us that the *Hancock* had taken a brigantine from the *West-Indies* just before this ship, and sent her to *Egg-Harbour*, and was in chase of a ship, supposed to be a *Jamaican*, and almost within gunshot, when he left her.

By a person from *Charlestown*, *Number Four*, we hear that the report there was, that a great number of boats full of troops had been sent in the *Lakes*; so it is very likely we shall soon hear of some business from that quarter.

The *Tyrannicide* privateer, Captain *Fisk*, belonging to, and in the service of this State, has sent into *Salem* the brigantine *St. John*, with a cargo of one hundred and twenty hogsheads of molasses, eighty-one casks of rum, fifty-two casks of coffee, fourteen hogsheads of sugar, and eight casks of cocoa; and into *Dartmouth*, the schooner *Three Brothers*, Captain *Smith*, from *Dominico* for *Nova-Scotia*, with a cargo of fifty hogsheads of rum, eighty-six casks of molasses, forty barrels of flour, ten barrels of pork, and £420 lawful money in cash.

Thursday last a fine prize ship from *St. Augustine* for *London*, laden with dried skins and indigo, was sent into *Salem* by a privateer commanded by Captain *Skimmer*.

The same day arrived at *Newburyport* a prize schooner, laden with rum, &c. We have not heard by whom she was taken.

Last week the *Warren* privateer, of *Dartmouth*, carried in there a ship from the *West Indies* for *Newfoundland*, laden with sugar and molasses; she was commanded by Captain *Cochran*, of this town, and owned by *Thomas Boylstone*, of *Boston*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM HALIFAX, DATED AUGUST 15, 1776.

An expedition has been formed here for landing some men at *St. John's Fort*, on *St. John's River*, in the Bay of *Fundy*. The *Farmer* sloop-of-war has been to convoy the transports thither, and is returned from that business, and brought back the vessels. What the design may be I am not able to fathom. Our dock-yard here has constant employ; scarce any of the King's ports in *England* has more, which may easily be conceived from the number of ships employed on the Continent.

This expedition was thus spoken of in the *Halifax* newspapers: Two thousand Highlanders, under convoy of three frigates and three armed schooners, have been sent to the Bay of *Fundy* to penetrate that way into *New-Hampshire*.

COLONEL HUGER TO JOHN LEWIS GERVAIS.

Purysburgh, August 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have this day settled with Mr. *Pugh* for fourteen days' rations, amounting to £261 16s. 4d., including four bushels of rice. You will please pay Mr. *Pugh* £164 16s. 4d., as I have advanced him £105 in part, for beef. The certificates for rice and beef on my march to this place shall send you in a few days.

Am your humble servant,

ISAAC HUGER.

To *John Lewis Gervais*, Esquire, Commissary-General, *Charlestown*.

Fourteen days' Rations bought of WILLOBY PUGH.

3,871 pounds Beef, at 1s. 4d.....	£258	1	4
250 pounds Rice, at 30s.....		3	15 0
		261	16 4
Paid Mr. <i>Pugh</i> .....		105	0 0
Balance due <i>Pugh</i> .....	£156	16	4

Williamsburgh, August 16, 1776.

On Tuesday, the 13th instant, the First *Virginia* Regiment in the Continental service marched from this city for *New-York*. From undoubted authority we can assure the publick that fifteen thousand weight of pure lead have been got from our mines in the back country, which, after being cast into bullets, we hope will be unerringly directed against our enemies.

The last advices from the back country are, that the *Cherokee* and *Creek Indians*, to the number of between six and seven hundred, are encamped in *Carter's* valley, from whence they send out parties against the settlements, some of which had penetrated near one hundred miles on this side of the *Big Island*, carrying destruction wherever they come, by burning houses, fences, fields of wheat and other grain, and turning droves of horses into the corn-fields. Upwards of one thousand head of horses have been driven off, and a great number of cattle; the sheep and hogs they shoot down. They have killed and scalped eighteen men, one or two women, and several children; some of the people were most barbarously murdered, too shocking to relate. The ruined settlers had collected themselves together at different places, and fortified themselves, four hundred and upwards at Major *Shelby's*, about the same number at Captain *Campbell's*, and a considerable number at *Amos Eaton's*. The fort at *Watauga*, which was besieged by four hundred savages, are now relieved, the *Indians* having abandoned their enterprise upon the approach of Colonel *Russell*, with about three hundred men. In all the skirmishes with the *Indians* our people have continually worsted them, and, in the whole,

have killed and scalped twenty-seven, and badly wounded many others, as was discovered by the tracks of blood. A man from the frontiers of *Georgia* had arrived in *Fincastle*, who declared upon oath, that he saw upwards of one hundred people buried in one day, who were killed by the *Creek Indians*.

By an express from Colonel *Russell*, of *Fincastle*, we learn, that on his approaching the *Watauga Fort* with the men under his command, the *Indians* retired precipitately; however, not without losing one man, and having two wounded, by a party that pursued them. The fort was thus fortunately relieved after a fortnight's close siege, during the greater part of which time our people lived on parched corn: There were supposed to be five hundred women and children in this little fort, who fled there for shelter on hearing that the *Indians* were marching into that part of the country. We lost not a man in this long affair, except four or five who ventured out to drive in some cows; these were found scalped.

The number of *Indians* concerned in the different ravages lately committed in *Fincastle* amount to six or seven hundred, some say eight hundred; and yet, sudden as their attack was, they murdered in all their butchering parties but eighteen persons, and wounded six, whilst our men killed in the skirmishes with them twenty-six on the spot, (as many were carried off dead,) took one prisoner, and wounded at least as many as they killed. As the *Cherokees* have been so completely checked in their career, and we understand from *Fort Pitt* that the Northern *Indians* are not disposed to attack us in that quarter, and have only engaged not to suffer us to march through their country against *Detroit*, we may hope that there is not much to be dreaded from the terrible combination of *Indians* we have been threatened with by our enemies.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN WATKINS.

[No. 135.]

Annapolis, August 16, 1776.

SIR: There are about thirty stand of arms belonging to the Province at *Snow-Hill*, under the care of the Committee. We desire you will bring them up with you. Enclosed is an order on the Committee for them.

We are, &c.

To Captain *Watkins*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE TENT-MAKERS.

[No. 136.]

Annapolis, August 16, 1776.

SIR: As all the troops belonging to this Province are directed to march directly, you will get all the tents ready you are to make, with the greatest despatch.

We are, &c.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN DEAN.

[No. 137.]

Annapolis, August 16, 1776.

SIR: By order of the Convention, you are immediately to march to *Philadelphia*, where you will receive further orders. The service requires the utmost expedition. You will go to the head of *Elk* by water, where provision and baggage-wagons will be provided for you. If those who have lent guns upon condition your troops continued in *Queen Ann's* County, insist upon having them returned, you will then supply the deficiency occasioned thereby out of Captain *Darnes's* company, which has a number of guns purchased by the Committee. We are, &c.

To Captain *Dean*, *Queen Ann's* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN BOURKE.

[No. 138.]

Annapolis, August 16, 1776.

SIR: You are requested to apply to Major *Fallin* for the guns he has the care of, which were taken in a tender; and you are likewise to apply to the Committee of your County for all the guns they have by them, to arm your company agreeable to a resolve of Convention which you have herewith enclosed. Those two parcels of guns, together with what you have otherwise procured, will completely arm your company; and by the order of Convention you are immediately to march your company to *Philadelphia*, and there you will receive further orders. We are, &c.

To Captain *Bourke*.



## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DORCHESTER COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 139.]

Annapolis, August 16, 1776.

SIRS: Enclosed is a copy of an order of Convention. We request you will deliver to Captain *Bourke* (to whom we have written on the subject) all the arms we understand are in your County, and afford him all the assistance in your power in equipping him for his march to the northward, agreeable to orders already sent him. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester County*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO EDWARD PARKER.

[No. 140.]

Annapolis, August 16, 1776.

SIR: We have received your favour of the 14th instant, also the thread, and request you will immediately on receipt of this forward all the coarse cloth and linen to Mr. *Gerrard Hopkins*, the Deputy Commissary at *Baltimore-Town*.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Edward Parker*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO LINEN MANUFACTURERS.

[No. 141.]

Annapolis, August 16, 1776.

SIR: As all the troops belonging to this Province are directed to march immediately to the northward, and as they will be greatly distressed for tents, unless we can be supplied with tenting linen from you, we earnestly beg you will send us what you can possibly, with the utmost despatch.

We are, &c.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

[No. 142.]

Annapolis, August 16, 1776.

SIR: We are pleased to hear that you are going on with getting timber for the gondolas, and other necessities. You may depend on being handsomely paid according to the trouble you have; so you may proceed and make your charge: if reasonable, it shall be paid. The charge for your teams, we take it for granted, will be moderate, therefore expect you will set them to work hauling timber. Whiskey and Continental rum may be furnished to the workmen at market price, in the manner you mention.

We wish you could hire some persons to bring the scow down to us, we want her much. We know not what to say about the boats, not having received your letter by *Hutchings*; when we do, we shall take due notice of it.

We are, &c.

To *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATE IN CONGRESS.

[No. 143.]

Annapolis, August 16, 1776.

SIR: We received yours of the 13th, and have seen what you wrote to Major *Jenifer* on the state of publick affairs.

In consequence of a resolve of the Convention, we have given orders to all the Independent Companies (four in number) to march. Colonel *Carvell Hall's*, and Colonel *Ewing's*, and six or seven companies on the *Eastern-Shore*, have like orders to march; so that, with *Griffith's* battalion, we shall have near four thousand men with you in a short time. This exceeds our proportion for the Flying-Camp, but we are sending all that we have that can be armed and equipped; and the people of *New-York*, for whom we have great affection, can have no more than our all. Enclosed you have a list of the several battalions and companies.

We depend, in case of invasion, on being supported powerfully by our neighbours in *Pennsylvania*, *New-York*, and the *Jerseys*, besides having part of our own troops sent back.

Our gentlemen met for the first time after the late elections on *Wednesday*, the 14th, *Matthew Tilghman* in the chair. Most of their time since meeting has been taken up in controverted elections. *Queen Ann's*, *Prince George's*, *Worcester*, and Lower District in *Frederick*, set aside. The members have been all discharged, upon the principle of their having broken the resolves of the late Convention with regard to the qualification of the voters. *Charles* was controverted, or rather, it appeared on the face of a return that they had adjourned the polls to a different place than that appointed by the late Convention. It was not set aside for that reason, the adjournment being made by consent of all the candidates and

voters. Some other elections are talked of, but we know not whether there will be petitions—*Anne Arundel* for one. In *Kent County* they began right, and proceeded so some time, till interrupted by a mob. The Judges broke up, and are ordered to finish the election according to the old plan of qualification.

We shall lose a valuable correspondent, we fear, when you leave *Philadelphia*. Our wishes are that you should stay, but we submit to your determination and that of the honourable Convention.

We are, your most obedient servants.

P. S. These companies are not all fully armed and equipped, but we hope soon to collect enough.

## List of the Troops for MARYLAND.

<i>Smallwood's</i> Battalion, nine Companies, 76 each,	-	684
Captain <i>Veazey</i> 100, Captain <i>Hindman</i> 100, Captain		
<i>Thomas</i> 100,	- - - - -	300
Captain <i>Beall</i> 100, Captain <i>Gunby</i> 100,	- - - - -	200
Captain <i>Woolford</i> 100, Captain <i>Watkins</i> 100,	- - - - -	200
		1384
<i>Griffith's</i> Battalion, nine Companies, 90 men each,	-	810
Colonel <i>Carvel Hall's</i> do.	do. do.	810
3 Companies of Colonel <i>Ewing's</i> ,	- - - - -	270
7 Companies of <i>Eastern-Shore</i> Battalion,	- - - - -	644
		3918

The remaining Companies of *Ewing's* and the *Eastern-Shore* Battalion must borrow arms from the Militia to do duty here; they can get arms on no other terms.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAINS SMYTH AND PERKINS.

[No. 144.]

Annapolis, August 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By desire of the Convention you are to march your companies, as soon as they are ready, to *Philadelphia*, where you will receive further orders. The service requires the utmost despatch, and we earnestly request you to exert yourselves on this occasion. We have written the Committee to supply you with camp kettles, gun slings, wooden bottles, and cartouch boxes. Messrs. *Smyth* and *Ringgold*, who are requested to have tents made, will supply you with them. We are, &c.

P. S. The knapsacks, haversacks, and priming-wires, shall be sent you from *Baltimore*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN GORDON.

[No. 145.]

Annapolis, August 16, 1776.

SIR: As all the troops belonging to the Province are directed to march immediately to the northward, we beg you will work day and night in furnishing the knapsacks and haversacks you have engaged to make, as they cannot march without them. We are, &c.

Mr. *John Gordon*, *Baltimore-Town*.

## CAPTAIN SMYTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Chestertown, August 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Williamson*, First Lieutenant of my company, waits on you for my marching orders, and any other you may please to issue to me. My company now want nothing but knapsacks to equip them completely; which (as I suppose you have them not) I shall be glad you will please to order me to procure, furnishing me with money for that purpose. I shall be glad to receive your orders concerning baggage wagons; they can be either hired or purchased here very readily, and I believe at a very reasonable rate.

The money you were pleased to let me have, to advance to the men for the purchase of necessities, is entirely expended, and we have and must run in debt for many things we cannot do without. Most of the men require a full month's pay, and some more, to procure necessities to enable them to march. I hope your Honours will supply me with money for this and the above mentioned purposes, not forgetting that our travelling expenses will be considerable.

The twenty pieces of linen you ordered over for our tents

are not sufficient for the purpose. They will generally hold out forty yards to a piece, and each tent requires thirty yards. Agreeable to this calculation, which is just, there will be one hundred and twenty yards, or three pieces, wanting.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS SMYTH, Jun.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Congress, Philadelphia, August 16, 1776.

SIR: I have only time to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th, and to transmit the resolves passed since my last, which you will find enclosed.

That the all-wise Disposer of events may crown your arms with success, is the hearty wish of, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

PHILIP LIVINGSTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, August 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour, dated the 22d *July*, enclosing copy of Mr. *Alsop's* letter to the Convention, and a resolve of your body accepting his resignation of his seat in Congress, was received, and agreeable to your directions communicated the same to the Congress, and delivered a copy to Mr. *Alsop*, who had not attended for some days before, though we did not then know the reason of his absenting himself.

Your favours of the 7th instant, with enclosures, we received and communicated to Congress. The spirited behaviour of your body, so very conspicuous in your resolves, was very pleasing indeed.

We cannot conceive the reason that the *Connecticut* Militia do not come forward at this alarming crisis. Those from the *Massachusetts* are, we suppose, now with you; they passed through *Providence* last *Monday*; their numbers we are not informed of.

There is not the least doubt but your Rangers will be taken into Continental pay. The Southern Colonies are raising troops for the like purpose, and we intend, in conjunction with them, to apply to Congress on that head. The gentlemen representing these Colonies wish to have the application deferred for some time, but we are of opinion you ought not to defer raising the men. The people on the frontiers most certainly will not be easy, nor, we fear, safe without such security.

We are confident Congress means to be at the expense incurred and to be incurred in obstructing the navigation of *Hudson River*, and will in our next acquaint you with their explicit answer on that head.

Colonel *James Livingston* has orders to raise a regiment out of the people who are friendly to the *United States* in *Canada*. Will it not be best that Captain *James Stewart's* company should make part of that regiment? We have requested Colonel *Livingston* to confer with you on that subject.

Under the greatest anxiety for what is speedily to occur in *New-York*, we remain, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

PHIL. LIVINGSTON.

The Hon. Convention of *New-York*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAINS JONES AND HALLOCK.

Philadelphia, August 16, 1776.

SIR: You will find enclosed herein a paper sent us by the Captain of a *French* sloop, that is now daily expected from *Martinico*, with arms and ammunition, which we are very anxious should be got safe in; therefore we desire you to keep a good look-out for her, and if you fall in with her make such signals as will make you known for a friend. She mounts twelve guns, with sixty men. You will please to deliver this letter and its enclosure to Captain *Hallock*, who must hire a pilot-boat, and man her with an officer and four or five men, to cruise about the Capes for this sloop, observing to make the signal desired, and give them the needful information to get safe in here.

When the *Wasp* goes down, she will convey further

orders respecting this matter, unless the sloop arrives safe in the mean time.

We are, sir, your obedient servants,

JOHN HANCOCK,  
ROBERT MORRIS,  
FRANCIS HOPKINSON,  
FRANCIS LEWIS,  
JOSEPH HEWES.

To *John Paul Jones*, Esq., of Sloop *Providence*, and *William Hallock*, Esq., of the Sloop *Hornet*.

*P. S. Flag of the Queen of Hungary*: Six black bars and six yellow bars. The Captain of the pilot-boat will put his flag in the foremast head of the pilot-boat.

Carefully recommended to the care of Mr. *Paul Siemen*.

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATORS.

In Convention for the State of Pennsylvania, }  
Friday, August 16, 1776. }

Whereas this Convention hath received information that several Associators of this State have deserted the camp in the face of the enemy, and returned home before the formation of the Flying-Camp, and without the leave of their commanding officers, to the great danger of the publick, and evil example to others: It is therefore,

*Resolved*, First, That all such Associators as shall rejoin their respective corps at the camp from whence they came, in eight days from this date, with such arms and accoutrements as they may have brought away with them, shall be exempted from any punishment; and those who neglect so to do, shall be apprehended, and sent under a guard to the camp, there to be tried; and in case of absconding, or concealing their arms, that they be advertised in the publick newspapers, and the reward of £3 offered for apprehending every such person. And every Associator who shall hereafter desert his colours, shall be treated as those already deserted, and neglect to rejoin their respective corps, agreeable to this Resolve.

*Resolved*, Secondly, That the Commanding Officers of the Companies or Battalions of the Militia of this State, who are now on their march to *New-Jersey*, do apprehend all deserters they may meet on the road, and convey them under a guard to the camp.

*Resolved*, Thirdly, That notwithstanding the foregoing Resolutions, it is not the intention of this Convention to detain the Militia unnecessarily from home; the Associators are therefore assured, that as soon as the Flying-Camp is formed, and the publick safety will admit, they shall be permitted to return home.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN MORRIS, Jun., *Secretary*.

CONVENTION OF NEW-JERSEY TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

In Convention, New-Jersey, Brunswick, }  
August 16, 1776. }

SIR: Enclosed is the best list we can furnish of the officers in the three battalions of Continental troops raised in this State.

Though at present we know of no prisoners of war in *New-Jersey*, excepting Lieutenant *Arthur Wadman*, who is stationed at *Bordentown*, pursuant to the late order of your Board, we have yet directed the several Committees to furnish lists of the prisoners within their districts, either now or of late.

The Field-Officers of the battalions will appear from the minutes of Congress, together with the dates of their commissions. We cannot possibly give you any information respecting them.

We are, sir, your most humble servants.

By order of the Convention:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

To the Chairman of the War and Ordnance Office.

*First Battalion of New-Jersey Troops, Lord STIRLING*  
*Colonel*.

*First Company.*

Captain.....Joseph Morris,  
First Lieut..Daniel Baldwin,  
Sec'd Lieut..Daniel Brown,  
Ensign.....Matt. Halsted.  
*November 8, 1775.*

*Second Company.*

Captain.....Silas Howell,  
First Lieut..John Mercer,  
Sec'd Lieut..Richard Johnson,  
Ensign.....Jacob Kemper.  
*November 14, 1775.*

*Third Company.*

Captain....John Conway,  
First Lieut..Lewis J. Costigen,  
Sec'd Lieut..Peter Voorhees,  
Ensign....Francis Costigen.  
November 21, 1775.

*Fourth Company.*

Captain....John Polhemus,  
First Lieut..John Van Anglen,  
Sec'd Lieut..Samuel Axford,  
Ensign....William Sicklys.  
November 22, 1776.

*Fifth Company.*

Captain....Joseph Meeker,  
First Lieut..Yelles Mead,  
Sec'd Lieut..Archibald Dallas,  
Ensign....George Ross, 3d.  
December 9, 1775.

*Sixth Company.*

Captain....Andrew McMyers,  
First Lieut..Isaac Morrison,  
Sec'd Lieut..Alexander Clough,  
Ensign....Jacob Piatt.  
December 15, 1775.

*Seventh Company.*

Captain....Daniel Piatt,  
First Lieut..Hendrick Fisher, jr.,  
Sec'd Lieut..John Flahaven,  
Ensign....John Robertson,  
Uncertain when.

*Eighth Company.*

Captain....Elias Longstreet,  
First Lieut..Hortenus Schenck,  
Sec'd Lieut..John Holmes,  
Ensign....Abraham Lane.  
February 9, 1776.

*Second Battalion of New-Jersey, WILLIAM MAXWELL  
Colonel.*

*First Company.*

Captain....William Faulkner,  
First Lieut..James Dillon,  
Sec'd Lieut..Nathaniel Bowman,  
Ensign....John Sparks, jun.,  
November 11, 1775.

*Second Company.*

Captain....Jos. Brearley, Jr.,  
First Lieut..Thomas Yard,  
Sec'd Lieut..Jonathan Phillips,  
Ensign....Thomas Ryerson.  
November 20, 1775.

*Third Company.*

Captain....James Laurie,  
First Lieut..John Hollingshead,  
Sec'd Lieut..James Ashmore,  
Ensign....Samuel Hendvey.  
November 27, 1775.

*Fourth Company.*

Captain....William Shute,  
First Lieut..Henry Freese,  
Sec'd Lieut..Jeremiah Smith,  
Ensign....William Parret.  
November 28, 1775.

*Fifth Company.*

Captain....Richard Howell,  
First Lieut..John N. Cumming,  
Sec'd Lieut..Seth Bowen,  
Ensign....Samuel Naglee.  
November 29, 1775.

*Sixth Company.*

Captain....John Budd Scott,  
First Lieut..James Maxwell,  
Sec'd Lieut..John Wiggins,  
Ensign....Francis Du Close.  
December 9, 1775.

*Seventh Company.*

Captain....Joseph Stout,  
First Lieut..Samuel Reading,  
Sec'd Lieut..Ephraim Anderson,  
Ensign....Aaron Lane, Jr.  
December 18, 1775.

*Eighth Company.*

Captain....Archibald Shaw,  
First Lieut..Henry Luce,  
Sec'd Lieut..William Helon,  
Ensign....George Reynolds.  
December 25, 1775.

*Third Battalion of New-Jersey Troops, ELIAS DAYTON  
Colonel.*

*First Company.*

Captain....Joseph Bloomfield,  
First Lieut..Cornelius Peck,  
Sec'd Lieut..William Gifford,  
Ensign....Ebenezer Elmer,  
March 3, 1776.

*Second Company.*

Captain....Peter Dickinson,  
First Lieut..David Tuttle,  
Sec'd Lieut..William Gordon,  
Ensign....Joseph Anderson.  
March 5, 1776.

*Third Company.*

Captain....Samuel Potter,  
First Lieut..Ryneer Blanchard,  
Sec'd Lieut..Josiah Quimby,  
Ensign....  
March 8, 1776.

*Fourth Company.*

Captain....Thomas Patterson,  
First Lieut..John Mott,  
Sec'd Lieut..Wm. McDonald,  
Ensign....Edward Patterson.  
March 21, 1776.

Quartermaster.....William Norcross, March 16, 1776.  
Adjutant.....Samuel Shepherd, April 2, 1776.

*Fifth Company.*

Captain....Thomas Reading,  
First Lieut..John Hazen,  
Sec'd Lieut..Jeremiah Ballard,  
Ensign....John Reading, Jr.  
April 2, 1776.

*Sixth Company.*

Captain....John Ross,  
First Lieut..Edward McMichael,  
Sec'd Lieut..Richard Cox, Jr.,  
Ensign....William Clark.  
March 30, 1776.

*Seventh Company.*

Captain....Wm. E. Tomlay,  
First Lieut..Richard Loyd,  
Sec'd Lieut..Daniel Pierson,  
Ensign....Edgar Gallaudet.  
April 15, 1776.

*Eighth Company.*

Captain....Anthony Sharp,  
First Lieut..  
Sec'd Lieut..  
Ensign....Nathaniel Leonard.  
May 18, 1776.

**LORD HOWE TO DR. FRANKLIN.**

Eagle, off Staten-Island, August 16, 1776.

I am sorry, my worthy friend, that it is only on the assurances you give me of my having still preserved a place in your esteem that I can now found a pretension to trouble you with a reply to your favour of the 21st past.

I can have no difficulty to acknowledge that the powers I am invested with were never calculated to negotiate a reunion with *America* under any other description than as subject to the Crown of *Great Britain*. But I do esteem those powers competent, not only to confer and negotiate with any gentleman of influence in the Colonies upon the terms, but also to effect a lasting peace and reunion between the two countries, were the temper of the Colonies such as professed in the last petition of the Congress to the King. *America* would have judged in the discussion how far the means were adequate to the end, both for engaging her con-

fidence and proving our integrity. Nor did I think it necessary to say more in my publick declaration, not conceiving it could be understood to refer to peace on any other conditions but those of mutual interest to both countries, which could alone render it permanent. But as I perceive from the tenour of your letter how little I am to reckon upon the advantage of your assistance for restoring that permanent union which has long been the object of my endeavours, and which, I flattered myself when I left *England* would be in the compass of my power, I will only add, that as the dishonour to which you deem me exposed by my military situation in this country has effected no change in your sentiments of personal regard to me, so shall no difference in political points alter my desire of proving how much I am your sincere and obedient humble servant,

HOWE.

**GENERAL HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.**

Head-Quarters, Staten-Island, August 16, 1776.

MY LORD: The Provincial corps already raised, and the new levies which may probably be made in the progress of this *American* war, must necessarily occasion a great additional expense, and their various establishments will of course require a very exact arrangement for settling accounts of subsistence and contingencies in such manner as to leave the least room for imposition or confusion. I should, therefore, humbly propose to separate them from all other extraordinaries, by appointing a Paymaster-General to keep them distinct; and in this idea, I have given to Captain *Robert Mackenzie*, my present Secretary, a commission to act as Paymaster-General, with the same appointment as the Deputy Paymaster-Generals have who act under Mr. *Rigby* in *America*. I have also appointed a Mustermaster, to certify the pay-bills from one muster to another.

Captain *Mackenzie* has served his Majesty twenty-one years, is fully qualified to discharge the duties required, and I beg your Lordship will do me the honour to communicate his Majesty's pleasure upon the appointment.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

WM. HOWE.

**GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.**

New-York, August 16, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to inform you that since I had the pleasure of addressing you yesterday nothing interesting between the two armies has happened. Things remain nearly in the same situation as they then were.

It is with peculiar regret and concern that I have an opportunity of mentioning to Congress the sickly condition of our troops. In some regiments there are not any of the Field-Officers capable of doing duty; in others, the duty is extremely difficult for want of a sufficient number. I have been obliged to nominate some till Congress makes the appointments of those they wish to succeed to the several vacancies occasioned by the late promotions. This being a matter of some consequence, I presume will have their early attention, and that they will fill up the several vacancies also mentioned in the list I had the honour of transmitting some few days ago to the Board of War.

I am, sir, with the utmost respect, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

**GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-JERSEY CONVENTION.**

Head-Quarters, August 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am informed that, in consequence of my letter acquainting you that a number of persons deemed unfriendly to the interests of *America* were suspected of holding a correspondence with the enemy from *Shrewsbury* and its neighbourhood, Mr. *Isaac Low*, late of this city, has been apprehended, and is now detained under some kind of confinement. Since that time I have received satisfaction with respect to this gentleman, who I find has also entered into a contract with the Congress for the supply of a great quantity of *European* goods. I should therefore be glad that any restraint laid upon him, merely upon my representation, might be removed, and he restored to his former liberty, on such terms and conditions as you may think proper, if any are necessary.

I am, with much respect and regard, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Samuel Tucker*, Esq., President, &c.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 16, 1776.

SIR: I have been obliged to trouble you with some more disaffected persons, whose residence here was dangerous to the *American* interest. I trust that I have now done with them, at least for the present, and hope you will excuse the disagreeable necessity I have been under of soliciting your care and attention to provide for them and dispose of them. As the case of these differs in no respect from that of those before sent, I presume they will be put under the same regulations.

I am, with much respect and regard, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour Trumbull, Connecticut.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO FREDERICK JAY.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 16, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of my orders, the undermentioned persons\* have been apprehended, and are now under a guard at *New-Rochelle* or its neighbourhood. As the sending a guard through to Governour Trumbull with them would be attended with much inconvenience to the publick, and cannot be agreeable to the gentlemen, upon their giving you their word and honour to proceed to *Lebanon* to Governour Trumbull, I am satisfied to permit them to go without any other escort than that of the officer who will deliver you this. I must beg the favour of you to take the management of this business, and, as soon as it is put upon a proper footing, dismiss the guard now there.

I am, with due respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Frederick Jay, Esq., New-Rochelle.

\* Colonel Phillips, James Jauncey and his two sons, Joseph Bull, Isaac Corsa, John Rodgers, Ware Branson.

## GENERAL SCOTT TO ROBERT BENSON.

New-York, August 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Mr. Byvanck delivered me your letter enclosing Major Fish's commission, but not the resolve of Convention to which you refer; I suppose you omitted covering it through mistake. From the reference you make to it, I flatter myself it will stimulate to noble daring. In this view, it must be of importance; therefore send it to me without delay, and I will issue it in brigade orders.

The Major retains his commission because he may be called to action, the event of which must be uncertain, and may terminate in the necessity of having a commission to produce. It wants amendments to give him his rank from the day of his appointment, which I propose should be done thus: Introduce the body of the commission with a recital, that "Whereas the Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, now the Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*, on the recommendation of Brigadier-General Scott, appointed by the said Congress to command certain detachments of the Militia of the Colony, and now of the State of *New-York*, did, by an entry in their records on the day of last," (here recite the substance of the entry.) Then go on with *We reposing*, &c.; and then, after the words *Major Brigade*, say, "of the said detachments of Militia under the command of said Brigadier-General Scott." Then after the words *the rules and discipline of war*, in his commission, add, "to be in full force and effect as from the said" (inserting the day on which he appears in the records to have been appointed.) Then, "and to continue in force," &c., as in the present commission. This mode will give him all the benefit he could have derived from a commission dated on the day of his appointment, and will therefore remove the difficulty arising from Mr. President Woodhull's absence.

The commissions sent down for the other officers are received for the present, because the event of war being uncertain, they would not choose to fall into the hands of the enemy without commissions in their pockets. They earnestly entreat that they may, as soon as possible, be provided with others. The same mode of reference back to the time of their entrance into the service, as I have pointed out with respect to Major Fish, will, I presume, suit their cases.

Be pleased to commend me with all imaginable respect to the honourable Convention. Assure them that nothing but the hourly expectation of an attack prevents my taking my seat, and that as I am fully impressed with a sense that I am entirely at their pleasure by the nature of my appointment, I shall have recourse to them with pleasure, whenever any military service disagreeable to them, and which they will always have it in their power to disqualify me for, by a repeal of my commission, makes it necessary.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JNO. MORIN SCOTT.

To Robert Benson, Esq., one of the Secretaries of the honourable Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

## NICHOLAS FISH TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, August 16, 1776.

SIR: I this moment, upon my return from Head-Quarters, was presented by General Scott with my commission, which, though I think it exceptionable in not bearing the date of my appointment, I have, however, (not knowing the event of war,) concluded to take for the present, as it will secure to me such treatment as my rank entitles me to, in case I should unfortunately fall into the hands of the enemy, though I think the difficulty arising from the President's absence from the Convention may be removed by adopting the mode pointed out in General Scott's letter to you.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

NICH. FISH.

To Robert Benson, Esq., one of the Secretaries of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 16, 1776.

The complement of men expected is pretty nearly filled up by the last reinforcements from *New-England* and *Pennsylvania*. Everything, I can with truth assure you, has the most agreeable appearance. All have their proper stations. Posts of importance are strongly manned; while reserves are kept for possible contingencies. The spirit of the soldiery promises everything. No levity or boasting in their countenances; but all the mark of a composed, patient, and determined resolution, that makes me anticipate either a most glorious resistance, or complete victory.

## WILLIAM S. LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Long-Island, August 16, 1776.

SIR: I am desired by General Greene to inform your Excellency that Colonel Hand waited upon him this morning, and informed him that the *Hessians* were landing again yesterday, on the east end of *Staten-Island*, to a considerable number; that there was nothing extraordinary happened; that, by the movements of the enemy, there did not appear any immediate preparation for an attack; and that three men of his regiment last night deserted, and took with them six rifles.

I am, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

WM. S. LIVINGSTON.

## WILLIAM BLODGET TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Long-Island, five o'clock, August 16, 1776.

SIR: I am desired to acquaint your Excellency, by the General's order, that Colonel Hand reports that thirteen or fourteen vessels entered the *Narrows* from the fleet before in *New-Utrecht Bay*; that the officer of the Ferry guard says they were all transports; that there were some red-coats on board. The Colonel says he could not discover many on board those now below, neither have they landed any there to-day. That the camps at the Flag-Staff and Ferry are pretty extensive. He likewise reports that two small vessels of force went down the *Narrows* this afternoon.

I am, with due respect, your Excellency's obedient servant,

WILLIAM BLODGET, *Aid-de-Camp*.



New-York, Monday, August 19, 1776.

*Friday* arrived here two Companies of the Third Battalion of the *Philadelphia* Associators, commanded by Captains *Semple* and *Henry*, and it is said that the whole battalion is expected every hour to arrive. Same day two fire-ships, commanded by Captains *Fosdyke* and *Thomas*, (gentlemen volunteers of rank in the Army of the *United States*,) proceeded up the *North River*, with intent to give a suitable warning to those piratical gentry that have infested it since the 12th of *July* last. The night was dark and favourable to the design, and the enemy did not perceive our vessels till they were near aboard them. Captain *Fosdyke* grappled the *Phenix*, but the fire not communicating so soon as was expected, she disentangled herself in about twenty minutes, after suffering considerable damage in her rigging. Captain *Thomas* fell on board one of the tenders, which was soon consumed; and we are truly sorry to inform the publick that this intrepid commander is yet missing. This gallant enterprise struck so great a panick upon the enemy that they thought it prudent to quit their station; and yesterday, taking advantage of a fresh wind at southeast, attended with considerable rain, they run the gauntlet through a great number of well-directed shot from our batteries in and near this city, which undoubtedly must have damaged them much. Our galleys played smartly, and followed the ships a considerable distance into the Bay. The enemy's fire seemed to be mostly directed upon the city, as the tops of the houses were crowded with spectators; but little damage was done to the buildings, nor any lives lost upon the occasion.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 22, 1776. Referred to the Committee on the causes of the miscarriages in Canada.]

Albany, August 16, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 31st ultimo, covering the resolutions of Congress of the preceding day, I had the honour to receive at the *German-Flats*, on *Sunday*, the 11th instant. I detained the express until *Tuesday*, and then seeing no prospect that I should be allowed even so much time as barely to acknowledge the receipt of it, I directed him to return to this place, where Mr. *Edwards* and I arrived about eight last night, Mr. *Douw* having left us on *Sunday*. On my arrival here I found some despatches from General *Gates*, which require to be forwarded to Congress, through his Excellency General *Washington*, without that delay which would be occasioned by transcribing the proceedings of the Commissioners of *Indian Affairs* at the late treaty. I shall, however, do myself the honour to transmit them in a few days, and shall only observe that we have reason to believe that the savages will commit no hostilities on our frontiers. It is nevertheless probable that some few of the *Six Nations* will join General *Carleton*.

As my character has been so barbarously traduced, and the miscarriages in *Canada* so generally attributed to misconduct in me, it somewhat alleviates the chagrin I feel, that Congress has appointed a Committee "to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada*." But as I am confident the misfortunes in *Canada* are to be imputed to more causes than those mentioned in the resolutions of the 30th ultimo, and as I wish my conduct should undergo the strictest scrutiny, Congress will therefore permit me to entreat them to charge the Committee above mentioned, or to appoint another, minutely to inquire how far, if at all, any of the miscarriages in *Canada* are to be imputed to me. If I am the cause of them, let me meet with the detestation of my fellow-citizens; if not, and others are, let the publick resentment be transferred to the proper object. For my part, I am amply furnished with materials to exculpate myself. I shall court the most ordeal trial; nay, although conscious of the mediocrity of my talents, and that I am vastly inadequate to the important command I am honoured with, yet, on this occasion, I may be allowed to say that I do not believe that I shall be even convicted of an error in judgment. Permit me to add, with all due submission to Congress, that I conceive they too are wounded through my side; for, if I am not misinformed, many already wonder why an officer so generally charged with misconduct, is continued in so important a post. This also makes it necessary that an inquiry should be made into my conduct. It is also of the first importance to the publick service, whilst I continue to

command an army, for the event of the inquiry will be a conviction or acquittal. If the former, I shall be dismissed, at least; if the latter, that confidence will be reëstablished, which is so indispensably necessary that an army should have in the General, and which I know is in a great measure now destroyed by insidious insinuations, industriously propagated by a set of miscreants.

I am informed that Colonel *Bedel* and Major *Butterfield* have both been tried by Courts-Martial, and that they are broke. Such officers as were with Major *Butterfield* and consented to the surrender will be tried. Inquiry shall be immediately made, and such punishment inflicted as a Court-Martial shall order, on any person concerned in plundering General *Prescott's* baggage. A Court of Inquiry shall be ordered, agreeable to the resolution of Congress, on the petition of Colonel *Easton* and Major *Brown*.

No mode of ascertaining the particulars and value of the stores taken on board the vessels on the *Sorel*, and by whom, that has yet offered to my mind, seems so eligible as that of appointing a Court of Inquiry for the purpose; I shall therefore order one expressly.

Major *Brown* has certainly, in the course of last year, done extraordinary services; but it will be very difficult to ascertain what reward he ought to have. I shall, as nearly as I can, point out what the extra service was, and advise Congress thereof the soonest possible. Inquiry shall also be made into Colonel *Hazen's* conduct on the complaint of *de la Rose* and *la Fontaine*. Every officer or soldier whose pay is stopped on account of any charge, shall have such charge determined as speedily as possible by trial. I do not recollect of a single instance in which there has been a delay of justice on that account, when it was in my power to have brought the party to a trial.

I find by letters from Mr. *Trumbull*, the Commissary-General, to Mr. *Livingston*, the Deputy Commissary-General, that I am blamed by many officers that they have not had any allowance for the rations of provisions due to them. I have given to all those who have applied to me orders on the Commissaries to pay for so many rations as they declared upon honour, or otherwise made appear, were due to them; but I have constantly refused ordering what allowance to make for a ration. My reasons are contained in the following extract of a letter to Mr. *Livingston*, of the 25th of *July* last, from the *German Flats*:

"Please to inform Mr. *Trumbull* that, as I must be supposed not to know the price for which provisions are bought, and even if I did, that it is not my business to determine what ought to be allowed in lieu of a ration, he or you, or both of you, are to furnish the Army with provisions. The officers are to receive it from the Commissaries; if they do not, they are to look to the Commissaries for an equivalent, who must take the blame if they pay them too little, or abide the consequence if they allow too much. I will not risk incurring either the blame of the officer or the disapprobation of Congress. I think I have long since written to Congress on the subject, and until I receive their orders or those of my General on the subject, I shall continue to do as I have hitherto done, which is, merely to give an order for the payment of so many rations as shall appear to be due, without specifying what sum is to be paid."

In saying that I long since wrote to Congress, I refer to my letter of the , in which I did myself the honour to enclose an estimate of the value of a ration in any one of the articles allowed by Congress. If that is ascertained, there can be no difficulty in determining what an officer ought to be allowed for a ration at whatever post he may be, for it is only adding the cost of transportation to the original cost of any article.

I forgot to ask who is to appoint the Paymaster to the regiments, and to point out their line of duty. They are much wanted in this quarter.

The commission for Colonel *Wood* will be forwarded. The letter Captain *Varick* has already sent to him.

I am just now informed, by good authority, that some of the Militia from the eastward have inoculated themselves on the march to *Skenesborough*; that a number of carpenters from *Rhode-Island* have done the like. I am also informed that all the Field-Officers of one regiment have done the same at *Skenesborough*. I shall instantly write to General *Gates* on the subject, and direct that none of them be suffered to join the Army, to prevent this terrible disorder from

again distressing us. It is a matter of so much importance, that if I did not labour under the intermittent fever, I would immediately repair to all the roads leading to *Skenesborough* to remove these wretches. I shall early to-morrow morning despatch an express to General *Waterbury*, to send the most trusty officer he can find to prevent if possible the ill effects of this wicked conduct.

I am, sir, with the most respectful sentiments, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President of Congress.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, August 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: About eight last night I returned to this place, after a month's absence on a business the most disagreeable to a man accustomed to civil society that can possibly be conceived.

On the 11th instant I was honoured with your Excellency's favour of the 7th, but was unable to answer it from the *German Flats*, although I several times attempted it, being ever interrupted by a crowd of savages.

Last evening I received despatches from General *Gates*, copies of which I enclose, by which you will perceive that General *Carleton* has put it out of our power to have any intercourse with him on the subject-matter contained in the resolves of the 22d ultimo, or indeed on any other. With what degree of justice *Carleton* can bestow the infamous epithets he has so freely dealt out in his orders of the 7th instant, his barbarous conduct to Colonel *Allen*, the infamous manner in which he engaged the savages to act against us last year, the murder of the officers and men lately near *Isle-aux-Noix*, in which *British* troops were joined with savages, and other actions of a like nature, can witness.

The works at *Fort Stanwix* are going on with great expedition; and by the enclosed return, your Excellency will observe that near eighty days' pork and flour for the garrison is in store there; a considerable quantity of the latter is on its way up from *Schenectady*; and as they had on *Monday* last twenty-three head of fat cattle, and will receive a constant supply of fresh meat, I am under no apprehensions that the garrison will be under any difficulty in the article of provisions.

The anchors for the vessels on *Lake Champlain* will be procured in this quarter, but we greatly fear to fall short in many of the other articles, as Captain *Bacon* is returned without being able to procure anything, and not even a sailor.

Mr. *Edwards* returns this morning, and will engage all the *Stockbridge Indians* he can; and as you do not direct what pay is to be given, we have thought it expedient, and as what will best promote the service and raise these people with the greatest despatch, that they should be officered and paid agreeable to the former resolve of the Commissioners of *Indian Affairs*; and that such as were raised in consequence of that resolution, should have their pay continued from the time they were discharged, which is about a month ago. They shall be disposed of agreeable to your orders.

Colonels *Elmore* and *Nicolson's* regiments are here. They have refused to march until they receive pay and necessaries. The former they will now have, but where to procure the latter I know not. I will furnish them as well as I can, and keep them here until I receive the report of two scouts that are sent one to *Oswego*, and the other towards *Oswegatchie*.

I shall immediately order copies of the transactions of the Commissioners of *Indian Affairs* at the late treaty to be made out, and transmit them to you. I believe the *Six Nations* will not fall on our frontiers, although I believe a few will always join the enemy in *Canada*.

I have some matters that concern officers in the Army to communicate, but I am at present too much indisposed to write any more.

I am, dear sir, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. I am just now informed that Lieutenant *McMichael*, of Colonel *Dayton's* regiment, is deserted to the enemy. I had information of his intentions the evening before I left

the *German Flats*, and sent to have him brought before me, but he was supposed to have gone to the regiment, to which I had ordered him the day before. Yours, &c., &c., &c.

PH. SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, August 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Last night, at twelve o'clock, Major *Bigelow* returned with the flag of truce from *Isle-aux-Noix*. His journal, with a letter "To *George Washington*, Esq.," and a copy of the general orders issued at *Chambly*, the 7th instant, are enclosed. The resolve of Congress, "that no letter should be received from the enemy, unless the rank of the officer to whom it was addressed was placed upon the superscription," was not received here when Major *Bigelow* went from hence the 23d ultimo; and as that was dispensed with last year at *Cambridge*, he had no orders on the subject.

You will be so obliging as to forward without delay, by express to *New-York*, the enclosed papers to his Excellency General *Washington*, and to the most honourable the Congress of the *United States of America*.

All goes on well here in the naval department. General *Arnold* writes to you. He is just returned from *Skenesborough*, and makes a cruise in a few days down the Lake.

With every mark of esteem and affection, believe me, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

P. S. This letter, with the enclosed to General *Putnam*, you will also be so obliging to send by the express to General *Washington*.

*Abstract of the Journal of Major JOHN BIGELOW, sent by the Hon. Major-General GATES to transmit despatches from the most honourable Continental Congress to General BURGOTNE.*

Ticonderoga, July 23, 1776.

I departed from this place at sunset; arrived at *Crown-Point* at eleven o'clock at night, where, after a short stay, I proceeded on my voyage, till, on the 28th, I met with a Sergeant's guard of the *British* troops; and having taken the Sergeant into our batteau, we soon reached the *Isle-aux-Noix*. There we were hailed by a sentinel, who ordered us to come on shore. We saw nine or ten tents on the Island, all in a cluster. I had no sooner landed than I was blindfolded, and led up to the commanding officer's tent. About dusk, he ordered me to a small Island, situated to the southward of the *Isle-aux-Noix*. The commanding officer, who, I understood, was Captain *Craig*, questioned me concerning my business, which I told him was with General *Burgoyne*, to whom I was sent with a letter from Congress, delivered to me at *Ticonderoga* by Major-General *Gates*. He answered me, that he did not know whether he could receive a flag, but desired I would give him the letter, which he would forward to the General, then (as he said) at *St. John's*. He told me that the gentleman to whom the letter was directed, was indeed a General, but not the commanding officer in *Canada*. I answered, that I supposed the letter was directed to General *Burgoyne* on account of General *Thompson's* having mentioned him as being the commanding officer at *Three-Rivers* when he (General *Thompson*) sent up to *Sorel* for his baggage.

Captain *Craig* despatched, about nine at night, an officer with that and other letters to *St. John's*. I remained in his tent, where I was civilly treated. Two other officers supped with us, and whether from politeness or policy, or both, little was said upon political subjects. I asked Captain *Craig* whether there were *British* officers with those savages who, in cold blood, murdered some of our people opposite to that Isle? He answered in the affirmative. I could not help replying, that our Army could scarcely believe that such barbarities should have been suffered to be perpetrated where *Britons* had the command. He urged that they could not always govern the savages, who, said he, "will fight in their own way." Mr. *Craig* appeared desirous to decline any further conversation on that subject.

I believe Captain *Craig* had not been long on *Isle-aux-Noix* when I landed there. I lodged in his tent. But I must not omit that the drummer who landed with me said he observed an officer whispering to a Sergeant when the boat was near the shore, and overheard him ask "what he thought of the Congress."

I understood that there were no more than three batteaus on the Island when I went on shore, one of which formerly belonged to our Army; the two others were newly built, and the number 30 was marked in large figures upon one of them.

On the 29th of July, Captain *Craig* sent three batteaus and five canoes up the Lake: two of the latter were large, the three others small. At ten in the morning, I was blindfolded again, and ordered to the south part of the Island, where a large tent was pitched for me. It appeared to me that they had concerted to exhibit to me all the show of *Indians* they could. They now and then ran down to the point, with a guard, every time that an *Indian* canoe passed by, and pretended they were mightily afraid that the savages would come on shore and murder them. To mortify them, I took no notice of this juggling; but strongly recommended to my men that, should they look at the *Indians*, they would endeavour to do it with the greatest unconcern.

On the 8th of August, I was informed that the express who, I was told, had been sent to *Quebeck*, was come back; that Captain *Craig* presented his compliments to me, and desired that I would be ready to sail in the evening.

I observed during my stay there that they paraded at different times their officers in an ostentatious manner, and with the manifest intent to lead me into the belief of their being very numerous; but I do not believe that I saw above forty of them during the whole time, and not more than sixteen together. They displayed the very same pageantry respecting five or six batteaus, appearing exceedingly busy in carrying some timber to the Isle, merely to show themselves, and give their preparations a formidable appearance. They have been employed about building a very large bakelouse, and perhaps for the same reason. All the new batteaus I could see about the Island amounted to no more than twelve. They talk much of *Hessians* and *Hanoverians*, but I saw none. It would be too tedious minutely to relate all the particulars which discovered their intention to make me believe their strength was such as, doubtless, they would have been as anxious to conceal had it been real. I was told that their General had ordered an escort to conduct me to our own guards—a favour which I did not want, but could not refuse. At sunset Captain *Craig* came down, with fourteen officers, and dismissed me, under convoy of a birch canoe, commanded by Captain *Alexander Frazer* and Mr. *Scott*. The canoe had two officers, a Sergeant, and a Corporal of the *British* troops, with nine *Frenchmen*, on board.

On the 9th, just at dark, we came on shore at *Gilliland's*, and next morning, at seven o'clock, Captain *Frazer* and Mr. *Scott* left us and went down the Lake, after having showed us as much civility as could be expected from men whose situation sufficiently apologized for their reservedness.

As the crew I had with me consisted of remarkably decent men, all natives of the *United States*, and of the corps of Artillery, as well as myself, the *British* officers, during my stay, carefully prevented their free intercourse with soldiers who would be glad to become again our brethren.

*Paper delivered to Major BIGELOW by Captain CRAIG, at ISLE-AUX-NOIX, August 8, 1776.*

#### GENERAL ORDER.

(Parole, St. Jerome.)

Chambly, August 7, 1776.  
(Countersign, Paris.)

His Excellency General *Carleton* orders the commanding officers of corps will take special care that every one under their command be informed that letters or messages from rebels, traitors in arms against their King, rioters, disturbers of the publick peace, plunderers, robbers, assassins or murderers; are on no occasion to be admitted. That should emissaries from such lawless men again presume to approach the Army, whether under the name of flag-of-truce men or ambassadors, except when they come to implore the King's mercy, their persons shall be immediately seized and committed to close confinement, in order to be proceeded against as the law directs; their papers and letters, for whomsoever, even for the Commander-in-Chief, are to be delivered to the Provost Marshal, that, unread and unopened, they may be burned by the hands of the common hangman. At the same time, the Commander-in-Chief expects that the assassination of Brigadier-General *Gordon*, nor the late notorious breach of faith in resolving not to return the troops and *Canadians* taken at *St. John's*, in exchange for those rebels

who fell into the hands of the savages at the *Cedars* and *Quinze Chiens*, purchased from them at a great price, and restored to their country on those express conditions, be imputed to the Provincials at large, but to a few wicked and designing men, who first deceived, then, step by step, misled the credulous multitude to the brink of ruin, afterwards usurped authority over them, established a despotick tyranny not to be borne, and now wantonly and foolishly endeavour to provoke the spilling the blood of our unhappy countrymen of this Continent, in hopes of covering their own guilt, or confirming their tyranny by the general destruction of their country. Let their crimes pursue these faithless, bloody-minded men, who assert that black is white and white is black. It belongs to *Britons* to distinguish themselves not less by their humanity than their valour. It belongs to the King's troops to save the blood of his deluded subjects, whose greatest fault, perhaps, is having been deceived by such men to their own destruction. It belongs to the Crown, it is the duty of the faithful subjects of the Crown, to rescue from oppression and restore to liberty the once happy, free, and loyal people of this Continent.

All prisoners from the rebellious Provinces, who choose to return home, are to hold themselves in readiness to embark at a short notice. The Commissary, Mr. *Murray*, shall visit the transports destined for them, and see that wholesome provisions, necessary clothing, with all possible conveniences for their passage, be prepared for these unfortunate men. They are to look on their respective Provinces as their prisons, and there remain till further enlarged, or summoned to appear before the Commander-in-Chief of this Province, or any other Commander-in-Chief for his Majesty for the time being, which summons they shall obey.

General *Howe* will regulate the place of landing.

One of these papers was given to Major *Bigelow*, and one to each of his boat's crew.  
RICHARD VARICK, Secretary.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM SKENESBOROUGH, DATED AUGUST 16, 1776.

I wish I could write you all you want to know. I can at present only say that our Army is every day receiving reinforcements, by single companies, from the different States of *New-England*. Five companies marched from here yesterday morning to join the main Army; another went to-day, and a new one has just come in. Our Army at present, I think, cannot be less than five thousand strong, exclusive of the sick, who are more than one thousand. In a few days we expect a very respectable addition. We are at present fearless of the enemy, and are determined to maintain our ground at all events. The new troops are in high spirits, and through the kindly interposing hand of Providence we shall do well.

Our strength by sea is as follows: Two schooners, one sloop, two row-galleys, and six gondolas, all fit for action. At this place we have one gondola launched, and another just finished. We have also three row-galleys in great forwardness, from sixty to seventy feet in keel and eighteen feet beam, which will mount each six cannon and twenty swivels, and are to go with thirty-six oars, besides sails. They will be fit for action in about three weeks. As soon as they are launched, General *Waterbury*, with the regiment to which I belong, are ordered on board them, and when rigged, &c., are to proceed up the Lake to join the fleet.

By the last accounts from *St. John's*, we learn that the enemy had not more than forty batteaus built, and two galleys or gondolas. If this is true, I hardly think they will venture down the Lake this fall. We are determined, however, to be prepared for them. Five other galleys are to be built here as soon as those which are on the stocks are launched.

#### GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, August 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I arrived here at ten o'clock last night much as I left *Ticonderoga*—a little feverish, but no ague fit. A dose of physick this afternoon, I hope, will set matters in order. I have applied to Doctor *Sparham*, who I believe cannot be persuaded to go with the fleet. I don't think it prudent to go without a Surgeon. Lieutenant *Dunn* acquaints me that the Surgeon's Mate of Colonel *St. Clair's* regiment has a good box of medicines, and will incline to

go with the fleet. I wish he could be sent here, or some one who will answer, to kill a man *secundum artem*. I can procure a case of capital instruments for him here. Nothing but the Surgeon, and some few articles I have sent a boat for, prevents our proceeding. I hope the carpenters will not be retarded for want of smith's work. They made several complaints before I came away.

I am, with compliments to the gentlemen of your family, dear sir, your affectionate, obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Major-General Gates.

P. S. I could wish the proceedings of the Court-Martial, letters, &c., might pass through General Schuyler's hands, that his sentiments might be known.

B. A.

JACOB BAYLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Newbury, August 16, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Major Childs, waits on your Excellency, to receive your instructions relating to the road from this place to *St. John's*. He will give all the intelligence relating thereto required. He is a gentleman of good character, and may be depended upon in whatever he undertakes. I am sorry to take up your time with my letters, but beg to be excused, as I really mean the good of the service.

Am, sir, your most humble servant at command,

JACOB BAYLEY.

P. S. Major Childs understands the cattle trade well.

RICHARD LAW TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Milford, Friday, August 16, 1776.

HONoured SIR: Am just arrived thus far from *New-York*, and design to set out on *Monday* morning, and expect to wait on your Honour *Tuesday* noon. General *Washington* was anxious to have the Militia forwarded, and I find they have gone down pretty universally from these western towns. All was quiet when I left *New-York* on *Tuesday* evening. They had been expecting an attack for some time, but when it will be, is very uncertain. A number of suspected persons are apprehended, and are now on their way from *New-York* to *Norwich*, to the care of your Honour. Our conference with General *Washington* shall repeat to your Honour, and am in hopes there is not that foundation for jealousy as was apprehended.

Am desired to forward the enclosed; and am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD LAW.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Governour of the State of *Connecticut, Lebanon*.

#### Parole of Suspected Persons.

We the subscribers, being sent from *New-York* to *Connecticut*, under guard of a party commanded by Captain *Eells*, as being persons supposed not to be friendly to the *United States of America*, with orders not to be confined in jail, if we give our parole not to escape, until further directions from Governour *Trumbull*, as per order, signed per *J. Reed*, Adjutant-General,

We do therefore, upon the honour, faith, and credit of gentlemen, each of us, severally promise for himself, to the Governour and Company of the State of *Connecticut*, faithfully to abide in *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*, and within the limits of the parishes called the *First Society* and the *Society of Chelsea*, in *Norwich* aforesaid, until further orders can be had respecting us and our location from Governour *Trumbull* and his Council of Safety; and that in the mean time, we, each of us, will refrain from all correspondence with any persons unfriendly to these States, and abide such orders and directions as shall be given respecting us, or any of us, by the Committee of Inspection in *Norwich*, until orders shall be given by the Governour and Council aforesaid. Dated at *Norwich*, the 11th day of *August*, 1776.

WHITEHEAD CORNELL,	JOHN RAPALYE,
JOSEPH GRISWOLD,	THOMAS JONES,
DAVID BEATTY,	JOHN WILLETT,
JOHN CHOVE,	ADAM SEABURY,
CHARLES HICKS,	ISAAC SMITH,
CHARLES NICOLL,	BENJ. HEWLETT,
AUG. V. HORNE,	DANL. KISSAM, Jr.,
DAVID BROOKS,	WILLIAM THORNE.

#### Instructions for the Captain appointed to go to *Connecticut* with Prisoners.

SIR: You are to proceed with all expedition, as wind and tide will permit, to *New-London*, or *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*, there to apply to the Committee to assist you to dispose of the prisoners not under confinement, if they will give their parole not to escape, until further direction is given respecting them by Governour *Trumbull*. You will leave them with the Committee, and return as soon as possible. You may permit *Hewlett* to go on shore with a careful officer, to bring some necessaries for himself.

On the other side is a list of the persons intrusted to your care. You must be careful of expense, and keep an account, which will be paid you here.

Given at Head-Quarters, *August* 12, 1776.

J. REED, Adjutant-General.

#### THE LIST.

Judge Jones,	John Willett,	David Beatty,
Daniel Kissam, Jr.,	John Rapalye,	Benj. Hewlett,
Augustus Van Horne,	Adam Seabury,	Whitehead Cornell,
William Thorne,	Charles Nicoll,	Charles Hicks,
David Brooks,	Joseph Griswold,	Isaac Smith.
Archibald Hamilton,	John Chove,	

A true copy. Attest:

EDWARD EELLS, Captain.

JAMES BOWDOIN TO MESHECH WEARE.

Watertown, August 16, 1776.

SIR: It gives us the most sensible concern that it is not in our power to supply our sister State of *New-Hampshire* with those cannon for which they applied. By a late return, it appears that we have now left for the defence of the town of *Boston* and the harbour thereof, but fifty-eight, from eighteen to forty-two-pound cannon. This State have erected eleven forts in the town and harbour aforesaid; many of them are a very long shot from the ship-channel. In these works small cannon will be of little or no service.

From this short view of the matter, the Council flatter themselves that it must be evident that it is not in our power, consistent with our own safety, to comply with the request of your State.

In the name of the Council, I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN, President.

To the Hon. *Meshech Weare*, Esq., President of the Council of *New-Hampshire*.

Newburyport, August 16, 1776.

Yesterday Captain *Wingate Newman* arrived in the privateer named the *Hancock*, from *Philadelphia*. She brought in a prize, (which is now safely anchored before this town,) the ship *Nancy*, from *Antigua*, Captain *Keys*, bound to *London*, having on board about four hundred hogsheads of sugar, ninety of rum, and a few casks of *Madeira* wine. A lady and several gentlemen were passengers in the above ship. He likewise brought in with him the sloop *Industry*, Captain *William Hazen*, bound to *St. John's*, in *Nova-Scotia*, in ballast.

A few days before taking the above ship, Captain *Newman* had a smart engagement with a sloop-of-war, of much superior force, for three glasses, but night coming on, they parted, both having received much damage; but on board of Captain *Newman* no lives were lost, nor any much hurt.

THOMAS FLETCHER TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Penobscot River, August 16, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: Agreeable to your instructions delivered me in Council, dated 27th *July*, 1776, to proceed to the residence of the *Penobscot Indians*, to endeavour to enlist as many of them as I could to serve in the war under his Excellency General *Washington*—agreeable to my instructions, immediately on my arrival at *Penobscot*, I proceeded up the river, accompanied with Colonel *Lowden*, to Mr *Jeremiah Colburn's*, near *Penobscot* village, where I met with some *Indians*, and sent to the tribe to acquaint them with my business; and in answer to it, they appointed *Tuesday*, 13th of *August*, to meet me at Colonel *Lowden's*, at the falls. Accordingly they met me, with eighteen canoes, amounting to about thirty, besides women and children. I read to them my instructions, and also his



Excellency General *Washington's* request to inlist *Indians*, and the establishment for the pay of the Army. Their answer is as follows: That they don't think any of their young men can be spared, for that they don't know how soon they may be wanted to defend themselves against the *English* Army. They hear by the *Eastern Indians* that there are a great many *English* ships gone up *Canada* river with troops, and that there is a large fort built on *Point Levi*, opposite *Quebeck*, and by whom they don't know; and there is now a strong guard of *English* kept at *Soucomick*, a *French* settlement on *Chaudiere* river; which is the reason that their young men don't choose to engage at present, for fear that the *English* party may induce *French* and bad *Indians* to come amongst them and destroy them; as otherwise they would immediately join General *Washington* in his Army at the southward. They say they shall keep men to make discoveries, and from time to time will inform us of their proceedings, for their safety and ours, as we are all of one family. They were asked, if the Colony should raise a number of men as *Rangers* to reconnoitre the country to watch the motions of the enemy, whether any of their young men would join the party? They replied, they would willingly. They desired me to inform you that all the settlers on their lands were present at this interview, and that they agreed the *English* should remain as far up the river as the tide flows, and no farther; and those that were settled above should be removed, and the boundary line should be at the head of the tide, and gave the settlers leave to tarry on their lands until they got in their harvest.

There were a number of the young men that were desirous to go up to the Court. I told them, unless they inlisted for one or two years it would not answer the intention of the Colony, and therefore I would not consent to their going.

I beg leave to subscribe myself your Honours' most obedient, humble servant to command,

THOS. FLETCHER.

To the Hon. Council of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

#### INLISTING ORDERS.

State of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }  
August 16, 1776. }

To

You are hereby authorized immediately to inlist a Company to consist of ninety able-bodied effective men, (officers included,) well accoutred with arms and provided with blankets, to serve in a regiment, on the Continental establishment, ordered by the Continental Congress to be raised in *New-Hampshire*, for one year from the time of their passing muster, unless sooner discharged. And you are hereby informed, that when you have inlisted said company, and they have passed muster, you and they will enter into the Continental pay and receive the same wages and rations as other troops in that service. And you also have liberty to nominate three subalterns to serve under you, giving the preference to the two now under you, if they incline to accept. And all the men when mustered are to go into service and be under the command of Colonel *David Gillman* and Major *Hercules Mooney*, in their several stations, until Field-Officers are appointed by the honourable Continental Congress, to whom application will be made by the General Assembly for that purpose.

P. S. Those lately recruited, if they inlist again, must not expect their blanket money twice.

#### WILLIAM FINNIE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Williamsburgh, August 17, 1776.

SIR: The approach of winter, and the tattered condition of the troops in this quarter, make it my duty to look out as early as possible for necessaries suitable for the advancing season, every article of which we are entirely without, and I fear, unless we should be fortunate enough to procure an early supply, the want of them may prove fatal to the soldiers. As the multiplicity of business in which my department necessarily involves me, will not admit of my absence to procure those articles personally, by permission of General *Lewis*, Mr. *James Hunter*, a gentleman of a fair and patriotick character, and well versed in commercial matters, is empowered to wait on your honourable body for further orders on this important head.

I hope I may, without running the imputation of pre-

sumption, be bold enough to make one observation to you, the truth and justness of which the duties of my office have frequently evinced to me: I mean the expediency of allowing the officers forage. Not only the nature of the service in this country requires such an indulgence for the officers, but really I think it would be a frugal scheme, as it would lessen the immense expense resulting from wagons to transport their baggage when on a march; and, indeed, our troops here are almost continually in motion.

Very shortly after my appointment I wrote to the Honourable Brigadier-General *Mifflin*, who was at that time Quartermaster-General, relative to the duties of my office; but as I have not yet been honoured with an answer, I have enclosed a copy for your perusal, and shall be happy to receive your sentiments thereon.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect and esteem, your most obedient servant,

WM. FINNIE, D. Q. M., S. D.

Williamsburgh, May 2, 1776.

SIR: My late appointment from Congress as Deputy-Quartermaster of the Southern District, makes it my duty to apply to you for such instructions as you may think proper to give, as I consider myself as acting in subordination to you. I shall at all times put those measures into execution, in discharge of my office, which you may recommend. At present I am much embarrassed: I have received no regulations whereby I may know what officers are entitled to forage, and in what quantities. I shall esteem it a favour if you will transmit at your leisure the necessary information on this point.

I am, sir, with respect, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM FINNIE,  
D. Q. M., Southern District.

To *Thomas Mifflin*, Quartermaster-General of the Continental Forces.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN DEAKINS.

[No. 146.]

Annapolis, August 17, 1776.

SIR: We have yours of the 12th, and are sorry to hear you have not completed your company. However, we think it necessary you should send down directly to this city the men you have ready, and recruit the others that are wanting, with the greatest expedition. If you will send down a recommendation for any person you approve of for an Ensign, he shall have a commission. The arms that were made at *Georgetown*, were not disposed of in the manner you mention. We send you £250 to purchase the guns and blankets that are yet wanting, and hope you will lay it out to the greatest advantage. We are, &c.

To Captain *Francis Deakins*.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL HOLLINGSWORTH.

[No. 147.]

Annapolis, August 17, 1776.

SIR: It is thought by some of the Delegates from your County, that a sufficient quantity of cloth proper for tenting can be had there to make tents for your two companies of Flying-Camp Militia. If it can, we shall be very much obliged to you to purchase it, and have as many tents made up with the utmost despatch, agreeable to the directions of those made at *Baltimore*, as will answer. You will also be pleased to have the necessary poles got ready, and the tents completely finished. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL RICHARDSON.

[No. 148.]

Annapolis, August 17, 1776.

SIR: We have already given orders to many of your Captains in writing. We have now only to add, that you are to march all the companies in your battalion as soon as possible that can be armed and equipped. They are to go to *Elizabeth-Town*, in the *Jerseys*, and there receive further directions from the Commander-in-Chief. Should the honourable Continental Congress, or those who have proper authority, give any subsequent orders, you are to obey.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *William Richardson*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAINS GEORGE AND ALEXANDER.

[No. 149.]

Annapolis, August 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You are to prepare, as expeditiously as possible, to march to the northward. We have written to Colonel *Hollingsworth* about tents for your company. You will apply to him, and afford him all the assistance in your power in procuring them. Colonel *Richardson* is appointed Colonel to your battalion, and will be with you in a few days, and give the further necessary orders. Knapsacks, haversacks, and priming-wires, shall be sent you from *Baltimore*, and cartouch-boxes from *Kent*. We are, &c.

To Captains *George* and *Alexander*.

## DOCTOR TOOTELL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

August 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am informed that the battalion in this city, commanded by Colonel *Hall*, has received orders to march. I had not the least idea, when I petitioned your Honours for a Surgeon's commission to attend that battalion then quartered at *Annapolis*, and which I presumed was stationed, and there to remain for the protection of that city, that I should have been requested to remove. My age and bad health, particularly at this season of the year, would have been a bar against a contract of that kind, and interest another impediment. I could scarce think of leaving home, and between three and four hundred a year, arising from my practice of physick, and other advantages, to move into another Province, and leave my family, consisting of a wife, a daughter, and a small son, for whom I bare the most tender affection, and who in my absence must inevitably suffer, to embrace a Surgeon's place, which pay would scarce defray my expenses, as I should be obliged to travel with a servant and horses, and perhaps be ordered by the Surgeon-General to what department he pleased.

I have attended the sick soldiers with the greatest assiduity and care, and I believe I have given general satisfaction, both to the officers and soldiers. I have had great fatigue and trouble with regulating the military hospital shop, and compounding various medicines from the gross materials, which was acting beyond my line of office. It being my duty only to prescribe for the sick, the medicines ought to have been delivered to me ready for prescription. The Hospital is now filled with sick soldiers, whom I am ready to attend, and likewise the train of Artillery, or any other troops that may be stationed in this city. I should be sorry that the battalion should suffer from my not marching with them, and really, as I am circumstanced at present, that is impracticable. No man has the prosperity of our Army more at heart, nor is more deeply affected with our present distresses, or more ardently wishes an honourable reconciliation, than your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

RD. TOOTELL.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

## MARYLAND CONVENTION.

In Convention, August 17, 1776.

Agreeably to the Order of the Day, the Convention took into consideration the Resolution of Congress declaring the *United Colonies* free and independent States; and thereupon

*Resolved unanimously*, That this Convention will maintain the freedom and independency of the *United States* with their lives and fortunes.

By order of Convention: G. DUVAL, Clerk.

## BALTIMORE COUNTY COMMITTEE.

At a special meeting of the Committee, August 17, 1776:

Present: S. Purviance, Chairman; W. Lux, Vice Chairman; R. Alexander, W. Wilkinson, B. Griffith, J. Calhoun, J. E. Howard, J. Craddock.

Information having been given to the Committee that *Christopher Limes* and *John Amos* were returned to town, after having endeavoured to get on board Lord *Dunmore* and been disappointed, and that they intended to go away immediately, and (it is supposed) endeavour to join Lord *Howe* at *New-York*, the Committee requested Major *Craddock* to despatch a guard to the said *Limes's* house, and take

him into custody, in order to secure him for examination on *Monday* next.

Attest:

GEO. LUX, Secretary.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, August 17, 1776, five o'clock, P. M.

SIR: Your favour of the 16th instant, per post, this minute came to hand, and shall be laid before Congress on *Monday*.

I do myself the pleasure to enclose sundry resolves for your information, and likewise to forward the commissions ordered by a resolve of Congress on the 10th instant, a copy of which I transmitted in my letter of that date.

With the most ardent and sincere wishes for your health and prosperity, I have the honour to be, with perfect esteem, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. This morning I received the box by Colonel *Reed*, and am directed by Congress to take care of it, which is done.

## COMMODORE HOPKINS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, August 17, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 16th, this day, together with the resolve of Congress.\* Should be extremely obliged to you if you would communicate the enclosed letter to that honourable body, and shall wait till I know if they have any further commands for, sir, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

\* In Congress, Thursday, August 15, 1776.—*Resolved*, That the said Commodore *Hopkins*, during his cruise to the southward, did not pay due regard to the tenour of his instructions, whereby he was expressly directed to annoy the enemy's ships upon the coasts of the Southern States; and that his reasons for not going from *Providence* immediately to the *Carolinas* are by no means satisfactory.

## GEORGE STEVENSON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation of Cumberland County, at Carlisle, August 17, 1776. }

SIR: Enclosed you have an account of the disposal of the money which we have received, by Messrs. *John Boyd* and *John Pollock*, from Congress. The vouchers or receipts of officers we do not send until this scene or the season of sending Militia to *New-Jersey* shall be over.

The twelfth company of our Militia are marched to-day, which companies contain in the whole eight hundred and thirty-three privates—with officers, nearly nine hundred men. Six companies more are collecting arms, and are preparing to march. No Commissary having been appointed in this County to provide victuals for the men, they have been supplied mostly by the tavern-keepers, many of whom cannot well wait for their pay, especially as beef and mutton sell at 5d. per pound, coffee and brown sugar at 1s. 6d. per pound, butter at 8d. per pound; and it is difficult to procure those articles even at these high prices without cash. The people say they will be losers if they are not allowed 1s. per meal: we think they cannot afford it for much less. We are much pressed to pay off those victualling accounts, but have hitherto declined it, not from want of inclination to serve our country, but because we have not money nor directions, nor do we know how much is allowed for a meal of victuals.

A number of arms are taken up, appraised, and now in the service, many of them repaired by mechanicks who are in need of their pay. Cartouch-boxes, pouches, &c., are made, and delivered to the Captains on credit. The Field-Officers are absent on the publick service, and cannot attend to draw money and pay those necessary debts. Several of those creditors have applied to us. We have answered them with our promise to lay their case before Congress. The bearer, *Robert Simple*, Esq., waits on you express with our draft, and bearing even date herewith, for £2,000, part of it to be paid in advance to the several companies now preparing to march to *New-Jersey*, and part of it to pay for their victualling and to discharge debts contracted for victualling those who are already marched. If we shall send men unarmed,

are arms to be had for them at *Philadelphia*? Our drafts have been honoured, but we have not received any other answer to our former letters. We earnestly request an answer. Should anything in our letters be improper to trouble Congress with, we hope directions will be given to those in whose department our business is, and that we may be excused.

We are, sir, your most obedient and most humble servants.  
Signed by order of the Committee:

GEO. STEVENSON, *Chairman*.

*An Account of Money advanced to the Captains of the marching Militia and Flying-Camp Companies of CUMBERLAND County, to wit:*

To Captain John Steel, per receipt.....	£100	0	0
To Captain Samuel Postlethwaite, per receipt.....	100	0	0
To Captain Andrew Galbreath, per receipt.....	200	0	0
To Captain Samuel McCune, per receipt.....	220	0	0
To Captain Thomas Turbett, per receipt.....	150	0	0
To Mr. John Boyd, our first express, per receipt.....	9	6	6
To Captain James McConnel, per receipt.....	240	0	0
To Captain William Hustin, per receipt.....	200	0	0
To Captain Thomas Clark, per receipt.....	100	0	0
To Captain John Hutton, per receipt.....	100	0	0
To Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Watt, per receipt.....	15	0	0
To Mr. John Pollock, our second express, per receipt.....	6	10	0
To Captain Robert Culbertson, per receipt.....	150	0	0
To Captain Charles Leeper, per receipt.....	108	0	0
To Captain Conrad Schneider, per receipt.....	108	0	0
To four Captains now preparing to march, with whom we have not yet settled.....	270	0	0

August 17, 1776.

IN CONVENTION OF THE STATE OF NEW-JERSEY.

Brunswick, August 17, 1776.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the Bills of Credit emitted by the Honourable Continental Congress be a legal tender within the State of *New-Jersey* for all sums of money due and owing from one person to another.

Whereas the difference of the several Currencies within this State very greatly perplexes many of the good people thereof, and now especially such of the people of the neighbouring States as have come hither for our defence against the common enemy, and gives occasion for great impositions and deceits:

*Resolved, unanimously*, That all payments and receipts be made in every part of this State in Proclamation Money of *New-Jersey*, at seven shillings and six-pence the dollar, reckoning the difference between the usual prices heretofore taken in any other currency, and reducing the same to Proclamation.

Extracts from the Minutes:

WILLIAM PATERSON, *Secretary*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 17, 1776.

SIR: The circumstances of the two Armies having undergone no material alteration since I had the honour of writing you last, I have nothing particular or important to communicate respecting them.

In my letter of yesterday I forgot to mention the arrival of Lord *Dunmore* here. By the examination of Captain *Hunter*, who escaped from the enemy and came to *Amboy* on the 14th, transmitted me by General *Roberdeau*, I am certainly informed his Lordship arrived on the 13th. The examination does not say anything about the ships he brought with him, and only extends to his force, which it mentions to be weak.

I expected before now the enemy would have made their attack; nor can I account for their deferring it, unless the intelligence given by Captain *Hunter*, and another person who escaped about the same time, is the cause, to wit: that they are waiting the arrival of another division of the *Hessian* troops, which, they say, is still out. Whether that is the reason of the delay, I cannot undertake to determine; but I should suppose things will not long remain in their present state. I have enclosed a copy of General *Roberdeau's* letter, and of the examination of these two persons, which will show Congress all the information they have given upon these subjects.

I am just now advised by Mr. *Ayres*, who came from *Philadelphia* to build the row-galleys, that two of our fire-vessels attempted to burn the enemy's ships and tenders up

the *North River*. He says that they burnt one tender, and one of them boarded the *Phoenix*, and was grappled with her for near ten minutes, but she cleared herself. We lost both of the vessels. His account is not so particular as I could wish. However, I am certain the attempt has not succeeded to our wishes. In a little time, it is probable, the matter will be more minutely reported.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Amboy, August 15, 1776.

SIR: In the absence of General *Mercer*, he being on duty at *Elizabeth-Town* or its neighbourhood, I just now received from one of our posts at *South-Amboy* two prisoners escaped from the *English* fleet. They are inhabitants of *Philadelphia*, and well known to many of us from thence. Their examination, which I forward enclosed, may be depended on, according to their knowledge.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

DANIEL ROBERDEAU.

To General *Washington*.

*Examination of Captain ALEXANDER HUNTER, who escaped from on board the ROCKINGAM, a Transport with HESSIANS, August 14, 1776.*

He informs that he was taken off the Capes of *Virginia* by a vessel of Lord *Dunmore's*, on the 8th of *February*, 1776; that he was sent to *England*, and put on board the *Rockingham*, which left *St. Helen's* 26th of *May*, in company with the *Hessian* fleet. He arrived at the *Narrows* on *Monday* last, and pretending to be a pilot, was allowed to go in a small boat towards the *Hook*, by which means he escaped. That about eight thousand *Hessians* are arrived, and five thousand more *Hessians* are expected in a few weeks; that the whole force is supposed to be about twenty-six or twenty-seven thousand; that Lord *Dunmore* arrived yesterday—brought but few men; that the *Hessians* which arrived on *Monday*, are to land on the Island to refresh, and the *English* were to embark on board to make room for them, and this he was informed of by a Captain of the *Hessian* fleet. That it is expected an attack will be made in eight or ten days, and not before; that it is believed in the fleet that General *Washington* is weak, and has not above fifteen thousand men in *New-York* and on *Long-Island*. That he believed they have no galleys or floating-batteries; that they have about seven two-decked ships, and about thirteen of lighter metal.

*Examination of ISAAC FAVIER, a Pilot belonging to the Port of PHILADELPHIA, who was taken by the VIFER, December 10, 1775, and escaped from the ENGLISH Fleet, in company with Captain ALEXANDER HUNTER, August 14, 1776.*

That on the 17th of *April*, he was put on board the Admiral's ship at *Halifax*, and continued on board till he made his escape. He confirms the account of Captain *Hunter* as to the number of the enemy. That it was believed in the fleet that General *Washington* intended making his stand at *New-York*, and was evacuating *Long-Island*; that there is a great deal of confidence of success in the fleet; that the *Scots* troops are extremely incensed against us, and frequently say they will give no quarter; that it is expected that *Burgoyne* will in a few days be in the rear of *New-York*, and ready to make a junction whenever the troops land. That he is certain five thousand more *Hessians* are expected, but believes the General will not wait their arrival before the attack; that the *Brune* frigate and the *Centurion*, of fifty guns, were to go up the *North River*, and that it is a principal object with them to cut off the communication between the city of *New-York* and the country.

*Examination of a Deserter from STATEN-ISLAND.*

*Archibald Campbell*, of *Philadelphia*, was pressed on board the *Roebuck*, in *Accomack*, two months ago; came with Lord *Dunmore* to *Staten-Island* a week ago; brought the yellow-fever with them, but the Army otherwise healthy. Heard them talk on board that five thousand men were to land on *Long-Island*; that they say they shall leave *Staten-Island* on *Tuesday* next; that he heard them say there were fifteen thousand foreign troops on the Island. All the troops were arrived which they expected.

*Examination of JOHN HAMOND, a soldier in the Twenty-Seventh Regiment, August 14, 1776.*

Left *Staten-Island* last night at eight o'clock; left the Army preparing to leave the Island; the Battalion men are all on board, only the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry left on the Island; the ships are to be sent up against the town; thinks all the troops will be landed on *Long-Island*; that they hope to cut us off from the woods; their number supposed twenty-five thousand; ours they think three to one; that they mean to land their men under cover of gondolas, which have six-pounders in them, and are built high to cover the landing; troops in pretty good health; no fresh meat; *Hessians* are ordinary troops—old and small. They had orders on *Monday* to cook provisions for three days on board the ships.

*Examination of WILLIAM BROOKS, a soldier, August 15, 1776.*

*William Brooks*, deserter from the *Fanny* transport, was one of a new battalion of Rangers to be raised out of a number of loose people, under Captain *Stanton*; swam over about nine o'clock last night to *Bergen-Point*. They are embarking their men, but there are a good many yet remaining on the Island, and are waiting for about fifty sail, which got separated from the fleet; knew nothing of the crossing of the boats last evening, he being at another part of the Island; two regiments of Light-Horse on the Island has had no fresh provisions since he was there; they had three days' provisions delivered them ready cooked, and kept in their knapsacks; thinks they will come up in a day or two, and will attack *Long-Island* and this place near the same time; thinks they have twenty thousand men on the Island.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL HOWE.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 17, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour to transmit the enclosed letter from Major *French*, and at the same time to inform you that his exchange for Major *Meigs*, whose parole I am advised you have, will meet my approbation. I would take the liberty also to propose an exchange of any Captain you may choose for Captain *Dearborn*, whose parole I have heard was delivered you with Major *Meigs's*.

Give me leave to assure you, sir, that I feel myself greatly obliged by the polite conclusion of your letter of the 1st instant, and have a high sense of the honour and satisfaction I should have received from your personal acquaintance. The different state of the Colonies from what it was last war, and which has deprived me of that happiness, cannot be regretted by any one more than, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant-General *Howe*.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When I consider that the city of *New-York* will, in all human probability, very soon be the scene of a bloody conflict, I cannot but view the great number of women, children, and infirm persons, remaining in it, with the most melancholy concern. When the men-of-war passed up the river, the shrieks and cries of these poor creatures, running every way with their children, were truly distressing, and I fear will have an unhappy effect on the ears and minds of our young and inexperienced soldiery. Can no method be devised for their removal? Many, doubtless, are of ability to move themselves; but there are others in a different situation. Some provision for them afterwards would also be a necessary consideration. It would relieve me from great anxiety if your honourable body would immediately deliberate upon it, and form and execute some plan for their removal and relief, in which I will coöperate and assist to the utmost of my power. In the mean time, I have thought it proper to recommend to persons under the above description, to convey themselves without delay to some place of safety, with their most valuable effects.

I have the honour, &c.

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esquire, President, &c.

By His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the UNITED STATES OF NORTH-AMERICA.

Whereas a bombardment and attack upon the city of *New-York*, by our cruel and inveterate enemy, may be hourly expected; and as there are great numbers of women, children, and infirm persons, yet remaining in the city, whose continuance will rather be prejudicial than advantageous to the Army, and their persons exposed to great danger and hazard: I do therefore recommend it to all such persons, as they value their own safety and preservation, to remove with all expedition out of the said town, at this critical period, trusting that, with the blessing of Heaven upon the *American* arms, they may soon return to it in perfect security. And I do enjoin and require all the Officers and Soldiers in the Army under my command to forward and assist such persons in their compliance with this recommendation.

Given under my hand, at Head-Quarters, *New-York*, August 17, 1776.

GO. WASHINGTON.

#### COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

New-York, August 17, 1776.

SIR: Monsieur *Martin* is in the pay of the *United States of America*, as an Engineer, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. As he may be of some service at your post, and is not so immediately wanted here, his Excellency has directed me to recommend him to your notice, and to be employed in such service as may be most conducive to the publick interest.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOS. REED, Adjutant-General.

To Major-General *Heath*, Mount *Washington*.

#### COLONEL CARY TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, August 17, 1776.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to return you his thanks for your favour of this morning. He is much pleased to hear of the good behaviour of the officers and men of the *Lady Washington* and *Independence* galleys; and desires you will inquire into the cause of the inactivity of the other galleys, and inform him thereof.

I am, with due respect, sir, your very humble servant,

RICHD. CARY, Jun., A. D. C.

To Major-General *Heath*.

#### WILLIAM S. LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Long-Island, August 17, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Hand* has this morning reported to the General, that since yesterday evening four vessels of war (one of them the *Solebay*) have sailed from the fleet at the *Narrows*. Two brigs, a sloop, and schooner, came in from sea; and the man-of-war that lay off the *Hook* these two days past came in.

The morning being very thick, he could discern nothing distinctly at the *Hook*; but that late in the evening of yesterday some of the foreign troops landed at the ferry-way on *Staten-Island*.

I am sorry to inform your Excellency that General *Greene* had a very bad night of it, and cannot be said to be any better this morning than he was yesterday.

I have the honour to be your most obedient servant,

WM. S. LIVINGSTON.

#### NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
Harlem, August 17, 1776. }

SIR: Mr. *Denning* hath made the Convention acquainted with your Excellency's sentiments upon obstructing the navigation of the *East River* between the Grand Battery and *Governour's Island*. We now take the liberty of enclosing the copy of our resolution for that purpose, which, together with this letter, will be handed to your Excellency by the gentlemen of the Committee, to whom we make no doubt, sir, that you will afford every assistance in your power.

I have the honour to be, your most obedient, humble servant,

AB'M YATES, Jun., President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.



## NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
 Harlem, August 17, 1776. }

SIR: I am directed to inform your Excellency that immediately upon the receipt of your favour of this morning respecting the women, children, and infirm persons, remaining in the city of *New-York*, the Convention appointed a Committee for the purpose of removing and providing for such persons. I enclose a copy of the resolves for that purpose, and hope you will soon be relieved from the anxiety which their continuance in town has occasioned; and have the honour to be, with very great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

AB'M YATES, JUN., *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
 at Harlem, August 17, 1776. }

*Resolved*, That the women, children, and infirm persons, in the city of *New-York*, be immediately removed from the said city, agreeable to General *Washington's* request of this House, in his letter of this date.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *James Beekman*, Mr. *John Berrien*, (Chairman of the Committee of *New-York*), and Mr. *John Campbell*, (a member of the said Committee,) be empowered to remove such persons to such place or places in this State as they shall think proper; and that this Convention will pay the expenses incident to the removal and maintenance of such persons as the said Committee shall think in such indigent circumstances as not to be able to remove and subsist themselves.

*Resolved*, That the General Committee of *New-York* be earnestly requested to give all possible assistance to the above gentlemen, in carrying into execution the above Resolutions in the most expeditious manner possible.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

We, the subscribers, being appointed by the Convention of this State, in the above Resolutions, give this publick notice to all such poor persons in this city who are proper objects, that we will attend that business at the Exchange Room, every morning, from eight till twelve o'clock, to give permits to them, and procure vessels to remove them to proper places in the country, where they will be accommodated agreeable to the above Resolutions.

ABRAHAM P. LOTT,  
 JAMES BEEKMAN,  
 JOHN BERRIEN,  
 JOHN CAMPBELL.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 17, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: On the 15th, at night, I returned to this place, and found your favours of the 5th and 11th instant.

*Carleton's* conduct convinces me that he is not much read in the law of nations or the laws of war. Most, if not all the great writers have clearly laid down the line of conduct that is to be held by both parties in such a contest as we are now engaged in.

I intended to have wrote you yesterday, but could not finish my letters to Congress and General *Washington* until eight at night, having been interrupted by a fit of the ague.

I enclose you copies of sundry resolutions of Congress, which I received at the *German-Flats*, on *Sunday*, the 11th instant. You will please to carry into execution such of them as you can. Lest, through the constant interruption of the *Indians* at the *German-Flats*, I should have omitted sending you some of the resolutions of Congress which I received when there, I now also enclose you copies of the whole, which you will also please to attend to.

You will perceive by the resolutions of the 30th ultimo, that Congress has concurred with their Committee in assigning three causes for the miscarriages in *Canada*. My character has been so infamously traduced, and the misfortunes in that quarter so generally imputed to me, that I have informed Congress that the three causes assigned are not the only ones. And I have entreated them to have the

strictest and most minute inquiry made into my conduct; that, if I am in fault, I may meet with the punishment and detestation due to me; if not, that the publick odium may be transferred to the proper objects. If I had continued any longer silent on the subject, it would have been construed as a tacit avowal of my guilt.

I have also written General *Washington* on the subject of the outrage the General Officers in this department have sustained by the decision of the Council of Officers at *New-York*, on the removal of the Army to *Ticonderoga*, copy of which I enclose you.

Mr. *Trumbull*, the Paymaster, informs me that some of the Militia from the Eastern Colonies have had themselves inoculated on their march to *Skenesborough*; and also a number of the carpenters sent from *Rhode-Island*. If this fatal distemper should again reach the Army, it will effectually ruin it. I, therefore, by this conveyance transmit an order to General *Waterbury* to send two or three trusty officers to stop all such as have inoculated themselves, and not to permit them to join the Army on any account.

Be pleased to order a return of the Army to be sent me, specifying at what time the Militia of the different Colonies, have arrived, that I may transmit it to Congress the soonest possible.

I shall this day order a party from hence, to repair the road as far as *Fort Edward*. I am informed that it is almost impassable.

Be so good as to order a return of the provisions with the Army to be sent to me as expeditiously as possible.

I am extremely happy to learn that all goes well with you. I find it does so in the Naval Department; and hope that it will soon be so formidable as effectually to prevent the enemy from even attempting to cross the Lakes.

I enclose you copies of two letters just now received from Governour *Trumbull*. You will perceive the sail-cloth and part of the cordage is purchased, and I suppose now on the way to *Skenesborough*. It is probable that the *Hessians* are arrived at *Staten-Island*; if so, we must soon expect to hear of a battle.

It is said that chevaux-de-frise are sunk about ten miles above *New-York*, and that they so effectually stop the channel as to prevent large vessels from passing. If so, the two on this side now will not be able to return.

Previous to our speech to the *Six-Nations*, two of their chiefs called upon us, to request that we should condole with them on the death of a chief warrior killed at the *Cedars* or by Major *Sherburne's* party. We resented the request with indignation, and informed them that we expected they should take the hatchet out of our heads and bury it. They have done this, and made concessions for their conduct. I do not believe they will molest our frontier inhabitants, though some few may possibly join *Carleton*.

As soon as I have arranged matters here, I propose to pay you a visit. I do not believe that the ague will stick to me any time. Adieu, my dear sir.

I am, affectionately and very sincerely, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*, &c., &c., &c.

P. S. I enclose a commission for Lieutenant-Colonel *Wood*, which please to deliver, and be so good as to congratulate him on the promotion.

Please to show General *Arnold* the extract of my letter of the 6th to General *Washington*.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 17, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Just after I had closed my letter of this day's date, yours of the 1st instant was delivered me by *Mesnard*. I have not had time to speak to Mr. *Traverse*.

We have people in every part of the country trying to procure the necessary articles for the Army and Navy, and they shall be forwarded without delay.

The General's letter to you was enclosed in that to Congress, and a copy of it sent to me; but as I judged it was by mistake, I took the liberty to substitute the copy for the original, and now enclose you the letter, together with yours to him.

I wish you had sent to *Saratoga* for anything you stood in need of. I shall immediately order my overseer to send

a constant supply of what he has, and order Lieutenant *Van Vechten*, who commands the party there, to send a man with it to *St. George*, and Colonel *Gansevoort* another to deliver it to you, otherwise you will receive very little of what is sent.

Adieu, my dear sir, and believe me, affectionately, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

H. GLEN TO WALTER LIVINGSTON.

Schenectady, August 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Whereas I have now two companies of batteau-men come down from *Fort Stanwix*, and have General *Schuyler's* orders to load them with flour, and find that I will not be able to load the boats at present unless I have the flour you yesterday engaged from Mr. *Tobias Ten Eyck*, which he was to send to *Fort George*. I have been with him. He tells me he cannot let me have it unless I produce an order from you. Mr. *Ten Eyck* tells me he will expect to get the very same price for the flour as the merchants get at *Albany*. I shall expect your answer this evening.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

H. GLEN.

To *W. Livingston, Esq.*, Deputy Commissary-General.

P. S. I would be glad to know what I must give for peas.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER AT FORT STANWIX,  
DATED AUGUST 17, 1776.

Part of the Third Battalion of *New-Jersey* troops being stationed here about three weeks ago, it was thought proper to send a Sergeant and four men to reconnoitre towards *Oswego*; but Ensign *Isaiah Younglove* being desirous to go, went in the room of the Sergeant; and having travelled about sixty miles, the party was fired on early one morning by a party of ten *Indians*, but their guns being wet, (it having rained the preceding night,) they could not return the fire. The Ensign and another, after repeatedly priming, at length discharged their pieces. They were then directed by the Ensign to fix their bayonets, who at that instant received a ball in his lungs and fell. Notwithstanding, he ordered his men to advance, and, laying on his back, loaded and shot one of the *Indians* dead. But two of his men being killed, he desired the others to flee, telling them he could not live more than five minutes, and that it was a pity they should expose their own lives. The surviving two came off and gave us the above account.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 17, 1776.

GENERAL GATES: At the time that General *Arnold* was here he informed me that he thought there was some quarter-deck plank seasoned, which, if they are to be had, I wish you may send them to this as soon as possible, which I shall take as a great favour.

Am, with the greatest esteem, your Honour's most obedient,

DAVID WATERBURY, JUN.

P. S. I am informed there are no deck-nails at *Ticonderoga*, therefore I am going to send this moment an express to *Albany* to have them forwarded with all speed.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 17, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The very last batteaus and oars are now going off with Captain *Gray's* company and the tents, and if other companies should arrive it would be impossible to forward them to *Ticonderoga*. I should be extremely glad your Honour would order some forwarded here as soon as may be convenient.

I am, dear General, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, JUN.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. We are obliged to employ twelve boats constantly in *Wood Creek*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WATERBURY.

Tyonderoga, August 17, 1776.

SIR: This is accompanied by twenty batteaus, with one hundred men, in order to bring forward such of the *Massachusetts* troops together with any tents that may be already arrived at *Skenesborough*, and must beg you will not allow either the above troops or tents to remain with you after their arrival longer than is absolutely necessary. I am sorry I have it not in my power to forward you any seasoned plank, as we have not a foot here at present, but expect some daily, when it shall be immediately forwarded.

I am, sir, your very obedient, humble servant.

By order of the General:

WALTER STEWART, *Aid-de-Camp*.

To the Hon. General *Waterbury*.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL GANSEVOORT.

Tyonderoga, August 17, 1776.

SIR: You will order the Commissary at your post immediately to receive into his store the rum and brandy brought there by the bearer, Mr. *Isaac Arnott*. The Commissary will give his receipt to Mr. *Arnott* for the quantity and quality, and General *Schuyler* will settle the account with the bearer. I have by this conveyance ordered the Deputy Commissary-General here to write to your Commissary to acquaint him when it will be necessary to send more rum here.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Gansevoort*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, August 17, 1776—Saturday night, }  
eight o'clock. }

DEAR GENERAL: About two o'clock this afternoon, Colonel *Hartley* acquainted me that a party of his men, who were posted seven miles down the Lake as a covering party to the oar makers, had made a large fire as a signal that the enemy were approaching. I sent Colonel *Hartley*, with one hundred men, to secure the retreat of the party, if attacked, and ordered the two light schooners down the Lake to cover them. They were no sooner under weigh, than Commodore *Wynkoop* fired a shot, and brought them to, and soon after sent me a note, (copy of which I enclose, with my order to the Captains of the schooners, and answer to the Commodore's note.) I waited some time, expecting the vessels to sail; but finding they did not, went on board the Commodore, when he ordered them under sail. He refuses to be commanded by any one, and imagines his appointment (which is by General *Schuyler*) cannot be superseded. I have shown him such parts of your instructions as I thought necessary, which has brought him so far to reason. He says, if you think proper to turn him out, he will quit the vessel. I have given him to understand that I shall at all events pursue your orders, and that if he did not incline to remain in the service, he would not be compelled to it. Colonel *Hartley* is not yet returned.

I am, with sentiments of respect and esteem, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

Crown-Point, August 17, 1776.

SIR: You will immediately get your vessels under sail, and proceed down the Lake seven or eight miles. If you make any discovery of the enemy, you will immediately give me notice; if none, return as soon as possible.

B. ARNOLD, *Brigadier-General*.

To Captain *Seaman*.

On board the Royal Savage, August 17, 1776.

SIR: I find, by an order you have given out, that the schooners are to go down the Lake. I know no orders but what shall be given out by me, except sailing orders from the Commander-in-Chief. If an enemy is approaching, I am to be acquainted with it, and know how to act in my station. I am, sir, yours,

JACOBUS WYNKOOP,  
*Commander of Lake Champlain*.

SIR: I am surprised that you pretend to contradict my orders to the Captains of the schooners at this time, when we are alarmed by a signal of the approach of the enemy; and much more so, as I acquainted you some time since that the Commander-in-Chief had appointed me to take command of the Navy on the Lake. Had I not received this appointment, from my rank in the Army, and as Commander-in-Chief of this post, it is your duty to obey my orders, which you have received and executed for some time past. You surely must be out of your senses to say no orders shall be obeyed but yours. Do you imagine that Congress have given you a superior command over the Commander-in-Chief, or that you are not to be under his direction? If you do, give me leave to say you are much mistaken; and if you do not suffer my orders to be immediately complied with by sending to the Captains of the schooners to obey them, I shall be under the disagreeable necessity of convincing you of your error, by immediately arresting you.

B. ARNOLD,

*Brigadier-General, and Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet on Lake Champlain.*

To Commodore J. Wynkoop.

COMMODORE WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, August 17, 1776.

SIR: I have understood that General Arnold is to have the command of the Navy; and if that be so, he ought to have shown me his power to it; but instead of that, he sent an order for two of the schooners to get under weigh and go down the Lake, upon some information he says he had of the approach of the enemy. Was it not his duty to have communicated it to me, and my orders to have been given to the vessels? I have contradicted them, till he acquainted me with some accounts of the enemy, and then I immediately issued out my orders for them to go down. Sir, if that be the case, I would be glad of my dismissal from the service, for I accepted of this command upon these conditions. Major-General Schuyler has a letter which I brought up to him from Congress, that no man was to take the command from me; and when he had read the letter, he told me I need not to fear, that no one should have it but me; and the Congress of New-York promised me that if any one should arrive here authorized to take the command by the honourable Continental Congress, I was to be dismissed the service, and have the command of one of the frigates building up the North River, for I am resolved to go under command of no man. I will receive general orders to sail, and how far, and will obey the Commander-in-Chief's orders; but if I have the command, I expect to give orders to the Captains of the fleet when I receive them from the Commander-in-Chief. I refer your Honour to a copy of my warrant, a copy of Major-General Schuyler's letter, and his orders, here enclosed.

Sir, if you find my grievance well founded, I hope your Honour will be pleased to redress it.

I am, sir, with all due respect, your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

JACOBUS WYNKOOP, *Commander.*

CAPTAIN EDDY TO GENERAL GATES.

Williamstown, August 17, 1776.

SIR: I am requested by Captain Eddy, Commander of a company of ship carpenters from Rhode-Island, to inform that said Captain and company having been exposed to take the small-pox on their march from Rhode-Island, (as the General will see by the enclosed,) have since been inoculated, and are now sick with said disorder in said Williamstown; and that he (Captain Eddy) being taken with a violent dysentery, despairs of life; but still anxious for the welfare of his soldiers, desires the General to do something for them. They having received but one month's advance pay, have not money sufficient for their march to Skenesborough, in case the General, upon information, should give orders for said march; neither a sufficiency to return to Rhode-Island when discounted with their doctoring and nursing. Said carpenters' utensils, being their own property, are now at Skenesborough, they will be out of business in case of return. Ten of said company having formerly had the small-pox, are gone forward; the remainder may safely march in eight

days. I send enclosed the resolve of the Committee of Safety of Williamstown, as also a line Captain Eddy received from Brigadier-General Waterbury. General Gates's orders per the express, Mr. Joseph Skinner, will lay a particular obligation on Captain Eddy and company, and much oblige your humble servant,

WM. PAGE,

Per order Captain Eddy.

N. B. The General will please to inquire of the bearer for particulars.

Skenesborough, August 12, 1776.

I have received a line from General Gates concerning you who have been inoculated, which I will communicate to you: "The companies of ship carpenters from Rhode-Island, who have been inoculated at Williamstown, should be discharged, and not suffered to come forward." The foregoing are the words of the General. I think as much as to say you are not to come in the service; we don't intend to let any one come into this place that has lately had the small-pox, (for you know that has been the bane of our Northern Army,) and we have got it out of this place and Ticonderoga, and we are determined to use every precaution to keep it clear; and for men to go and inoculate, and presume to come here among fresh troops, we think it monstrous.

DAVID WATERBURY, Jr.,

*Brigadier-General.*

To the Captain and Company of Carpenters at Williamstown.

Williamstown, August 4, 1776.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety, &c., of this Town,

*Resolved*, That whereas we are informed that Captain Eddy, from Providence, in the Colony of Rhode-Island, with thirty-nine of his men, now in the Continental service, having been exposed to the small-pox, and having since then taken it by inoculation, without our knowledge, and said men appearing to us to be under necessity of immediate care taken, and provision made for their sickness, we do hereby give orders that the house belonging to Ephraim Seely, which stands near said Seely's saw-mill, shall be repaired and made convenient for their reception; and that David Noble be appointed to put said house in order, and to make provision and provide suitable diet for said company, from the time they go into said house till they each of them shall obtain certificates from their Doctors of their being sufficiently cleansed from said disorder. And said company to depart to said pest house next Wednesday morning, and not to return into the town till after cleansing.

And for the further preventing all inconveniences which may arise,

*It is Resolved*, That Mr. Samuel Kellogg, and William Horseford, and Daniel Stratten, be a Committee to give their attendance at the time of each man's cleansing, and be fully satisfied that they are fully and well cured and cleaned, and may safely depart. And this Committee strictly enjoin and order that no one of the aforesaid infected persons shall come or go within the distance of thirty rods of any dwelling-house, or town or country road.

Given under our hands, this 4th day of August, A. D. 1776.

Per order: ISAAC STRATTON, *Committee's Clerk.*

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN.

Lebanon, August 17, 1776.

SIR: I have before me your letter of this day. Have advised Captain Hinman to go on a cruise.

The Tories who are left prisoners in the care of the Committee of New-London, will be duly taken care off till further orders are given, which will be sent early next week, probably Wednesday or Thursday next. My Council will be with me next Tuesday noon, when that business will be attended to. They are not to be admitted to correspond with our enemies. The instructions sent with them to be observed.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To Nathaniel Shaw, Jun., New-London.

## CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, August 9, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Nath. Wales*, Jun., *Wm. Hillhouse*, *Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table, for two months' billeting for the Forces in the Colony service at *Fairfield*, under command of Lieutenant *John Mills*.

Order delivered Lieutenant *Mills* this day.

*Voted*, That the Selectmen of the Town of *Fairfield* have liberty, at the expense of the Town, to take two of the Colony's Cannon, now at the Furnace at *Salisbury*, for the use of the Fort at *Fairfield*, viz: one twelve-pounder and one eighteen-pounder, if such may be had; if not, then two twelve-pounders, and also one ton of Shot suitable for the Cannon in said Fort, to be improved in said Fort till further orders of the General Assembly, or the Governour and Committee of Safety. And that if the Assembly or Governour, &c., shall see fit to order said two pieces of Cannon to any other use during the present contest, the expense of transporting said Cannon, &c., to be paid by the Colony to said Town. And the Overseers of said Furnace are directed to deliver said Cannon and Shot accordingly.

Copy delivered Lieutenant *John Mills*, 9th August, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, August 10, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Wm. Hillhouse*, *Nath. Wales*, Jun., *Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

Ordered a number of Prisoners sent here by the Committee of *Albany*, as inimical to the *United States of America*, to be confined at the Jail in *New-London*, and none of them to go abroad, excepting under a trusty guard, and that by land, and to no more than one-half mile distance from the Jail; and gave a mittimus to the Sheriff of *New-London* County, with directions accordingly.

Also wrote to the Convention of *New-York*, and to the Committee of *Albany*, on the subject of supporting and confining their Prisoners in this Colony.

Drew an Order on the Pay-Table for £10, in favour of Ensign *John Fisk*, of Colonel *Elmer's* Battalion, to enable him to support his party of Prisoners, sent here by him from the Committee of *Albany*, and the same to be repaid by Mr. *Fisk*, or the Committee of *Albany*, into the hands of Mr. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Jun.

Order delivered to *John Fisk*, August 10, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, August 11, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Wm. Hillhouse*, *Nath. Wales*, Jun., *Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted and Ordered*, That Messrs. *Doolittle & Co.*, owners of the Powder-Mill in *New-Haven*, deliver one thousand pounds weight of the Colony's Powder in their hands, to the Selectmen of *New-Haven*, as Town stock, and take their receipt to account for the same. (Copy delivered Mr. *Samuel Thatcher*, August 11, 1776.)

His Honour the Governour, by advice of Council, gave orders to the Commanding Officers of the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Sixth, Ninth, Tenth, Thirteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-Second, and Twenty-Third Regiments of Militia, in this State, to march immediately to *New-York*, and there put themselves under command of General *Washington*, until the present exigency is over.

*Voted*, That the Militiamen, who are now ordered to *New-York* to be under the command of General *Washington*, shall receive 20s. per man, in advance, towards their wages, and the Committee of Pay-Table are directed immediately to send a Paymaster, to pay the same to each man accordingly.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, August 12, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*,

*Titus Hosmer*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Wm. Hillhouse*, *Nathl. Wales*, Jun., *Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table, in favour of *Jesse Root*, Esq., for £3,600, as Paymaster of the advance wages of the Officers and Men of the Second, Fourth, Ninth, Tenth, Thirteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth Regiments of Militia, in this Colony, now ordered on duty to *New-York*, to be by him paid out at the rate of 20s. per man, into the hands of the Commanding Officers of each Regiment. Also, that an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table, in favour of the Commanding Officers of the First, Sixth, Nineteenth, and Twenty-Third Regiments of Militia, equal to 20s. per man, that shall march with them to *New-York*, upon the application at the Pay-Table for the same. Also, that an Order be given to the Pay-Table to draw out of the Treasury £300, and send it by some trusty person to the Commanding Officer of the Twenty-Second Regiment, with orders to pay to said Commanding Officer, 20s. for each man in his Regiment, that shall march with him to *New-York*. The above moneys to be accounted for by the persons who receive the same to pay out as aforesaid.

Orders drawn August 12th, 1776, and delivered to *Jesse Root*, Esquire.

Gave an Order on Captain *Samuel Squire*, of *Fairfield*, in favour of Captain *Seth Harding*, for the Brig *Defence*, for forty barrels of Pork, and forty barrels of Beef, forty bushels of Beans and Peas and forty bushels of Indian Corn, for the use of the Brig *Defence*.

Order delivered Captain *Harding*, August 12, 1776.

Gave an order on Captain *Samuel Squire*, in favour of Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., for sixty barrels of Pork, for the Colony's use.

Order delivered Captain *Harding*.

Orders were given to Captain *Harding*, of the Colony's Brig *Defence*, to cruise against the enemies of the *United American States*, as soon as fitted to sail, for the space of about eight weeks, and to use every precaution in his power and discretion, to cause any prize he may take to be brought into some port of the *United States*, and there secured and condemned; and after said cruise is ended, to return to his place of rendezvous.

Gave an Order on the Pay-Table, in favour of Captain *John McCall*, of the Veteran Guards, of the Twentieth Regiment of Militia, now ordered to *New-York*, on publick service, for 20s. advance wages, for each soldier that shall march under his command, to be computed agreeable to the number of soldiers he shall certify the Company which marches under his command to consist of.

Order given 12th August, 1776, and delivered to Captain *McCall*.

Gave orders to Captain *McCall*, of the Veteran Guards, in the Twentieth Regiment, to march immediately with his Company, and as many more as will enlist, to the number of ninety-three, including Officers, to join the Nineteenth Regiment, and put themselves under General *Washington*, until the present emergency is over, and until duly discharged.

Orders delivered Captain *McCall*, 12th August.

*Voted*, That *Oliver Woleott*, Esq., be, and he is hereby appointed a Brigadier-General of the Militia of this State, now ordered to march to *New-York* to reinforce the Army under the command of General *Washington*; and his Honour the Governour is desired to commissionate him accordingly.

A Commission given, bearing date 15th August, 1776.

*Voted*, An Order of £10 on the Pay-Table, in favour of *Daniel Strong*, to bear his expenses with his Team to the northward, with goods and warlike stores for the Continental Army in the Northern Department.

Order delivered Mr. *Strong*, 12th August.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, August 13, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Wm. Hillhouse*, *Nath. Wales*, Jun., *Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table for £180, in favour of Captain *Seth Warner*, of *Saybrook*, to enable him to raise a crew of forty seamen for the Naval



service of the *United States of America*, on the Lakes to the northward. They are to receive a bounty of £6 for Inlisting; for finding themselves Blankets, 12s.; Guns, 6s.; and Cartouch-Boxes, and Belts, and Knapsacks, 2s.; and one month's wages, being 48s., advanced, according to Proclamation; said *Warner* to lodge a bond with surety for his faithful use of the money.

Order drawn 13th *August*, 1776, and delivered Captain *Warner*.

A number of Letters were written and sent in answer to Letters from General *Schuyler*, General *Gates*, the Paymaster, &c. Sent by *Brown*, the post-rider.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, *August* 14, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Nath. Wales*, *Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

His Honour the Governour appointed Mr. *Young Ledyard* a Lieutenant of Matrosses in the Company at *Groton*, under command of Captain *William Ledyard*, instead of who resigned.

*Voted and Ordered*, That the pay of the Officers and Privates in the Companies of Matrosses in Colonel *Erastus Wolcott's* Regiment shall be the same as the other Officers and Privates of the same Regiment, excepting Gunners, whose pay was on the 9th of *July* last determined to be 44s. per month.

*Voted*, To draw an Order on the Committee of Pay-Table for the sum of £150, in favour of *Nathaniel Miner*, Esq., Commissary of the Company at *Stonington*, and to be on account.

Order drawn and delivered *Nathaniel Miner*, Esquire, *August* 14.

Captain *John McCall*, of the Company of Veteran Guards in *Norwich*, exhibited to this Board a Return of his Officers and men, who furnished and equipped themselves in pursuance of a Proclamation from his Honour the Governour, by advice of his Council of Safety, on the 6th day of *May* last, to stand ready to march at a minute's warning to the defence of this and the neighbouring States; by which Return there appears to be due to said Company the sum of £16 15s., which is allowed; and voted to draw an Order on the Pay-Table for said sum of £16 15s. in favour of said Captain *John McCall*, as Paymaster to his Company, for the same.

Order drawn and delivered Captain *McCall* 14th *August*.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, *August* 15, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Wm. Hillhouse*, *Nath. Wales*, Jun., *Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

The Governour gave an order to Doctor *Thomas Russell*, of Colonel *Swift's* Regiment, in the words following, viz:

“*Lebanon*, *August* 15, 1776.

“GENTLEMEN: As our people in the Northern Army are in want of proper medicines, which cannot at this time be had there for the use of our troops, I have judged it necessary to furnish Dr. *Thomas Russell* with a small quantity of such articles as are needful for the present, and desire you to furnish the Doctor with such as he shall apply for, and send me the invoice of the same; for which an order in your favour on the Treasurer will be sent to you.

“I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

“*JONA. TRUMBULL*.

“To Messrs. *Smith & Coit*, *Hartford*.”

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table for £400 in favour of Doctor *Joshua Elderkin*, to enable him to purchase Tents and Clothing for the Continental Army in the Northern Department, to be paid out of the moneys lodged in the Treasury by Mr. *Sherman* for that purpose, if any there be, otherwise to be paid out of the proper Treasury of this Colony, and to render his account.

Order drawn and delivered *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *August* 15, 1776.

*Voted*, To allow 26s. on the account of Captain *Edmund Badger*, for hire of horse and damage done him by *John*

*Van Aulin*, an express from General *Washington* to *Boston*, *July* 3, 1776.

Order drawn and delivered Mr. *Wales*, *August* 15, 1776.

*Voted and Resolved*, That *John Munro* and *Henry Van Schaick*, two of the prisoners sent into this State by the Committee of *Albany* County in the State of *New-York*, under accusation, viz: said *Munro* of inlisting soldiers for the Ministerial Army and being an officer, said *Van Schaick* of being a disaffected person, corresponding with the Tories in *Connecticut*, with a desire that they may be safely kept in this State, be sent to *East Haddam*, there to reside under their parole of honour that they will continue in the place or places of their residence, and not depart more than two miles from the same, nor cross *Connecticut River* if within two miles of the same; and that they will not, directly or indirectly, correspond by message, writing, or otherwise, with the enemies of the *United States of America*, or any person or persons within said States inimical, or reputed inimical, to the liberties of the same; and that they will neither do nor say anything in prejudice of the interests of said *United States*, or in opposition to the Acts and Resolves of the Continental Congress, the General Assembly of this State, or any Provincial Assembly, Convention, or Congress, or of the measures pursued or pursuing by them or by their order; and that they will not associate or hold correspondence with any prisoner or prisoners of war of said *United States*, nor send or receive any letter or billet to or from any person or persons whatsoever without first submitting such letter or billet to the inspection and observation of the Committee of Inspection of said *East Haddam*, or some of them, and receiving their approbation of such letter or billet and consent that the same may be sent; and that said Committee of *East Haddam* be desired and directed to take the oversight of said *Munro* and *Van Schaick*, and observe how they keep their parole; and that in case they find that said parole is broken in any respect by said *Munro* and *Van Schaick*, or either of them, that they immediately arrest them, the said *Munro* and *Van Schaick*, and them hold in safe custody until they give notice thereof to his Honour the Governour and receive his further orders thereon.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, *August* 16, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jz. Huntington*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathl. Wales*, Jun., *Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn in favour of Captain *James Rice* for £672 6s. 5d., on the Pay-Table, in balance of his Accounts rendered to this time.

Order drawn and delivered Captain *Rice*.

*Voted*, To draw an Order in favour of Captain *David Hawley* for £180, to enable him to raise a crew of Seamen for the Naval service of the *United States of America* on the Lakes to the northward; to which service he is appointed a Captain. Said money to be disposed of by him in the same ways and manner as was directed to Captain *Warner* on the 13th instant.

Order drawn the 16th of *August*, and delivered Captain *Hawley*.

*Voted*, To draw an Order in favour of Captain *Frederick Chappell*, of *New-Haven*, for the sum of £180, to enable him to raise a crew of Seamen for the Naval service of the *United States of America* on the Lakes to the northward; to which service he is appointed a Captain. Said money to be disposed of by him in the same ways and manner as was directed to Captain *Warner* on the 13th instant.

Order drawn the 16th of *August*, and delivered Captain *Chappell*.

*Voted*, To draw an Order on the Pay-Table for the sum of £50, in favour of Captain *Walter Hyde*, of the Independent Company under his command, for the advance wages of 20s. per man before they march.

Whereas the enemies of these States have frequent intercourse with the inhabitants of *Block-Island*, and there is great danger of their giving them intelligence that may be prejudicial to these States: It is therefore

*Voted and Resolved*, That from and after the 20th day of *August* instant, no Boat from *Block-Island* be permitted to enter into any creek, inlet, or harbour, in this State; and

that in case any such Boat shall put into any such creek, inlet, or harbour, the same shall be seized and detained in safe custody, with the persons on board the same. And the Commanding Officer of the troops at the different Forts on the sea-coast of this State, and all the Captains and chief officers of any armed vessels in the service of this State, are ordered and required to take effectual care that this resolve be carried into execution; and in case of seizure, the person or persons making the same, are directed to give immediate notice to his Honour the Governour, and receive his further orders touching the same; and that this resolve continue in force until the General Assembly or this Board order otherwise.

A copy was sent to the Commanding Officer of the Forts at *New-London*, August 17, 1776, by hand of *N. Huntington*.

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table for £2,168 12s. 5d., lawful money, in favour of Captain *Charles Walker*, of *New-Providence*, it being for the purchase of a large *Bermudian* built Sloop, for the use of an armed vessel.

Order drawn and delivered *Charles Walker*, August 16, 1776.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table in favour of Captain *Adam Shapley* for £63 8s., for the bounty and first month's wages of his men, now inlisted into his Company—he lodging, or causing to be lodged, a proper bond, in due form, for his faithful use and accounting for such money as he shall draw out of the Treasury.

Order delivered *Nathaniel Richards* 16th of August.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table for £50, in favour of Major *John Ely*, to be accounted for upon settling his Accounts with the Pay-Table.

Order drawn and delivered *Nathaniel Richards* 16th of August.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Hosmer* is desired to employ some suitable person to apply to the Furnaces for a sufficient number of Pots and Receivers, of proper size and construction, for making Sulphur, and to take the directions of Mr. *Thomas Bidwell* therein, as far as will be needful, and to do what shall be prudent and proper in the procuring such Pots, &c., as soon as possible; and as the number and size ordered by the Assembly cannot be obtained, he is directed to procure such as can be had, and send so many as to answer the same purpose.

*Voted*, That the Sheriff of *New-London* County be, and he is hereby, directed to suffer the Prisoners from the State of *New-York*, now confined in *Norwich* Jail, to take the air abroad one or two days in each week for their health, under the Sheriff's own personal attendance and keeping, and that they may in the daytime have the liberty of walking in the Jail yard, at the discretion of the Sheriff.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, August 17, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jz. Huntington*, *Titus Hosmer*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathl. Wales*, Jun., *Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, That his Honour the Governour be desired to order the Pay-Table to draw on the Treasurer, in favour of any one or two persons he shall approve to take charge of an armed vessel or vessels on the Lake, agreeable to the request of Major-General *Schuyler*, for £180, lawful money, each, to enable them to pay the Bounty, Premium for Guns and Bayonets, and first month's pay to the Seamen they may inlist.

*Voted*, To allow the Captains and Recruiting Officers now ordered to raise crews of Seamen for the service on the Lakes to the northward, the sum of 8s., lawful money, for each man they shall so inlist, for their expense in attending said business.

*Voted*, That *Henry Billings*, of *Norwich*, be, and he is, appointed a Third Lieutenant of the armed brig *Defence*, belonging to this State, and first Prize-Master for the cruise on which said brig is now ordered. His wages to cease on condemnation of the first Prize, or at the end of said cruise.

N. B. This was voted at a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, August 20, 1776.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

Providence, August 17, 1776.

The following is a list of the Prizes taken by the *Diamond*, Captain *William Chase*, of this port, with their cargoes, viz:

Brig *Mars*, Captain *Hammond*, from *Tortola* for *Liverpool*, 195 hogsheads and 7 barrels of sugar, 13,000 weight of cotton, and 15 tons of fustick. Ship *Jane*, Captain *Rome*, from *Dominica* for *Bristol*, 308 hogsheads of sugar, 3,800 gallons of oil. Snow *Portland*, Captain *Bromwell*, from *Granada* for *Lancaster*, 71 hogsheads, 1 tierce, and 10 barrels of sugar, 7,000 weight of cocoa, 60,000 weight of coffee, 3,110 gallons of rum, 133 weight of indigo, and 1,950 weight of cotton. Ship *Star and Garter*, Captain *Hamson*, from *St. Kitts* for *London*, 166 hogsheads, 10 tierces, and 16 barrels of sugar, and 4,500 gallons of rum. Ship *Friendship*, Captain *Jones*, from *Granada* for *London*, 283 hogsheads of sugar, 8,600 weight of cocoa, 1,800 weight of coffee, 4,770 gallons of rum, 55 weight of indigo, and 2,100 weight of cotton. Total of the cargoes: 1,023 hogsheads of sugar; 11 tierces and 33 barrels ditto; 15,600 weight of cocoa; 61,900 weight of coffee; 12,380 gallons of rum; 115 weight of indigo; 17,750 weight of cocoa; 25 tons of fustick; and 8,800 gallons of oil.

JAMES BOWDOIN TO MESHECH WEARE.

Council Chamber, Watertown, August 17, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: The enclosed letter came this day, under cover from Major *Hawley*, of *Northampton*; and as the matter therein alleged, if pursued, will have a tendency entirely to defeat the important purposes for which the Northern Army is raised, and as *Charlestown* lies within your State, we have no doubt you will take such speedy and effectual measures for remedying the mischief complained of as your wisdom shall direct.

In the name of the Council, I am, with great respect, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN, President.

To the President of the State of *New-Hampshire*.

ELEAZER RUSSELL TO MESHECH WEARE.

Portsmouth, August 17, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: A subject important to me now leads me to address you, for which I beg your indulgence, and that you will please to lay the matter before the honourable Committee of Safety.

On the 4th of *May* last, Colonel *Wentworth*, of the Committee for the town of *Portsmouth*, brought me the Association to subscribe, at a time I was so ill as to be incapable of anything. Upon growing better, I thought largely of the matter, and finding my mind perplexed, wrote to him on the subject; which letter, at my request, he consented to lay before the Committee of Safety.

Till yesterday, I never knew but the Association paper, with my letter, had been in the Committee's hands for more than two months, and now find myself bound by every principle of honour, duty, and gratitude, to enlarge upon the affair.

It was and is merely to secure the morality of my mind that I was reluctant to put my name to it. Solemnly to bind myself to the performance of what nature and necessity rendered impossible, I started at the thought of. And though my health is mended, so wretched are my nerves that I could not do one hour's military duty to save my life. The article of shedding human blood, in me is not a humour, but a principle; not an evasion but a fact. It was received in early life, and has grown with my growth and strengthened with my strength. Not a partiality for *British* more than savage blood; for, all circumstances considered, I think the latter more innocent than the former.

From the first injuries done *America* by *Great Britain*, my thoughts took fire on the subject, and have been conceived and uttered in one unvaried strain, to the highest personage and down to the lowest enemy, without hesitation or reserve, so that I can challenge all mankind to impeach me to my country.

To enlarge on the matter in my own favour would be easy, but might appear indelicate, and to be wholly silent in the case would be criminal; therefore, leaving my conduct to be judged of by persons of liberal sentiments and sensibility of mind, I am, with the greatest respect, honourable sir, your obliged and dutiful humble servant,

E. RUSSELL.

To the Honourable Colonel *Weare*.

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, August 17, 1776.

By Captain *Ladd*, who arrived here in eighteen days from *Cape Nichola Mole*, we are informed that the fleet of sugar ships was to sail the 2d of *August* from *Jamaica*, under convoy of one twenty-gun ship. That a *French* ship convoyed him through the windward passage, and informed him *France* and *Spain* had declared war against *Portugal*.

SILAS DEANE TO THE COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE.

Paris, August 18, 1776.

I wrote you every material occurrence to the time of my leaving *Bordeaux*, and sent duplicates by Captains *Palmer*, *Bunker*, and *Seaver*, one of which you will undoubtedly have received before this comes to hand. I left that city on the last of *June*, and arrived here on the *Saturday* following, having carefully attended to everything in the manufacturing or commercial towns in my way, which, indeed, are neither numerous nor of great consequence. I spent at *Angouleme* a day in viewing what, as to manufactures alone, deserves attention on the journey, the foundry for cannon, where the greatest part of those used in the Kingdom are manufactured. The cannon are cast solid, after which they are put as in a turner's lathe, and bored out, and the outside smoothed and turned at pleasure. They can bore and complete a twelve-pounder in one day in each lathe, which takes four men only to work. The workmen freely showed me every part of their furnace and foundry.

On *Monday* after my arrival I waited on my bankers, and found that Mr. *Bancroft* had arrived the same day with me, Mr. *Thomas Morris* and M. *Venzonals* about ten days before. I waited on M. *Dubourg*, and delivered him Dr. *Franklin's* letter, which gave the good gentleman the most sincere and real pleasure.

M. *Penet*, on his arrival in *Paris*, waited on M. *Dubourg*, showed him a copy of his contract with the Committee of Congress, and told him he had letters from Dr. *Franklin* to him, but had left them on the road, or at *Rotterdam*, through fear of a search. He told M. *Dubourg*, to whom he was a perfect stranger, so many particular circumstances, that he could not doubt of his sincerity, and in consequence he embarked in his affairs to a large amount. Five or six weeks have now passed without the arrival of the letters said to be left on the road. Arms, powder, &c., to a large amount were in readiness, when my arrival gave him confidence that I would take the burden off him, as he doubted not that my credentials would be explicit. I saw immediately the arrangement of the whole, and that M. *Penet* had returned to *France* (copy of the contract excepted) almost as empty-handed as he came to *Philadelphia*, yet had found means to collect a very considerable quantity of stores, part of which he had actually shipped. This circumstance gave me hopes; yet I found that it would now be expected I should become responsible for the articles, which embarrassed me much, since to detain them would be quite disagreeable, and to step out of my own line and involve myself with Messrs. *Plairne* and *Penet's* contract would be equally so.

M. *Penet* had somehow got intelligence of my being in *France*, and that I was expected at *Paris*; he therefore waited for me, and I saw him the next day at my hotel, when he complained of want of remittances, and desired me to pledge my credit for the stores, which I waived in the best manner I could, for I saw the consequences might involve me in many difficulties, and frustrate my greater designs. I therefore told him I would certify to the merchants, if necessary, that the Congress would pay for whatever stores they would credit them with, and in the mean time advised him to proceed strictly agreeable to the letter of the contract, and I was positive that the Congress would fulfil their part of it. I finally satisfied both him and M. *Dubourg*, and he departed for *Nantes*, to ship the goods the next day. I must do him the justice that is his due: he has been indefatigable in the business, his heart seems to be entirely in it, and I believe him honest; but his connexions, either commercial or political, are not, of themselves, equal to such an undertaking, but the cause he was employed in had in a great measure, I found, supplied this deficiency, which was to me a favourable appearance.

M. *Dubourg* told me that the Ministers would not see me, as they meant to be quite secret in any countenance they

gave the *United Colonies*, and that my arrival in *France* was already known in *London*, in consequence of which Lord *Stormont* arrived express but a few days before, and had applied to the Court on the subject. I showed him my commission, and told him I was determined to apply, for every circumstance, in my opinion, was favourable instead of otherwise. On this he wrote a letter to Count de *Vergennes*, asking liberty to introduce me the *Thursday* following; on which day I went to *Versailles*, and though the letter had not been delivered to his Excellency, yet he gave us immediate admission. Fortunately his chief Secretary spoke *English* well, by which means I had an opportunity of conversing freely with him on the subject of my commission for two hours, and was attentively and favourably heard by him, and was asked many questions, which shows that the *American* disputes had been, and still were, a principal object of attention. I pursued nearly the line marked out by my instructions, stating the importance of the *American* commerce, and the advantages *Great Britain* had received from a monopoly of it; that all intercourse ceasing between the two countries, the Colonies had considered where they might dispose of that produce which they necessarily had so large a surplus of, and receive for their raw or first materials the various manufactures they wanted; that they first turned their eyes on *France*, as the best country in *Europe* for them to be connected with in commerce; that I was purchasing a large quantity of manufactures for which I expected to pay the money, and that I should want a quantity of military stores, for which remittances would be made; that I doubted not the Colonies had before this declared Independency, and that I should soon receive instructions in consequence more full and explicit; that in the mean time they were very anxious to know how such a declaration would be received by the Powers in *Europe*, particularly by *France*, and whether in such case an Ambassador would be received from them, &c. To which he replied, that the importance of the *American* commerce was well known, and that no country could so well supply the Colonies, and in return receive their produce, as *France*; it was, therefore, the interest of both to have the most free and uninterrupted intercourse, for which reason the Court had ordered their ports to be kept open, and equally free to *America* as to *Britain*; that, considering the good understanding between the two Courts of *Versailles* and *London*, they could not openly encourage the shipping of warlike stores, but no obstruction of any kind would be given; if there should, as the custom-houses were not fully in their secrets in this matter, such obstructions should be removed on the first application; that I must consider myself perfectly free to carry on any kind of commerce in the kingdom which any subject of any other State in the world might, as the Court had resolved their ports should be equally free to both parties; that I was under his immediate protection, and should I meet with any difficulty, either from their police, with the rules of which he supposed me unacquainted, or from any other quarter, I had but to apply to him, and everything should be settled; that as to Independency, it was an event in the womb of time, and it would be highly improper for him to say anything on that subject until it had actually taken place; meantime he informed me that the *British* Ambassador knew of my arrival, and therefore advised me not to associate with *Englishmen* more than I was from necessity obliged, as he doubted not I should have many spies on my conduct.

I then told him the precautions I had taken and should persevere in, in coming from *Bermuda*, and that I did not mean in publick to pass for other than a merchant from that Island, on speculation, during the present cessation of commerce in *America*; but at the same time I told his Excellency that I was well assured it was known in *London* that I was coming long before I arrived at *Paris*, and I doubted not they conjectured my errand, but at the same time I should take every precaution in my power; and most sincerely thanked him for his protection and assistance so generously offered, which he might depend I would never abuse. He was pleased with my having come by *Bermuda*, and passing as an inhabitant of that Island, and said, if questioned, he should speak of me in that character. He then asked me many questions with respect to the Colonies; but what he seemed most to want to be assured of, was their ability to subsist without their fisheries, and under the interruption of their commerce. To this I replied in this manner: that

the fisheries were never carried on but by a part of the Colonies, and by them, not so much as a means of subsistence as of commerce; that the fishery failing, those formerly employed in them turned part to agriculture and part to the army and navy; that our commerce must for some time be in a great measure suspended, but that the greater part of our importations were far from being necessities of life, consequently we should not suffer under the want of them, whilst it was not wealth or luxuries that we were contending for; that our commerce ceasing, it would be out of the power of our enemies to support themselves on our plunder, and on the other hand, our ships, as privateers, might harass their commerce without a possibility of their retaliating; that I hoped to see a considerable marine force in the Colonies, and that, joined to the impossibility of *Britain's* guarding so extensive a coast, would preserve some of our commerce, until it should be thought an object deserving the protection of other Powers.

After many questions on this subject, he put this, in which I thought he seemed interested,—whether, if the Colonies declare an Independency, they would not differ among themselves? To this I replied, that the greatest harmony had as yet subsisted, and I had no grounds to doubt it in future; that the common danger, which first drove them into measures which must end in such a declaration, would subsist, and that alone was sufficient to ensure their union.

He then desired me to give his Secretary my address, and said, though he should be glad to see me often, yet, as matters were circumstanced, his house was too public a place, but that I might put the same confidence in his Secretary as himself, to whom I might apply for advice and direction, but that whenever anything of importance occurred I need but inform him, and he would see me; but on common occasions, I must address the Secretary, which would be every way more convenient, as he understood the *English* language well, and was a person in whom the greatest confidence could be placed.

Having settled the mode of intercourse, I expressed the sense I had of his Excellency's politeness, and the generous protection he had given me; and on parting said, if my commission or the mode of introducing the subject were out of the usual course, I must rely on his goodness to make allowances for a new-formed people, in circumstances altogether unprecedented, and for their agent wholly unacquainted with Courts. To which he replied, that the people and their cause were very respectable in the eyes of all disinterested persons, and that the interview had been agreeable.

After this I returned to *Paris* with *M. Dubourg*, whose zeal for the *American* cause led him to draw the most favourable consequences from this beginning. The next day, while from home, I was informed that Count *Laureguais* had inquired out my lodgings, immediately after which he asked leave to go for *England*, which was refused him by the Court. The same day I was informed that Sir *Hans Stanley* and Sir *Charles Jenkinson*, who I knew were at *Bordeaux* when I left it, were in *France* for the sole purpose of inquiring what agents were here from the Colonies, and what commerce or other negotiation between them and the Colonies were carrying on. This alarmed my friends, and as I had agreed for other lodgings, to which I was next day to remove, *M. Dubourg* advised me to secrete both my lodgings and name. I told him that the Count *Laureguais's* conduct appeared mysterious, yet I could never think of keeping myself secret, for though I should not seek these gentlemen, nor throw myself purposely in their way, yet I must think it an ill compliment to Count *Vergennes* to suppose, after what had passed, that I was not on as good and safe footing in *France* as they or any other gentleman could be. However, his uneasiness made him write to the Count what he had advised, who returned for answer, that such a step was both unnecessary and impolitic, as it would only strengthen suspicions by giving everything an air of mystery, while there was not the least occasion for it.

The next day I had a fresh conference with *M. Dubourg*, who brought me a number of memorials from officers and engineers offering their services in *America*; some of whom, I believe, deserve the utmost encouragement; but more of this hereafter. While I was casting in my mind how best to improve the present favourable crisis for supplying the Colonies, *M. Beaumarchais* made proposals for procuring whatever should be wanted, but in such a manner as was

understood by *M. Dubourg* to amount to a monopoly, which indeed was not his only objection, for *M. Beaumarchais*, though confessedly a man of abilities, had always been a man of pleasure and never of business; but as he was recommended by Count *Vergennes*, *M. Dubourg* could not avoid noticing him, but immediately expostulated with the Count in a letter, which brought on embarrassments no way favourable, and I saw that *M. Dubourg* was so far from seconding the views of his superior in this manœuvre, that he was, with the best intentions in the world, in danger of counteracting his own wishes, the extent of which were, to obtain the supplies of merchants and manufacturers on the credit of the Colonies, in which the strictest punctuality and most scrupulous exactness would be necessary, and which, under the present difficulties of remittance, I feared would not be lived up to.

As I had learned that in the late reform of the *French* Army, they had shifted their arms for those of a lighter kind, the heavy ones, most of which were the same as new, to the amount of seventy or eighty thousand, lay useless in magazines, with other military stores, in some such proportion, I apprehended it no way impossible to come at a supply from hence, through the agency of some merchant, without the Ministry being concerned in the matter. In such case the merchant would be accountable to the Ministry, and the Colonies to the merchant, by which means a greater time of payment might be given, and more allowance in case of our being disappointed. With this in view I went to *Versailles* on *Wednesday*, the 17th, and waited on *M. Gerard*, First Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and presented to him the enclosed memorial, which led to a very particular conversation on the affairs of *America*, and which I turned finally on this subject; to which he would not then give me any immediate answer, but promised me one in a day or two. Returning to town I found Messrs. *Dubourg* and *Beaumarchais* had a misunderstanding, the latter giving out that he could effect everything we wished for, and the former, from the known circumstances of *M. Beaumarchais*, and his known carelessness in money matters, suspecting he could procure nothing, and the more so as he promised so largely. They parted much displeased with each other, and *M. Beaumarchais* went directly to *Versailles*. On *M. Dubourg's* coming and informing me what had passed, I immediately wrote to *M. Gerard* the enclosed letter, and in return was desired to come with *M. Dubourg* the next morning to *Versailles*.

We went, as desired, and after explaining many things to *M. Gerard*, had a conference with his Excellency, from whom I had fresh assurances of the utmost freedom and protection in their ports and on their coasts; that, in one word, I might rely on whatever Monsieur *Beaumarchais* should engage in the commercial way of supplies, which, indeed, was all I wished for, as I was on the safe side of the question, viz: on the receiving part. I communicated to his Excellency that clause of my instructions for procuring arms, &c., of which he asked a copy. I then informed him, that I considered the present as a most critical juncture of *American* affairs, that the campaign would undoubtedly be carried far into the winter, that supplies now shipped might arrive very seasonably in the fall to enable the Colonies to hold out the present campaign. He replied, that no delay should be made by any obstruction of any officer, or others of the customs or police. He then told me that the Count *Laureguais* was, perhaps, a well meaning man, but not sufficiently discreet for such purposes as this; that Mr. *Lee*, (meaning Mr. *Arthur Lee*, of *London*,) had confided, he feared, too much in him, and wished me to caution him on the subject, and that if I would write to him, he would enclose it in a letter of his, by a courier that evening. I most readily embraced this safe way of corresponding, and sent a letter I had before written, with an addition on this subject, a copy of which is enclosed. I have thus given you the heads of my negotiation to this time, *July 20th*, and will not take up your time in making remarks on it, and the prospects before me, which are obvious; but inform you of the plan I mean to pursue, in the execution of my commission, and hint some methods, by which I think I may be enabled to complete every part of it to your satisfaction, and the relief of my country, which is all my wish, and the extent of my most ambitious hopes. I go on the supposition of an actual unconditional independency, without which little can be effected publicly; with it, almost everything we can wish for.



It is by no means probable that *Europe* will long remain in a state of peace; the disputes between *Portugal* and *Spain* are on the point of producing an open rupture; the former relies on *England*; the latter will look to this kingdom, and has already applied to this Court on the subject. Nothing but the division of *Poland* has taken the King of *Prussia's* attention off from the injustice done him by *Great Britain* at the close of the last war. He has now completed his part of that extraordinary work, and I am well informed, listens with pleasure to the dispute between the *United Colonies* and *Great Britain*. He is ambitious of becoming a maritime Power, and is already in possession of the capital ports on the *Baltick*; but without commerce it is impossible to effect the design, and no commerce can put him so directly in the road as the *American*. The consumption of coffee, sugar, and other *West-India* productions, increases fast in the north of *Europe*, and it must be his interest, at least, to supply his own dominions. In case of a war in *Europe*, *France*, *Spain* and *Prussia* might be brought into one interest, and the Emperor of *Germany* is too closely connected with his Majesty of *France* to take part against them, after which *Great Britain*, having her whole force employed in *America*, there could be nothing on the one hand to prevent *Spain* and *France* from reducing *Portugal* to a submission to the former, nor from *Prussia* and *France* subduing and incorporating into their own dominions *Hanover*, and the other little mercenary Electorates, which lie between them, and which for several centuries have been one principal cause of every war that has happened in *Europe*.

With respect to *Russia*, it is as closely allied to *Prussia* as to *Great Britain*, and may be expected to be master in the contest. *Denmark* and *Sweden* are a balance for each other, and opposites. Not to enlarge on this plan at present, I have only to suggest, that an application to the King of *Prussia* will do no harm, and may be attended with good and great consequences; the *Prussian* Ambassador at this Court and at that of *London* may be sounded on the subject. But my powers and instructions are so limited, that I can by no means take such a step; yet when I see *Great Britain* exerting her whole force, and that of her Allies, and courting every Power in *Europe* to aid her, I can but wish she may be counteracted in her own system, and by having employ found for her in *Europe*, bring her to leave *America* in peace; and I think myself bound in duty to hint at what to me seems the most probable means. Dr. *Bancroft* was full with me in this opinion. M. *Chaumont*, a very wealthy person, and Intendant for providing clothes, &c., &c., for the *French* Army, has offered me a credit on account of the Colonies, to the amount of one million of livres, which I have accepted. I have in treaty another credit, which, joined to this, will purchase the articles directed in my instructions. The credit will be until *May* next, before which I hope remittances will be made. I have purchased of said M. *Chaumont* a quantity of saltpetre, at ten sous, or five and one-fourth per cent., in order that Captain *Morgan* might not return empty. As soon as I have given the orders for despatching him, and settled some other matters here, I design for *Dunkirk*, to ship the *Indian* goods, which I hope may arrive in season for the winter supply; though I leave you to consider my situation, with only about six or seven thousand pounds to complete a contract of forty, and the bills for my private expenses being protested, obliged to support myself out of that capital, which I labour to do with all the economy in my power.

Dr. *Bancroft* is returned to *London*, and by him I wrote to Monsieur *Garnier*, and agreed on a mode of correspondence. I think your remittances in armed vessels will be much the best method; and I have ordered Captain *Morgan's* sloop to be armed, and should she arrive safe, recommend him, as one I am confident will serve the Colonies with great zeal and fidelity; and I have had some experience of the goodness of his temper and his abilities. Mr. *Seymour*, his mate, is also deserving of encouragement, as a good seaman and of undaunted resolution.

I am not without hopes of obtaining liberty for the armed vessels of the *United Colonies* to dispose of their prizes in the ports of this Kingdom, and also for arming and fitting out vessels of war directly from hence, but I will not venture on this until I see what effect my last memoir may have; the substance of which is, to show the danger to *France* and

*Spain*, if they permit *Great Britain* to keep so enormous a force in *America*, and to recover the dominion of the Colonies; also how fully it is in their power to prevent it, and by that means deprive *Great Britain* of the principal source of her wealth and force, even without hazarding a war of any consequence in point of danger.

This memoir, which takes several sheets, I am unable to send you a copy of, as I have no one to assist me, and must make out several copies for the persons to whom they are to be delivered. I was directed to apply for arms and clothes for twenty-five thousand men, and for one hundred field-pieces, with ammunition and stores in proportion. This I wished to get of the Ministry direct, but they evaded it, and I am now in treaty for procuring them through the agency of M. *Chaumont* and M. *Beaumarchais*, on a credit of eight months, from the time of their delivery. If I effect this, as I undoubtedly shall, I must rely on the remittances being made this fall and winter without fail, or the credit of the Colonies must suffer. If I can get the arms out of the magazines, and the field-pieces here, I hope for a much longer credit; but if we send to *Sweden* for the brass cannon, the credit will not be lengthened beyond that. Some new improvements have lately been made in this branch, consequently the cannon now manufactured will be preferable to those of former construction. Some Engineers here assert, that iron is preferable to brass, that is, wrought iron, out of which the pieces may be made lighter, and to a better purpose. Considering the want of these pieces, and the plenty of iron in *America*, the experiment might, I think, be made without delay. I am still in hopes of procuring admission of the article of tobacco directly from *America*, but the Farmers-General will not offer equivalent to the risk.

Without intelligence from *April* to this time, leaves me quite uncertain and extremely anxious about the line of conduct now pursuing by Congress, and consequently I cannot, without further intelligence and instructions, proceed in my negotiation either with safety or honour. The resolution of Congress of the 15th of *May*, is not considered by the Ministry as a Declaration of Independence, but only a previous step, and until this decisive step is taken, I can do little more to any purpose. This taken, I dare pledge myself, the *United Colonies* may obtain all the countenance and assistance they wish for, in the most open and publick manner, and the most unlimited credit with the merchants of this Kingdom; I must therefore urge this measure, if not already taken, and that the Declaration be in the most full and explicit terms.

Merchants here would speculate deeply in the *American* trade, could they be insured at any premium within bounds. I wish to know if offices are already open, and I would suggest that if the Congress would take the insurance under their own direction, it would give it such a proportionably greater credit, that supplies would most certainly be obtained in plenty. I shall be able to procure a private interview with the *Spanish* Ambassador, and shall present him my memorial, and am in a train which I think will carry it quite to the fountain head.

Thus I have in a minute, possibly a tedious, detail, mentioned everything material on my mind, which has occurred since my arrival, and submit the whole to the wisdom and candour of the honourable Congress, observing that I had gone to the extent of my instructions; and though I have been successful beyond my expectations, yet I have but been labouring principally to set certain great wheels in motion, which still want something more decisive on my part, and I am confident of all that is wanting to set them so effectually moving as to roll the burden and calamities of war from our doors back with aggravated ruin on its authors, which, if I can be the means of effecting, the world may bestow the rest of its honours on whom it pleases; I shall be contented, the extent of my most ambitious hopes thus accomplished.

I have now to urge a survey with respect to the contents of this letter. More than is said in Congress transpires and crosses the *Atlantick* than you conceive of; more than I can account for, without having uncharitable thoughts of individuals, still without fixing them on any one. I have written a short letter to Mr. *Jay* on common affairs, and have enclosed one to M. *Longueville*, which I pray may be forwarded; the letter is from his friends here, who have heard of his being a prisoner somewhere in *America*. M. *Dubourg*

has continued to render me every assistance in his power; to be particular would swell this letter beyond all bounds; his abilities and connexions are of the first style in this Kingdom, and his zeal for the cause of the *United Colonies* is to be described only by saying that at times it is in danger of urging him beyond both; in short, I am every way deeply indebted to him: personally, for bringing me acquainted with agreeable persons of rank and character; and on account of my honoured constituents, for assisting me to make such a favourable beginning and progress in my business. I know not how affluent he may be, but as he has really for some time devoted himself to assist in this negotiation, I am confident something honourable will be thought of for him. I have complimented him by asking of him his portrait to be sent to his and my friends in *America*, in my private capacity, mentioning our mutual friend Dr. *Franklin*. This I found so agreeable, that I am confident some such distinction would be more acceptable than more lucrative rewards. Dr. *B.* took pains to collect all the political publications of the last year for me and brought them with him; he was at considerable expense in his journey. I sent him from *Bordeaux* a bill of thirty pounds, and paid his expenses in my lodgings here; at parting, I desired him to keep an account, and when the money was expended to inform me. This gentleman is certainly capable of giving as good, if not the best, intelligence of any man in *Great Britain*, as he is closely connected with the most respectable of the minority in both Houses, not particularly obnoxious to the majority, and for his abilities, they are too well known to Dr. *Franklin* to need any attempt to do them justice in a letter.

I am, with the highest esteem and respect for the Honourable Congress and their Committee of Secret Correspondence, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

*August 1st.*—Since writing the foregoing, I have been at , and am of opinion that a war between *Portugal* and *Spain* is at the door; and I have had an interview proposed with the Ambassador of *Portugal*, who resides here, on commercial affairs, which I have most readily embraced, and expect to see him again on *Wednesday* next, after which I will write you further; his proposals are merely commercial, as is his station, but something else may be investigated.

*August 2d.*—I should have sent this off earlier, but delayed on account of hearing something more directly, if I might depend on certain articles for which I was in treaty; I am now assured I may, and the whole will be ready to ship in all the month of *October*. My next labour will be to obtain a convoy, which I do not despair of, though it is a delicate question, and I have only sounded at a distance, yet I have no doubt of obtaining one, at least, off the coast of *Europe*, and the articles will be shipped as for the *West-India Islands*. I propose arming and well manning the vessels in which these articles shall be embarked, and I advise again the sending all remittances to *Europe* in armed vessels; the probability of meeting with *English* merchants is well worth the risk. I hope that it will be considered that one hundred field-pieces, and arms, clothing, and accoutrements, with military stores, for twenty-five thousand men, is a large affair; and that although I am promised any credit, yet as they must be paid for, the sooner the better, if to be done without too great a risk.

A considerable part of these articles are now on hand, and orders are issued for the others by the contractors this day. I prefer *Bordeaux* to any other port for shipping them from; but the remittances must be made to several, on which I will give you my opinion in my next. A number of gentlemen of rank and fortune, who have seen service, and have good characters, are desirous of serving the *United Colonies*, and have applied. Pray let me have orders on this subject. If it be politick to interest this Kingdom in the present contest, what way so effectual as to get into their debt for supplies, and employ persons of good family and connexions in it, in our service? I have given encouragement, on which some are prepared to embark. One Mons. *C.*, a celebrated Engineer, who was chief in that way in the *Turkish Army*, is returned, and is willing to go to *America*; but the Ministry cannot as yet spare him, as certain regulations are making elsewhere; possibly he may go out some time in the winter; he is a first character in his profession and otherwise. Indeed, this contention has set on foot such a spirit of inquiry

in *Europe* into the state of *America*, that I am convinced that at the first close of this war, if, as I trust in *God*, it will close in our favour, there will be an inundation of inhabitants from this side of the globe. Many persons of capital fortunes have declared to me their resolution of moving to *America* as soon as the liberties of *America* shall be established, and that many of their friends will accompany them.

*August 15th.*—I received from a friend at *Amsterdam*, a letter informing me that he would be with me on the 20th, and as the vessel could not be sooner ready to sail, I determined not to risk this packet by a private hand, or by the publick post; he is now arrived, and takes charge of it in person. Were it possible, I would attempt to paint to you the heart-rending anxiety I have suffered in this time, through a total want of intelligence. My arrival here, my name, my lodgings, and many other particulars, have been reported to the *British* Administration, on which they sent orders to the *British* Ambassador to remonstrate in high terms, and, to enforce their remonstrances, despatched *Wedderburn* from *London*, and Lord *Rochford* from *Holland*, as a person of great interest and address, here to counteract me. They have been some time here, and the city swarms with *Englishmen*; and as money purchases everything in this country, I have had and still have a most difficult task to avoid their machinations. Not a coffee-house or theatre, or other place of publick diversion, but swarms with their emissaries; but knowing the Ministry are my friends, I attend these places as others, but cautiously avoid saying a word on *American* affairs anywhere, except in my own hotel, or those of my intimate friends.

I have seen many more of the persons in power in this time, and had long conversations with them. Their intentions are good, and they appear convinced; but there is wanting a great and daring genius at their head, which the Count *Maurepas* is very far from being; he has even imbibed a notion that no assistance is necessary, as the Colonies are too powerful for *Great Britain*. All eyes are turned on the Duc de *Choiseul*. I am convinced the moment he comes into office, an active, open, and will be taken. I think he will be Minister very soon; meantime I have nothing to complain of the . Indeed they will not be altered if he takes the lead. I find M. *Beaumarchais*, as I before hinted, possesses the entire confidence of the Ministry; he is a man of wit and genius, and a considerable writer on comick and political subjects. All my supplies are to come through his hands, which at first greatly discouraged my friends, knowing him to be a person of no interest with the merchants; but had I been as doubtful as they, I could not have stepped aside from the path so cordially marked out for me by those I depend on. M. *Coudray*, the Engineer I before hinted at, obtained liberty last week to go for *America* with as many Engineers as he should choose, and was not only assured of M. *Beaumarchais* being able to procure the stores he had stipulated for, but received orders for them, and liberty to take two hundred pieces of brass cannon, lest part might be intercepted. M. *Coudray* has the character of the first Engineer in the Kingdom, and his manners and disposition will, I am confident, be highly pleasing to you, as he is a plain, modest, active, sensible man, perfectly averse to frippery and parade. My friends here rejoice at the acquisition; and considering the character of the man, and at whose hands I in effect received him, I must congratulate you on it. Several young gentlemen of fortune, whose families are nearly connected with the Court, are preparing to embark for *America*, by each of whom I shall, without disguise, write you the characters they sustain here. I have told them that merit is the sole object with the Congress. The bearer can give you some idea of the situation I am in, should this packet fail; and should he arrive with it, he may explain some part of it. I am confident his attention to the affairs of *America* here will be considered by the Congress. I have found him in the mercantile way active and intelligent.

Mr. *Carmichael* is now with me from *Maryland*, and I find him a person of great merit. Respecting the Colonies, he is recommended as such by from whom he has received a letter, but of no immediate importance; he proposes seeing me here this month. M. *Dumas* has written me two letters from the *Hague*, but so timid that he has not ventured to sign either, though he speaks in the highest terms of the *American* cause. The pamphlet called *Com-*





a certain and permanent service and his native country, to go he hardly knows where, and it must be supposed he will ask at least as good terms as he could have in his own country; but as the terms have not been particularly considered, I must defer anything further on this subject for the present, hourly in hopes of some explicit intelligence from the honourable Congress. You have the good wishes of every one here. Chevalier de *Chastellier* desires me this instant to write down his compliments to Dr. *Franklin*; and with pleasure I say, the being known to be his friend, is one of the best recommendations a man can wish to have in *France*, and will introduce him when titles fail. S. D.

SILAS DEANE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Paris, August 18, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 8th, and one earlier, but without a date, are before me, and I return you my thanks for the attention paid to mine, and more especially for the good opinion you entertain of my countrymen, and your tenders of service. The business before me is of such a nature, that I must be detained some time in this city. If I take a journey to *Holland*, it will be my choice to make it as a private gentleman; as such I am in *Paris*, and that character I shall keep, unless obliged to alter it. Parade and pomp have no charms in the eyes of a patriot, or even a man of common good sense; but at the same time, I can never submit to the changing of my name, unless I am convinced that so humiliating a step will promote the service of my country. I can pass unnoticed under that name, as well as any other, whilst I conduct in every other step as a private gentleman. I have now but little hopes of being in *Holland* till *October*, before which, such intelligence may arrive from *America* as may alter my present designs.

The declaration of Independency made by the *United Colonies*, is announced in the *English* papers, but I have received no despatches on the event, though I am in daily expectation of them. You ask me two questions in your first letter; to the former, I answer at once affirmatively, that I have a certain prospect of succeeding in my business; but as to the latter, or second query, I cannot so readily reply, for I know not how far the knowledge of me and my concerns may have extended. I am here as a private merchant, and appear as such, whatever suspicion may circulate. As such, I can travel, I trust, in your country, which I most ardently wish to see, and the more so on account of the kind, simple, and engaging invitation you have given me. It really affected me, and brought instantaneously to view those happy and peaceful scenes of domestick felicity, to which I am at present a stranger. You have all I can give you, a grateful acknowledgment of your kindness, and depend, that I will in person acknowledge it on my first arrival in *Holland*.

It is the policy of the *United Provinces of Holland* to be neuter to every attention. The *United Colonies* only wish them to keep steady to their only true system of policy in the present case; and give me leave to say, that a reflection on their former struggles must show them in what point of light the *Americans* are to be considered. The *United Colonies* ask no aid or alliances. Let *Britain* court every, even the most petty and mercenary Power in *Europe*, the *United Colonies* only ask for what nature surely entitles all men to, a free and uninterrupted commerce and exchange of the superfluities of one country for those of another; and the first Power in *Europe*, which takes advantage of the present favourable occasion, must exceed every other in commerce.

But I am rambling. I pray to know in your next letter, what sums are due to *Holland* from the Government of *England*. Whether the King of *Prussia* is wholly inattentive to the present proceedings, and on which side his wishes are. *Omnia tentanda*. I really hope to be at the *Hague* in *October*, and promise myself great pleasure in seeing you and your lady, to whom, though otherwise unknown, since you have introduced me, you cannot refuse presenting my best respects.

I am, with great esteem, &c.

SILAS DEANE.

FROM BARON DE BEAUMARCHAIS TO THE COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE.

[Translation.]

Paris, August 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The respectful esteem that I bear towards that brave people, who so well defend their liberty under

your conduct, has induced me to form a plan concurring in this great work, by establishing an extensive commercial house, solely for the purpose of serving you in *Europe*, there to supply you with necessaries of every sort, to furnish you expeditiously and certainly with all articles, clothes, linens, powder, ammunition, muskets, cannon, or even gold for the payment of your troops, and in general everything that can be useful for the honourable war in which you are engaged. Your deputies, gentlemen, will find in me a sure friend, an asylum in my house, money in my coffers, and every means of facilitating their operations, whether of a publick or secret nature. I will, if possible, remove all obstacles that may oppose your wishes, from the politicks of *Europe*.

At this very time, and without waiting for any answer from you, I have procured for you about two hundred pieces of brass cannon, four pounders, which will be sent to you by the nearest way; two hundred thousand pounds of cannon powder, twenty thousand excellent fusils, some brass mortars, bombs, cannon balls, bayonets, platines, clothes, linens, &c., for the clothing of your troops, and lead for musket balls. An officer of the greatest merit for artillery and genius, accompanied by lieutenants, officers, artillerists, cannoniers, &c., whom we think necessary for the service, will go for *Philadelphia*, even before you have received my first despatches. This gentleman is one of the greatest presents that my attachment can offer you. Your deputy, Mr. *Deane* agrees with me in the treatment which he thinks suitable to his office, and I have found the power of this deputy sufficient, that I should prevail with this officer to depart, under the sole engagement of the deputy respecting him, the terms of which I have not the least doubt but Congress will comply with. The secrecy necessary in some part of the operation; which I have undertaken for your service, requires also, on your part, a formal resolution, that all the vessels and their demands should be constantly directed to our house alone, in order that there may be no idle chattering or time lost—two things that are the ruin of affairs. You will advise me what the vessels contain, which you shall send into our ports. I shall choose so much of their loading, in return for what I have sent, as shall be suitable to me, when I have not been able beforehand to inform you of the cargoes which I wish. I shall facilitate to you the loading, sale, and disposal of the rest. For instance, five *American* vessels have just arrived in the port of *Bordeaux*, laden with salt fish; though this merchandise coming from strangers is prohibited in our ports, yet as soon as your deputy had told me that these vessels were sent to him by you, to raise money from the sale for aiding him in his purchases in *Europe*, I took so much care that I secretly obtained from the Farmers-General an order for landing it without any notice being taken of it. I could even, if the case had so happened, have taken upon my own account these cargoes of salted fish, though it is not very useful to me, and charged myself with its sale and disposal, to simplify the operation and lessen the embarrassments of the merchants, and of your deputy.

I shall have a correspondent in each of our seaport towns, who, on the arrival of your vessels, shall wait on the Captains and offer every service in my power; he will receive their letters, bills of lading, and transmit the whole to me; even things which you may wish to arrive safely in any country in *Europe*, after having conferred about them with your deputy, I shall cause to be kept in some secure place; even the answers shall go with great punctuality through me, and this way will save much anxiety and many delays. I request of you, gentlemen, to send me next spring, if it is possible for you, ten or twelve thousand hogsheads, or more if you can, of tobacco from *Virginia*, of the best quality.

You very well understand that my commerce with you is carried on in *Europe*, that it is in the ports of *Europe* I make and take returns. However well bottomed my house may be, and however I may have appropriated many millions to your trade alone, yet it would be impossible for me to support it, if all the dangers of the sea, of exports and imports, were not entirely at your risk. Whenever you choose to receive my goods in any of our Windward or Leeward Islands, you have only to inform me of it, and my correspondents shall be there according to your orders, and then you shall have no augmentation of price, but of freight and insurance. But the risk of being taken by your enemies, still remains with you, according to the declaration rendered incontestable by the measures I shall take by your deputy



himself. This deputy should receive, as soon as possible, full power and authority to accept what I shall deliver to him, to receive my accounts, examine them, make payments thereupon, or enter into engagements, which you shall be bound to ratify, as the head of that brave people to whom I am devoted; in short, always to treat about your interests immediately with me.

Notwithstanding the open opposition which the King of *France*, his Ministers, and the agents of Administration show, and ought to show to everything that carries the least appearance of violating foreign treaties and the internal ordinances of the Kingdom; I dare promise to you, gentlemen, that my indefatigable zeal shall never be wanting to clear up difficulties, soften prohibitions, and, in short, facilitate all operations of a commerce which my advantage, much less than yours, has made me undertake with you. What I have just informed you of is only a general sketch, subject to all the augmentations and restrictions which events may point out to us.

One thing can never vary or diminish: it is the avowed and ardent desire I have of serving you to the utmost of my power. You will recollect my signature, that one of your friends in *London* some time ago informed you of my favourable disposition towards you, and my attachment to your interest. Look upon my house, then, gentlemen, from henceforward as the chief of all useful operations to you in *Europe*, and my person as one of the most zealous partisans of your cause, the soul of your success, and a man most deeply impressed with respectful esteem, with which I have the honour to be,

RODERIQUE HORTALEZ & Co.\*

P. S. I add here, to conclude, that every *American* vessel, though not immediately armed or loaded by you, will be entitled to my good offices in this country; but yours, particularly addressed to my house, will receive a particular preference from me. I ought also to intimate to you, gentlemen, that from the nature of my connexion, it is to be wished you would use discretion, even in the accounts that you give to the General Congress. Everything that passes in your great assemblies is known, I cannot tell how, at the Court of *Great Britain*. Some indiscreet or perfidious citizen sends an exact account of your proceedings to the Palace of *St. James*. In times of great exigency, *Rome* had a Dictator; and in a state of danger the more the executive power is brought to a point, the more certain will be its effect, and there will be less to fear from indiscretion. It is to your wisdom, gentlemen, that I make this remark; if it seems to you just and well planned, look upon it as a new mark of my ardor for your rising Republic. R. H. & Co.

\* This signature was assumed by M. Beaumarchais for the purpose of concealment.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CAMP NEAR SENECA,  
DATED AUGUST 18, 1776.

On the 12th instant Colonel *Williamson* came to *Tomawsey*, where he saw signs of *Indians* very fresh; detached Captains *Perkins* and *Anderson*, with sixty men, to track them and reconnoitre, and Major *Downes* went out with twenty men. Captain *Anderson*, with twenty-five men, parted from Captain *Perkins*, and crossed a creek; soon after Captain *Perkins* and his thirty-five men saw two *Indians*, and fired at them; the *Indians* set up the war whoop and ran; the party followed, and were quickly met by a party of the enemy, supposed to be between two and three hundred, who engaged them very furiously. Major *Downes* fortunately came up in the rear, and Captain *Anderson* falling on the back of the enemy to the right, the firing was heard at the town. Colonel *Williamson* turned out with one hundred and fifty men, who, coming close on the back of the enemy, made them quickly give way; the most forward of their party, being entirely surrounded, were mostly cut off. Sixteen were found dead in one valley when the battle ended; these our men scalped, but did not look any further, being now near sunset they were called off by beat of drum. We had two killed and sixteen wounded; three of the latter died next day, among whom was Captain *Lacey*, a very brave officer and a good man.

COLONEL EWING TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, August 18, 1776.

HONOURED SIRS: I yesterday forwarded three companies—Captains *Posey's*, *Young's*, and *Lowe's*—to Head of

*Elk*, on their way to *Philadelphia*, under the command of Major *Edin*, at which place he is to receive further orders.

I have issued orders to Captains *Magruder*, *Hanson*, and *Brooks*, to march with the officers and men under their command here immediately, so as to embark for their station. You will please give me an order for what things I may want out of the Commissary's store for sending them off. I mean to march with these three companies myself. I intended ordering Captains *Tillard* and *Bowie* to march, but from a letter just now received from Captain *Tillard*, his and Captain *Bowie's* company are stopped. I should be glad to know what companies your Honours intend to give me in place of Captains *Forrest*, *Tillard*, and *Bowie*. I should at the same time esteem it a favour to be permitted to have their companies with me.

I have the honour to be, honoured sirs, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOS. EWING.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CAPTAIN BOURK TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, August 18, 1776.

SIR: I have this morning received your orders, and will obey them with pleasure.

I hope to set off for *Annapolis* on *Wednesday* or *Thursday* at farthest, on my way to *Philadelphia*. This I take to be the least expensive mode of travelling.

I believe I shall receive fifty guns from the Committee. There are some which want repair. I shall omit having them repaired till I get to *Annapolis* or *Philadelphia*.

From some disappointments I met with, the number of blankets is not completed. I wish I may be able to furnish myself in *Annapolis*; it will give new spirits to the men.

I am, sir, with respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS BOURK.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President, &c.

MARYLAND CONVENTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 22, 1776.]

Annapolis, August 18, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from the Convention to apply to Congress through you for the sum of ten thousand dollars, on account of disbursements by this Colony for their quota of the Flying-Camp, and other expenses incurred on account of the Continent, which already amount to near fifteen thousand. It is hoped that Congress will not hesitate to comply with this request, when it is considered that this Colony have exerted in the present most critical situation their utmost force in the common defence, having not only ordered the whole of their regular troops to march, but have also directed their Council of Safety to order our full quota of Militia for the Flying-Camp, now nearly ready, and waiting only for arms to repair immediately to the *Jerseys*.

You would not have been troubled on this occasion, but from our apprehensions that none of our members are now attending in Congress.

Accounts of these disbursements are making out, and will be speedily transmitted.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

MATH. TILGHMAN, President.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

P. S. The Council of Safety, I presume, will send a special messenger for the money.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO COLONEL WHIPPLE.

Philadelphia, August 18, 1776.

SIR: Since you left this city, the ship *Morris* is arrived from *France*. She has brought for the Congress above one hundred bolts of sail-cloth, which cost above £3,000 sterling. She has also brought for this Colony fifty-three tons of lead and fifteen thousand pounds of powder, &c. A ship has also arrived from *Lisbon*, which place she left the latter end of *June*. She has brought some necessities for the Congress. The Master contradicts the report of the *Portuguese* seizing *American* vessels, and informs us of several of our vessels being at *Lisbon* when he left it, and had free liberty

of trading. A *French* vessel from the *West-Indies*, and a *Dutch* vessel from *St. Eustatia*, have arrived, and have brought about ten thousand pounds of powder.

I fear the Confederation will not be finished in time to be laid before our Assembly at their next sitting. Last week passed without looking at it. Other affairs have taken up the whole time. Near two days were taken up about Commodore *Hopkins*; and we had the pleasure to be for the greatest part of that time entertained by the eloquence of some of our Southern brethren, particularly that polite speaker, *Middleton*. The Congress at last found *Hopkins* guilty of not paying proper attention to his orders, and have ordered him to be censured. Thus stands that affair at present.

The report concerning General *Wooster* is at length agreed to. By General *Gates's* letters of the 7th instant, it appears that our affairs in that department wear a much more favourable aspect than for some time past. Six or seven hundred of our Militia had arrived. Colonel *Bedel* was cashiered; *Butterfield* cashiered, and rendered incapable to hold a commission under the Congress.

I am, sir, your friend and humble servant,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JOHN ADAMS, DATED PHILADELPHIA, AUGUST 18, 1776.

I have seen in this world but a little of that pure flame of patriotism which certainly burns in some breasts. There is much of the ostentation and affectation of it. I have known a few who could not bear to entertain a selfish design, nor to be suspected by others of such a meanness; but these are not the most respected by the world. A man must be selfish, even to acquire great popularity. He must grasp for himself, under specious pretences for the publick good, and he must attach himself to his relations, connexions, and friends, by becoming a champion for their interests, in order to form a phalanx about him for his own defence, to make them trumpeters of his praise, and sticklers for his fame, fortune, and honour.

My friend *Warren*, the late Governour *Ward*, and Mr. *Gadsden*, are three characters in which I have seen the most generous disdain of every spice and species of such meanness. The two last had not great abilities, but they had pure hearts. Yet they had less influence than many others, who had neither so considerable parts, nor any share at all of their purity of intention. *Warren* has both talents and virtues beyond most men in this world; yet his character has never been in proportion. Thus it always is, and has been, and will be. Nothing has ever given me more mortification than a suspicion that has been propagated of me, that I am actuated by private views, and have been aiming at high places. The office of Chief Justice has occasioned this jealousy, and it never will be allayed until I resign it. Let me have my farm, family, and goosquill, and all the honours and offices this world has to bestow, may go to those who deserve them better and desire them more. I court them not.

There are very few people in this world with whom I can bear to converse. I can treat all with decency and civility, and converse with them, when it is necessary, on points of business. But I am never happy in their company. This has made me a recluse, and will, one day, make me a hermit. I had rather build stone wall upon *Penn's* hill, than to be the first Prince in *Europe*, or the first General or first Senator in *America*. Our expectations are very high of some great affair at *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 18, 1776.

SIR: I have been honoured with your favour of the 16th, with its enclosure, and am sorry it is not in my power to transmit Congress a copy of the treaty as they require, having sent it away with the other papers that were in my hands.

The resolution they have entered into respecting the foreign troops I am persuaded would produce salutary effects, if it can be properly circulated among them. I fear it will be a matter of difficulty; however, I will take every measure that shall appear probable to facilitate the end.

I have the honour to enclose, for the perusal and consideration of Congress, sundry papers, marked from No. 1 to No. 7

inclusive, the whole of which, except No. 2 and 7, (my answers to Lord *Drummond* and General *Howe*,) I received yesterday evening by a flag, and to which I beg leave to refer Congress.

I am exceedingly at a loss to know the motives and causes inducing a proceeding of such a nature at this time, and why Lord *Howe* has not attempted some plan of negotiation before, as he seems so desirous of it. If I may be allowed to conjecture and guess at the cause, it may be that part of the *Hessians* have not arrived as mentioned in the examination transmitted yesterday; or, that General *Burgoyne* has not made such progress as was expected to form a junction of their two armies; or, (what I think equally probable,) they mean to procrastinate their operations for some time, trusting that the Militia who have come to our succour will soon become tired and return home, as it is but too usual with them. Congress will make their observations upon these several matters, and favour me with the result as soon as they have done.

They will observe my answer to Lord *Drummond*, who I am pretty confident has not attended to the terms of his parole, but has violated it in several instances. It is with the rest of the papers; but if my memory serves me, he was not to hold any correspondence, directly or indirectly, with those in arms against us, or to go into any port or harbour in *America* where the enemy themselves were or had a fleet, or to go on board their ships.

The treaty with the *Indians* is in the box which Lieutenant-Colonel *Reed* I presume has delivered before this. If Congress are desirous of seeing it, they will be pleased to have the box opened. It contains a variety of papers, and all the affairs of the Army from my first going to *Cambridge* till it was sent away.

This morning the *Phenix* and *Rose*, men-of-war, with two tenders, availing themselves of a favourable and brisk wind, came down the river, and have joined the fleet. Our several batteries fired at them in their passage, but without any good effect that I could perceive.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

[No. 1.]

Head-Quarters, Staten-Island, August 13, 1776.

General *HOWE* desires to know if General *Washington* has any objection to Mr. *Robert Temple's* being landed at *New-York*, and going from thence to his family in the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

[No. 2.]

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 17, 1776.

General *WASHINGTON* begs leave to acquaint Gen. *Howe* that he has not the least objection to Mr. *Temple's* landing and proceeding to his family in the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*; on the other hand, he will meet every assistance and convenience for that purpose.

To Lieutenant-General *Howe*.

[No. 3.]

August 17, 1776.

SIR: Being deeply interested in the welfare of *America*, I think it my duty to communicate a matter of intelligence which I flatter myself may be rendered conducive to the restoration of a desirable peace; and in this view I request your Excellency's permission to land at *New-York*, to go directly to *Philadelphia*, in order to lay the same before the General Congress.

In the course of a conversation I have had with Lord *Howe*, I perceive that the powers he is invested with, as well as his disposition for establishing an equitable and permanent peace, are altogether misunderstood by the Colonies; for, in consequence of a sketch of some propositions being offered for his consideration, he very frankly assured me he was willing to confer upon those grounds with any gentlemen of the greatest influence in this country. As I am at liberty to declare his sentiments, I have the honour to enclose for your Excellency's information a copy of my correspondence with his Lordship and of the propositions referred to in his letter, which are the motives of my present request.

Attending in the boat to be indulged with your answer, I have, &c.,

DRUMMOND.

To General *Washington*, &c., &c.

[No. 4.]

Sloop Polly, August 12, 1776.

MY LORD: I take the liberty of sending enclosed the sketch of propositions referred to in my late conversation with your Lordship, which propositions, I have understood, the Colonies were disposed, not many months ago, to make the basis of a reconciliation with *Great Britain*.

I have, &amp;c.,

DRUMMOND.

To Lord Howe.

[No. 5.]

Sketch of Propositions communicated to Lord Howe the 12th August, 1776.

1st. That it shall be ascertained, as far as can be determined by calculation, what supply towards the general exigency of the State each separate Colony can furnish, consistent with its ability.

2d. When such supply is thus ascertained, that each Colony shall, by acts of its own Assembly, impose such taxes as they shall find expedient for the raising of the said supply.

3d. In consideration of the fluctuating state of all young countries, that such States may not, in their operations, become partially or accidentally burdensome on the one hand, nor on the other hand gradually become deficient in producing the aid intended by the Colonies towards the general exigency of the State, such articles shall be chosen as the objects of imposition, as they shall deem the most likely to keep pace with the growth or decline of the said Colonies.

4th. That these taxes, so imposed, shall, as in the customs, be levied by officers of the appointment of the King, and that a perpetual grant of the produce of these taxes shall be made by the respective Assemblies to the Crown of *Great Britain*.

5th. As the direct means of removing the fatal grounds of this contention, by establishing a security against the apprehended invasion of property by Parliament, a formal relinquishment shall be made, on the part of *Great Britain*, of all future claim to taxation over these her Colonies.

6th. To remove all future suspicions from the minds of the Colonists, that under the appearance of regulating commerce duties may be imposed for the further purposes of revenue, an application of the produce of all duties imposed on articles of trade by the *British* Legislature shall be made towards defraying the expenses of collection, and the surpluses in each Colony to be paid into their separate Treasuries, and to be subject to the disposal of the respective Houses of Assembly.

DRUMMOND.

[No. 6.]

Eagle, off Staten-Island, August 15, 1776.

MY LORD: I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter of the 12th, enclosing a sketch of the propositions mentioned in your late conversation, which I return herewith. As I think they contain matter that, upon a conference and cool discussion, might be wrought into a plan of permanent union, I shall, with great satisfaction, embrace the first opportunity that may offer upon those grounds to promote so desirable an event.

I have, &amp;c.,

HOWE.

To Right Hon. the Lord Drummond.

[No. 7.]

New-York, August 17, 1776.

SIR: I have your Lordship's favour of this day, accompanied by papers on subjects of the greatest moment, and deserving the most deliberate consideration.

I can allow much for your Lordship's well-meant zeal on such an occasion, but I fear it has transported you beyond that attention to your parole which comprehends the character of a man of strict honour. How your Lordship can reconcile your past or present conduct with your engagement, so as to satisfy your own mind, I must submit to your own feelings; but I find myself under the disagreeable necessity of objecting to the mode of negotiation proposed while your Lordship's conduct appears so exceptionable.

I shall, by express, forward to Congress your Lordship's letter and the papers which accompanied it; the result will be communicated as soon as possible.

I am sorry to have detained your Lordship so long, but the unavoidable necessity must be my apology.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and very humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Lord Drummond.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, August 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have been honoured with your letter of the 17th, with the resolution of your honourable body for obstructing the channel between the Grand Battery and *Nutten Island*. Having gone into a considerable expense for stopping that of the *North River*, and such as I am not certain I shall be justified in, and the obstructions there being far from complete, it will not be in my power to engage in the business you propose, or undertake to advance any part of the money which will be necessarily expended in the execution. At the same time, give me leave to assure you, gentlemen, that I shall most readily afford you such assistance as may be derived from the labour of the troops here, and that can be spared from other service, to facilitate the design, which will be of great importance if it can be executed.

I have been also honoured with your favour and resolution of the same date, and am exceedingly obliged by the ready attention you have paid to my recommendation for the removal of the women and children and infirm persons from the city.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Abm. Yates*, Jun., Esq., President, &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, August 18, 1776.

SIR: I have been duly honoured with your favour of the 13th instant; and at the same time that I think you and your honourable Council of Safety highly deserving of the thanks of the States for the measures you have adopted in order to give the most early and speedy succour to this Army, give me leave to return you mine in a particular manner. When the whole of the reinforcements do arrive, I flatter myself we shall be competent to every exigency; and with the smiles of Providence upon our arms and vigorous exertions, we shall baffle the designs of our inveterate foes, formidable as they are. Our situation was truly alarming a little while since; but, by the kind interposition and aid of our friends, is much better. You may rest assured, sir, that due consideration shall be had to the several Militia regiments that have come, and are marching to our assistance, and that they shall be dismissed as soon as circumstances will admit of it. I trust, as long as there is occasion for their services, that the same spirit and commendable zeal which induced them to come, will influence their continuance. I sincerely wish it was in my power to ascertain the particular period when they would be needed, that they might not be detained one unnecessary moment from their homes and common pursuits; but as this cannot be done, as the approaching contest and trial between the two armies will most unquestionably produce events of the utmost importance to the States, as the issue, if favourable, will put us on such a footing as to bid defiance to the utmost malice of the *British* nation and those in alliance with her, I have not a doubt but they will most readily consent to stay, and cheerfully undergo every present and temporary inconvenience, so long as they are necessary.

I am happy Captain *Van Buren* has succeeded so well in the business he was upon, it being of great consequence for us to fit out and maintain our vessels on the Lakes.

On the night of the 16th, two of our fire-vessels attempted to burn the ships of war up the river. One of these boarded the *Phenix*, of forty-four guns, and was grappled with her for some minutes, but unluckily she cleared herself. The only damage the enemy sustained was the destruction of one tender. It is agreed on all hands that our people engaged in this affair behaved with great resolution and intrepidity. One of the Captains, (*Thomas*,) it is to be feared, perished in the attempt, or in making his escape by swimming, as he has not been heard of. His bravery entitled him to a better fate. Though this enterprise did not succeed to our wishes, I

incline to think it alarmed the enemy greatly; for this morning the *Phenix* and *Rose*, with their two remaining tenders, taking advantage of a brisk and prosperous gale, with a favourable tide, quitted their stations, and have returned and joined the rest of the fleet. As they passed our several batteries they were fired upon, but without any damage that I could perceive.

The whole of the *British* forces in *America*, except those employed in *Canada*, are now here, *Clinton's* arrival being followed the last week by that of Lord *Dunmore*, who now forms a part of the Army we are to oppose. His coming has added but little to their strength.

I have the honour to be, &c.,  
GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*.

WILLIAM BLODGET TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Long-Island, August 18, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Hand's* report mentions no uncommon movements of the enemy.

The General desires me to acquaint your Excellency that he finds himself considerably better this morning than he was yesterday, and is in hopes in a few days to be able to go abroad, though still very weak.

I am, with respect, your humble servant,  
WM. BLODGET, *Aid-de-Camp*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Long-Island, August 18, 1776.

SIR: I have thought proper to communicate to you certain intelligence which I have received from my brother respecting Captain *Grimes*, whose conduct (if I have been rightly informed) does not entitle him to that place in your esteem which he now holds, nor to that confidence which you have thought proper to put in him. His leaving the galley at *Rhode-Island* in the time of the attack, to take convey of the prizes; the insult which he afterwards gave said Captain, who has ever been held in the highest esteem, whose character stands fair and unimpeached, and who has given convincing proofs of his courage and conduct, together with the information that was given me of his refusing to make the attack at the time the fire-ships went up the river, and the reluctance that was shown this morning to comply with the orders given him by General *Putnam*, induce me to think that he is much more fond of parade and show than he is desirous of signalizing himself in any action that may be of service to the country. If the report of his refusal is founded in fact, and General *Putnam's* orders were not complied with, I think he ought immediately to be put under an arrest, and instantly removed from his command.

I am, your very humble servant,  
NATHANAEL GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

King's Bridge, August 18, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Early this morning the *Phenix* man-of-war, *Rose* frigate, and the two tenders, came to sail and stood down the river, keeping close under the east shore, in order to avoid the fire of our cannon; but notwithstanding this precaution, the *Phenix* was thrice hulled by our shot from *Mount Washington*, and one of the tenders once. The *Rose* was hulled once by a shot from *Burdett's Ferry*. They kept their men close, otherwise some of them would have been picked down by a party of riflemen who were posted on the bank. They fired grape-shot as they passed, but did no damage save to one tent. We hope to hear that your batteries have done the work for some of them.

We shall recover some swivel-guns, gun-barrels, shot, &c., out of the wreck of the tender, which was burnt the other night, the particulars of which shall be transmitted to your Excellency as soon as I can obtain them.

General *Clinton* has about fourteen hundred men already come in, but their quarters are so scattered that it will be almost impossible to collect them suddenly, if occasion should require it. If there are any spare tents, I earnestly beg for

them, if it were but for one regiment. General *Clinton* has orders from the Convention of the State of *New-York* to purchase ten thousand feet of boards, for erecting sheds, &c., but it is uncertain when we shall have them. I shall to-morrow send for six or seven hundred of tools, being able to employ that number more than we have at present.

The more I view this post, the more I am convinced of its importance. The ships have now tried the practicability of passing our works; they have explored every part of the shore, as far as they have gone up the river, and sounded the river in almost every place. Should the ships rejoin the fleet without receiving much damage, I think *Howe* will be emboldened to attempt an attack somewhere above this place, thinking that there may be a greater probability of succeeding here than in the face of so many and strong works as have been erected in and around the city. However, should his inclination lead him this way, nature has done much for us, and we shall, as fast as possible, add the strength of art. Our men are in good health and spirits, and I dare say will give them a warm reception.

I should be glad to have the carriages for the four-pounders sent forward the moment they are done, as we have not as yet a single cannon mounted beyond *Mount Washington*.

I have just now received your Excellency's commands to inquire into the cause of the inactivity of some of the row-galleys in the late attack on the enemy's ships; but as the galleys have all left this post and fallen down to the city, I must beg your Excellency to excuse me from that service.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most humble servant,  
W. HEATH.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at *New-York*.

DAVID MATTHEWS TO JOHN McKESSON.

White-Plains, August 18, 1776.

SIR: I was in hopes of being called before your Committee when they were last in *New-York*, in order that I might have an opportunity of acquitting myself of harbouring any dangerous designs against the liberties of *America*.

I would now, sir, beg the favour of being heard before the Congress, before they come to any final determination about me. I hope they won't deny me this favour, as I should be extremely sorry to be sent away without having an opportunity of endeavouring to acquit myself of those heavy charges that have been exhibited against me.

I am, sir, with esteem, your very humble servant,  
D. MATTHEWS.

COLONEL GILBERT DRAKE TO CAPTAIN BROWN.

Head-Quarters, Tarrytown, August 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You are immediately to take fifty men and proceed to *Cortlandt's Manor*, and apprehend all such persons as you think are disaffected to the good of the States of *America*, and bring them immediately to Head-Quarters, in compliance with a resolve of the Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*, which is in the words following, viz:

"Resolved, That General *Morris* be ordered immediately to apprehend and secure the persons ordered to be apprehended by this Convention on yesterday, and that he be furnished with a list of those persons' names."

You are to act discretionary as to your orders, and the above resolves, and return with all convenient speed.

GILB'T DRAKE, *Lieutenant-Colonel*.

To Captain *Brown* and Captain *Osborn*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 26, 1776.]

Albany, August 18, 1776.

SIR: As I cannot possibly find time to make two copies of the transactions of the late treaty, I have enclosed one to General *Washington* for his perusal, to be transmitted to Congress.

The Commissioners thought it needless to make entries of all the meetings we had with the *Indians*, on affairs of very little or no moment. Congress will perceive that we have said nothing about engaging them to take up arms for



us, or to offer the reward for prisoners; we were unanimously of opinion, founded on all the information we could procure, that the attempt would have essentially injured us, and perhaps brought them to act against us, as they might, and probably would, have concluded that we were too weak for the enemy.

Some of our best, and I believe real friends, the *Oneidas* and *Ochquagues*, complained that some *Indians* had been sent to *Maryland*, to invite some *Nanticokes* that live in that Province to remove into the interior part of the country, and that neither those that were sent were suffered to return, or the others who they say incline to leave their present habitations, permitted to do it. We promised to lay the matter before Congress, not doubting but that every cause of complaint would be removed. Please to give us some information on the subject.

Part of *Livingston's*, *Hazen's*, and *Duggan's* corps of *Canadians* are in this town, sent down by General *Gates*. They are naked, and I have ordered them a month's pay, and shall employ them in repairing the road to *Fort George*, which is exceedingly worn, until I receive directions from Congress what to do with them, and whether they are to be paid up and discharged, or what. They have several women and children with them, who draw provisions, having not the means of subsistence without that aid.

Several *Canadians*, not belonging to the above corps, and who have been obliged to quit *Canada* since our Army left it, are now in this town, naked and destitute of every necessary. As their misfortunes are occasioned by their attachment to our cause, I cannot avoid giving them provisions; and shall order each of them a small matter of money, to purchase such necessaries as may suffice for the present. I wish for the orders of Congress on this subject.

The Committee of this place are much at a loss for the papers relative to the taking of *Ticonderoga*, &c. By the resolution empowering them to liquidate those accounts, they were led to believe that they were in my possession; but I did myself the honour to transmit them to Congress some time last winter.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, August 18, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your Excellency's favour of the 13th instant was delivered me about nine last evening.

I am very confident that you have pursued every measure in your power to relieve our wants in this quarter, and to facilitate the works going on to the northward. We have people in every quarter attempting to procure the variety of articles that are wanted; but after all, we shall fall considerably short. Nor did I ever doubt but that your Excellency had communicated to Congress the difficulties we laboured under for the want of money. I assure you that I always have and shall continue to advise them in time of the necessity of supplies of cash.

The resolves you mention have not been sent me, nor any about raising troops for three years, except that the officers are to have the same allowance for recruiting.

I cannot, upon recurring to my letter of the 6th instant, perceive that I intimated the least doubt of your Excellency's not having communicated to Congress such parts of my letters as were necessary for them to know. I shall strictly comply with your order, and advise you of any information which I at the same time send you and them.

If your Excellency will please re-peruse my letter of the 6th instant, I believe you will find that it is in no part suggested that a Court of Inquiry or Court-Martial was convened at *New-York*, upon the subject alluded to. I was informed that a Council of Officers had convened at *New-York*; I was advised of what was their decision; I was chagrined; and had the information been true, as I thought it, I believe your Excellency will do me the justice to think that I should have had too much reason to be so.

As the movement of the Army from *Crown-Point* to *Ticonderoga* was so generally condemned at *New-York*, it is more than probable that Congress must have heard it, and I therefore wish that everything I have said on the subject

should be communicated to them. I frankly confess that I first moved the matter, and that were the question to be again agitated, I should still continue of the same sentiments, unless better reasons could be given against it than those I have adduced in support of my opinion, and then I should have most readily acquiesced; or if your Excellency, without having given any reasons for it, had ordered me to move the Army back to *Crown-Point*, I should have obeyed without hesitation or a murmur, well knowing that the orders of my superior officer are on no account to be contested.

I assure you, my dear sir, that I very reluctantly entered on a command in which I foresaw as many difficulties as I have experienced. I easily conceived, that a people whom it had been necessary to inspire with jealousy of the men in power in *Great Britain*, and those employed by them in this injured country, would also be easily induced, by artful and designing men, to transfer part of that jealousy to the servants of the publick here. My conjectures were well founded, for suspicion and envy have followed me from the moment I came to the command. I have experienced the most illiberal abuse in many of the Colonies, and even in the Army I commanded; and if any accident should happen to the northward, the same spirit that has imputed the misfortunes in *Canada* to me, will impute that also to me. I have entreated Congress to cause a minute inquiry to be made into my conduct, and I trust if it is done, that I shall not only be honourably acquitted, but that judicious men will discover in me the honest man and the faithful *American*. But as envy, even in that case, will not cease, nor malevolence withhold its slander, I am determined to quit the Army as soon as my conduct has been inquired into, and evince myself in private life, what I have strove to do in publick, the friend of my injured country.

Soon after Colonel *Dayton's* regiment marched to *Johnson-Hall*, some of the officers broke open the doors and carried away a very considerable quantity of effects, contrary to mine and Colonel *Dayton's* orders. Soon after my arrival at the *German-Flats*, I was informed of this by some of the officers, who wished an inquiry, that the innocent might not share the scandal with the guilty. I ordered a Court-Martial on Lieutenant *McDonald*, witnesses with respect to his conduct being on the spot. He was tried and broke. In the course of his trial it appeared that a number of others were concerned; and I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel *White* and Captains *Ross* and *Patterson* down from *Fort Stanwix*. The two Captains delivered me the paper No. 1, in answer to which I advised them candidly to narrate the whole transaction. No. 2 is their narrative; and No. 3 contains an account of what they took; No. 4, with the paper enclosed in it, is what Colonel *White* delivered me. As I was apprehensive that a publick conviction of so many officers would reflect too much disgrace on our troops, I chose to defer any further proceedings until I should advise with your Excellency. Permit me, therefore, to entreat your opinion, whether it will be prudent for me to accept of the concessions they offer to make at the head of the regiment, and thus to bury the affair, or whether I ought to have them tried. Please to return the papers above alluded to, as I have not time to make copies of them.

Enclose your Excellency copy of a letter from Colonel *Dayton*, with copy of a paper enclosed in it. He has changed the name of *Fort Stanwix*. The *Messesaga Indians* mentioned in the paper, live on the west side of *Lake Ontario*, and of those the savages who made our people prisoners at the *Cedars*, were chiefly composed.

Only five quires of cartridge-paper could be procured, which I have sent Colonel *Dayton*. We are greatly in want of that article. Captain *Varick* informs me that he has written to your Excellency for it. It is not to be had anywhere nearer than *New-York*. General *Gates* also presses me, in a letter of the 16th instant, for that article. Please to order it to be sent with all expedition. I also enclose a copy of a letter from General *Arnold*.

As I cannot possibly find time to make two copies of the transactions at the late treaty, I have mentioned to Congress that I had sent one to you, to be transmitted, after perusal, to them. Also enclose copy of a letter from General *Arnold*, which gives me a state of our naval force on *Lake Champlain*.

Your Excellency's letter of the 10th instant to Captain

*Varick*, has just come to hand, but not any of the articles mentioned in the return are as yet arrived.

I am, dear sir, with unfeigned esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c.

Skenesborough, August 8, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 31st ultimo was delivered to me on the 4th instant. I feel very sensibly for you in your disagreeable situation. I wish the fatigue and anxiety you undergo may not impair your health; and that you may succeed in your expectation with the savages, and soon give us the pleasure of seeing you here.

Captain *Varick* has been very active and industrious in procuring the articles for the Navy. Many are arrived at *Ticonderoga*, and proper steps taken to procure the others. The carpenters go on with great spirit. Eight gondolas will be completed in a few days. One row-galley is gone to *Ticonderoga*, and will soon be fitted and armed. Three others will be launched in ten days or a fortnight. Four others will be set up in a few days, great part of the timber being cut. Iron, sails, cordage, and anchors, will be wanted in a few days. About two tons of the former is here, and six tons will be wanted to complete the galleys in hand; twelve or fifteen tons will be necessary for the galleys to be set up. It will expedite the building if six or eight tons can be sent up in spikes, from five to seven inches long, chiefly about six inches.

General *Gates* transmitted you last week the testimony of two *French* Captains, lately from *Canada*, which is contradicted by a Lieutenant *B. Whitcomb*, who was lately sent from *Crown-Point* to *St. John's*, which place he left the 31st ultimo. He went down on the east side, as far as *Chambly*, and returned on the west. Says he observed about forty batteaus at *St. John's*, and some others building, but no large vessels; believes there were about two thousand men there, and one thousand between *St. John's* and *Chambly*.

This afternoon I return to *Ticonderoga*, and in a few days propose to go down the Lake with the vessels completed, about ten sail.

The Militia come in very slowly: not more than fifteen hundred have arrived. Our work at *Ticonderoga* goes on briskly; the line will be completed in ten days or a fortnight.

I am, with every sentiment of friendship and esteem, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

Fort Schuyler, August 15, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: At six o'clock last evening, I received an express from Major *Barber*, giving me information respecting a hellish plan laid by Lieutenant *McMichael* and others, to go over to the enemy. Upon inquiry, I soon found Lieutenant *Edward McMichael*, one *Smith*, (who called himself a volunteer in my regiment,) and one *Ridley*, clerk to Major *Fonda*, had been gone from our camp about six hours. In a very short time I had two parties marching in quest of them: one took the road to the *Oneida Castle*, the other to the *Oneida Lake*. I gave them express orders to take the villains if possible, dead or alive. The party that went to the Lake, are this moment returned. At one o'clock this afternoon, they saw *McMichael* and his party just got into the *Oneida Lake* in an *Indian* canoe. They fired a number of shot after him, some of which went beyond the canoe, but he kept on and never returned their fire. I sent an express this afternoon to the *Oneida Castle*, ordering Captain *Reading*, who commanded the party I sent that road, to march his party to the Lake, and, if possible, to get some of the *Oneidas* to go to the west end of the Lake, in order to intercept them there, should they be in time, so that I have yet some hopes they may be taken.

Enclosed I send the examination of two of the party that I sent on a scout to *Oswego* this day se'nnight. By their account, it is probable Sergeant *Younglove*, Sergeant *Ahen*, and *James McGennis*, all of my regiment, are either killed or taken by the *Messagauga Indians*. The guide says, he is sure, by their language, the *Indians* were of that nation. Two of the *Onandagas* are now with me, that brought the two men that escaped from the other side of the Lake. I

shall pay them to their satisfaction for this friendly act of theirs.

*McMichael*, who is gone to the enemy, knows our situation respecting ammunition, which he will most certainly discover to them. We have now only two thousand one hundred and sixty musket cartridges, and no paper and thread to make any more.

I hope cash will very soon be sent to us, as I wish neither officers or soldiers should have any cause to complain, as they both do at present, having near four months' pay due. If a small matter of hard cash could be spared, so that each officer might have a little, I know it would be very acceptable; and to please them at this time, in my opinion, would not be amiss.

I am not sure we have got yet to the bottom of this cursed rebellion against the States. Could wish Captain *Bloomfield* and *Dickerson's* companies were ordered here; they have officers I can depend upon.

I have not heard anything of *Oneida Indians* for scouts. Without them, I fear difficulty in getting intelligence from *Oswego* in future. I am, dear General, your most humble servant,

ELIAS DAYTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

Information given by RICHARD BELL and SAMUEL FREEMAN, concerning the Scout which went from FORT SCHUYLER to OSWEGO, consisting of two Sergeants, two men, and a guide.

The scout left *Fort Schuyler* August the 7th, and the 15th instant one man and the guide returned. Nothing material happened on their march, until they arrived at *Oswego*, when they saw a bark canoe and a small hut, about three hundred yards from the fort; from which hut they saw an *Indian* run towards the fort, and meet another *Indian* near the gate. They stood, as the scout imagined, about a minute, when they both ran into the fort, occasioned, as they thought, by the *Indian* who ran from the hut having seen them. The scout discovered no troops nor vessels at *Oswego*—not even a white person; but seeing the *Indians* run, imagined they intended hiding themselves; upon which, Sergeant *Younglove*, who commanded the party, determined to march back as far as the place where they had tarried the night before, (in order to rest themselves and clean their guns, which were much out of order by reason of the rain,) which was about six miles from *Oswego*. They went on without any kind of molestation, until they came within about half a mile of the place where they intended to halt, when they were fired upon all on a sudden by about ten *Indians*, as they imagined; upon which Sergeant *Younglove* ordered each man to take a tree. They quickly obeyed, and made ready to engage; but unluckily their guns were so wet that they could by no means fire them. Sergeant *Younglove's* gun burnt priming about ten times; the other guns flashed several times; one of the men's guns went off, but supposed did no execution, as the powder was much damaged, though the *Indian* he fired at bawled out. The *Indians* fired about two rounds, when Sergeant *Ahen* dropped his gun and cried out that he was a dead man; and at the same time he was heard to say, Do not run boys, but fix your bayonets if they come near you. When he had uttered those words, Mr. *Bell*, the guide, as he thought, saw him roll down the bank. Upon that, Mr. *Bell* called to Sergeant *Younglove*, and *Maginnes*, a soldier next him, to come down the bank, then they could stand them. Sergeant *Younglove* made him no answer, but still continued clearing the touchhole, in order to fire his gun. Upon that Mr. *Bell* went down the bank himself, upon which *Freeman*, a soldier, immediately followed. When they had got out of sight, they heard two guns fire; after which they heard nothing more. Then Mr. *Bell*, and *Freeman*, the soldier who followed him down the bank, and had received wounds, one in his head and another in his shoulder, immediately made off in the woods about six miles, then returned to the river, where they found the enemy's track still in pursuit of them. They repeated it three times, and every time still found the footsteps of the enemy in the mud and grass. They then left the river and marched about eighteen miles, when they fell in with two friendly *Onondaga Indians*, who conducted them about twenty miles, where they met with two other *Indians* of the same nation, who conducted them on until they fell in with another scouting party sent out to meet them; after which they were all safely conducted to *Fort Schuyler*. What became of Sergeant *Young-*

love, and *Maginnes*, the soldier who Mr. *Bell* called to come down the bank with him, he can give no account of, but supposed killed when the two last guns went off.

The reader will please to take notice, that the *Indians* who fired upon this scout were of the nation called the *Musasaugans*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER'S CONFERENCE WITH THE INDIANS OF  
THE SIX NATIONS, 1776.

German-Flats, Thursday, August 8, 1776.

Speech of the Commissioners to the Sachems and Warriors  
of the *Six Nations*.

Brothers, Sachems and Warriors of the *Six Nations*: With this string we open your ears, that you may plainly hear what the Independent States of *America* have to say to their brethren of the *Six Nations*. With it we wipe away all mists that may interrupt your sight, and let it clear your hearts from every obstruction, and incline them to receive our words with brotherly love.

Brothers: We thank God that he has been pleased to suffer us to meet you in health. May sickness never enter into your country, but may health and happiness dwell in your habitations, and may the *Six Nations* be a great and happy people.—(*A string*.)

The Council-fire which is now burning at this place, has been kindled by a spark taken from the great Council-fire at *Albany*. We have brought it here in our bosoms. We have lighted it up here, because we were afraid that the small-pox might infect our brethren of the *Six Nations* if they went farther down the river, and that some of them might go home with heavy hearts for the loss of their relations; and we hope this conduct of the Commissioners meets with your approbation.—(*A belt*.)

Brothers, Sachems and Warriors of the *Six Nations*: The *United Colonies* have always been in hopes that a reconciliation would take place between us and the King. To that end they have frequently petitioned the King for redress of the grievances they laboured under; but he would not listen to their petitions. He was deaf, and would not give ear to their complaints; and instigated by his evil counselors, he forgot that we were his children; he wanted to make us his slaves. To accomplish this unjust and cruel purpose, he has sent his armies and fleets to try to destroy and distress us; and therefore the *United Colonies*—when they found that he had become a cruel and oppressive father that hated them, and that he had not only given the hatchet to the *English* on the other side of the water, but had also sent it to the few friends he had amongst us, ordering them to put it into the hands of our negroes, and whoever would accept it, to strike us—have unanimously left his house, and now no longer consider him as their father and King, and have accordingly proclaimed to all the world that they will never hereafter acknowledge him, or any of his family, to be their King, but that they will always be and remain a free and independent people; and therefore have called themselves the Independent States of *America*, and solemnly agreed always to remain firmly united. We must, for the future, be called the Commissioners of the United and Independent States of *America*; and that you may remember this great event, we now deliver you this belt.—(*A belt*.)

Brothers, Sachems and Warriors of the *Six Nations*: Now open your ears, and listen attentively to what the Independent States of *America* have further to say to you, for in their names we speak. Our speech will be plain, as it always has been; for as we have never been, we scorn to be double-minded. It will be the speech of freemen who will candidly tell you your faults. You shall know all that is in our hearts. We will hide nothing from you, that you may know our intentions clearly and fully.

Brothers: You will remember, that soon after the King's warriors had begun to spill the blood of the inhabitants of this great Island, the *United Colonies* called you together at *Albany*. They there rekindled the ancient Council-fire, and brightened up the covenant chain that had bound your ancestors and ours together in bands of the purest love and sincerest friendship. It was last summer that we, the Commissioners, met you there on that pleasing business. We then gave you a full, a fair, and a candid account of the cause of the quarrel between us and the King; we did not do it in a dark corner, as those that mean evil, but in the presence of all that would come to see and hear, that they

might witness the truth of what we said. When we had related this, we informed you, that as we were unhappily engaged in a family quarrel, in which the *Six Nations* were not in the least concerned, either one way or the other, we desired and expected that you should not assist the one or the other, but remain quietly and peaceably at home, and mind your own business. We confirmed our words with a large belt.

Brothers: The answer you made was delivered by *Abraham*, the *Mohawk* Sachem, whom you had chosen as your speaker. These were his words: We shall repeat them exactly: "Now, therefore, attend, and apply your ears closely. We have fully considered this matter. The resolutions of the *Six Nations* are not to be broken or altered. When they resolve, the matter is fixed. This, then, is the determination of the *Six Nations*: Not to take any part, but, as it is a family quarrel, to sit still and see you fight it out. It is a long time since we came to this resolution. It is the result of mature deliberation. It was our declaration to Colonel *Johnson*. We told him we would take no part in the quarrel, and hoped neither side would desire it. Whoever applies first, we shall think is in the wrong. The resolutions of the *Six Nations* are not to be shaken."

Brothers: These words and these resolutions pleased us well, because what you declared was what we requested—that you should take no part in the quarrel, but sit still and see us fight it out; and because we believed that you were sincere, and that you said nothing with your tongue but what you had in your hearts. Your speech was delivered in full Council and in the presence of a number of people. We had therefore the highest reason to expect that you would strictly have abode by your resolutions. But, brothers, we now ask you, whether you have abode by these wise words, and adhered to these prudent resolutions? It grieves us to say that you have not; that you have acted directly contrary to your solemn engagements, and broken that faith which you plighted and which we depended upon, as we shall now plainly make appear, by repeating a number of facts which are known to you all, and which you cannot contradict or deny.

*First*. When our Army went to *St. John's* last year, your people interfered in the quarrel, by joining with our enemies in attacking our warriors; and thus the resolutions of the *Six Nations* were broken and altered, although you had said they were not to be broken or altered.

*Secondly*. When our Great Council at *Philadelphia* was informed that Sir *John Johnson* was inlisting men, and that he and the Highlanders who lived about *Johnstown* were preparing to murder our friends, they sent some warriors to disarm them, and then you again interfered in the quarrel. You were very troublesome, and threatened us, although we had sent you word that no harm was intended you, for that we had no quarrel with the *Indians*; and thus the resolutions of the *Six Nations* were again broken and altered.

*Thirdly*. When our Great Council, in the month of *May* last, had received certain intelligence that Sir *John Johnson* was inlisting men, and preparing to join the enemy, they ordered up a body of warriors; but lest you should be alarmed, Mr. *Douw* went up to the east end of the house to inform you that no evil was intended you; yet you nevertheless interfered in the quarrel; Mr. *Douw* was insulted with abusive language, and Mr. *Bleecker*, the Interpreter, was threatened and seized by the breast, contrary to the custom of all nations, (for the person of an ambassador and a messenger of peace is always held sacred;) and thus the resolutions of the *Six Nations* were a third time broken and altered.

*Fourthly*. Although you knew that Sir *John Johnson* was inlisting men, and preparing to go to the enemy, contrary to the most solemn agreement with us, yet you not only assisted him in going to the enemy, but even threatened to kill our warriors, and actually appeared in arms for that hostile purpose; and thus you again interfered in the quarrel, and a fourth time broke and altered your resolutions.

*Fifthly*. Contrary to your resolutions, you have opened your ears, and given ear to the voice of our enemies, and complied with their desires. *Butler* has prevailed upon you to go into *Canada*, and fight against us (at *Taghtagh Quineagie*.) As we had no quarrel with any *Indians*, as we had even released those that we had taken prisoners in battle, we were surprised to find any *Indians* fighting against us;

but when we were told that some of the *Six Nations* were there, and had joined our enemies; that they had struck the axe in our heads, and covered the ground with the bones of our warriors, and defiled the earth with their blood, after having but a little time before promised to remain neutral, we could hardly believe it at first; but upon inquiry, we found it was true: your axe still sticks in our heads; and thus you again interfered in the quarrel, and a fifth time broke and altered your resolutions.

*Sixthly.* You have also lately, upon this river, in the midst of the inhabitants, wickedly and wilfully fired on, attacked, and destroyed a batteau loaded with flour, which was coming up here for the use of our warriors, and to feed you at this treaty; and thereby you have again insulted us, and interfered in the quarrel, and a sixth time broken and altered the resolutions of the *Six Nations*.

Thus, brothers, we have mentioned six instances in which the resolutions of the *Six Nations* have been contravened, although you told us, in full council at *Albany*, that they were not to be broken or altered, and that when you have resolved, the matter was fixed; and thus, also, instead of sitting still, and seeing us fight it out, as you also told us you would do, you have actually assisted our enemies, and taken an active part in the quarrel against us; thereby opening your ears to, and listening to the advice of our enemies, by complying with their request, although you expressly said that whoever applied first, you should think was in the wrong.

Now, brothers, tell us, if you can, when we have asked you to interfere in the quarrel? When and where have we desired your assistance? Have we given you a blood belt? Have we offered you the axe? Have we roasted an *Englishman*, and desired you to drink his blood? You cannot say that we have ever done any of these things, and yet our enemies have done all this. You have told us so yourselves, and you cannot deny it. We have always said that we were not afraid of our enemies; we say so still. We have never asked you to fight for us, and some of you have fought for them. Was this well done? *God*, who knows all things, knows that it was not. You yourselves know that it was not. We know it was not. And although you have thus unjustly taken up arms against us, and although we felt the blows, and although the axe still sticks in our heads, yet we have forbore to take revenge, because your ancestors and ours always had a great affection and friendship for each other, and faithfully kept the covenant they made with each other in such a manner that both were happy, both were pleased, and peace dwelt in their habitations, and because we had resolved to make our complaint in full council, and lay our grievances before the whole *Six Nations*, as we now do, expecting that you will speak as plain as we do, and remove all cause of complaint for the future.

Brothers: Again attend to the voice of all the white people on this great Island. They say that they have not injured you. They say that they wish to live in friendship with all *Indians*, and in particular with the *Six Nations*, who are their near neighbours, and with whom their ancestors have always lived in peace and friendship. They say that you have unjustly injured and insulted them. They say that, as they are freemen, as free as you are, and now fighting to preserve that freedom, they will not suffer themselves to be affronted, injured, and insulted with impunity by you or any men on earth. They will do as you have formerly done, as you still do, and as you have a right to do, that is, to guard themselves against any enemy whatsoever by any just means in their power.

Brothers: We know that many of you are honest men, faithful to your engagements, holding sacred the faith you have plighted, and bearing a brotherly affection to the inhabitants of this great Island. These we love, respect, and honour; and we call *God* to witness that we will do them every kindness in our power, and never give them the least cause of complaint. We also know who are our enemies, although we do not know why; we have given them no cause to be such.

Brothers, Sachems and Warriors of the *Six Nations*: We have spoken plainly; we will, if possible, speak more plainly; open, therefore, your ears, that you may clearly hear and understand the declaration of the Independent States of *America*. It is this: that they mean to live in friendship, and cultivate a good understanding, and maintain a friendly

intercourse with all *Indians*; and that, in answer to this, they do require that all *Indians* should declare their intentions; and therefore ask the *Six Nations* now convened around this Council-fire of peace, what their intentions are? If they mean to live in friendship, to cultivate a good understanding, and maintain a friendly intercourse with us, we require that they take the hatchet out of our heads, and that none of them will again assist our enemies; in which case, we do most solemnly promise that we will love and cherish them, and treat them with the greatest kindness and affection, and that we will forever hereafter rather die than wrong them, or suffer others to do it. But if any amongst you should so far forget their own interest as now to become or continue our enemies, after all the kindness and forbearance we have shown, let them say so, that all the white people of this great Island may know what they have to depend upon. No person shall molest them here or on their way, for it shall never be said we injured or insulted people with whom we were in treaty, although they intended to be our enemies.

Brothers: We have done our duty; we have spoken plainly; we request you will do the same; we shall become open enemies, or warm and inviolable friends. We wish for your friendship, not out of fear, but out of love, and that a good understanding may prevail between the white inhabitants of this great Island and the *Six Nations*, until the sun should grow dim with age; and it will be your fault if we do not part as good friends with the *Six Nations*, and remain so hereafter, as your ancestors and ours were in the time of *Queder*, when they fought side by side against the common enemy.

Brothers: We have now spoken our minds fully; you cannot charge us with deceit. Our conduct has been invariably the same from the time we first met in *Albany* to this day. We have not said one thing and done another, as our enemies have done; and, as you now know all that is in our hearts, we desire you to think seriously of it, and to speak your thoughts fairly and fully, and not be double-hearted. Do not say one thing and think another, for that is shameful in a private man, and in private affairs; but scandalous in public bodies, and in public business.

This belt, on which our wishes are described, and which denotes what we hope will take place, that is, a firm union between the *Six Nations* and the *Thirteen United States of America*,—this belt, we say, confirms our words.—(*The large belt.*)

— Friday, August 9, 1776.

Present: The Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*, *Timothy Edwards*, and *Volkert P. Douw*, Esquires, Commissioners, &c.; Colonel *Van Dyck*, Major *Barber*, and several other officers and gentlemen from the Counties of *Albany* and *Tryon*, and the Sachems and Warriors of the *Six Nations*, the *Mohegans*, and *Delawares*.

ABRAHAM, the *Mohawk* Sachem, delivered the following Answer to the Commissioner's Speech:

Brothers: We are this day convened at the place appointed for the meeting. You informed us, when you parted, that you had delivered your whole mind to us. We have had your words under consideration. We hope you will excuse us our not answering before, as you desired us to speak our minds fully and freely without dissimulation. We are determined to do it, and you may depend that what the *Six Nations* now say does not come only from their lips.

Brothers: We hope you will excuse us if, in our reply, we do not mention everything that was delivered to us. We will endeavour only to mention the principal things. You informed us that the Council-fire which you had kindled at this place, was kindled from a spark brought from the Great Council-fire anciently kindled by our ancestors at *Albany*. You informed us, likewise, that the reason of your kindling it here was, that we might not in our way down be infected with the small-pox; and that you hoped that, by your kindling it here, you and your brethren of the *Six Nations* might part with your minds at ease, and not grieved for the loss of any of their friends.

Brothers: We thank you for your prudence in kindling the Council-fire at this place, and the whole *Six Nations* return you their thanks.—(*A belt of seven rows, four diagonal bars, and a square.*)

Brothers: You informed us that since the difficulties had arisen between you and the great King, you had made



frequent applications for redress of your grievances; that the King, instead of complying with your requests, had (as it were) shut his ears to your complaints; that you had therefore given up all hopes of redress. You then informed us, that in consequence of that, you had declared yourselves to be free and independent of the great King; that there were thirteen Provinces united in this resolution, and that you had determined to be forever free and independent; and by this belt (holding up the belt we had given them in his hand) you made us acquainted with this determination.

Brothers: The whole *Six Nations* take this opportunity to thank you that you have acquainted us with your determination in so publick a manner; and we shall for the future consider you as thirteen independent States.—(*A white belt, eight rows.*)

Brothers, the Commissioners of the Independent States, attend: We are this day called together to speak of peace. You see, brothers, that the day is ended. Our ancestors have forbid us from treating of matters of peace in the evening. We would therefore propose it to your consideration whether it would not be best to defer it till to-morrow morning?

Deferred till to-morrow.

— Saturday, August 10, 1776.

Present as before.

The *Oneida* Sachem spoke as follows:

Brothers, the Commissioners, attend: We have again brought our pipes together at this place of publick meeting. When you spoke to us, you informed us that you spoke to us in the name of the *Thirteen United Provinces*. We hope you will excuse us if we do not repeat all you have said, as you have it all committed to writing; it is not, indeed, very necessary. You informed us, brethren, in your speech, that when the warriors of the great King had begun to spill the blood of the people on this great Island, that the *Thirteen United Colonies* then rekindled the ancient Council-fire which was formerly kept burning at *Albany*. You also informed us that the quarrel between you and the great King was a family quarrel, in which we were not concerned; you therefore desired that the *Six Nations* would remain quiet at home, and mind nothing but peace. You likewise told us that we had returned this for answer: that we had firmly agreed not to take any part in the quarrel; but that as it was a family quarrel, we would remain at home and mind nothing but peace. These you said were the resolutions we had then taken, and which we delivered in the most publick manner; and that you had all the reason in the world to think us sincere.

Brothers: Attend. We take this opportunity to thank you for speaking plainly, and telling us our faults; the whole *Six Nations* thank you for it. We will, agreeably to your desire, also speak clearly and plainly.—(*A belt of nine rows, five squares connected with a path.*)

ABRAHAM, the *Mohawk* Sachem, then spoke as follows:

Brothers, the Commissioners appointed by the *Thirteen United Colonies*, attend: You have desired us to speak our minds with the greatest plainness, which we will now accordingly do.

Brothers: It is your desire that we should speak in particular to every article charged against us. I shall relate how we who live at the east end of the house have been guilty of a fault in this affair.

Brothers: At the Council-fire which was rekindled from the ancient Council-fire which had been kindled by our ancestors at *Albany*, and at which we renewed the former covenant which had been made between our forefathers and the *Twelve United Colonies*, you opened the path of peace to all the *Six Nations* to *Albany*. You had before told us that you would pursue your enemies wherever you could find them, and that you would, if they could not be reclaimed, kill all disaffected persons wherever you could come across them. The *Six Nations* then thanked you for what you had done; that you had opened the path of peace and renewed the Council-fire at *Albany*. At the same time, they desired that, as there were many persons along this road who were attached to the King, you would not defile the newly-opened path of peace with their blood, but suffer them to remain in peace.

Brothers: You will attend particularly to what I am

going to relate, as we will speak plain, as you desired us to do. The *Six Nations*, at the treaty held at *Albany* last summer, had agreed to be perfectly neutral, and to mind nothing but peace on both sides. Last winter, brothers, you sent up a message to inform us that you were coming up with two thousand men, to inquire of and take care of the people called Tories. You desired us to possess our minds in peace, as no evil was intended us, and desired that your message might be sent forward to this house. We then considered the matter; and as it was represented to us that these men came up only to inquire into the truth of matters, we thought two or three men might have done that business without molestation, as it would be beneath men to injure so small a number sent on such a design. We then sent down to meet the party that was coming up; I myself was one of those who went down on the occasion to desire that the main body might stop, and that a small part might be sent to make the inquiry. The General informed us that the main body could not be stopped; that he had his orders for what he did, and that he was under a necessity of proceeding. He likewise told us that no blood would be spilt on the occasion, if the people whom he was sent to would comply with certain terms which he had directions to propose. It is not necessary, brothers, to repeat over the whole of this affair very circumstantially; but for the satisfaction of the Council, I will mention the principal transactions. After this interview at *Schenectady*, you stopped short of Major *Fonda's*, where we came over in the evening to see you, but you were not there. Some time late at night, you sent for us to come down to you; accordingly, I and one more went; and in passing by Colonel *Claus's*, a gun was discharged at us, and there I had almost been killed in pursuing peace. After we arrived at your lodging, Sir *John*, it seems, had just left you, and you informed us of the conversation that had passed between you, and the proposals you had made to him. You then let us know that we might go to Sir *John*, and inform ourselves whether such proposals had been made to him; and upon our going out to him, we were convinced of the truth of your information, and we desired Sir *John* to comply with the proposals that had been made to him, as he could not possibly resist the body of men that were coming out against him. We desired Sir *John* to go in person to see you. He said he would consider of it; but finally he sent one in his name. At last things were so settled as to prevent the shedding of blood. We were induced to be thus active in the affair from a desire of preventing the shedding of blood on both sides; and this, brothers, is the conduct which you accuse us for, and which we think excusable on account of our intention. Our cousins of the Upper Castle were with those of the Lower at the time.

Brothers: Before the arrival of Colonel *Dayton*, the whole *Six Nations* had a Council at *Onondaga*, wherein they had agreed that they would mind nothing but peace. Immediately after this Council at *Onondaga*, a party of the *Six Nations* went down to *Albany*, and another to *Niagara*, as they had agreed to cultivate peace. The *Oequagues* and *Caughnawagas* were at *Albany* at the time, when they repeated the agreement which they had made at the Council at *Onondaga*. They then requested, and you promised, that there should be no fighting near our house, as both parties were strong, and they might injure the *Indians* in the struggle, and that you would confine yourselves to the sea-coasts. When our party that went to *Albany* returned home, and very soon after they had repeated their transactions at *Albany*, Mr. *Douw* came up to inform them that there was a party coming up to Sir *John's*. Mr. *Douw*, when he came up, desired us to possess our minds in peace, as the party coming up was not designed against us. You say that Mr. *Douw* was used in an abusive manner, and *Bleecker* threatened, which we confess; for while they were there, one of our young warriors came in drunk, and used him in the manner you mention. We desired the warriors to remain quiet; but some of them took their arms, and, contrary to the inclinations of the Sachems, went down, while those that were obedient remained with the great men who take care of the news. Upon our arrival at *Johnstown*, we found a number of our warriors who had had a meeting with Colonel *Dayton* to inquire his business there. Colonel *Dayton* told them that he had no designs against the *Indians*; that though he was not afraid of them, he was

unwilling to shed their blood; and requested that they would be quiet. He spoke much more in a friendly manner, which it is unnecessary to repeat. Our warriors then returned home, and the Sachems reproved them for their conduct. They acknowledged their fault, and promised not to be guilty of the like misconduct for the future, informing them that the person who had been the cause of it was now gone, though he had gone off without their assistance. As I have authority to speak for the warriors, I now declare that they are sorry for their misconduct, and that they will for the future obey their uncles the Sachems, who take care of the news.—(*A belt of eleven rows, with four diagonal bars.*)

SOSCOHOLAANA, a Sachem of the *Mohawks*, then delivered the following Speech:

One of the articles of accusation is pointed at me. I was conscious of guilt at the time it was mentioned, but sat still, as it was an improper time for me to speak. I waited to confess it in the most publick manner in a meeting of the whole *Six Nations*. The accusation against me is just. I have destroyed a bateau load of provisions while it was coming up; and I may, perhaps, be the means of the *Six Nations* being in want of provisions while at this Council-fire. The warriors are frequently passing and repassing to and from their hunting-ground; and when they return from hunting, it is usual for them to get liquor. I, with a party, was just then returning, and we had procured some liquor, and destroyed the flour as you mention. Some of our people went down the next day and found the flour destroyed, but the persons who had done it were gone again into the woods hunting. The generality of our warriors are now together; and a day or two ago we every one declared our sentiments separately, and all agreed not to be guilty of like excesses for the future, but that they would behave themselves regularly and orderly. What I have now said does not come only from my lips, but from my heart.—(*A belt of seven rows, with three variegated squares, two in the middle, the other at one of the ends.*)

TAYCHANU. Brothers, the Commissioners, attend: I likewise desire the attention of the elder part of the Confederacy. I who now speak am a Sachem. I speak in the name of the Sachems of the *Oneida*, *Tuscarora*, and *Cayuga* Tribes. Our nephews the warriors are not included. You have desired us, in your speech, to speak plainly, whether we are for peace, or for having our minds separated from our brethren of the *United Provinces*. We, therefore, the Sachems of the *Oneida* and *Tuscarora* Tribes, declare that we are for peace; that we have not the least inclination to be divided from our ancient brethren the *Dutch*. We determine to maintain it forever; and hope that our women, our children, and warriors, may always remain in peace. God, who knows and hears what we say, and who disapproves of those who break their covenants, we hope will enable us to persevere in the resolution which we now make. We now strengthen and renew our former covenant. If, brothers, you are the least apprehensive that there is any deceit in us, we desire that you will declare it; and if it has appeared either in the actions of us the Sachems, or in those of our warriors, we desire that you will tell us. I speak for the Sachems of the whole Tribes of the *Oneidas* and *Tuscaroras*, with our nephews the *Delawares*. This is all I have to say.—(*Two belts, one of ten rows and three squares on it, the other with six rows, with seven diagonal bars.*)

Monday, August 12, 1776.

Present: The Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*, *Timothy Edwards*, Esq., and several officers and gentlemen from the Counties of *Albany* and *Tryon*.

The COMMISSIONERS proceeded to deliver their Reply in answer to the *Six Nations*, as follows:

Brothers, Sachems and Warriors of the *Six Nations*: Our ears have been open, and we have attentively listened to the answers which you have jointly and severally made to our speech. We have fully considered what you have said. Give ear, and attend to our reply. You began your answer with the belt now in our hands. You declared that you would speak your minds fully and freely, and that the Independent States of *America* might depend upon what the *Six Nations* should say. You then approved the reasons we gave for lighting the Council-fire at this place.

Brothers: The assurance you give us, that you would be

sincere in what you said, pleases us well; because both you and we should never dissemble or deceive each other, as such conduct would be unworthy our characters as free nations.

Brothers: With this belt you answered the Declaration of the Thirteen *United Colonies*, that they had become States independent of the King of *Great Britain*. You thanked us for having acquainted you with this event, and that you would henceforth consider them as such. Brothers, it is well.

Brothers: With this belt you recapitulated the first part of our speech, with the large belt, and you thanked us for reminding you of the promise and resolutions of the *Six Nations* at *Albany*, and for the justness of our observations upon them; and you concluded with declaring that, agreeable to our request, you would speak clearly and plainly. Brothers, we commend that declaration, and we hope both of us will ever hereafter speak plainly, that the sentiments of our hearts may be known to each other, for that will make our friendship lasting.

Brothers: The *Mohawks* then proceeded to answer some of the six particulars in which we had charged you of interfering in the quarrel between the King of *Great Britain* and the white inhabitants of this Island. As the *Mohawks* spoke first, we shall answer them first, and after them, all the other Nations in the order in which they spoke.

Brothers, Sachems and Warriors of the *Mohawk*, attend: With the belt now in our hands, you spoke to some of the six charges we have made in our speech to the *Six Nations*. Your answer to the second charge we are not pleased with. It is not satisfactory, because you did not state the facts truly as they happened. As you related the matter, we should have had no reason to complain. Your memories fail you, as we shall make appear by informing you before the whole *Six Nations* of what passed on that occasion. It is this: We sent you a message last winter from *Albany*, advising you that we had intelligence that several persons in and about *Johnstown* were inlisting men to cut our throats, and were making other hostile preparations against us; that we intended to march our warriors up, to inquire into the truth of the report, and act thereupon as we should judge needful; that no harm was intended you or any *Indians*. In your answer to this, you desired that the troops might not come up; "that if they did, it would create uneasiness in your minds, as you and Sir *John* were of one blood." You also refused to send our message immediately to the end of the house. We therefore thought it necessary to send another message to the *Six Nations*, to convince them that we had no intention to break the covenant or defile the path of peace with blood; but that we were resolved to follow our enemies wherever they went. Brothers, although Sir *John* was of your blood, although he had been a *Mohawk*, we should have been justified in preventing him from cutting our throats. His conduct since has sufficiently convinced all the world of his evil intentions, for he has now joined our enemy.

Brothers, at *Schenectady* you told us that Sir *John Johnson* was not making any hostile preparations; that he had no cannon; that you would have known it if he had; and yet we found cannon there, well charged and mounted upon carriages newly made on purpose for them. This you cannot deny, for you saw us bring them away. Brothers, you also told us if we carried matters to extremity that your warriors would not be restrained, and you would not be answerable for their conduct; and as a proof that you knew that your warriors meant to fight, you asked what treatment those that remained at home might expect. In our answer, we told you that we were not going to shut the path of peace, but to open it. We assured you that none of our warriors should set their feet on your lands unless our enemy took shelter there; for that we were resolved to follow them wherever they went, and we desired you to inform your warriors that if they joined our enemies that we would do as we had done at *St. John's*, and repel force with force; and this we surely have a right to do, and will always do.

Brothers, as to our people's firing last winter, you ought to be ashamed to mention it. You very well know that a sled full of white people were passing just at the time you did, and that the sentry challenged, and they would not stop, upon which he fired. He did his duty; and you know very well that no harm was intended to you.

Brothers, we might say a great deal more to convince the *Six Nations* that we had the greatest reason to complain of your conduct; and we could clearly demonstrate that the people who are the cause of your misconduct, have never been your real friends; and neither they nor their ancestors ever consulted your true interest, and this your children will be convinced of. But, brothers, as the hatchet which stuck in our heads is taken out and buried, we will also bury all animosities. But that our friendship may be lasting, it is necessary that your people should strictly abide by the covenant you have now made with us, which you say you are empowered to do by all the warriors, as well as the Sachems, and that they should know that we have a right to follow our enemies wherever they go; that we will do it; and that we will consider all such as join them to be our enemies, and will treat them as such, and revenge every injury after your own manner. This belt confirms our words.—(A belt.)

Brothers, Sachems and Warriors of the *Upper Mohawk Castle*: The candid confession you made with this belt of the charge that was particularly pointed at you, we will for this time take as a sufficient satisfaction; but you must not hereafter plead drunkenness as an excuse for such crimes, nor will we be satisfied, if you again so highly injure us, with a few wampum and fair promises. Having told you our minds, we are made perfectly easy by your honest confession. This belt confirms our words.—(A belt.)

Brothers, Sachems and Warriors of the *Onondaga* and *Seneca* Nations: Our ears have opened to your speech; we have paid due attention to its contents, we have considered it well. We shall make remarks on such parts as more immediately concern the great business which we have convened you for. You say your warriors went into *Canada* by the persuasion of a chief warrior, who is entirely averse to peace. Brothers, we have now made peace together, and we hope everything is amicably settled; but if again broken, you must remember that we will not be put off with barely saying that you are sorry for it, and giving a belt to confirm your words. We shall expect some better satisfaction—a satisfaction equal to the injury done; for what would you say if some of our warriors were to go, under a pretence of fetching news and talking of peace, into your country, and when they were there assisted your enemies in destroying you and knocking you on the head? If you complained to us, would you be contented if we said there was a wicked man who was their Captain and who prevailed on them to do it? We know that you would not; you would not even complain; but you would take revenge on the first of us which you met, and even upon our women and children. However, as you are sorry for what is done, we shall bury and forget it. But remember, that as we treat with you as nations, we expect that the treaty shall be fully complied with; for it is your duty to consult the interest of your nation, and to punish those that are the cause of a quarrel that may involve you in ruin, by setting you at variance with your best friends; and as this is our resolution, and as we mean to live in peace and friendship with you, we were glad to hear that the sachems and chief warriors of eleven of the *Seneca Castles* met and resolved for the future to restrain their warriors, and that the *Onondagans* had done the same, and that they would be at peace with us. These are wise reasons, tending as much to your happiness as to ours. This belt confirms our words.—(A belt.)

Brothers, Sachems of the *Oneida* and *Tuscarora* Nations: The belt now in our hands is that with which you addressed us; with which you declared your friendly intentions; with which you renewed the covenant of peace that has so long existed between our ancestors and yours. The tree of peace which you planted so long ago has greatly flourished of late. It has spread a pleasing shade far and near. Its boughs have grown strong and its leaves broad. It has not been shaken by any of the storms that have lately blown with so much violence. Not a leaf has dropped from it. It is perfect, and be assured that it will yield fruits which will nourish you and your posterity and make you grow. We are happy, brothers, that your nephews, the *Delawares*, have taken shelter under its shade. They will also receive the benefit and the comforts of it.

Brothers: We never thought that you made use of any deceit. We have never thought that you intended to break the covenant you have made with us. We heartily join

with you in hoping that *God* will enable you to persevere in your good resolutions. We promise on our parts, by the blessing of that Being, that you shall never have cause to complain of us; that you will find us warm and true friends. This belt confirms our words.—(A belt.)

Brothers, Sachems and Warriors of the *Cayuga* Nation: In our speech we did not particularly point at the *Cayugas*. Our speech was general, and calculated for the whole. The method you have taken to answer separately has put it in your power to justify yourselves as far as you can. We are glad to hear that by your advice the misconduct of the *Six Nations* is usually rectified. If the people residing in *Virginia* have at any time injured you, we are sorry for it. If they have done it since the quarrel begun between the King of *Great Britain* and us, you shall have the fullest satisfaction given you whenever you shall make it appear. If before that time, and you have not had satisfaction, it was the fault of the King of *England's* Governours, and his Governours are not ours. They generally attended to his interests only. It is not our fault, brothers, that traders have not gone amongst you. We had given leave to traders to go to *Niagara*, and others were making ready to go amongst the *Six Nations*; but as soon as we were informed that *Butler* had prevailed upon some of the *Six Nations* to go to *Canada*, they (the traders) were stopped, and would not go on lest they should be knocked on the head.

Brothers: You say that when the covenants made in the time of *Queder* recurred to your minds, in which it was agreed that if any difference should arise between us and you it should be immediately settled, that this composed your minds. Brothers, that good old custom we wish to abide by, and we now give an instance of it by settling all the differences between us and you; and we hear with great satisfaction that both the sachems and the warriors of the *Cayugas*, and their younger brothers, the *Tototoes*, are strongly disposed to peace, and that it has never entered your minds to separate from us, or break the connexion which has so long bound us together in friendship.

Brothers: We are not behindhand with you in these friendly sentiments. Brothers, we are glad that you have given charge to the *Tajaghwendy* to bring away your warriors from *Canada*. We hope they are by this time returned to their Castles; and we hope, that when you inform them of what has been passed here, they will possess their minds in peace, and remain quietly at home.—(A belt.)

Brothers, Warriors of the *Oneidas*, *Oghquagas*, *Tuscaroras*, and those of *Canassadaga*: You have heard the declaration we have made to your Sachems. As you have acted upon the same just and peaceable principles, what we said to them is applicable to you too, and we entreat you to consider it as such. We are greatly pleased that you avow that what was said in our first speech is true, and that we need not be ashamed of it. We know, brothers, that you are not to blame; but as we were to speak to the *Six Nations*, it was necessary that the charges should be general, leaving it to those who had been in the fault to take it to themselves, and to those who were innocent to say so. This you have done. It rejoices us that you declare, that as we only desire peace and have given no offence, you equally desire peace, and that, as we are born and bred together in this place, we ought to love each other. These are good sentiments. They are sentiments which show wisdom and a friendly disposition. You desire us to tell you if anything grieves us; that you will immediately give satisfaction. We say you have done nothing to grieve us, and we have the fullest confidence in your perseverance. The youngest of your warriors we hope will not go astray, as we imagine they will not act contrary to the advice of the Sachems and the elder warriors. You say, brothers, that if anything fatal should happen, and any one should strike a hatchet into your heads, that you expect it shall immediately be removed. Be assured, brothers, that we shall take care that no injury shall be committed by any of our people. If any should, we will not only immediately punish the offenders, but give you the fullest satisfaction. If any one else should injure you, we shall, immediately upon your request, assist you to take revenge, for we are always ready to assist the injured.—(A belt.)

Brothers, Sachems and Warriors of the *Six Nations*: With these belts in our hands you have taken hold of the covenant of peace. You have repented of your misconduct



towards us in the articles we have mentioned. You have told us, that although the hatchet was stuck in our heads, it was not in consequence of any resolutions entered into by the Confederacy, but that it was done by those of unsteady minds, and that the *Six Nations* have taken out the hatchet which they have stuck in our heads. Brothers, with this belt, you say you have so deeply buried the axe that none of your posterity will be able to find it again. Brothers, it gives us pleasure that you have received the covenant of peace with us. It is your duty, as well as ours, that it should be most strictly kept. This cannot be done unless the warriors of all the nations keep fast hold of the tree of peace with our brothers the warriors of *Oneida*, *Oghquaga*, *Tuscarora*, and *Canassadaga*. If any of the *Six Nations* join the enemy and fight against us, the peace will again be broken. It will be foolish again and again to enter into treaty with all of you, for we shall only have the same promises made, and they will be broken in like manner. In short, as we began by speaking plain, we will end so. Should the hatchet of any of the nations who have heretofore broke the covenant, after this solemn treaty, be stuck in our heads, words and wampum only will not be able to remove it.

Brothers: As we have, like honest men, disburdened our minds and spoke freely; as you have given us satisfaction for the injuries we have sustained; as you have taken the hatchet out of our heads; as you have buried it deep in the earth; as you have renewed the covenant of peace; and as we now possess our minds in peace, fully relying on everything you have said, we shall bury all animosities, we shall forget all injuries, and we shall proclaim that peace and good understanding prevails between the Independent States of *America*, the *Six Nations*, their nephews the *Delawares*, and other their dependants. This belt confirms my words.—*(A belt.)*

Tuesday, August 13, 1776.

PETER, the Chief Warrior of the *Oneida* Nation, made the following Speech in behalf of the Warriors of the *Oneida* and *Tuscarora* Nations:

Brothers: You will excuse me from making remarks on some passages of your speech in reply to that of the *Six Nations*. You told us, brothers, after assuring us of your peaceable intentions, that if any difference should arise between you and us, and we should again strike the hatchet in your heads, you would not again be satisfied with fair promises and a few wampum. This declaration, brothers, is not connected with the covenants of peace anciently made between our ancestors at *Albany*. When our ancestors first met, they agreed that they should take each other by the hand, and that no storms, nor even thunder, should be able to break their union. By this covenant, our ancestors agreed that no private quarrels should be deemed an infraction of it, but that such disputes should be amicably settled between them. The eyes of all the neighbouring tribes are turned to this Council-fire, and as matters may be represented wrong, it would grieve us if any difference should now arise.

He then addressed himself to the elder part of the Confederacy, recommending moderation, and that they should not suffer little matters to ruffle their minds.

The COMMISSIONERS then answered:

Brothers, Warriors of the *Oneida* and *Tuscarora* Nations: We have deliberated coolly; we have spoken plainly to you yesterday. We have no quarrel with the *Indians*. We would be glad to cultivate peace with the *Six Nations*, and our conduct shows that we have no evil intentions against them. And we would also be glad to preserve our lives and liberties. You say, when our ancestors first met, they agreed to take each other by the hand so firmly that no storms or even thunder should be able to break their union. Brothers, we mean to abide by the covenant of our ancestors.

ABRAHAM, the *Mohawk* Sachem, made the following Speech:

Brothers, the Commissioners appointed by the Thirteen *United Provinces*, attend: The whole Confederacy, consisting of the *Six Nations*, have this day taken hold of the covenant of peace. They have repented of their misconduct in the articles with which you have charged them. Our ancestors, when they settled the Confederacy, ordained that if any

of their people should, without the consent of the Sachems, stick the hatchet in the heads of any of their neighbours, that those who take care of the news should make up the matter.

Brothers: Respecting the injury that the *Six Nations* have offered you: they have stuck the hatchet into your heads, but, brothers, it was not in consequence of any public resolution entered into, but it was done by those of unsteady minds. Now, therefore, brothers, we, the *Six Nations*, take out the hatchet which we have stuck in your heads.—*(Two belts, eight rows each, one with thirteen rhombusses, the other five crosses.)*

Brothers: Our ancestors likewise further directed, in order to bury the hatchet effectually, that a pine tree should be pulled up by the roots and that the hatchet should be flung into the hole. We, therefore, the *Six Nations*, according to the directions of our ancestors, pull up a pine tree, and drop the hatchet in the hole, under which runs a strong stream of water, which will carry the hatchet forever from the sight of our posterity. Now, therefore, brothers, the whole *Six Nations*, in order to cover the hole, bring a very large rock, which they lay on the mouth of it, to cover it so effectually that posterity will never be able to find the hole in which the hatchet was cast.—*(A belt, seven rows, six squares, and one diagonal bar on it.)*

The Speech of the *Onondaga* Sachem ONWASGWINGHTE, on behalf of his and the *Seneca* Tribe:

Brothers, the Commissioners appointed by the Thirteen *United Colonies*, attend: Our brothers, the *Mohawks*, have finished what they had to say respecting the articles of accusation which you had against them. I shall begin with what was transacted at the Council at *Oswego*. After the business was over, Colonel Johnson desired the *Six Nations* to send a deputation of two or three of each tribe with him to *Caughnawaga*, where he was to kindle up a Council-fire, that they might hear what he had to deliver, because they might otherwise think that he had delivered a speech different from the one he had delivered at *Oswego*. When they had done it he thanked them, but at the same time told them he would rather wish to have twenty of each tribe to attend him. Thus it happened that some of our warriors and some of our uncles, the Sachems, went with him, without informing our people that were left at home of it. After this, brothers, a party of us went down to *Albany* to inform you, our brethren, of what had been transacted at *Oswego*. At this place we met Colonel Francis and Mr. Douw, and informed them of it, but told them we were unacquainted with the conduct of our people then in *Canada*, though we supposed that they only attended the Council-fire of peace. When the Sachems and Warriors who went down to attend at Johnson's Council-fire returned, the Sachem brought with him the hatchet—a thing entirely unexpected, as we had given him no directions to do so, if Johnson should change his mind and make the offer. We therefore immediately considered the matter, and sent the axe down to *Albany*.

Brothers: When those Sachems and Warriors returned, as we have before related, they left some of their party still in *Canada*, and those that remained there, brothers, are the persons who have involved us in the difficulty under which we now labour.

Brothers: After the affair at *Niagara*, Colonel Johnson, when he went away, sent Colonel Butler to *Niagara*, at which place Colonel Butler called us together, and desired some of our people to go in a vessel to *Oswegatchie*, that they might whenever any intelligence arrived convey it to him; particularly if they should hear of Colonel Johnson's arrival at *Quebeck*, which he desired they would acquaint him with as soon as possible. He then treated them very plentifully; and a large number of them went aboard; in which party went a certain *Onondaga* chief warrior, whose disposition was such that he was entirely averse to anything of a peaceable nature. Upon his arrival at *Oswegatchie*, he, together with the principal warriors of the *Mohawks* and *Senecas*, prevailed on the younger warriors to change their minds, though Colonel Butler had strictly enjoined them on their departure that they should not make him ashamed of their behaviour by any misconduct of theirs, and that they should mind nothing but peace. A certain *Indian*, called *Aboyderroy*, was the principal cause of our warriors going in such numbers. A part of those who went to *Oswegatchie*, being



disgusted at the proceedings of their chief warriors, returned to the *Six Nations*. As soon as the *Senecas* were acquainted with the transactions of their warriors in *Canada*, they kindled a Council-fire, at which the sachems and principal warriors of eleven of their Castles attended; in which Council it was unanimously agreed that they would for the future restrain the warriors of their nation from committing hostilities against the *Bostonians*.

Brothers: We likewise, the *Onondagas*, have had a Council on the same occasion, wherein it was determined to restrain our warriors, the principal of whom solemnly declared that they would not for the future interfere in your dispute, and promised that they would be directed by those who take care of the news. And as we have taken the same resolution with our brothers, the *Senecas*, we now speak as well in their as in our own names.

Brothers, the Commissioners appointed by the Thirteen *United Provinces*, attend: The principal tribes of the Confederacy, the *Mohawks* and *Oneidas*, assigned a very difficult task to us, which is, to take care of the Council-fire kindled by our ancestors at *Onondaga*, where the minds of the whole Confederacy and their allies are concentrated. The minds, also, of the Great King and those of the white people of this great Island are there. We have, therefore, a difficult task. We have your words at *Onondaga*. You told us that if any difficulties should arise between us and our brothers of the Colonies, measures would be mutually adopted to remove these difficulties.

Brothers: We, to whose care the Council-fire is committed, will always pursue and cultivate peace between you and us; and we are determined, as long as we shall remain a nation, to maintain peace. This the Thirteen *United Colonies* may depend upon.

Brothers: You desired us to declare our sentiments and intentions freely, which we have now done. We are sorry we cannot give you information what success *Tunauquage* has had, who is gone to take the hatchet from our disobedient warriors. We shall be extremely glad to see them return home with him, which, if they do, we shall endeavour to incline their minds to peace.

Brothers: The *Nantuckets*, *Cayugas*, and *Delawares*, and the people who live in the fields, have deposited their minds with us, and declared that they will abide by our determinations and pursue our directions. This, brothers, is all we have to say.—(Two belts, one of ten rows, with the representation of a man at each end, a hexagon in the middle; the other eight rows, the two middlemost white.)

OJAGHAT, a *Cayuga* Sachem, spoke as follows:

Brothers, the Commissioners appointed by the Thirteen States, attend: I speak in the names of the Warriors as well as Sachems, as their minds are the same, as likewise in the name of our younger brothers the *Totodoes*.

Brothers: I rose from my seat with the same sentiments as the *Onondagas* and *Senecas*. They had agreed to restrain their warriors; we had done the same. Our chief warriors severally declared that they would for the future conform to the directions of those who take care of the peace.

Brothers: Carefully attend to what I am about to say. You have laid our faults before us; you have desired us to declare our sentiments fully and freely.

Brothers: We acknowledge we have been culpable, with all the *Six Nations*; though the *Cayuga* Tribe have never acted so as to incur the displeasure of our brothers of the *United States*. We cannot look upon ourselves as so much to blame as you represent, for it was but yesterday (as it were) that we had a Council-fire at *Albany*, and the agreements there made I still retain fresh in my memory. The *Six Nations* know that we are not usually guilty of ill conduct. We ever used to rectify the errors and misconduct of the *Six Nations*.

Brothers: I think we do not usually offend our brethren, and that our minds are still disposed to peace, as they ever have been. In our wars with the Southern *Indians*, when we had occasion to travel through the territories of the *Great Knife*, we have been surprised to see his hatchet stick in our heads, and our dead warriors covering the ground; but yet, brothers, when we recurred to mind the covenants made by our ancestors with *Queder*, at *Albany*, in which it was agreed if any difference should arise between us and you, it should be immediately settled, we composed our minds.

Brothers: Our being in fault is not so much owing to ourselves as to the *Onondaga Kaquatanawji*, who induced our giddy and foolish people to go, by promising that they should have large presents if they went. But the sensible part of our warriors could not be seduced by his promises, and rejected his solicitations.

Brothers: We apprehend that our people were rather induced by the hopes of procuring clothing for themselves, than any malicious motives, as they had been informed that the *Bostonians* were unable to furnish them with any necessities, not even a charge of powder. We think that it would not have happened if traders had been sent up as usual, with goods and ammunition, to supply our wants.

Brothers: You shall now know our minds. Both our Sachems and Warriors are fully and strongly disposed to peace. It is farthest from our intentions to break the peace, as our minds, together with all our Confederacy to the westward, are united at our Central Council-fire at *Onondaga*. We have been anciently intimately acquainted, and it has never entered into our minds that we should separate from you, or break that connexion.

Brothers: Our people who went down on the occasion which you have mentioned, are now returned home. They were not personally concerned in those transactions, but only looked on. They would have returned back before they reached the place of action, had not the *Onondaga* chief persuaded them to stay, and called them *Bostonians*. When the party of our warriors who went into *Canada* returned, they left five of their party employed in making a canoe to come off. Apprehensive, however, that *Aquatanajey* would again change their minds, they desired *Tehagawangey*, the *Onondaga* Sachem, to use his influence in bringing them back, which he promised to do. We shall communicate to you any intelligence we may receive from them, and let you know if they return. As the *Six Nations* always inform you of every material occurrence that happens, so they will still continue to do. The *Onondaga* Sachem has a belt from our female governesses, in charge, with directions that if every other measure should fail, he should address our warriors in their names, requesting them to return.

Brothers: This is all we have to say. You may depend that our minds shall never be divided from yours. Both our Sachems and Warriors are fully resolved to cultivate peace and harmony with our brethren of the Provinces.—(A belt of fourteen rows, with several diagonal bars and small pyramidal figures.)

PETER, Chief Warrior of the *Oneidas*, made the following Speech:

Brothers, Commissioners of the Thirteen *United Colonies*, attend: As the Chiefs and Warriors of the *Six Nations* and their dependencies are met together at this time, we thought it a very good opportunity to speak. We, the Chiefs of the Warriors of the *Oneidas*, address the Commissioners, as also the *Oohkaugis*, and their brethren the *Tuscaroras*, and likewise the inhabitants of *Kounosorago*. The Warriors of those places now speak.

Brothers, Commissioners: We have given good attention to what you have said at this place, and receive it in our hearts, as real truth.

Brothers: We think it very right what you have said, and need not be ashamed of. You have told us all our faults very freely, but we can tell you that we are not to blame in any of the things which the *Six Nations* are accused of. Whoever has done mischief will endeavour to exculpate himself. We need not.

Brothers: You have declared that you desire nothing but peace with the *Six Nations*. As you have given us no offence, why should we not equally desire peace with you? Say. There are some amongst us who regard you, and some who do not. As we are born and bred together on this great Island, why should we not love each other? Our ancestors made a covenant of peace for us.

Brothers: This speech comes from our hearts, not from our lips only. We speak once for all. We fear *God*, who looks upon us and knows our promises, and if we do amiss, we are willing immediately to make satisfaction. If we do anything that grieves you, of which we are insensible, we desire that you will tell us. We look to our chiefs; we do not choose to make them ashamed. We warriors never say much, we speak our minds at once. Our chiefs speak a

great deal; they are acquainted with and often quote the institutions of the ancients. We desired our chiefs to speak for themselves only, and that we would speak for ourselves; that if anything should be done contrary to what we promise, the chiefs may not be the liars, but we will be obliged to take the blame on ourselves.

Brothers: We have restricted our young warriors from saying anything but what tends to peace, because you desired us to mind nothing but the affairs of peace; and if any of our young warriors should, contrary to the advice we have given them, interfere in your quarrel and fall, it will not disturb our minds; neither will we regard it, nor will it break the friendship that now subsists between us. We will not desire you to take the axe out of the heads of those that fall; for our young warriors know the danger of going to war, and if they fall, it is a thing not uncommon; what they have to expect, and what often happens. We shall think our young warriors are instigated by the devil if they intermeddle in your dispute, as they are all sensible of our agreements with you, and the friendship that subsists between us. As we have agreed to mind nothing but peace, we shall think it strange if any one injures our warriors while they remain in peace. But if anything fatal should happen, and any one should strike a hatchet into their heads, we expect that it shall be immediately removed.

Brothers: Possess your minds in peace with regard to us, as we do with regard to you. This is all we warriors have got to say.—(*A belt of eight rows, with transverse lines throughout the whole.*)

ADAM, an *Oequaga* Sachem's Speech to the Commissioners.

Brothers: The treaty that was held at *Fort Stanwix*, when the line was settled between the *Indians* and the white people, we supposed was held as well in the names of the people of these Provinces, as in the name of the King, as they were then all of one mind. In this treaty it was promised us that if we would covenant to settle the line, none of the white people would be permitted to encroach upon our lands; and that if any should encroach upon us by passing the line, he should be punished with death. This, brothers, is the promise made to us at the time of the settlement of the line; but, brothers, some of your people have of late made encroachments upon our lands, by surveying our hunting-grounds close up to our habitations.

Brothers: We beg you will consider of it, and hope you will give us redress.—(*Four strings.*)

The COMMISSIONERS answered:

Brothers: We have taken into consideration the information you gave us with this string.

Brothers: Attend to our answer, and let all the Nations attend thereto. You say that you suppose the treaty held at *Fort Stanwix* was as well in the names of the white people of these Provinces as in the name of the King.

Brothers: We must inform you that for upwards of thirty years past all lands that have been purchased have been purchased in the name of the King, and after they were purchased the King sold them again to the white people. The greater, the much greater part of the lands bought of you in that time were for the great men on the other side of the water. The inhabitants born on this great Island have very little of it.

Brothers: You may remember that you seldom have held a treaty in which you were not asked to sell some of your lands. Since we have had the management of your affairs, we have never desired you to sell any.

Brothers: As you do not know who the people are that have surveyed your lands beyond the line, we shall give you a letter to the Minister, that he may inform you, and you may be assured that our great Council at *Philadelphia* will effectually put a stop to such wicked practices, and punish every person that shall offend against their orders. If any person should come on your lands, we desire that you will bring them immediately to the Minister, that he may write down their names, and inform us of it, and then we shall immediately proceed against them.

Brothers: You may all rest assured that no white people will be suffered to pass the line settled at *Fort Stanwix*; for although that agreement was made with the King, yet as you are satisfied with it, we shall take care that it is complied with.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 18, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Last night about nine o'clock I received some despatches from General *Washington*, enclosing a letter for you, and those I now send you. I opened your letter by mistake, in the presence of the express, my Aid-de-Camp, Mr. *Livingston*, and Mr. *Taylor*, but finding the mistake, immediately closed it.

I enclose you an extract of the General's letter to me, in answer to some animadversions I made on what I supposed had been done at *New-York*.

Captain *Varick* has this moment received yours of the 16th. Only five quires of cartridge-paper now to be found on a search I had yesterday made, and that was sent to Colonel *Dayton* at *Fort Stanwix*. A considerable quantity has some time ago been written for to *New-York*. I have again mentioned to General *Washington* the necessity of expediting it to this place.

Yesterday Dr. *Barker* delivered me the Adjutant-General's letter of the 1st instant, directed to the commanding officer here. He is in custody. Pray order down the witnesses, that he may be tried.

Lieutenant *McMichael*, of Colonel *Dayton's* regiment, a volunteer of the name of *Smith*, and one *Ridley*, (a clerk to Major *Fonda*.) are deserted to the enemy. They were pursued to *Oneida Lake*, and had just got into a boat when the party pursuing arrived at the Lake.

Three men out of five who went on a scout to *Oswego* were either killed or taken by the *Mississaga Indians* within six miles of *Oswego*. The other two, who were both wounded, are returned to *Fort Stanwix*, conducted by some of the *Six Nations*, who fell in with them in the woods.

Adieu. I am ever most sincerely and affectionately your most obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

P. S. A letter from the General, just received, advises me that the articles in the enclosed list left *New-York* on the 10th instant.

*A Return, made NEW-YORK, JULY 8, 1776, to His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED COLONIES, of sundry articles shipped for ALBANY, in good order, by HUGH HUGHES, Assistant Quartermaster-General, on board the Sloop GENERAL WOLF, ANDREW DOWN Master, and to be delivered to the Hon. Major-General SCHUYLER, or his order.*

8 boxes of Musket-ball, one thousand one hundred and thirty-five pounds weight.  
5 tons of Lead.  
20 reams of Cartridge-paper.  
6 Saws.

ANDREW DOWN.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 18, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received yours of the 17th, with nineteen batteaus, which came safe to hand. The *Massachusetts* troops and tents were all sent forward before the arrival of the boats, but since the boats came to hand a number more tents have arrived, which I immediately forward by this conveyance.

Your Honour may depend I shall immediately forward the Bay troops and tents as fast as they arrive, according to orders; and am your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, August 18, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The enclosed will satisfy you as far as I am satisfied in respect to Mr. *Traverse*. It may not be amiss to detain him if an enemy, or to maintain him if a friend. Your better judgment will decide the matter.

Last night another gondola arrived from *Skenesborough*, and Colonel *Wynkoop* writes me word that a row-galley and another gondola will be finished by *Sunday*. As the

carpentry goes on so brisk, I dare say you will take care our fleet meets with no delay for want of the other requisites.

General *Arnold* assures me he has from time to time informed you of all his demands. More artillery and more powder will be wanted, if our vessels continue to increase thus rapidly.

I desire you will send me my letter to the General, with his to me, which were both enclosed to you in my last. I have no copy of them, therefore would be glad you would not disappoint me in sending them.

I hope your treaty has concluded to your satisfaction. My respectful compliments to Mrs. *Schuyler*. I wish we had some of your good butter and vegetables, for a cabbage or a turnip has not been seen here since I came.

I am, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,

HO. GATES.

To General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, August 18, 1776.

SIR: I have this moment received your letter from *Crown-Point* of yesterday evening. It is my orders you instantly put Commodore *Wynkoop* in arrest, and send him prisoner to Head-Quarters at *Tyonderoga*. You will at the same time acquaint the officers of the fleet that such of them as do not pay an implicit obedience to your commands are instantly to be confined and sent to me for trial.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

HO. GATES.

To General *Arnold*.

COLONEL STEWART TO GENERAL WATERBURY.

Ticonderoga, August 18, 1776.

SIR: General *Gates* is exceedingly surprised to learn from a person arrived here that the tent-poles, after being brought such a great distance from home, should be left within about ten or fifteen miles of *Skenesborough*; he therefore begs you will immediately send the empty wagons back for them, and by no means give the wagoners certificates, or put them in any way of getting paid, until they again return to you with the poles.

I send you by the bearer the two thousand feet of seasoned plank which you requested in your former letter, and am, &c.

By order of the General: W. STEWART, A. D. C.

To Brigadier-General *Waterbury*.

GEORGE PITKIN TO BENJAMIN PAYNE.

Hartford, August 18, 1776.

DEAR SIR: *George Burnham* desires me to write to Governor *Trumbull* to get him released, that he may prosecute his business as a gunsmith. Am sensible of the necessity of it, but for me to write only on his request, cannot do it in character. Captain *Pitkin* came from his Honour yesterday, and his Honour is of the opinion that the publick should not too much suffer in some important matters; and has promised all the workmen and procurer of materials for the powder mill to stop, and one tanner in Captain *Pitkin's* company to stop and take care of two tan-yards. I give it as my individual opinion that it is necessary he should stay to prosecute his business, but the necessity you best understand. Likewise understand that Major *Newbury* gave martial orders for him to stay till further orders; if so, there will be no need to apply to the Governour.

I am, with esteem, your very humble servant,

GEORGE PITKIN.

To *Benjamin Payne*, Esq.

MESHECH WEARE TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Hampton Falls, August 18, 1776.

SIR: I have received your favours of the 16th and 17th instant. I am extremely sorry at the delay our troops meet with by the villanous practice of the Doctor at *Number Four*. The Committee here will take the most speedy care respecting that matter. We are greatly obliged to you for your readiness to assist us with cannon were it in your power; it is an article we extremely want, and have no doubt

should have received from you could you have done it with safety.

I am, with great regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

MESHECH WEARE, *President*.

To the Hon. *James Bowdoin*, Esq.

GEORGIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Tuesday, August 19, 1776.

General *Lee* waited on the Board, and proposed the following questions for their consideration:

1st. Whether, as the post on *St. Mary's* is now abandoned, and the whole country between that river and the *St. John's* broke up, and as there is no possibility of transporting cannon, ammunition, provisions, or collecting a sufficient number of men for the siege and reduction of *Augustine*, an irruption into *East-Florida* can be productive of so great and important advantages to the general cause, or to this State of *Georgia* in particular, as to compensate for the trouble and expense, and what these advantages are? What are the means of certainly supplying the troops with grain and meat? how their baggage is to be transported? whether it can be safely transported by water? if it cannot, whether wagons can pass? if the road is practicable only to horses, how pack-saddles are to be provided?

Ordered, That Messrs. *Jonathan Bryan* and *Nathan Bronson* be a Committee to answer the questions proposed by General *Lee*.

SIR: The Council having taken into consideration your Excellency's questions this day laid before them, are clearly of opinion that an irruption into the Province of *East Florida* will be attended with the most salutary consequences to this Province, and of course render service to the whole Continent.

The reasons which weigh with them are as follow:

1st. That they conceive the reduction of *Augustine* to be a very considerable object with the Continent in general, but this Province in particular.

2d. They are led to hope, that if the whole country around is ravaged, the cattle on the east side of *St. John's* driven off, and the inhabitants obliged to evacuate their plantations and fly into the Castle, the scarcity of provisions and the want of fresh supplies of many articles from the country, will of itself oblige the garrison to submit to our arms.

3d. That supposing this last consequence not to happen, yet the driving our enemies so far from our country will be of infinite advantage in this, that it will be a means of preventing the loss of negroes, either by desertion or otherwise by land.

4th. That the country being in our possession, will not only, from principles of dread, attach the *Indians* to our interest, but also put it in our power to prevent our enemies from holding any intercourse with these savages, or having any opportunity to tamper with them, or supply or stir them up against us. And we conceive that after the Province shall be so broke up, a single troop of Horse, appointed to range on the west side of the river *St. John's*, will be quite sufficient to cut off all communication between the *Creek Indians* and the people of *East-Florida*.

5th. By carrying distress and war into the country, we incline to think the inhabitants of *East-Florida* will find themselves so much engaged at home as not to be able to fit out privateers against this Province till we are better prepared for them. This Province has been harassed, and they expect to be much more so, with privateers, in case some vigorous blow is not struck against *East-Florida*; and we are inclined to think the plunder which will fall into the hands of the soldiers will compensate them for the difficulty and toil attending their march.

As to the other question, viz: What are the means of certainly supplying the troops with grain and meat? how is the baggage to be transported safely by water?—we are of opinion, that while the troops remain on this side of the river *Altamaha*, there will be no occasion to do more than send a commissary ahead to provide rice and beef at different stages, as the troops advance, the country all along abounding with provisions, after they pass this river. We think it will be necessary to send a quantity of rice in boats, with directions to meet the troops at different places; and we are

informed that these boats may go with great safety, there being an excellent inland passage to a place called *Picalatto Creek*, less than twenty miles from *St. Augustine*. We imagine these boats must be procured in or about *Savannah* or *Sunbury*, and therefore we would recommend that the troops send such of their baggage as they can't conveniently carry in these boats. Some horses will certainly be necessary for troops upon their march, which, together with pack horses, we think may be got in this place. Wagons will be useless, as they cannot proceed above fifty miles from this town.

GENERAL LEWIS TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 22, 1776.]

Williamsburgh, August, 1776.

SIR: I have ordered the First and Third Battalions to march with all speed to the Flying-Camp in the *Jerseys*. The Third being stationed on *Potomack* at the time they received their marching orders, may be expected before the other; and for another reason too, the time for which the first battalion was raised being nearly expired, it took several days to reinlist them on Continental establishment. The numbers at present are not complete, but I hope a few days will make it nearly so, if not quite. The officers of that battalion have shown a noble spirit in exerting themselves to the utmost in engaging the men on this occasion. They are anxiously forward in joining the battalions to the northward, hoping they will have an opportunity of distinguishing themselves. They will march next *Monday*.

In a letter I wrote the honourable Congress by General *Mercer*, addressed to you, I begged particular instructions respecting the filling up such vacancies as had or might happen in the line of officers in this State; to which I have received no answer. Many vacancies there are at present, which make me once more beg particular instructions on this head. It is absolutely necessary for the good of the service that it should be known whether promotion by a regular succession of the nine battalions of this State is to take place, or whether it be confined to the particular battalions in which such vacancies happen. To me the former method is most clear of exception, and bids fairest to give seniority the preference; which I conceive to be a rule in all armies, where merit did not on particular occasions make it necessary to overlook this rule.

Since I wrote by General *Mercer*, Colonel *William Christian*, who commanded the First Battalion, and Colonel *William Dangerfield*, who commanded the Seventh, have resigned. We have at present four battalions without commissioned Colonels to command them, to wit: the First and Third, which go to the northward, and the Fifth and Seventh. General *Mercer* wrote me that Colonel *Charles Scott's* commission, (who we supposed would have the command of the Fifth, by the resignation of Colonel *Peachy*,) and other commissions, had been sent from *Philadelphia*. They have never come to hand. Colonel *George Weedon* has for the present the command of the Third; Lieutenant-Colonel *Isaac Read* appointed to the First; Lieutenant-Colonel *William Crawford* to the Seventh, they being the oldest Lieutenant-Colonels. In this way they will act until the pleasure of Congress be known.

To the general list, signed by the President of the Committee of Safety, mentioning the names, ranks, and dates of commissions, and sent by General *Mercer*, I refer you, by which you will be able to give promotion in any method the Congress may be pleased to adopt. At present the officers of inferior rank to Lieutenant-Colonels, where vacancies have happened, have risen by seniority in their respective regiments, and will continue so to act until the pleasure of Congress be known, which I wish to be soon, that all differences of opinion with regard to rank may be settled.

*Dunmore*, with his whole fleet, sailed last *Wednesday* out of our Capes; one part of the fleet turned to the north, and the other steered southwardly.

I am, honourable sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ANDREW LEWIS, *Brigadier-General*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. I enclose a list from the Second and Sixth Battalions, which may be of service in filling up the vacancies. The First and Third Battalions will produce such list when they reach *Philadelphia*. As soon as I am prepared with

such lists from the other battalions, which are now at distant stations, shall send them.

LEWIS.

INSTRUCTIONS TO DELEGATES OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, IN MARYLAND CONVENTION.

To CHARLES CARROLL, *Barrister*, SAMUEL CHASE, REZIN HAMMOND, and BRICE THOMAS BEAL WORTHINGTON, *Esquires, Representatives of ANNE ARUNDEL County*:

GENTLEMEN: We the subscribers, freemen of *Anne Arundel County*, taking into our most serious consideration the important business you are to meet upon, the 12th of this instant, think it our indispensable duty to give you the following Instructions:

It is with the utmost concern and displeasure we find that the last Convention excluded all such of our countrymen who did not possess fifty acres of land, or a visible estate of £40 sterling, in the election of Representatives; thereby unjustly depriving near half of the free inhabitants of this State of the inestimable right of free suffrage, nevertheless subjecting them to all the pains and burdens of Government. This glaring injustice, hateful distinction, and apparent impolicy, we are determined to use our utmost efforts to get redressed; and that our free, honest, well-affected brethren, as they proportionably bear with us every burden and brave every danger, shall equally share every privilege. We therefore direct and instruct you to move for, and use your utmost endeavours to establish, in the new Government: That all freemen, natives of this State, above twenty-one years of age, and well-affected to the present glorious cause in which we are engaged, shall have the right of a free vote in the election of all officers who are to be chosen by the people, provided such persons shall have resided one year next preceding the election in the County, District, City, or Town, where he shall offer to vote; also, that every foreigner above twenty-one years of age, well-affected to the present glorious cause, having a visible estate of £30 currency, or a freehold of fifty acres of land, and who has resided as a freeman two years next preceding the election in the County, District, City, or Town, where he shall offer to vote, shall have the free suffrage in the election of all officers who are to be chosen by the people; also, that all elections be free, and made *viva voce*, in the manner heretofore used in this State; also, that *Annapolis* be represented, but that the inhabitants thereof be not allowed to vote for the Representatives for this County; that there be chosen by the people an Upper and Lower House annually—these two Houses to be distinct and independent of each other, and to form the Legislative power; and also that the persons appointed to hold the Executive power, have no share or negative in the Legislature; also, that no person shall be eligible to sit in either House, or Legislature, or Congress, who holds any office of profit, or any pension, or any part of the profit thereof, either directly or indirectly, or who holds any office in the regular military service, or marine service, either Continental or Provincial; that the trial by Jury be held and kept sacred, and the *habeas corpus* preserved; also, that Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, Clerks of Counties, and Surveyors, be chosen by the people, annually, of each County; that a well-regulated Militia be established in this State, as being the best security for the preservation of the lives, liberties, and properties of the people; that every Militia company choose its own officers, and battalions their Field-Officers; that Adjutants, drummers, and fifers, with drums, fifes, colours, and cartouch-boxes, be provided at the publick expense for the different battalions of Militia, and guns for such unarmed men who are not able to purchase the same, and that the Colonels of each battalion be empowered to contract for the above, procure the same, and draw on the Treasurer for the amount; that all moneys to be raised on the people be by a fair and equal assessment, in proportion to every person's estate, and that the unjust mode of taxation by the poll, heretofore used, be abolished, and that Assessors be chosen by the people of each district in each County, annually; also, that the votes and proceedings of the Assembly be published, except such parts as relate to military operations and measures taken to procure arms and ammunition, and that they sit open, except when particular business requires their being private; also that the votes and proceedings of Congress be published, except as aforesaid.

(Signed by eight hundred and eighty-five Freemen.)



*To the Electors of ANNE ARUNDEL County:*

GENTLEMEN: We were honoured on *Saturday* afternoon with Instructions from a considerable number of the inhabitants of this County, on points of very great importance, relative to the formation of a new Government for this State. As your Delegates, we esteem ourselves bound by your instructions, though ever so contrary to our opinions. We conceive several of your last instructions, if carried into execution, destructive of a free Government. We are reduced to this alternative: we must either endeavour to establish a Government without a proper security for liberty or property, or surrender the trust we have received from you. We submit to you the propriety of reconsidering your instructions. We would with pleasure wait on you at the most convenient places in the County, to explain our reasons against the restrictions you are pleased to impose on us; but we are prevented by our necessary attendance on the publick business. If you could make it convenient to meet at the city of *Annapolis*, on *Monday*, the 26th instant, we will attend you. We are now ready (as we ever have been) to serve our country at every hazard; but we cannot submit to be instruments for its destruction.

We are, gentlemen, with sincere respect and esteem, your obedient servants,

CHARLES CARROLL,  
BRICE T. B. WORTHINGTON,  
SAMUEL CHASE.

Annapolis, August 19, 1776.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COL. HOLLINGSWORTH.

[No. 150.]

Annapolis, August 19, 1776.

SIR: We received yours of the 14th of *August*, and are of opinion your plan for forwarding the troops is a very good one, and therefore we approve of it. Any expenses that may be incurred you will be pleased to pay, and send down the accounts properly authenticated, and you shall be reimbursed, besides satisfaction for your trouble. When you want cash, apply with the order enclosed to the *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer, and he will let you have £300. What further may be expended, let us know, and you shall be paid. We would have you apply with all diligence to making bayonets, and also barrels of every kind, more especially the large ones contracted for. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO KENT COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 151.]

Annapolis, August 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Council of Safety request you will buy up what wooden bottles you can, not exceeding three hundred, for the use of the Province. The order of Convention for the marching of our troops was rather unexpected, and our workmen cannot supply the bottles so expeditiously as the service requires. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation, *Kent* County.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL EWING.

[No. 151.]

Annapolis, August 19, 1776.

SIR: We received yours of the 18th, and observed your complaint, which arises not from us, but a very different cause: we mean, your companies' not being armed. The order of Convention is, that all the companies are to march that can be armed and equipped. Captain *Forrest* and Captain *Brooks* have no arms but what they have borrowed or can borrow of the Militia. We have therefore ordered them to their stations in *Calvert* and *St. Mary's*, to supply the place of Captain *Beall* and Captain *Thomas*. Captain *Hanson's* company we have ordered to march to this city, and also Captains *Bowie* and *Tillard*, on their way to the camp, when they can get armed and equipped. When that can be done, we shall give you the proper orders on the Commissary of Stores. We are sorry to have occasion so often to repeat what we had before told you, that your companies are not to march unarmed. As soon as they get arms, we shall order them to march immediately.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Thomas Ewing*.

## ISAAC GRIEST TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore-Town, August 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have been with the tent-makers, and find Mr. *Johnson* has made up all the tent-cloth he had. Mr. *Jacobs* has two boys at work, and has stuff by him to make upwards of twenty tents, and has sailmakers at work on old sails. He says he has orders to get more tent-cloth from *Elk-Ridge*; but I am certain *Johnson* will do them much sooner, as he has now four or five hands idle. No tent-cloth came from *Parker*. No brushes or priming-wires, save one hundred and fifty, to be had here in less than two weeks. The knap and haversacks for the two companies are painted this day, and to-morrow, if possible, shall send them over the Bay. Shall send down the cartouch-boxes, &c., by the first opportunity. I can find no cloth in town at less than 25s. per yard, and it will take more than two yards to make a blanket. Colonel *Ewing* has taken almost all the canteens that are made, but I have been with the coopers and directed them to work night and day, and not take time to muster till they had served the Flying-Camp, for which I hope you will excuse me.

I have delivered cartouch-boxes and gun-slings to the Captains of the three companies here and twelve blankets, which were all in the magazine.

I don't know what will be done for blankets. All our guns are in bad order, and very few bayonets. The smiths are all at work on them. I shall do all in my power to obey your orders.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

I. GRIEST.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## BALTIMORE COUNTY COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, *August 19, 1776*:

Present: S. Purviance, *Chairman*; W. Lux, *Vice-Chairman*; J. Merryman, A. Buchanan, R. Alexander, C. Ridgely, (of Wm.), W. Aisquith, J. Calhoun, J. Cradock, B. Griffith, W. Tolley, Jun., A. Britton, T. Sollers, J. Sterrett, E. Talbot, J. Cockey, D. Lux, T. Gist.

Mr. *George Lumley* having produced a certificate from Dr. *Weisenthall* of his being ineffective, the fine of 40s. imposed on him as a Non-Enroller was remitted.

Complaints being exhibited by *Jacob Kitsmiller*, *Isaac Sell*, and *Isaac Sell*, Jun., to this Committee, that Mr. *James Clarke*, of this town, had refused to sell them Salt at the price stipulated by this Committee; whereupon the said *James Clarke*, upon summons, appeared, and confessed that he had taken a higher price than was allowed, and alleged in excuse for his conduct that his Salt was much better in quality than what others in town were selling for, and imagined that the Committee would not censure him for a breach against their Resolve regulating the price of Salt, when, in his judgment, the purchaser was benefited by the extraordinary advance, and agreed to give it to him.

Mr. *Clarke* then produced a concession, which was judged insufficient; and the following question was proposed and put by the Chairman: Whether any concession whatever from Mr. *Clarke* be accepted or not?

Resolved in the negative.

For the Negative.—Messrs. Sollers, Britton, Gist, Talbot, Sterrett, Aisquith, Ridgely, Cockey.

For the Affirmative.—Messrs. Lux, Merryman, Tolley, Griffith, Calhoun.

Whereupon it was Resolved, That Mr. *James Clarke* be published as an enemy to his country.

The fines assessed on *John G. Williams* and *John Dimmett* are remitted, the former having enrolled with Captain *Garritson*, and the latter with Captain *Foster*.

A Warrant was given to Captain *Garritson* to distress the goods of *Samuel Fendall*, Jun., *Joseph Carter*, and *William Huffman*, in the sum of 40s. each, for non-attendance at eight several meetings of his Company.

A Warrant was also given to Captain *Phillips* against two of his Company, for 16s. each, on account of absence at four several meetings of said Company.

The complaint exhibited against Mr. *Christopher Limes*, on *Monday* last, of his having attempted to join Lord *Dunmore* without success, and declaring that he would join Lord *Howe*; but no proper evidence being produced to support the charge, the said *Limes* was reprimanded, discharged, and advised to behave himself better in future.

Mr. *John Crosier* exhibited a complaint against Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth* for offering to sell Tea at an exorbitant price, which is referred for consideration to the next meeting of the Committee on *Monday* next.

Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth* appeared, in consequence of the summons of this Committee, and acknowledged the truth of Mr. *Crosier's* allegation against him.

It having been represented to this Committee that *Robert Alexander, Esq.*, had uttered several reprehensible expressions in a speech made to the people at the close of the polls for Delegates for *Baltimore* County in the Provincial Convention, this Committee think it their duty to take notice of the matter, and summon Dr. *Robert Lemmon*, Messrs. *Charles Ridgely*, (of *Jno.*) *George Lux*, *Benjamin Levy*, and *James Cox*, to give in their evidence relating to it.

Attest:

GEO. LUX, *Secretary*.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE OPENING OF THE ELECTION IN DOVER FOR THE CHOICE OF MEMBERS OF CONVENTION, AUGUST 19, 1776.

COUNTRYMEN, FRIENDS OF LIBERTY: Having a few things to mention to you previous to your entering upon the principal business of the day, without making any formal apology for so doing, which you would deem unnecessary, for I know your candour, I only request your favourable attention a little while. Where measures relating to the publick are founded on pure, liberal, and upright principles, they who take an active part in them, being properly qualified for the task, cannot but possess a conscious firmness, a noble self-complacency; while they who, in the more retired walks of life, observe and feel the salutary effects of those measures, have little more to do than give their approbation, and to sit down in quiet: they earnestly wish and hope for their country's safety, should that remain yet doubtful, and will heartily rejoice therein, when it becomes established. Of this latter number I account myself. With many others, peaceably yet very ardently, am I looking for the complete propitious issue of *American* defensive efforts; and though there be manifold dangers still to excite apprehension, and difficulties not a few to be encountered, yet have we cause to thank a gracious Providence that thus far our affairs are tolerably successful. Publick men and publick operations, throughout these rising States, will, with very few exceptions, I really believe, shed on the *American* name conspicuous, lasting honour.

In the course of human events, there happen in every country, at one period or another, certain distinguished occurrences, upon which a great deal depends with respect to the subsequent fortune of the people. The resolutions taken on these capital occasions and the plans adopted, do usually produce effects, either wholesome or malignant, that must require considerable time, perhaps some ages, before their strength can be exhausted and their influence spent. A very signal era in the political affairs of this Continent we are likely to see fixed in our day.

The *English* colonists, who from their earliest settlement till the present year, invariably acknowledged their dependence upon the parent State, and boasted of it as their protection and glory, have a good while past found that *British* claims are growing so exorbitant, an unconstitutional domination of both King and Parliament is gaining ground so rapidly upon them, enforced by all the fury and desolation of war, that in order to save themselves and their posterity from impending ruin, they could not but dissolve the bond of their ancient union, and become henceforth independent.

This their Delegates, vested with competent authority, exercising all the precaution, wisdom, and sagacity which the magnitude of the case demanded, have finally resolved on and declared in General Congress.

In perfect consistency with this great plan, that honourable body have recommended to the several States the forming such Constitutions, and new-modelling their internal police, in such manner as may best suit the genius and circumstances of each respectively, and conduce most to make the people happy, being strictly attentive withal to the important interests of the Continental Union.

On the present day, therefore, in consequence of regular appointment, the Freemen of the *Delaware* State have assembled to elect their Representatives for the express purpose of establishing a system or charter of Government, deriving its spirit and virtue from the people's authority.

It may be laid down, indeed, as a first principle, (and I presume we have the best writers on Government to support us,) that all power resides originally in the people. Some have talked, and written too, of a Divine right, upon a very different principle: but never yet could they render their positions even plausible. It appears much more reasonable to suppose that the Ruler of the Universe hath lodged the Divine right in the hands of the governed.

By whomsoever the reins of Government are held—whether its forms be simple or compound—whether the departments be few or many in the State—it is the people's authority that is deposited with each; and to them the constituted powers are, beyond a doubt, accountable.

The general welfare—the people's happiness—being the end or main object of all, they are to judge; for they can discern and feel how far that end is answered, and, in their collective capacity, to act as exigencies may require, but ever through the medium of prudence and sound discretion.

Had not the rulers of *Great Britain*, to whom we so long with pleasure acknowledged ourselves subordinate, infringed upon our liberties, and broke down the barriers of publick security; had they not made light of the most sacred compacts; and given repeated wounds to the good old Constitution, at least as far as *America* is concerned, we would by no means have taken those steps that of necessity we must now pursue. A fondness for innovation we have never shown. Opposition to Constitutional authority we have never given. All we have been asking for, and all we now wish to attain, is "peace, liberty, and safety;" and if we cannot enjoy these blessings in one system, we must try another. This is the footing on which we stand; here is the ground on which we proceed; and we trust in *God* it is firm enough to bear us.

You must be sensible, then, my respected countrymen, of the high privilege long since clearly recognised, fully ascertained to you: the privilege, the right of governing yourselves; a circumstance absolutely essential to civil liberty. But as this can only be effected by delegation, it being utterly inconvenient and impracticable for the whole people personally (for instance, in such a body as attends here to-day, or one a vast deal larger) to be present at the passing of every ordinance and law, it is incumbent on them to be exceeding careful who they appoint to act in their behalf. Want of proper circumspection in this particular is highly culpable; I scarce know anything that can excuse it. And whether such infidelity to themselves and to their country proceeds from people's indolence of temper; from a supine indifference about the matter—who or what kind of men are appointed; or whether it springs from venal corrupt views; or, lastly, from faction and the manœuvres of party business, the evils accruing to society are much the same; the consequences in the end may prove fatal.

Now, brethren convened on this occasion, you are well acquainted with the purpose of your meeting; you know the importance of it. There never was, perhaps, an election held in this County, or this Government, half so interesting as the present. Be very cautious, be rational, be dispassionate, be prudent, be just to yourselves and to your children.

What you have to do is, to choose suitable men; men who have skill and integrity equal to the business you are sending them upon. The Congress hath pronounced you independent and free; it will rest with your Convention, by their judicious management, to secure to you the happiness and safety that may result from that declaration. For a State may be free and independent with respect to the impositions of any foreign Power; and nevertheless, through the vices of its own policy, or the arbitrary disposition of its own Rulers, the people of it be slaves, or at best, have a very precarious security, and a defective enjoyment of their privileges.

Bare good meaning in your Representatives, without capacity, is insufficient; so is capacity without an honest heart. You can find men among you possessed of both; men, I trust, unbiassed by prejudice, not warped by passion, above the narrowness and illiberality of injuring the general welfare out of private resentment, or for private interest. They also, in particular, who have already conducted themselves well in the sphere of publick usefulness ought not to be overlooked now by a grateful sagacious people.

Be upon your guard against a party spirit, or you will be misled. Beware of those who would increase subsisting jealousies, and exasperate you against each other. Though

such supporters of the common cause, be they of what distinction or side they please, it matters not, do assume a patriotick semblance, or may address you under signatures no less than of *Roman* dignity, listen not to their story with attention over-credulous; think for yourselves; judge for yourselves. "They zealously affect you, but not well." Their ways and means are quite incompetent to beneficial ends. The spirit of patriotism is no headlong noisy effervescence, nor angry ebullition of the mind; it delights not in tumult, revenge, or outrage. It is a pure manly flame, superior to the mists of faction, regarding no party names, exalting the soul to deeds of diffusive virtue. It is allied so close to the spirit of Christianity as to claim these as its predominant qualities: an undimayned firmness, a generous expansive benevolence, with zeal, wisdom, and clearness of understanding; for it, too, is "a spirit of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Permit me, then, to charge you with an affectionate solicitude—to entreat you, as a brother and fellow-inhabitant, whose hopes and interests are one with yours, to lay divisions and animosities entirely aside; they will, unless relinquished, distract our councils, enervate, retard, and disfigure our most useful proceedings at home, and utterly discredit us abroad. Let us be united and at peace, by all means, among ourselves. If ever unanimity was a virtue, it must be one at the present juncture, and a preëminent virtue it is in a worthy cause.

It is more than probable that in the process of this day there will be diversity of opinions amongst you, and a contrariety of endeavours; there will be planning, no doubt, and counter-planning. This may arise from the nature of the business, for aught I know, and possibly, in itself, may not be censurable in the least, or hurtful to the bond of peace, provided men act from an upright motive, conducting their plans or their opposition, if they must oppose one another, with humanity, good sense, and decency. But "bitterness, and wrath, and clamour, and evil speaking, and malice,"—O fy! fy on them! they are to be classed with things most "rank and foul in nature."

At an election it is implied that certain persons, either upon their own motion or proposed by some or other of the electors, do stand candidates for an appointment, whatever it is. Here, then, the electors or constituents have a right to exercise their own judgment; and people will differ sometimes in opinion. They have the privilege of choosing for themselves, and they may differ in their choice. But still, it is every one's indispensable duty to inform his judgment as well as possible, and to use his privilege so as not to abuse it. The sure way is, to conduct yourselves clear of prejudice and undue influence.

I step not forward as an advocate for tests, on occasions of this sort especially; yet, perhaps, if every one who sets up at an election, and every voter, laying his hand upon his heart, were virtually to put some such test to himself as the following: Do I solemnly think that I am a suitable person for the place or trust I am soliciting? or, do I solemnly believe that the person or persons I vote for, and whose interest I am pushing, are duly qualified? and is my opposition to others grounded on principle?—it would tend to preserve both civil and moral liberty.

The mention of this test brings to my mind another: I mean that which the honourable House of Assembly have empowered the Judges of this election to put, as they may think fit, to all or any of the voters. What I would observe on it (and I do it with great deference) is no more than this: If it was only meant as a restraint upon those who may be disaffected to the *American* cause, it was meant well; but if it should prove a bar to any tender or scrupulous consciences, so that a considerable class of men, otherwise good friends to their country, are withheld from their right, it is a pity. However, you, gentlemen, Inspectors and Judges, have a discretionary power in the matter, I apprehend; and we need not doubt your exercising it in a manner delicate and unexceptionable.

Now I conclude, wishing this County success in the event of this interesting day, and desiring for the sister Counties a similar felicity. May we and they always have a succession of able, good men, to manage our political concerns, incorruptible guardians of the rights of freemen, the honest Representatives of an honest people.

Like another *Sparta*, may this little State be wise, and

brave, and great; great in strength, but greater still in virtue; holding its rank with unimpaired dignity in the scale of *American* empire.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, August 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 5th instant has come to hand, and am much pleased to hear of the success of the *New-England* privateers in capturing *British* ships. May they go on to distress the *British* trade, till they are taught wisdom by misfortune, since nothing else will effect it. I opened your letter to Colonel *Whipple*, agreeable to your order, in which I find you want information about the agency and marine affairs; but as Colonel *Whipple* will be able to satisfy you as to those matters, (who will be with you before this,) I shall say nothing about them.

Since Colonel *Whipple* left us the ship *Morris* arrived here from *Havre-de-Grace*, in *France*. She has brought on Continental account above one hundred bolts of sail cloth, amounting to between fifty and sixty thousand yards. She has also brought for this Colony fifty-three tons of lead, and seven and a half tons of powder, &c., &c.

A ship has likewise arrived from *Lisbon*, with necessaries for the Continent, but cannot give the particulars. She left *Lisbon* the latter end of *June*, and left several other of our vessels there, who were permitted to trade freely, notwithstanding the report which lately prevailed, that the *Portuguese* had seized all *American* ships in their harbours.

One vessel from *Statia*, and one vessel from the *French West-Indies*, have also arrived, and have brought in about five tons of powder, &c. By a letter from *Statia*, dated 28th *July*, we are told that the *Dutch* have refused to renew the prohibition for sending out arms and ammunition; that the *English* have seized two of their ships, and sent them into *England*, under pretence of their supplying us with arms, &c.; that in consequence, the *Dutch* had ordered sixty ships of war to be fitted out, and to raise twenty thousand additional land forces, and had refused to lend *England* the *Scotch* regiments, as they had before agreed to. What dependence is to be placed in this intelligence, I can't certainly say, but believe some part of it, at least, is true, I hope all. By sundry letters, it appears that both the *French* and *Dutch* are very fond of our trade, and have sent and are sending to the *West-Indies* large quantities of arms, and every other article that we are like to want.

The insolence of the commanders of the *British* men-of-war in the *West-Indies*, is become intolerable. It seems that one of them some time since went into the harbour at *Statia*, and after waiting some days, attempted to take possession of some *American* vessels there, but was prevented by the *Dutch*. She then left the harbour, and the next day seized a ship bound from *Statia* to *Amsterdam*, and carried her into one of the *English* Islands, and there he detains her. This has so exasperated the *Dutch*, that the Governour of *Statia* has (it is said) ordered the Captains of the ports to fire on any *English* man-of-war that comes within reach of their guns. This looks like kicking up a dust.

I am, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

To Mr. John Langdon.

P. S. August 20th.—Yesterday a vessel arrived at *Egg-Harbour*, that was sent to the *West-Indies* on the account of the Congress. It is said she has brought six hundred stand of arms and ten tons of powder. The particulars of the fire-ships attempting the men-of-war, and burning a tender, and of the men-of-war getting down by *New-York*, you will hear before this reaches you. *Ut sup.* J. B.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, August 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having the pleasure and satisfaction of your approbation of my past conduct in the Army, beg leave to acquaint your Honours, that I am still ready and willing to serve in my proper rank in the Army, and attend your further orders.

I am, with due respect, your Honours' most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

## WILLIAM COX TO WILLIAM ATLEE.

Philadelphia, August 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your agreeable letter of the 8th instant came safe to hand a few days ago, by *John Hubley*, Esq., enclosing £175, for which I am extremely obliged to you. May you get ten thousand per cent. interest for this advance. She is a fine brig, and mounts twelve six and four pounders, with swivels, cohorns, howitzers, muskets, blunderbusses, pistols, &c., with provisions and other necessaries for a four months' cruise. She carries ninety men, and is commanded by one of the most agreeable Captains that perhaps ever sailed out of this port, a seaman and warrior every inch of him: his name is *Hamilton*. I expect he will sail in a few days. My brother has been offered twenty-five per cent. advance for the half of his half, and would not take it. Enclosed is a letter for Mrs. *Atlee*, to whom he pleased to give my compliments; and am, your very humble servant,

WM. COX.

## PHILADELPHIA COUNTY COMMITTEE.

Philadelphia, August 19, 1776.

Whereas the Militia of this County have bravely, at this emergency, stepped forth and pledged their all in contending for our most sacred and invaluable rights, which are inalienably derived from the laws of *God* and nature; and whereas many of those persons have left families, who are destitute of every means of acquiring an honest living:

*Resolved, therefore*, That those poor families, at this unhappy situation of affairs, ought to become the objects of publick compassion, and that they cannot be treated with too much lenity, as a recompense for the inestimable services that may be done by their husbands, who are now subjecting themselves to the hardships and dangers of war, while others enjoy perfect tranquillity, with every happiness that their domestick repose can suggest.

As there are gentlemen appointed in every Township to distribute such sums of money to the families of the poor Associators, now in actual service, as their several necessities may require,

*Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to those gentlemen to be actuated purely from principles of humanity, and that they make an equitable and frugal distribution of the money deposited in their hands, by paying proper attention to the distressed, at the same time avoiding the imposition of impostors; and upon the whole, that they discharge the trust reposed in them with great care and fidelity, as they will be accountable to the Treasurer of this Committee how they have distributed their several sums.

This day appeared before the Committee a certain *James Thomson*, of the Township of *Oxford*, and voluntarily made the following acknowledgment:

"Whereas I have at sundry times been guilty of saying many imprudent things, inimical to the natural rights and liberties of *America*, and have threatened violence both to my neighbours' properties and families during their absence in the Militia: I do hereby, from a sense of my fault, most humbly beg the pardon of all those whom I have offended by my misconduct, and promise before this Committee that I will for the future conduct myself as an orderly well disposed person.

JAMES THOMSON."

The above named *Thomson* declaring that he is afraid to return home to his lawful employment without this Committee will interfere with their protection:

*Resolved, therefore*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of the Township of *Oxford*, and all others, that they would forgive the said *Thomson*, and suffer him to return home unmolested, as he does, with every mark of conviction becoming a penitent, solemnly promise and declare, that he will ever hereafter behave himself with becoming decency and respect to all ranks of people.

Signed by order of the Committee:

ENOCH EDWARDS, *Secretary*.

## GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Elizabeth-Town, August 19, 1776.

GEN. MERCER desires his most grateful acknowledgments may be signified to the gentlemen Associators of *Pennsylvania*, for the great attention they have paid to every part

of military duty while under his command. He is happy to have it in his power to relieve them, agreeable to order of Convention, and hopes the quota of men to be furnished by such battalions will be speedily made up, in proportion to the numbers on duty here, that no delay may be given to the most honourable dismissal of the remainder.

## LANCASTER COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Inspection and Observation, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 19th August, 1776:

Present: Mathias Slough, William Atlee, Henry Dehuff, Lodwick Lowman, John Miller, Eberhart Gruber, Christopher Crawford.

*William Atlee* in the chair.

*Resolved by the Committee*, That *John Bruce*, an Associator in Captain *Withers's* Company of Militia, in Colonel *Ferree's* Battalion, be not marched with the Militia, he being a Gunbarrel-maker, and it being contrary to the Resolves of Congress to march tradesmen of that kind. And it is the opinion of the Committee, that *Alexander Hunter*, a Fuller, also in Captain *Withers's* Company, ought to remain at home to pursue his business, he being the only Fuller in that neighbourhood.

*William Frenniman*, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with Doctor *Christian Voght*, at the Saltpetre making business, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him agreeable to the Resolves of the Committee.

*Cuthbert Harcope*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *Henry Musser*, at the Nailer's business, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the Resolves of the Committee.

## GENERAL ROBERDEAU'S ADDRESS.

The following Address of General *Roberdeau* to the *Pennsylvania* Associators at *Amboy*, is published by an order of the Convention of *Pennsylvania*, of August 19, 1776.

JOHN MORRIS, Jun., *Secretary*.

GENTLEMEN: As it hath pleased Providence, for the exercise of our patience, and for the defence of that freedom which we inherit from the great Giver of all things, to call us from our families to the field; and as I have the honour of being your General officer, I trust you will take it well in me to endeavour to point out to you whatever appears necessary, either for your own particular good, or the more noble object—the good of all.

It is our unavoidable lot to live in the day of trial; and, for my own part, as I am persuaded, from the haughty disposition of the *English* nabobs towards us, that a day of bloody separation must one time or other have happened; on that account, I say, I think it my duty to rejoice, and to reckon it among the number of my felicities in this world, that it hath happened at a time when I can bear my part therein. If we can leave peace and freedom to our children and posterity, we leave them a fortune more valuable than gold.

As to our present condition as soldiers in camp, I would advise you to reflect, that a young Army, so suddenly collected, and having everything to learn and to provide, will unavoidably be put to many inconveniences, especially at first. It is a new life to us all, and young beginners in every state must expect trouble; but as we have taken up the sword, so likewise must we take up the cross of a soldier, and go through the difficulties as well as the dangers of the field. Hardship is the soldier's fate, and there is as much true honour in bearing it with a manly fortitude as in facing the cannon of an enemy. Patience under difficulties is one of the first virtues in a military character, and without which, no man, however brave, will ever be a soldier.

A number of complaints have been very justly made respecting the provision delivered out by the Commissaries, and I assure you that no care or duty has been or shall be wanting in me, in concurrence with my senior in command, General *Mercer*, to have the provisions good, and the quantities justly given out; yet, after all, we must not expect to have things about us with that order and economy with which we had them at home. In times like these, some sacrifice of convenience must always be made to necessity.



And if any man among us is so lost to all sense of virtue in this important struggle for life, liberty, and property, and the conservation of them to posterity—who cannot, for a short time, put up with a soldier's fare, that he may afford his country that service she calls for, and which is greater than, in all probability, will ever be in his power, through his whole life, to render again—such a man is beneath mine and every honest *American's* respect or notice. Your reasonable complaints will be remedied, and until that can be accomplished, I recommend it to you to show your good sense by your good nature, and put up with things as well as your can.

But I find myself under the unpleasant necessity of taking notice of a dissatisfied spirit which, somehow or other, has crept in among some of us. Of your valour I have no doubt, and I warn you, as friends and fellow-soldiers, that you listen not to those (should there be such among us) who would stir up discontent and uneasiness. "Let us go home," has been the cry of some. What! my friends; turn your backs on your enemies in three or four weeks' time? Is it worth putting the Continent to the expense of equipping and marching a body of men for the service only for a few days, and half that time spent in going and coming? Besides, can you expect anything less than that the enemy will follow you to your homes, joined by a large body of Tories, that will flock to them the moment you leave this spot? "But we have wives and families," you will say, "and our business is at stake." The more reason, then, you have to stay. You are the very men whose duty it is not to go. Here is the spot to make your defence. If you have a mind to keep the enemy from ravaging your country, fight them on the sea-shore. If you would preserve your property and families in peace, then let not those who would destroy the one, and distress the other, set their foot upon your shores. And if any of you have wives, connexions, friends, or relations, who urge you to return, they may just as well invite the enemy to come along with you. There is no difference, in effect, between retreating and being defeated. Consider it well, gentlemen; think for your country's good; look but across the water, and for your honour's sake, never let it be said that an army of sixpenny soldiers, picked up from prisons and dungeons, freed from transportation, the whipping post, and the gallows, fighting in the worst of causes, and for the worst of Kings, bore the fatigue of war with stouter hearts than you.

That we have left a number of disaffected men behind us, who have contributed nothing or no just proportion to the service of the country which gave them bread, and which has raised them from poverty to plenty, is true, and too true; and that there are others who are meanly seeking to enrich themselves by your absence, is equally true; but let not their vices be our example. If they have failed in duty, it is no reason we should. And I have the pleasure of informing you, that the Convention has taken that matter under consideration, as appears by the following extract from their proceedings:

"In Convention, July 23.

"Whereas the Associators of this State, on the requisition of the honourable Continental Congress, have freely and bravely gone into the field for the defence of the common liberties of *America*, while the Non-Associators remain at home in peace and security, without affording, by personal service or otherwise, that just and necessary assistance they owe to the State for their protection:

"*Therefore, Resolved*, That this Convention will take the most effectual measures to render the burden and expense of the inhabitants of this State just and equal."

I have now, gentlemen, to remind you of the condition on which you marched and engaged in the present service, which was, to continue therein "until the Flying-Camp of ten thousand men could be collected to relieve you, unless you should be sooner discharged by Congress."

These, gentlemen, are the express words. I have written to the Convention to hasten the completion of the Flying-Camp, and I need not point out to you the ruin and destruction that would follow were any of you to quit your station before you are relieved. The enemy, in that case, would be encouraged to attack, either those who were brave enough to remain, or the Army at *New-York*, and perhaps a thousand of your brethren may fall for every hundred of you which at this time should withdraw from duty, a circum-

stance, gentlemen, you would never through life be able to reconcile to your consciences; especially as it is possible that, by our formidable numbers and unanimous spirit, the enemy may be disheartened from attacking us.

I am desirous, gentlemen, of having the matter plainly understood among you all, and I should be deficient in duty both to you and the publick, were I to speak a language that might tend to amuse or deceive you. I have no interest distinct from yours to make my entreaties necessary; the cause is as much yours as mine; you have the same at stake which I have. I am ready at any time to go with you through every necessary difficulty or danger, and I expect from you the same disposition. Only consider the duty you owe to yourselves, to your families, and to your country, and you need no other inducements. When you forget these, which I think it impossible you should, every other will be in vain. And, as a necessary companion to your bravery, I would recommend to you, gentlemen, a strict observance of the discipline and duty of a soldier; a true spirit of liberty is a spirit of order; there can be no liberty preserved without order. The *English Army* derive all their strength from a close attention to discipline; with them, it supplies the want of virtue. In short, gentlemen, though our cause is the most noble that man ever fought to defend, yet bravery, without order, will not be sufficient for the work we have to do. As we abound in the first, let us add to it the advantages of the last; and with those united, under the smiles of Heaven, we have no reason to fear a glorious issue to our righteous cause.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Newark, August 19, 1776.

SIR: This will be delivered at Head-Quarters by Mr. *Ludwick*, whom I sent for to *Amboy*, in consequence of your Excellency's letter of yesterday. Enclosed is some intelligence that may be of consequence. I am pushing on troops to *Bergen* to the amount of one thousand. I hear the Third *Virginia* Regiment is on the march to join the Army. Please to signify your intentions as to the disposition of such *Virginia* troops as may arrive—whether they are to proceed on to *New-York* or remain in the Flying-Camp.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

H. MERCER.

To General *Washington*.

*Jonathan Woodman*, *Isaac Osborne*, and *Robert Peas*, say, that on the 2d of *June* they were taken in the schooner *William*, belonging to *Salem*, in her passage from *St. Martin's*, by the *Cerberus* frigate; that they were carried into *Halifax* and shipped on board the *Peggy* transport, from which they escaped last night. They further say, that the *Phenix* man-of-war was grappled by one of our fire-ships, and narrowly escaped being burnt; that the ships, in their passage down, received some shots, and the *Phenix* had one man killed; that on *Thursday* night last, a boat came from the *Phenix* down to the fleet, a Lieutenant in which received a cannon-ball through his thigh from one of our batteries. The accounts as to the number of the enemy's troops are various; that the Army is sickly, especially Lord *Dunmore's*, who brought but one hundred and six, black and white, with him; that General *Clinton's* conduct at *Charlestown* is much blamed—he is accused of cowardice, and some say he will be hanged; that before nine o'clock, boats are suffered to pass through the fleet without interruption; that they have built about twenty new flat-bottom boats, every ship, besides, having one; that last week several bodies of troops were embarked—some yesterday, and the ships that received them all unmoored; that the *Hessian* troops appear old and indifferent; that the *Highlanders* seem very desirous of deserting, three of whom have been lately taken in the attempt and hanged, and one shot.

—  
*The Examination of Captain BRITTON, who landed from on board a brig bound to NANTUCKET, belonging to the whale fishery, which had been discharged by Lord HOWE.*

Captain *Britton* sailed from *Halifax* with four hundred Light-Horse. From the best intelligence that he could collect, there are about seven hundred Light-Horse on *Staten-*

*Island.* It is thought there are about twenty-five thousand effective men, eleven thousand of whom are *Hessians*. The general report was, that they intended to attack *Long-Island* first, and, if possible, to storm the fort opposite the city, in order to prevent their shipping being annoyed when the attack is made on *New-York*. The *Hessians* were landing on *Staten-Island* as fast as possible when he left it; and, from a conversation he had with several *Hessian* officers, he has no doubt, from proper encouragement and opportunity, they would join the *Americans*; that Captain *Talbot*, of the *Niger*, with two other frigates, had received orders to go round the east end of *Long-Island* into the Sound, in order to cut off the communication between *Long-Island* and the main; that it is generally thought they mean to attack *Long-Island* with their Grenadiers and Light-Infantry, and at the same time to send the remainder of their Army up the *North River*, and land above the town, by which means they expect to secure General *Washington* and the Army without firing a shot. That Captain *Britton* believes the attack is only delayed until a favourable wind and tide offers, as they intended it on *Saturday* morning last; that they are certain of success, as they are of opinion our men will not stand more than one fire; that the mode of attack is, to give one fire, and then rush on with fixed bayonets. That a number of boats from *Long-Island* came over with fresh provisions and intelligence during his confinement; and that a negro from *Staten-Island* goes over to the *Jersey* shore every night to receive letters lodged in some private place; and that he believes they have daily intelligence of all our movements. A negro escaped from *Staten-Island* this morning, who says that all the troops from this quarter were to march on *Wednesday* next, and to be replaced by *Hessians*.

Head-Quarters at Amboy, August 18, 1776, one o'clock.

GENERAL ROBERDEAU TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Newark, August 19, 1776, half-past eleven o'clock, A. M.

SIR: The post-rider just passed through here, with a very incredible story, which he told with great confidence, viz: that you had received a flag from Lord *Howe*, "proposing to retire with the fleet and army, and that he was willing to settle the present dispute on any terms you should ask;" for which he quoted the authority of an officer in your Army, who told him he might spread the news without the least reserve, for that the officer offered to swear to the truth, for that he had it from you. As this intelligence might have a tendency to lull the inhabitants, I thought it my duty to make it the subject of an express, without counselling General *Mercer*, who is gone forward towards *Amboy*.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

DANIEL ROBERDEAU.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

P. S. The intelligencer further informed that the reason of this hasty move from Lord *Howe* was news from *England* of a rumpus with *France*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 20, 1776.]

New-York, August 19, 1776.

SIR: I have nothing of moment to communicate to Congress, as things are in the situation they were when I had last the honour of addressing them.

By a letter from General *Ward* of the 12th, I find that *Whetcomb's* regiment, on the 8th, and *Phinney's*, on the 9th, marched from *Boston* for *Ticonderoga*. Governour *Trumbull*, also, in a letter of the 13th, advises me that *Ward's* regiment, in the service of the States, was on the march to this Army, and that he and his Council of Safety had in the whole ordered fourteen Militia regiments to reinforce us. Three of them have arrived, and amount to about one thousand and twenty men. When the whole come, we shall be on a much more respectable footing than what we have been; but I greatly fear, if the enemy defer their attack for any considerable time, they will be extremely impatient to return home; and if they should, we shall be reduced to distress again. He also adds, that Captain *Van Buren*, who had been sent for that purpose, had procured a sufficient supply of sail-cloth for the vessels to be employed in

the Lake, and a part of the cordage in that State, and a prospect of getting the remainder.

As there will be a difficulty, in all probability, to circulate the papers designed for the foreign troops, and many mis-carriages may happen before it can be effected, it may be proper to furnish me with a larger quantity than what I already have.

Enclosed I have the honour to transmit you a general return of our whole force at this time, in which are comprehended the three regiments of Militia above mentioned. I am sorry it should be so much weakened by sickness. The return will show you how it distresses us.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, your most obedient,

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. The post just now arrived has brought a further supply of papers for the *Hessians*, which makes my requisition unnecessary.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL ROBERDEAU.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 19, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of this date, and thank you for the intelligence thereby communicated.

The report propagated by the post-rider is totally destitute of truth in every instance; and as it may have the fatal tendency you seem but too justly to apprehend, I beg, sir, that you will take such steps to contradict and suppress it as you shall think most likely to effect it. I am, &c.

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Brig. Gen. *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Pennsylvania* Militia.

QUARTERMASTER HUGHES TO GENERAL GATES.

New-York, August 19, 1776.

SIR: By order of his Excellency General *Washington*, I have the honour to enclose you a return of sundry articles shipped on board the schooner *Union*, Captain *Sanford*, which I wish safe to hand.

I am, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

HUGH HUGHES, A. Q. M. G.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

*A Return made, New-York, August 19, 1776, to His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, by order of Colonel STEPHEN MOYLAN, Esq., Quartermaster-General, of the following articles, shipped for ALBANY, in good order, by HUGH HUGHES, Assistant Quartermaster-General, on board the Schooner UNION, PHILO SANFORD, Master, and to be delivered to the Hon. Major-General GATES, or his order.*

Double-headed Shot: For 18-pounders, 60; for 12-pounders, 80; for 9-pounders, 80; for 6-pounders, 100.

30 reams of Musket Cartridge-paper.

9 Bullet-moulds.

33 cwt. 1 qr. and 4 lbs. of Grape-shot.

PHILO SANFORD.

STEPHEN MOYLAN, Q. M. G.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 19, 1776.

Yesterday morning being cloudy and rainy, the *Phenix* and *Rose* took the advantage, and weighed anchor, but kept on the eastern shore, which prevented General *Mifflin* from bringing a gun to bear upon them. They passed through a passage which we had left open, and which was to be stopped in a day or two. About a quarter after six they appeared at *Greenwich*, on which our batteries and galleys prepared to attack. They passed all our fortifications (it is thought) without much damage. Coming directly opposite the city they fired several broadsides, but with little or no execution. They had on board a deserter, who helped to stop the place, and who showed them the way through which they passed. They have joined their fleet, with the loss of one of their tenders, which was burnt the other night by the fire-ships, and the *Phenix* narrowly escaped.

We have this day one whole regiment employed to load

a number of vessels with stones to sink between the Grand Battery and *Governour's Island*, which they will effect in a day or two.

A deserter from the enemy yesterday says, that five thousand men are to attack *Long-Island*, and the rest *New-York* on *Tuesday* next.

The brig *Enterprise*, Captain *Joseph De White*, and sloop *Beaver*, Captain *Stewart Dean*, two letters of marque, belonging to this port, after an engagement of two glasses, have taken two ships, viz: the *Earl of Errol*, a new vessel, two hundred and seventy tons burden, Captain *John Bartlett*, from *Grenada*, bound to *London*, mounting six two-pounders, laden with two hundred and twenty-two hogsheads of sugar, four hundred and fifty-nine bags of cotton, twenty-nine hogsheads of coffee, and one pipe of *Madeira* wine, valued at £25,000, has safely arrived in *Boston* harbour; and the ship *Nevis*, Captain *Coffin*, laden with five hundred hogsheads of sugar and seventy hogsheads of rum, supposed to be arrived at *Casco Bay*; both taken the 22d of *July*. Yesterday arrived thirty sail from *Connecticut*, with troops on board. The brig *Sea Flower*, Captain *Savage*, mentioned in my last to be taken by the enemy, is now in the *Sound*, and expected down next tide, laden with salt and medicines.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 19, 1776.

A flag of truce came up on *Saturday* to get liberty for Lord *Drummond* and three others to come on shore. Some will be allowed, but not his Lordship; he broke his parole. He wants to go to Congress to treat about reconciliation. The General sent word, that if Lord *Howe* would send a man of honour to Congress, he would give him a passport.

COLONEL HITCHCOCK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Long-Island, August 19, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: It gives me pain to trouble your Excellency at this time, when concerns the most important that ever filled the human breast must lie with weight upon your mind; but when I see promotions all around me, and am told that your Excellency has also assured Colonel *Varnum* that he shall be promoted, your Excellency will not think it strange that it should sensibly touch me. Colonel *Varnum* and myself are the only two Colonels that at the beginning of the war came out from the Colony of *Rhode-Island*. Both left the bar there together, and were then upon a par. Ambition, then, must prompt us both to wish at least to rise alike, because in that Colony there will and must of course be a stigma fixed indelibly on the character of him who should be so unhappy as not to be promoted. It is true, in the settlement of ranks he was made senior Colonel; Though while we lay at *Roxbury*, by General *Greene's* orders, (for we came from the Colony without any rank settled,) we cast lots for seniority, which I then obtained. However, your Excellency, in your late orders, has been pleased to assure us that seniority shall not determine promotions. What, then, should entitle him more than myself to preferment I can't conceive. If I have not attended to the cares of my regiment, if I have not conducted my regiment with as much prudence, if I have not executed every order and command with as much punctuality, or if my moral as well as military conduct since I have entered the service under your Excellency has not been as exemplary and as distinguished as Colonel *Varnum's*, I wish not to be promoted with him. For the determination of this, I will appeal to General *Greene*, who intimately knows us both. Did my state of health permit, I should have waited on your Excellency in person; but as yet it does not, though, thank *God*, I am much better, and intend in a few days to help drub those mercenary sons of tyranny.

I wish not to detract from the character of any officer, or to do an act to prevent any from promotion—I know it is the pride and ambition of every military person; but I must, with great submission, say, that if I am so unhappy as to fall so far short of your Excellency's esteem and regard as not to be recommended to Congress equally with Colonel *Varnum*, in justice to my character, (which must suffer from whence I came,) that moment that he shall receive preferment and myself unnoticed, I shall beg leave of your Excel-

lency to resign my commission and go home, and at the end of the campaign my whole regiment, both officers and soldiers, will follow me. I don't mention this as hinting that I will ever be instrumental in it, because *God* forbid I should ever thus injure my country, which constantly engages my whole attention; but such has been and such is now the ambition that runs through the regiment, because the regiment which I command came from a senior County than that which Colonel *Varnum* commands, and they always thought they ought to have been the oldest regiment, so that I am certain all the persuasion that can be used will not then prevent their quitting the service.

With the greatest esteem, and a readiness to execute all commands, I am your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

DAN. HITCHCOCK.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief of all the Forces of the *American* States, *New-York*.

COLONEL McDUGALL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Tuesday, one o'clock.

SIR: The substance of the examination of the woman which your Excellency directed me to take, is as follows, viz: That her name is *Mary Debeau*; that she lived with Mr. *John Livingston* about eighteen months ago, and resided two weeks in *New-York* before she went to *Staten-Island* the day the man-of-war passed up the river; that she embarked with seven men, good livers in appearance, and eight or nine women and ten children, landed to the right of the fleet and Army, and that no person questioned her or her companions there about her or their business, or any other subject; that her errand there was to see her husband's mother. She can give no account of the state of the Army on the Island, nor precisely where she stayed. That she left that on *Sunday* last, in the afternoon, in company with ten or eleven men and women, and passed the fleet on her left, and landed at the foot of *Leary's* Street, (where the ferries to *Powles-Hook* are kept,) between seven and eight last night, and that the boat was not examined in crossing the bay, nor any of the passengers questioned when they landed; that her husband, *John Debeau*, is in our service, (she thinks in the First Battalion of Militia; that she knows not the name of any of her companions who went down or came up with her, except one *Cassens*, who said he lived lately near the Exchange; that from what she could collect, the business of her companions down was to secure a place of retreat, and those who came up to take their families out of town.

She answers so evasively, that I am at a loss to determine her true character. I have, however, had her searched by matrons for papers, but found none. From her appearance and deportment, I am inclined to conclude she is a follower of the enemy's Army. And as the Committee of the town is composed of persons from every quarter of the town, I submit it to your Excellency whether they will not be most likely to search this matter to the bottom, and discover her fellow passengers, if her story be true.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's very humble servant,

ALEX. McDUGALL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters.

CAPTAIN SUYDAM'S REPORT.

Camp, Long-Island, August 19, 1776.

I, the subscriber, went down to *Rockaway*, just at day-break, with my company of Light-Horse, pursuant to an order from Brigadier-General *Heard*, to take care of some boats. At the house of *Van Brockel* I discovered a number of men issue out of the door and run, some of them partly dressed, and some of them in their shirts only. Immediately I ordered my men to pursue them, and presently overtook three of the number and took them prisoners. Two of them got to the woods and hid under the bushes. On finding them I ordered them to surrender. One of them did; the other absolutely refused, although one of my men had his gun presented to his breast; on which my men alighted and took him. The prisoners' names are as follow: *James Dickerson*, *Peter Mills*, *Richard Lewis*, *Person Langdon*, and *William Newton*. After I had taken the above prisoners, I examined the beach, and found a boat and four oars and a

paddle. In the boat were three sheep, four ducks, and a large bottle with water.

LAMBERTH SUYDAM, *Captain of the Troop.*

*William Newton* being examined, declares, that he stood his draught at *New-York*, and that he had found a man in his stead, and accordingly produced a certificate from Captain *Steel*, in Colonel *Remsen's* beat, in *New-York*, certifying the same; and further declares, that on account of the difficult times in *New-York* he left the city, with his family, about three weeks ago; that he had, since he came here, expressed his desire of getting off, to keep out of the way; that a person (whom he did not know) told him there would be an opportunity in two or three days; that, accordingly, an opportunity offered, and he and five others (whose names he did not know) embarked, but would not confess where they were bound for; that they landed at the beach between ten and eleven o'clock last night, and went to the house of Mr. *Van Brockel*, between one and two o'clock; that he knew not who put the sheep and ducks on board. Being asked whether the prisoners in the house were with him, he thought it was not a question which he was bound to answer, but intimated they were; and at his withdrawing, desired it might not be discovered that he had intimated it.

Mr. *Van Brockel*, who lives on the beach at *Rockaway*, declares, that very late last night two men came and knocked at his door, and after he had let them in, they told him there were four more out of doors, and he asked them why they kept out in the rain. Declares that after they had been at his house between two and three hours our men came on them; that he does not know where they came from, nor where they were going; that he knew none of them but *Pearson Langdon*.

*Pearson Langdon* examined, at first said he did not know where the boat was taken from, nor where it was; but afterwards confessed it belonged to one *Isaac Denton*; that they came out of *Mott's Creek*; that there were six in the boat; that he meant only to keep out of the way while they were draughting men, and did not intend to go further than the beach where he was taken; he does not know who put the sheep and ducks aboard. Being asked if the prisoners then in the house were in the boat, he said they were, and that the person who made his escape from the Troop was one *Jonathan Smith*.

*Abraham Probasket* being examined, declares, that yesterday afternoon he went with Mr. *Van Brockel* from *Jamaica* to the beach at the house of *Van Brockel*; that late at night some men came and knocked at the door, and were let in; that he knew none of them but *Peter Mills*; that this morning, when the Troop came up, he counted the men that were in the house—that there were six.

*James Dickerson* being examined, saith, that he belongs to *Dutchess County*, in *Phillips's Patent*, a trader there; that last winter he came to *New-York* to settle some accounts with the merchants; that while he was in *York* the river froze up so that he could not return; that as he had relations at *Oyster Bay*, he came up and spent two or three months with them; that at his return into *Dutchess County* it was there reported he had been on board the man-of-war, and that there was a person who had been on board of the man-of-war, who would swear it; that he was threatened with being sent a prisoner to the fort at the Highlands, there to be obliged to roll gravel, and that they pushed their bayonets into his guts to make him do it; that he went to the person who it was said could swear to his being on board the man-of-war; that he carried him to the Committee, and he declared before the Committee on oath that it was a lie—that he had never said Mr. *Dickerson* had been on board of the man-of-war; that this summer, while he was in *New-York*, a person told him of a person he had seen on *Long-Island* who had been obliged to leave his home with a wife and eight children; that he inquired who the person was, and being told, he knew him, and determined to come over, find the man out, and carry him to the Committee of his County to make up the matter, so that the man might stay in peace with his family; that he has been on the Island ever since. Being asked where he was going in the boat, and whether he put the sheep and ducks on board, he said he knew nothing of the boat, and ducks and sheep that were aboard; and if we had anything to charge him about the boat, we

must prove it. Upon being told that he knew he did not speak the truth, for we could prove by the confession of one or two of the prisoners that he was one that was in the boat, he seemed struck with confusion. Being offered his bundle with clothes, if he would tell which bundle it was, he refused to own that he had any clothes; but after two or three hours, when he found it did not avail him anything, he then owned one of the bundles.

*Peter Mills*, of *Jamaica*, being examined, saith, that hearing that one-half of the Militia was to be draughted, he intended to stand his draught, and go himself if draughted, but that his mother would not let him, and persuaded him to keep out of the way; that the reason of his being on the beach was, that Mr. *Lewis* had a desire to see the beach, which he had not seen for a great many years; that he went with said *Lewis*; denied his going in the boat with the others, or that he knew anything of the sheep or ducks; said that he had no other clothes with him but what he had on his body; but he likewise afterwards owned one of the bundles.

Mr. *Lewis* being examined, saith, that he lives in *Westchester*; that he came over here after a legacy that was left him by his grandfather; that he met with *Mills* at his uncle *Mott's*; that they two went alone to the beach; walked it afoot; first said it was about eleven at night, but being asked if he saw anything of the boat at the beach, he said yes, that he saw them when they first got to the beach in the evening. Being told how he had contradicted himself about the time of night he arrived at the beach, and that it did not avail his denying being aboard of the boat, for that we had positive proof he was, he said he heard we could prove it, confessed they were all equally concerned in the boat.

The above examinations taken at the Widow *Fosster's*, at *Rockaway*, August 18, 1776, before the Captain of the Troop and the subscriber.

JOSEPH ROBINSON.

#### GENERAL SCHUYLER TO COLONEL SETH REED.

Head-Quarters, Albany, August 19, 1776.

It having been represented to General *Schuyler* that Colonel *Seth Reed* is much indisposed, and that it is probable a change of air would conduce to the reestablishment of his health, the General grants him leave to absent himself from his regiment until such time as his health shall be so far restored as to enable him to discharge the duties of his station.

By order of the General:

JOHN LANSING, Jun., *A. Sec'y.*

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ALBANY, DATED AUGUST 19, 1776.

General *Schuyler* is returned from the *German-Flats*, where he had to feed and satisfy nearly fifteen hundred *Indians*. They promise a strict neutrality. Some scalps have been taken near *Oneida Lake*. A scouting party of ours were attacked by a party of *Indians*, three killed and scalped, two wounded and escaped, and fell in with some of the *Indians* that had been at the treaty, who brought them safe to *Fort Stanwix*. A report of a large body of troops from *Canada* at *Fort Ontario*, and that *Claus* and *Butler* are there. You will see *Carleton's* orders of the 7th of *August*, which were brought by Major *Bigelow*, who went with a flag of truce to carry the Declaration of Independence and the resolutions of Congress relative to the affair at the *Cedars*. An officer who went on a reconnoitre at *St. John's* and *Chambly*, fell in with a regular officer on horseback, alone, on the road between *La Prairie* and *St. John's*, summoned him to surrender himself prisoner, but he, clapping spurs to his horse, rode off; our officer fired at and shot him. He appears to have been a Brigadier-General, of the name of *Gordon*.

#### H. GLEN TO WALTER LIVINGSTON.

Schenectady, August 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I wrote you on *Saturday* concerning Mr. *Ten Eyck's* flour, and had expected your answer the same day, as I have sixty batteauxmen here waiting for a loading, and unless I have Mr. *Ten Eyck's* flour, I cannot load them. I now send my negro boy express, and expect he won't be detained long. Mr. *Ten Eyck* will expect the price you give the merchants in *Albany*.



I would be glad to know what I must give for peas. Here are some peas to be got. And should there be any hard soap in store, Colonel *Dayton's* regiment is much in want of it. Pray order some over early in the morning, that it may go off in the boats I am going to send.

Mr. *Abraham Fonda* was with me, and tells me he has a number of barrels he has made to send off to the *West-Indies*, but they are larger than common—cost him 2s. 6d., and if I will give that price, he will pack them with flour.

Your answer by this express I hope will be, that I may satisfy all the flour merchants here. They seem all to have some complaint in regard to the flour casks. I shall have occasion for all their flour before fall.

Mr. *Ten Eyck* is very particular in having as much now and at any other time as the *Albany* merchants; and don't forget to send me an order that I must have his one hundred barrels his son had engaged to send to *Fort George*.

Yours, &c., H. GLEN.

To *Walter Livingston, Esq., Dep. Com'y General*.

#### GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 19, 1776.

SIR: This day Colonel *Woodbridge* and his Major arrived at the suburbs of our encampment, and were stopped by a sentinel which I had placed there, because they had been lately inoculated. I have ordered them to remove to some distance back in the country, and to keep themselves private from those who may be on their march to this place, till further orders. They have been cleansed a little more than a week. I should be glad of particular advice from your Honour in this case, and it shall be strictly observed.

With respect to the tent-poles you mention in your last, I have just seen the Commissary of *Massachusetts* State, and he informs me that five hundred sets of tent-poles were brought from *Watertown* within seventy miles of this place, two hundred of which will be delivered at *Ticonderoga*, and the remainder are left at the distance above mentioned, on account of the badness of the roads, and cannot be brought on without an immense expense. This is the report of the Commissary, Mr. *Abbot*, to me. He further says that he has desired the Captains to take off the irons, and order the soldiers to bring them on in their packs. He says the remainder of the tents will certainly be here to-morrow night, and they shall be forwarded to you with all expedition.

I am, dear General, your most obedient and very humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. Colonel *Mott* arrived here yesterday, and upon inquiry I find he has been diligent in preparing his regiment for their march to this place, the greater part of which are on the ground. The only company behind will be in a day or two. He has just received the melancholy news of his wife's death, and is in great affliction, as he has left three young children behind him, without anybody to take care of them but the servants. On this account, as well as because a number of valuable papers were left only under the care of his wife, which require the immediate protection of some faithful person, he applied to me for leave to go home, and to be absent about three weeks. I thought proper to refer him to your Honour on this head, not doubting but that you will readily comply with his request. I would acquaint your Honour that I have met with a bad wound in my leg, which at present confines me, but hope to be about in a day or two.

This moment I have received a letter from General *Schuyler*, fully justifying my conduct in my late orders respecting the officers referred to in this, who are just come out of inoculation.

#### COLONEL NOTT TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 19, 1776.

HONoured SIR: I arrived here yesterday from *Connecticut*, my Lieutenant-Colonel and some other officers of my regiment with me. I should have been here long ago, but could not possibly get my regiment equipped. It was with the utmost difficulty, in that part of *Connecticut* where my regiment was raised, that I got the men armed. I have lost no time in arming and equipping the regiment, and pro-

viding some tents, which I have procured, and they are coming within twenty miles of this place. I had one company come in this morning, and another will be in this evening or to-morrow morning, who are yet destitute of any camp-kettles; otherwise, I believe, the regiment will be pretty well equipped for service.

I have now to inform your Honour, that about thirty miles back on the road, I received a letter forwarded by his Honour Governour *Trumbull*, by which I am informed that my wife, who I left in a perfect state of health, died the sixth day after I came from home. I lost one child a few weeks before I came from home, and an infant child since, by which my family is reduced to only three small children, the oldest under nine years, and no other person belonging to the family. I left my keys and all my papers in the care of no other persons but her who is now taken away. I have papers of the utmost consequence, and notes of hand, &c., to the amount of near £1,000, lawful money; and God only knows what will become of either my three small motherless children or my interest, unless I have liberty for about fifteen or twenty days to go and take a little care of them. I have been hitherto wholly devoted to the service of the country, and have been steady in the business since the war began; but I have still remaining some feelings for those tender connexions of wife and children; of the former, according to the Divine decree, I am deprived; and unless I can have liberty to go for a few days and attend to the latter, I fear my present state of mind will not admit of my being of any service here. General *Waterbury* thought I had better write to your Honour, not doubting my obtaining permission. If I thought it were for the good of the service that I should resign the regiment, or if your Honour should be of that opinion, I shall readily do it, rather than be deprived of seeing and taking a few days' care of the remaining small children I have left. The gentleman who waits on your Honour with this is the Lieutenant-Colonel of my regiment, whom I beg leave to recommend to your favour and notice, who will also be able to inform your Honour more particularly.

I am, sir, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

SAML. MOTT.

To the Honourable General *Gates*.

#### FIELD-OFFICERS AT TICONDEROGA TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, August 19, 1776.

SIR: We have taken the liberty to enclose to you some papers, containing part of the proceedings of a General Court-Martial lately held here, which we beg you will lay before Congress. We are sorry to take up any part of your time with them, but we have been forced to it by General *Arnold's* appeal; an appeal, however, which we believe is heretofore unheard-of, as it is from the sentence of a General Court-Martial. We have sent an account of the transactions as they happened, naked and unadorned, for we are under no apprehensions of censure, conscious that we had nothing but the good of our country and the discipline of the Army in view. If we deserve censure at all, we conceive it to be for not having exercised that power we were certainly invested with, but which we declined upon motives of consideration for the General, in hopes he might thereby have become sensible of the impropriety of his conduct, and saved us a very disagreeable alternative. That it had not that effect was not our fault. We will detain you but one minute longer whilst we make this remark, viz: there must be in the Army (as in every other society) some supreme court of dernier resort; whether a General Court-Martial be that court or not lies with Congress to determine.

We have the honour of subscribing ourselves your Honour's most obedient, humble servants, &c.,

ENOCH POOR,	ISRAEL SHREVE,
WM. MAXWELL,	THOS. POOR,
WILLIAM BOND,	JOTHAM LORING,
Z. P. DE HAAS,	ANTHO. J. MORRIS,
ELISHA PORTER,	NICH. HAUSSEGER,
FRANCIS JOHNSTON,	JOHN SEDGWICK.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

N. B. The members of the Court-Martial whose names are not subscribed are on command.

## GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, August 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Enclosed is an exact copy of the orders and letters I sent you yesterday morning at six o'clock, which I am surprised not to find complied with by the arrival of Mr. *Wynkoop* at this post. I desire that matter may be no longer delayed, and that he be sent, as I have already ordered, immediately, under arrest, to me at *Tyonderoga*.

I am, sir, &amp;c.,

HORATIO GATES.

To General *Arnold*.

## GENERAL GATES TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Tyonderoga, August 19, 1776.

SIR: Last night I was honoured with the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 12th instant. Mine of the 11th must, before this, have reached *Lebanon*. Enclosed I send your Excellency a list of the fleet of the *United States* now at *Crown-Point*, under the immediate command of Brigadier-General *Arnold*. As soon as the three row-galleys, now almost completed at *Skenesborough*, are finished, I shall despatch them, with those equipping here, under the command of Brigadier *Waterbury*, to reinforce the squadron now with General *Arnold*. These two gentlemen are intimately acquainted with maritime affairs, and being also men of undoubted character and honour, I have the greatest reason to hope for success from the united endeavours of such experienced officers. This Army, in particular, and the Continent in general, are under the greatest obligations to your Excellency for the care and attention you so constantly exert to serve them. The small-pox is the enemy I now dread the most, and am straining every nerve to annihilate the infection. In this I fear I am counteracted by some atrocious villains; but that Providence which governs and directs all things, will, I trust, preserve this Army, and finally rescue *America* from the tyranny with which it is threatened.

I am, sir, &amp;c.

HORATIO GATES.

To His Excellency *Jonathan Trumbull*.

## GENERAL GATES TO REV. MR. OLCOTT.

Tyonderoga, August 19, 1776.

REVEREND SIR: Being entirely unacquainted at *Number Four*, my respect for your character induces me to send you enclosed a copy of my letter of the 11th instant to Major *Hawley*, and to request you will prevail upon the Chairman of your Committee of Safety instantly to assemble the Committee, and call before them a certain Dr. *Stevens*, whom I would have sworn as to the number of the officers and soldiers of the Army that he has inoculated as they passed through *Charlestown* upon their march hither. When that is done, I desire the Doctor, with his poison, may be sent to close confinement in some place remote from the route taken by the troops in their march to *Tyonderoga*. I must further entreat you, sir, to recommend it to the Committee to give strict orders to have every officer and soldier who has had the disease to be perfectly cleansed before they are permitted to march to *Tyonderoga*.

You will most eminently serve your country by complying with this request, and lay a lasting obligation upon, reverend sir, your most obedient,

HORATIO GATES.

To Rev. Mr. *Olcott*, *Charlestown*, *Number Four*.

## GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, August 19, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received yours of yesterday, and have ordered Commodore *Wynkoop* to Head-Quarters. No other person in the fleet has disrespected my orders. I believe the Commodore was really of opinion that neither of us had authority to command him. He now seems convinced to the contrary, and is sorry for his disobedience of orders. If it can be done with propriety, I wish he may be permitted to return home without being cashiered.

I am, very respectfully, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Major-General *Gates*.

## COMMISSARY GILBERT TO GENERAL GATES.

Charlestown, No. 4, August 19, 1776.

SIR: I would inform your Excellency of my proceedings here, and likewise of the proceedings of others. I have used my utmost endeavours to forward the troops through this place, with provisions for their march to *Ticonderoga*. By the order from the Commissary-General, I have met with great difficulty in getting provisions for the Army, on the account of the country being not well stocked with provisions and the shortness of time that I had in getting them. Sir, I would inform your Excellency that I have had a sufficiency to supply any number that is come to this town since I arrived here. The gentlemen may say they have been detained for the want of provisions, but I can make it appear, by all the gentlemen in this place, that that is not the thing that detained them. Some companies were here seven, eight, and nine days, and would not march, for the reason that their Field-Officers were not come up. One company, (Captain *Howard's*, belonging to Colonel *Brewer's*.) would not march forward, on account of his people suffering in the woods for the want of kettles and canteens, much fearful of cooking his provision on the road. I told him that I would let him have a barrel of pork in his company, in case he could not cook on the road. Colonel *Brewer* sent discretionary orders for him to go forward, if he could get provisions here for his march; and in case he could not, to return back by the way of *Bennington*, where they have proceeded. Sir, I have got enough to supply any number that will come this way this season, bound to the Army at *Ticonderoga*.

From your most humble servant,

JOSEPH GILBERT, *Dep. Commissary*.

## COLONEL SEYMOUR TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, August 19, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: The general (and perhaps too severe) method adopted by the Militia here, that none would go, unless all went, to *New-York*, has stripped us so much of men and arms, that the inhabitants feel themselves under some apprehensions, considering the number of prisoners here and the guard we are obliged to keep every night; in short, our guard has failed already, principally for want of sufficient arms, which, with some repairing, might answer the present purpose. One *George Burnham*, of this place, one of the Militia, has been detained, by advice of the gentlemen of the town, till this time, who is our only armourer left. He must join his company this week, unless your Honour can give orders for his detention. He can scarcely be called an able-bodied man. It will undoubtedly be more for the publick safety and advantage to keep him here, than let him go, especially as he is likely to be constantly employed in repairing arms. Must beg your Honour's answer as soon as may be upon this subject.

I am, most respectfully, your Honour's obedient, humble servant,

THOS. SEYMOUR.

To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull*, at *Lebanon*.

P. S. Major *Newbery* thought he might be excused, but the company he belonged to was so strenuous, that nothing would satisfy them—all must go or none. However, they are gone, with expectation he will join, unless excused by your Honour.

## REV. WILLIAM GORDON TO GENERAL GATES.

Jamaica Plains, August 19, 1776.

FRIEND GATES: I am suspicious lest we have some low-lived fellows at *Watertown* who open letters from *Ticonderoga*; but as I can scarcely believe they will venture to look into one directed for your Honour, have therefore written to you instead of Colonel *Trumbull*. Miss *Tyler* expected to hear from him on *Saturday*, but there was no packet; however, she learned from *Edes*, the printer, that there was a paper, giving an account of *Carleton's* approach, to the Congress, letter, &c., which he designed to publish to-day, some things in it excepted, which he said ought not to be published. How the paper came, and who had it, when he was inquired of about it, he could not tell. I am jealous that paper was the Colonel's, and was designed for Miss *Tyler*. You will examine into that circumstance, and let me know. Have desired one of the Council to inquire of

*Edes*, that the affair may be discovered if possible, mentioning what fatal consequences may arise if letters are opened after that manner.

Learn that the week before last our friends at *New-York* were much in the same state as at the beginning of last *January*. If our dilatoriness does not ruin us, we shall be indebted to a special Providence. A vessel from *Portugal* brings word that the Empress of *Russia* is dead, and that the *Portuguese* expect to be attacked by the *Spaniards*, unless a match should prevent it; but should *Portugal* and its appendages become annexed to *Spain* by marriage, that will destroy the political balance of *Europe* as fully as though effected by conquest. This way we have a deal of rain, but are healthy, and have the prospect of great plenty. Could I get somebody to preach for me a few Lord's days, would, Heaven permitting, visit you and our friends at *New-York*; but the difficulty of procuring supplies makes my coming somewhat uncertain. We go on taking vessels with rum and sugar. Not having had any flying reports of the enemy's attacking *New-York*, infer there was nothing of that kind on *Thursday* morning. Wish to have the campaign wear away without their doing anything, unless I could be assured that they would be beaten; but that must be left with infinite Wisdom. We are poor judges what will be best for the whole family of *God*—I mean all created intelligences. We must therefore leave everything with Him who will execute his own wise purposes. My respects to Colonel *Trumbull* and others.

Your affectionate friend,  
To General *Gates*, at *Ticonderoga*.

WILLIAM GORDON.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, August 19, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 12th instant I received on *Saturday* evening. I gave immediate attention to your orders, and as it was judged extremely difficult, if not impracticable, to convey the mortars by land, I gave orders to the proper persons to prepare everything necessary for conveying them by water, and to work day and night until they were completed. This day they will go on board of lighters to *Sandwich*, from which place they are to be conveyed over the narrow neck of land to a place called *Buzzard's Bay*, where they will be put on board two lighters, and conveyed to *Rhode-Island*, from thence, keeping near the land, to *New-York*. I ordered they should be put on board two vessels for the greater safety, that if one should meet with any misfortune, the other might perhaps go safe. I have given Mr. *Davis*, Deputy Barrack master, the care of them, as he was well acquainted with the coast, and have directed him to make all possible despatch in conveying the mortars with their appurtenances to *New-York*.

An invoice of them is as follows: 2 Sea-Mortars, with upper and under beds; 1 Truck-Carriage; 1 dozen Hand-spikes; 4 Iron Crows; 2 Spruce Poles, for a pair of Shears; 2 Hoisting-Tackles; 3 Guis; 2 pair of Slings; 4 Luff-Tackles; 2 coils of small Cordage.

I have ordered Ensign *Gould* with his party (who were going to *New-York* by land) to go on board the vessels as a guard, lest the enemy should send their boats from some of their cruisers and attack the lighters.

Great is our solicitude for you and the Army under your command at *New-York*, as we are in constant expectation of the enemy's making a violent attack. May the *God* of armies give you success.

I am, your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,  
ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

THOMAS W. WALDRON TO MESHECH WEARE.

Dover, N. H., August 19, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: This is intended by *Stephen Evans*, Esq., who goes to *Exeter* on Mr. *Mitchell's* affair, with an inventory of the goods in his store at *Dover* the 9th of *July* last. It was thought best that the new manœuvre should be attended by the major part of our Committee. With reluctance I attended to make it a majority, and shuddered to think the first governmental act I was concerned in after a Declaration of Independency appeared oppressive. I declined signing the inventory as Chairman, at the same time

saying, if it was necessary it should have such a signature. I was ready to join in appointing another, the rather as I did not mean any court should have my name to an affair that appeared to me no better supported.

If the present struggle is to preserve the undelegated rights of *Americans* for themselves, posterity, and such as have or shall emigrate hither, and the *McMasters* (a set of *Scotch* pedlars, such as are to be found from end to end of the Continent where a boat from the sea can be waterborne,) are not friends to our endeavours for freedom, does it comport with any ideas of the liberty contended for, or the rectitude, justice, and honour intended by our liberation from island lords, to take from them or others, on slight evidence, their books, papers, and effects, without shadow of trial, and contrary to the practice of any but despotick States? and won't it sound harsh in the ears of those we have or may invite to a connexion with us?

I suppose the act excluding the *Stuart* family was disagreeable to one-third at least of the people, yet I don't remember to have heard of any coercive steps taken but against those who were in actual opposition to the *Hanover* succession; so if some few or many do not think our opposition to Ministerial mandates just, and keep within the line of their own affairs, how can it be avoided, seeing men have it no more in their power to think than look alike? (while the Colonies have reason to joy in unparalleled unanimity.) But these things apart, I suppose no step could have been taken so agreeable to the Company as that ordered by the Colony Committee; hence they will avail themselves by saying their goods are confiscated, and they thereby disenabled doing their creditors justice. Such ideas I realized and communicated to most of our Committee before the order about the goods was sent from *Exeter* hither.

As there are men at this day (and clothed with power, too) who smell treason in everything beyond their ken, as well as in ideas different from their own, (sublime ones,) these free thoughts are sent you, in full confidence that they will be kept from the eyes of such pests to everything valuable from the cradle to their coffin.

Wishing politeness, justice, and lenity among the shining characteristics of the *American* States, and that the guides through present difficulties may have Divine direction, I am, honourable and dear sir, your most respectful, humble servant,  
THOS. W. WALDRON.

Hon. *Meshech Weare*, Esq., at *Hampton Falls*, or *Exeter*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED  
ST. AUGUSTINE, AUGUST 20, 1776.

The smallest degree of sense or prudence must have shown any person the necessity of keeping this weak, infant Province as much as possible in a state of neutrality; instead of which our rulers have been spiriting up the *Creek* and *Cherokee Indians* to fall upon the frontiers of *Georgia* and *Carolina*. The *Creeks* have been prudent enough to remain quiet, but the unfortunate *Cherokees* have been the dupes of such advice. They have murdered many women and children on the borders of *Carolina*, but they are now suffering very severely for it.

Not content with this *Indian* business, Messrs. *Moore* and *Clarke*, at the head of a body of plunderers, have been sent into the Province of *Georgia*. These freebooters, in the most cruel and wanton manner, destroyed the crops, broke up the plantations, drove off the cattle, and carried away the negroes belonging to several of the *Georgia* planters. The Militia of that Province assembled under Colonel *Mackintosh*, and have retaliated on the miserable Colony of *East-Florida*. Every settlement to the northward of *St. John's River* is broken up, particularly Lord *Egmont's*, and the planters thrown in the greatest distress. The party of troops stationed at the new fort on *St. Mary's River* are made prisoners, as are also Sir *James Wright's* two brothers, *Charles* and *Jermyn*. We have not yet learned what Colonel *Mackintosh* intends further—whether he means to come here or return into *Georgia*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.  
[No. 152.] Annapolis, August 20, 1776.

SIR: There is a quantity of flint-stone at *Emerson's* ware house, on *Wye River*. We want a person that understands the manufacturing of flints. If any such person is to be had

in *Baltimore*, send him to the Council of Safety immediately, and he will meet with proper encouragement. We are, &c.  
To Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

## CAPTAIN DARNES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Queen Anne's County, August 20, 1776.

SIR: It is with pleasure I acquaint you that my company is really armed, and vastly anxious to receive their marching orders. We are still unprovided with camp equipage. We have, I suppose, twenty blankets, and expect some brought in to-day to our Committee.

There has a report prevailed among us, though not much credited, that the arms in our hands were to be put into the hands of Captain *Dean's* company. Such an order, I verily believe, would give general dissatisfaction to the company, as there has been a great deal of pains taken by many in the company to procure arms. Am not under the least doubt but if camp equipage can be provided, we shall be ready to march the first of next week. We are much in want of linen, therefore shall stand in need of your assistance: I am told the Council have a quantity by them. Shall be glad of an order from you for two bolts of osnaburgs, and the camp equipage necessary for my company, as soon as possible.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,  
JOHN DARNES.

To William Richardson, Esq., Caroline County.

## ISAAC GRIEST TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore-Town, August 20, 1776, twelve o'clock, P. M.

GENTLEMEN: I have just delivered the knap and haversacks to Mr. *Hurt* for the two companies, with one hundred and fifty brushes and priming-wires, which is all we have in *Baltimore*, and these are but this hour made ready. Mr. *Hurt* is going off this afternoon. He can get no more brushes till they come from *Lancaster*. Pray is the Flying-Camp to be furnished with bayonet-belts out of the magazine? Colonel *Hall* wants them slung. Pray let me know by Mr. *Johnson*.

Yours to command,

I. GRIEST.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

N. B. I wrote you by Mr. *Johnson* on yesterday, but he did not get away till this day.  
J. G.

Philadelphia, August 20, 1776.

We are informed by the Captain of a vessel belonging to this city, who escaped a few days ago from *Staten-Island*, that the *German* troops lately arrived from *Halifax* are landed on the Island, where it is said they are to wait the arrival of another reinforcement (which is hourly expected) before the attack will be made on *New-York*. He adds, that the *British* troops speak with great contempt of General *Washington's* Army, and are assured that they will have the pleasure of soon meeting and spending the winter with General *Burgoyne* and his troops in *New-York*.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA, DATED PHILADELPHIA, AUGUST 20, 1776.

We have been in hourly expectation of the great decision at *New-York*, but it has not yet happened. About three nights ago, an attempt was made to burn the two ships which had gone up the river. One of the two fire-rafts prepared for that purpose grappled the *Phenix* ten minutes, but was cleared away at last. A tender, however, was burnt. The two ships came down on Sunday evening, and passed all our batteries again with impunity. Lord *Durmore* is at *Staten-Island*; his sick he sent to *Halifax*; his effective men he carried to *Staten-Island*; and the blacks he shipped off to the *West-Indies*, as a recompense for their services. Two gentlemen, who had been taken prisoners by the enemy, have made their escape. They say they are now twenty thousand, and that another division of five thousand foreigners is still expected. They think that Lord *Howe* will not attack these ten days, but that he does not wait for his last division, being confident of victory without. One of these informants was a Captain of a Continental vessel going for ammunition, whose mate and crew rose and took her, and, falling in with the division of the *Hessians* which accompanied their General, were brought to. The General, learn-

ing from the dethroned Captain what had happened, immediately threw the piratical mate in irons, and had the Captain to dine with him every day till they got to *Halifax*, where he delivered him, vessel, &c., over to the *English*.

A gentleman who lived some time in this city, but since last winter has become a resident of *St. Eustatia*, writes, that by a *Dutch* ship from *Amsterdam*, they have advice that the States of *Holland* had refused to renew the prohibition on the exportation of powder to the Colonies, or to cede to the *English* the *Scotch* brigade in their service, as also to furnish some men-of-war asked of them by the *British* Court. This refusal so piqued the Ministry, that they had been induced to take several *Dutch* ships; amongst them, two that sailed from *St. Eustatia*, which were carried to *London*, and another to *St. Kitts*; in consequence whereof, the *Dutch* have armed forty ships-of-war, ordered sixty more to be built, and are raising twenty thousand land forces.

The Governour-in-chief of the *French West-Indies* has not only refused to permit the Captain of an *English* man-of-war to make prize of our vessels in their ports, but forbid him to come within gunshot of them; and the enemy's armed vessels being withdrawn from our whole coast to *New-York*, shows us the good effects of their absence, by daily arrivals of ammunition, &c.

The *Canadians* who had been Captains in our *Canadian* regiment, and whom General *Gates* writes are known in the Army to be worthy of good credit, made their escape from *St. John's*, and came over to our Army from *Ticonderoga*. They give the following intelligence, viz: That the enemy did not fortify any place we abandoned; that they had two thousand men at *Isle-aux-Noix*, under General *Frazer*, two thousand at *St. John's*, under *Carleton*, and some at *Montreal*—two hundred and fifty only being left at *Quebeck*. It was reported that four thousand *English* troops, which were to have been a part of that Army, had perished at sea, which gave great uneasiness. The fleet brought over timber, &c., for fifty boats, which they attempted to transport by land from the mouth of the *Sorel* to *St. John's*; but could not for want of carriages, and had therefore been destroyed. *Carleton*, to make amends for this, had employed *Canadians* to build batteaus at *St. John's*; but he has rendered himself very odious to those people, by levying contributions on them in general, and confiscating the estates of all those who followed our Army, or who absconded.

Great numbers of the *Germans* desert daily, and are anxiously concealed by the inhabitants; seventy *Brunswickers* disappeared in one day. Their officers are so much afraid of bushfighting and ambushes, that they will not head any parties to pursue the runaways. The men have the same fears, which prevent them from deserting in so great numbers as it is supposed they will, when once our fleet shall appear cruising on the Lake to receive and protect them.

Between the 22d and 24th ultimo, *Carleton* and the other Generals abandoned all their posts on this side the *Sorel*, except *St. John's*, with as great precipitation as our poor sick Army had done, carrying with them their artillery and provisions. This was occasioned by the arrival and mysterious manœuvres of a fleet at *Quebeck*, supposed to be *French*, who hoisted different colours, and fired at tenders sent from the town to inquire who they were. The enemy left at *Isle-aux-Noix* two hundred men to send intelligence of our operations, and it is said they will go down the river if we return into *Canada*. For this event, the *Canadians* are offering up prayers at the shrines of all their saints. *Carleton*, some time ago, hearing that we were returning with a considerable reinforcement, was so terrified that he would have retired immediately, had not some of his spies come in and informed him of the deplorable situation to which the small-pox had reduced our Army. They are now, however, recovering health and spirits.

General *Gates* writes, that he had accounts of the roads being crowded with Militia coming to his assistance; six hundred from *New-Hampshire* came in while he was writing his letter, being the first. His fleet had sailed from *Ticonderoga* to *Crown-Point*, consisting of the following vessels, viz: one schooner and a sloop, of twelve four-pounders, ten swivels, and fifty men; one schooner, of four four-pounders, four two-pounders, ten swivels, and thirty-five men; one schooner, of two four-pounders, six two-pounders, eight swivels, and thirty-five men; two galleys, mounting each one twelve and two nine-pounders, eight swivels, and forty-



five men; two galleys, of three nine-pounders each, eight swivels, and forty-five men; besides two others that are not quite rigged. Eight more galleys would be ready to join them in a fortnight, when they were to proceed down the Lake; and General *Arnold*, who is said to be a good sailor, had undertaken the command. We have two hundred fine ship-carpenters, mostly sent from hence, at work, with whose assistance, I hope, such a fleet will soon be exhibited on that Lake as it never yet bore.

The *Indians* have absolutely refused *Carleton* in *Canada*, and *Butler* at *Niagara*, to have anything to do in this quarrel, and applaud, in the highest terms, our wisdom and candour for not requiring them to meddle. Some of the most sensible speeches I ever saw of theirs are on this head; not spoken to us, but behind our backs, in the Councils of our enemies. From very good intelligence, the *Indians* of the Middle Department will be quiet; that treaty is put off till *October*.

SAMUEL GRIFFIN (DEPUTY ADJUTANT-GENERAL) TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

Head-Quarters, Perth-Amboy, August 20, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I have an apology to make to your honourable Board for having delayed transmitting to you a

general return of the Army (under General *Mercer*) so long; but have confidence to hope you will readily excuse me when I inform you, that by the General's orders I was obliged to attend all the last week at *Newark* and *Powles-Hook*, to forward the troops sent to reinforce General *Washington*. Mr. *Peters* sent us a copy of a return which he informed was such as you would wish to have. I am sorry he was at that trouble, as we have (exclusive of blanks and lines) a great number of blank returns of that sort by us, which, though very proper for Regular troops, are by no means so for Militia, at least for the *Pennsylvania* Associators, who have no fixed number of either officers or men for any one battalion. I of course cannot tell what they want to complete the different posts; they have never had any fixed number of men stationed at them, but have been reinforced and reduced twice or thrice a week, as the General thought necessary. Whenever a sufficient number shall arrive, the General proposes to fix a certain number of battalions at each post, which will enable me to put the Army on a regular footing, and to make the returns regular, and, I hope, agreeable to your honourable Board.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
SAMUEL GRIFFIN.

To the Hon. the Chairman of the War Committee.

A General Return of the Army in NEW-JERSEY, under the command of the Hon. HUGH MERCER, Esq., Brigadier-General, in the service of the AMERICAN STATES, PERTH-AMBOY.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.																RANK AND FILE.						WHERE STA- TIONED.	FROM WHAT STATES AND WHAT TROOPS
	Commissioned Officers.								Staff Officers.				Non- Com'd.											
	Colonels.	Lieut-Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Sec'd Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Paymasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Priv's fit for duty.	Sick.	On Furlough.	Deserted.	Total.	Total Officers and Privates.			
Colonel Shipman's.....	1	1	1	5	5	3	5	-	1	1	-	-	-	21	8	158	4	-	-	162	214	South-Amboy.... Perth-Amboy.... Ditto. Ditto.	Jersey Militia. Delaware Flying-Camp. Jersey Militia. Ditto.	
Colonel Patterson's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	32	15	309	89	-	-	398	-			
Colonel Deane's.....	1	-	1	6	6	3	2	-	1	1	-	1	-	14	6	138	6	5	-	149	-			
Colonel Somers's.....	1	-	1	3	3	1	3	-	1	1	-	1	-	22	5	74	6	-	-	80	-			
Total at Amboy.....	3	1	3	17	17	12	13	1	3	3	1	3	1	68	26	521	101	5	-	627	799			
Colonel Chambers's.....	1	-	1	4	4	1	4	-	1	1	-	1	-	17	6	207	4	3	-	214	-	Woodbridge..... Ditto. Ditto.	Jersey Militia. Ditto. Ditto.	
Colonel Dick's.....	1	-	1	5	3	-	5	-	1	1	-	-	-	17	5	94	6	-	-	100	-			
Colonel Seeley's.....	1	1	1	6	6	3	5	-	1	1	-	1	-	18	8	145	12	2	-	159	-			
Total at Woodbridge....	3	1	3	15	13	4	14	-	3	3	-	2	-	52	19	446	22	5	-	473	605			
Lieut. Colonel Lawrence's....	-	-	-	3	3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	3	98	-	-	-	98	-	Elizabeth-Town.. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto.	Penn. Flying-Camp. Jersey Militia. Ditto. Ditto.	
Colonel Thomas's.....	1	1	1	8	8	-	6	1	1	1	-	1	1	30	9	265	-	-	-	265	-			
Colonel Ford's.....	1	-	1	7	8	-	7	-	1	1	-	1	1	25	12	278	-	-	-	278	-			
Colonel Beaver's.....	1	1	1	4	5	-	3	-	1	1	-	1	-	15	6	145	-	-	-	145	-			
Total at Elizabeth-Town..	3	2	3	22	24	3	18	1	3	3	-	3	2	79	30	786	-	-	-	786	982			
Colonel Moore's.....	1	1	1	6	6	6	4	1	1	1	-	1	-	17	9	157	26	4	22	209	264	Newark..... Fort Lee..... Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto.	Penn'a. Flying-Camp. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto.	
Colonel Clotz's.....	1	1	1	7	7	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	7	314	28	2	4	348	-			
Colonel Swope's.....	1	1	1	8	7	7	7	-	1	1	-	1	1	29	13	310	47	1	-	358	-			
Colonel Watts's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	32	9	362	101	2	-	465	-			
Colonel Montgomery's.....	1	1	1	7	5	6	4	-	1	1	-	-	-	23	6	244	35	-	-	279	-			
Colonel McAllister's.....	1	1	1	6	5	6	6	-	1	1	-	1	-	23	7	301	40	4	3	348	-			
Colonel Baxter's.....	1	-	-	5	7	7	3	1	1	1	-	1	-	25	5	289	36	8	10	343	-			
Total at Fort Lee.....	6	5	5	41	39	41	34	2	5	5	-	4	2	157	47	1820	287	17	17	2141	2534			
Total of Troops..	17	11	16	106	97	69	88	5	16	16	1	13	5	394	139	3888	440	39	39	4398	5398			Total Flying-Camp Militia.

N. B. There are four companies of *Maryland* inlisted Militia just come in that are not in the returns. They are to stay until the first of *December*.

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, August 20, 1776:

Present: Wm. Atlee, Chairman; Wm. Bowsman, Lodwick Lowman, Wm. Brown, Casper Shaffner, Henry Dehuff, John McMullen, and Wm. Clark.

Ordered, That *Jacob Winter*, *Jacob Winter, Jr.*, *Philip Winter*, *James McElwain*, and *Henry Hare*, give good freehold security in £1,000 each, for their good behaviour to all people, particularly to *Thomas Smith* and his family.

*Jacob Winter*, bond £1,000, and *John Messencope*, bond £1,000, to the State of *Pennsylvania*; conditions for the good behaviour of the said *Jacob Winter* to all the Subjects and Inhabitants of this State, and particularly to and towards the family and estate of *Thomas Smith*.

Acknowledged in Committee, August 20, 1776.

*Henry Hare*, bond £1,000, and *John Messencope*, bond £1,000, to the State of *Pennsylvania*; conditions for the

good behaviour of *Henry Hare* towards all the Subjects and Inhabitants of the State, and particularly towards the family and estate of *Thomas Smith*.

Acknowledged in Committee, August 20, 1776.

*Philip Winter*, bond £1,000, and *John Hoover*, bond £1,000, to the State of *Pennsylvania*; conditions for the good behaviour of the said *Philip Winter* towards all the Inhabitants of the State, and particularly towards the family and estate of *Thomas Smith*.

*Jacob Winter, Jr.*, bond £1,000, and *Daniel Rinport*, bond £1,000, to the State of *Pennsylvania*; conditions for the good behaviour of the said *Jacob Winter, Jr.*, towards all the Subjects of the State, and particularly to and towards the family and estate of *Thomas Smith*.

*Samuel Elliot*, on oath, says, that in mowing-time last, he was in company with *Jacob Winter*, *Jacob Rees*, *Samuel Winter*, and *James McElwaine*; and speaking of the Militia,

one of them (he thinks *McElwaine*) said that if any officer insisted upon his going with the Militia, he would shoot him if ever they came to a battle the first man; and if he insisted hard upon him, he would shoot him before he marched; that they all (to wit: the said four persons) agreed to the same, and swore they would put their resolves in execution.

*James Steel*, on oath, says, that he was mowing at the same time with *Samuel Elliot*, and heard the above *Jacob Winter*, *Jacob Rees*, *Samuel Winter*, and *James McElwaine*, say, if any officer asked or insisted upon their marching with the Militia, they would blow a ball through him, and swore to it most heartily.

*William Steel*, on oath, says, that he was also mowing at the same time with *Elliot* and *Steel*, and heard the above four persons say and swear that the first man who insisted upon their going with the Militia should be the first man they would shoot.

*James Brooks* says he was raking at the time of mowing above mentioned, and heard from the same four persons, or some of them, expressions the same as above.

*Patrick Kelby*, on oath, says, that on *Sunday* was two weeks, he was going from his home to one *Mahaffy's*. On the road, he met *Jacob Winter, Jr.*, and *Samuel Winter*; that they insisted upon his alighting from his horse, which he did, and entered into conversation with them about the present war; and the said *Jacob Winter* and *Samuel Winter* both said that if *Major Smith* insisted upon their going to the Camp, he would be a dead man; whether he went, or stayed at home, he would be a dead man. The examinant told them it was dangerous for them to destroy him; to which they answered, it was all one; if they went to the war, they might be killed, and they might as well die at home as abroad; that the said *Jacob Winter* said that the Major had insisted upon his going, and he was determined not to go.

*Christopher Linn* says, that about a week before *Major Smith* was shot at, he heard *Jane Cunningham*, the wife of *Robert Cunningham*, say that she had heard there were three rifles loaded to shoot *Major Smith*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 22, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

New-York, August 20, 1776.

SIR: I was yesterday morning favoured with yours of the 17th, accompanied by several resolutions of Congress, and commissions for officers appointed to the late vacancies in this Army.

I wrote some days ago to General *Schuyler*, to propose to Generals *Carleton* and *Burgoyne* an exchange of prisoners, in consequence of a former resolve of Congress authorizing their commanders in each department to negotiate one. That of *Major Meigs* for *Major French*, and Captain *Dearborn* for any officer of equal rank, I submitted to General *Howe's* consideration by letter on the 17th, understanding their paroles had been sent to him by General *Carleton*; but have not yet received his answer upon the subject.

In respect to the exchange of the prisoners in *Canada*, if a proposition on that head has not already been made, (and I believe it has not,) the enclosed copy of General *Carleton's* orders (transmitted me under seal by *Major Bigelow*, who was sent with a flag to General *Burgoyne* from *Ticonderoga*, with the proceedings of Congress on the breach of capitulation at the *Cedars*, and the inhuman treatment of our people afterwards) will show it is unnecessary, as he has determined to send them to their own Provinces, there to remain as prisoners; interdicting at the same time all kind of intercourse between us and his Army, except such as may be for the purpose of imploring the King's mercy. The assassination which he mentions, of Brigadier-General *Gordon*, is a fact entirely new to me, and what I never heard of before. I shall not trouble Congress with my strictures upon this indecent, illiberal, and scurrilous performance, so highly unbecoming the character of a soldier and a gentleman, only observing that its design is somewhat artful, and that each boatman with *Major Bigelow* was furnished with a copy. I have also transmitted Congress a copy of the Major's journal, to which I beg leave to refer them for the intelligence reported by him on his return from the truce.

By a letter from General *Greene* yesterday evening, he informed me that he had received an express from *Hog-*

*Island Inlet*, advising that five of the enemy's small vessels had appeared at the mouth of the creek with some troops on board; also, that he had heard two pettiaugers were off *Oyster Bay*, the whole supposed to be after live stock; and to prevent their getting it, he had detached a party of Horse and two hundred and twenty men, among them twenty Riflemen. I have not received further intelligence upon the subject.

I am also advised by the examination of a Captain *Britton*, master of a vessel that had been taken, transmitted me by General *Mercer*, that the general report among the enemy's troops was, when he came off, that they were to attack *Long-Island*, and to secure our works there if possible, at the same time that another part of their Army was to land above this city. This information is corroborated by many other accounts, and is probably true. Nor will it be possible to prevent their landing on the Island, as its great extent affords a variety of places favourable for that purpose, and the whole of our works on it are at the end opposite to the city. However, we shall attempt to harass them as much as possible, which will be all that we can do.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

COMMISSARY TRUMBULL TO COLONEL CHESTER.

New-York, August 20, 1776.

Commissary *Trumbull* presents his compliments to Colonel *Chester*, and is necessitated to apply to him to release Captain *Isham* from doing duty in Colonel *C's* regiment, to take Mr. *Champion's* place, who supplies the whole Army with fresh beef, and is unhappily taken sick. Captain *Isham* is acquainted with the business, and no person that I can conceive of can do the business but he, and it is of the last importance that it should be done. I also request Colonel *C.* to recommend, or at least consent, to the Adjutant-General that Captain *Isham* be excused duty till *Champion* recovers.

Your humble servant,

Jos. TRUMBULL.

To Colonel *Chester*.

COMMISSARY TRUMBULL TO COLONEL CHESTER.

New-York, August 20, 1776.

DEAR SIR: My beef man is sick; there is not another but Captain *Isham* within my knowledge who can supply his place. It is of the utmost importance that your regiment, as well as the rest of the Army, should eat, which they cannot do without him. The alternative is put: justly now judge, Whether it is best for one man to fight only, or twenty thousand men to starve?

Your humble servant,

Jos. TRUMBULL.

To Colonel *Chester*.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

King's Bridge, August 20, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have the pleasure to inform you that we have taken out of the wreck of the tender lately burnt up the *North River* the following cannon, viz: one six-pounder, two three-pounders, one two-pounder, and ten swivels; one caboose and apron, two cutlasses, two gun-barrels, one crow-bar, and four grapplings and chains. Lieutenant *Loudon*, of Colonel *Nicoll's* regiment, with two of the company to which he belongs, went off, and towed the wreck on shore, under the fire of the cannon of the ships, a cannon ball passing within a few inches of his head. He is an undaunted officer, and with great fatigue has taken these cannon out of the water. I therefore beg leave to recommend this service in particular to your Excellency's notice, and if you should think some reward proper to be given, it will be gratefully received by the adventurers, and perhaps prompt others to daring actions.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, your Excellency's most humble servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

COLONEL DUBOIS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Windsor, August 20, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I received your Excellency's letter of the 9th of *August*, and, agreeable to your

order, have procured returns of all the officers of the regiment under my command of the men inlisted by them, except three Captains, who are at present in *New-York*. The number which, as yet, they have been able to inlist consists of thirty men; twenty-three of whom are well armed, and will be ready to march on *Saturday* next, agreeable to your Excellency's order.

At a meeting of the officers this day they requested me to petition your Excellency that you would be pleased to order them into immediate service at *New-York*, or wherever your Excellency may think fit. As the country is very much drained of men, every man that can any way be spared being already in the service, they think if they were in present service they might not only have an opportunity of exerting themselves to the utmost of their power, but might also complete their companies out of the Militia whenever it is thought expedient to grant them that liberty. They all express the most ardent zeal for the service, and are unwilling to be idle at this important crisis.

I am your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,  
LEWIS DUBOIS.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 20, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 18th instant is just now come to hand. A strange infatuation seems to prevail in people. How *Wyntkoop* should imagine that he was not to obey General *Arnold's* orders, he being the oldest officer then on the spot, I cannot imagine. As you are on the spot, it is more in your power to judge of the propriety of sending *Wyntkoop* down than in mine. If he comes down, I shall order him to remain here until the pleasure of Congress is known, by whom (and not by me) he was appointed, and therefore I cannot venture upon a dismissal. I am extremely happy that General *Waterbury* is to join General *Arnold*. I know him to be a good man, as well as a good officer.

The sail-cloth and good part of the cordage procured in *New-England* is on the way to *Skenesborough*, but none of the artillery articles, said to have left *New-York* on the 10th instant, are yet arrived.

It is impossible for me to judge of what provisions, &c., may be wanted with the Army and at the different posts, without returns from the Commissaries, &c. These must come to me through the proper channel. Mr. *Livingston* is the Deputy Commissary-General in this department; and in the absence of Mr. *Trumbull*, the Commissary-General, he is to furnish me with a general return, made out of the returns of the Commissaries at the different posts. This he cannot do, unless the Commissaries at those posts send him the returns. Be pleased to order Mr. *Avery* immediately and weekly to make returns to Mr. *Livingston*, that I may know how the Army is supplied with provisions. If he should refuse this, you will be pleased immediately to advise me thereof, that I may take proper steps to enforce a compliance with my orders.

I wait with impatience for news from *New-York*. A deserter, it is said, advises that the enemy had ordered three days' victuals to be dressed. It is certain that an attack is daily expected.

I am preparing to remove *Elmore* and *Nicolson's* regiments to the westward together; they will not exceed five hundred effectives. I fear to be under the necessity of further reinforcements in that quarter; and where to procure them, unless from the northward, I know not. The enemy will make every push they possibly can; but if we can hold our ground this campaign, all will be well. Adieu.

I am, most sincerely, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable General Gates.

P. S. August 21.—All the stores are arrived from *New-York*, and leave this place in teams to-day. But there is not quite a ton of grape-shot, and only one piece of blue bunting for colours.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, August 20, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your favours of the 12th and 13th instant, and beg leave to return my thanks for the

advices contained in them. Although I hope soon to be at *Ticonderoga*, yet as despatches will be constantly going from hence to your Colony, it will be necessary that a post-rider should go from hence and exchange packets with Mr. *Brown*; but as I do not know what road he rides, will you be so good as to advise the Deputy Paymaster-General of it, and desire Mr. *Brown* to forward your letters to him by express, with a line from such part of the road as he may find, on inquiry, nearest to this place, signifying on what days it will be proper for the rider from hence to meet him there on his way to and return from *Ticonderoga*.

I returned here on the 15th, at night, from the *German-Flats*. The *Indians* have promised to remain neutral; and as the *Oneidas*, *Tuscaroras*, and *Ooghquagas*, are, I believe, real friends, and the *Delawares* more immediately dependant upon them, I have great hopes that no depredations will be committed on the frontier inhabitants. I have given Mr. *Trumbull* the proceedings at the late treaty, to make such extracts as he pleases for your Honour.

I have some reason to believe that an attack on *Fort Stanwix* and the *Mohawk River* is meditated by the enemy from *Oswegatchie*. Colonel *Dayton's* regiment, two companies of Colonel *Wyntkoop's*, and a company of inlisted Militia, are now in that quarter, and I am preparing to move Colonel *Elmore's* and Colonel *Nicolson's* to the *German-Flats*; the latter is very weak, not exceeding one hundred privates. The bounty, premium, and pay, which you have promised the seamen, shall be fully complied with. The terms are more reasonable than we had reason to expect at this time, when seamen are so scarce. I have desired Mr. *Trumbull* to refund the money you have advanced for axes, &c.; and as his chest is now pretty well stocked, he will pay off what is still due to the troops from your State.

We are in daily expectation to hear of a battle at *New-York*. May the God of armies strengthen and support ours on this very important occasion, and confound our enemies.

I am informed that the forces that went from hence to *Connecticut* are doing all in their power to increase the jealousies that so unjustly prevail against me in different parts of the country. Conscious of the rectitude of my conduct, I should pass by in silent contempt every infamous traduction, did I not apprehend that silence would be construed a tacit avowal of my guilt. I have therefore entreated Congress for a minute inquiry into my conduct. If the misfortunes in *Canada* are occasioned by malconduct in me, or any other charges of a criminal nature can be supported against me, I shall deserve and ought to be held up to publick detestation at least. If not, if I clearly exculpate myself, as I have it in my power to do, the odium ought to be transferred to those who are in fault, and justice done to my much-injured character.

I have sent such orders to General *Waterbury* as I hope will prevent any evil consequences that might be occasioned by the imprudence of those soldiers who have inoculated for the small-pox on the route from the Eastern Colonies to *Skenesborough*.

I am, with every friendly wish and sincere esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable Jonathan Trumbull, Esq.

ALBANY COMMITTEE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany Committee Chamber, August 20, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: A representation has been duly laid before this Board, setting forth that *Stephen De Lancey*, *Abraham C. Cuyler*, *John Monier*, *Benjamin Hilton*, and *John Duncan*, prisoners formerly sent from this city to *Connecticut*, have endeavoured, by false reports, to depreciate the character of his Honour General *Schuyler* in the opinion of the good people of *Connecticut*, and by artful insinuations to aggravate and foment jealousies and prejudices, which may tend to injure the general cause; we have therefore thought proper to transmit your Honour an account of the crimes of those gentlemen, that their former and present conduct being considered together, they may be treated in such a manner as the publick safety at this interesting crisis demands. We would, with submission, mention to your Honour that a separation at least would be proper. Your Honour's wisdom and prudence will dictate such other steps as may be necessary. We are also informed, that Lieutenant *Angus Mc-*

*Donald* has the privilege of the town of *Hartford* and six miles around it; and we doubt not that thereby a correspondence is carried on between the officers confined at *Weathersfield* and the prisoners from this city at *Hartford*, and from thence probably over the whole Continent. We think it would, therefore, be advisable, if your Honour coincides in opinion with us, to restrain the liberty now enjoyed by Mr. *McDonald*, so far as may prevent the possibility of his injuring us.

We are, honoured sir, your most obedient servants,

JOHN BARCLAY, *Chairman pro tem.*

To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull*.

H. GLEN TO WALTER LIVINGSTON, COMMISSARY-GENERAL.

Schenectady, August 20, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 18th and 19th I have now before me, and have noted the contents. I have been with Mr. *Ten Eyck*, and delivered him his letter, and showed him mine. He tells me he cannot agree to take 16s.; but the flour I can have, on these conditions: that should flour be more between this and the 10th day of *September* next, at *Albany*, he will expect to have it; and if it is not more than 16s. at that time, then he will take 16s.; and that is the case with the rest of the gentlemen. I must beg the favour of you to let me know by the bearer, immediately, whether I must make the bargain as above, or what I must do in this case. The batteans are all ready, and the people virtualled to go; and Mr. *Ten Eyck's* flour I must have, as I cannot load the boats without his, being a large quantity.

I am, dear sir, yours,

H. GLEN.

To *W. Livingston*, Esq., Dep. Com. General.

COLONELS PETTIBONE AND CHAPMAN TO GOV. TRUMBULL.

New-Haven, August 20, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: We are here upon our march to *New-York*, according to orders received. As we had no Chaplain or Surgeon appointed for either of our regiments, and were credibly informed that it was expected we should make this necessary provision at the expense of the publick, we have engaged the Rev. *Joseph Strong*, of *Simsbury*, to go with us as our Chaplain, (who is now with us here,) and Dr. *Jonathan Bird*, of the same town, to be our Surgeon and Physician. We therefore request, if it be agreeable to your Honour, that these two gentlemen may be favoured with the usual warrants for serving our regiments (viz: the Eighteenth and Twenty-Second) in their respective characters, and that the warrants may be forwarded to one of us at *New-York*.

We are, with all respect and duty, your Honour's most obedient, humble servants,

JONA. PETTIBONE, *Colonel.*

SAML. CHAPMAN, *Colonel.*

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

DAVID MATTHEWS TO JOHN MCKESSON.

Hartford, August 20, 1776.

SIR: I have made so many fruitless applications lately that I am almost discouraged from putting pen to paper again. Is it not very hard, Mr. *McKesson*, that the Convention will not furnish me with some resolve or certificate, in order to enable me to contradict a most hellish report that has been propagated, and is verily believed throughout this Colony, that I was concerned in a plot to assassinate General *Washington*, and to blow up the Magazine in *New-York*. The Convention well know that such a report prevails; they also know that it is as false as hell is false. Solely owing to this report I have been obliged to decamp from *Litchfield*, where I was stationed, and where the Committee thought my life in imminent danger.

I arrived here yesterday, and find that the same infernal report has been industriously propagated here, and that I am shunned as much as *Lucifer* would be, and am only waiting here for some further directions from Governour *Trumbull*, to whom a person is gone for that purpose. Surely, my old friend *John*, if my life was to be made a sacrifice, there was a more gentlemanlike way of doing it than of being sent into a country to be fired at from behind a barn or stone fence.

Could any person that ever knew me suppose that it would fall to my lot to say, that there is not a place for me to rest the sole of my foot on. Hard times; but so it is. I sometimes would willingly hope that the letters which I have heretofore written have not come to hand, or something would have been done to contradict this infamous charge. In short, I was fully persuaded that I would have an opportunity of showing to the world that every charge brought against me was false. I am now tossed about to and fro, and no one to deliver me. May this never be the lot of any of my countrymen.

I should be glad to hear from you, whether I have anything to expect, by which my person may be safe or not. I should not have wasted so much paper and ink were it not that the very existence of a wife and ten children depends on my life, and who are rendered more distressed by such villanous reports as have been propagated.

I wish you health and happiness; and am, sir, your humble servant,

D. MATTHEWS.

To *John McKesson*, Esq., Secretary to the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

P. S. 22d.—I am now on my march back to *Litchfield* again, as I could not be suffered to remain here unless confined in jail. What horrid treatment is this! Governour *Trumbull* would willingly have done everything to accommodate me here, but our Convention say I must be confined. It is too much for mortal man to bear. I am now to stand fire at *Litchfield*. May God only spare my life to meet my enemies face to face.

JOHN MACKAY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Greenwich, in the State of Connecticut, }  
August 20, 1776. }

SIR: The Authority, Selectmen, and Committee of this town, have yesterday received from his Honour the Governour of said State a requisition, dated the 12th instant, to imbody all the householders not obliged to do duty in any training band, in order to march forthwith to *New-York*, to join the Army under your Excellency's command. We thereupon warned all the able-bodied men in the town to assemble at six o'clock this morning; but as the Militia is already gone into the service, and this town hath been pretty much drained of men in the progress of the war, we find there are now but few fit to go, and these few badly equipped. The householders have been at different times stripped of their fire-arms to supply those who turned out in defence of their country; all which being maturely considered by the said authority, &c., it was judged most proper to advise your Excellency of our difficulties, in order to know from your Excellency whether the service requires the whole of the few men remaining in this town to be raised immediately; and if so, whether they can be supplied with arms on their arrival at *New-York*.

As the bearer, Doctor *Mead*, a member of the Committee, will deliver this, we think it superfluous to add any more, further than that we are, with the greatest esteem, your Excellency's obedient, humble servants.

Per order of the Authority, &c.:

JOHN MACKAY, *Chairman pro tem.*

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *New-York*.

MAJOR HAWLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Northampton, August 20, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: As it is proper that you should be made acquainted with the terms upon which all the men under your command have engaged in the service, and as it may have happened that our Council, through the multiplicity of their business, may have neglected to transmit to you the resolve of the General Assembly upon which our first recruits for your Army were raised, your Honour will not consider me as officious in sending to you that resolve. You will observe, sir, that the non-commissioned officers, as well as the privates, are entitled to a month's advance pay; and I beg leave to inform you, that as in some companies which went from the County of *Hampshire* the non-commissioned officers were not appointed when they marched, they have not received any more advance pay than that of private soldiers. That was the case in Captain *Lyman's*



company, and I take it to have been so in Captain *Gray's*. Pursuant to an after-resolve, (of which I am not possessed,) the commission officers were to have a month's advance pay, which those from this County have generally received.

I have many things on my mind which I want to suggest, but shall defer them to another opportunity.

I most heartily wish your Honour health, victory, and, on every account, a happy campaign; and have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To General Gates.

P. S. According to your desire, sir, I have done everything in my power to suppress the pernicious and iniquitous practice of delaying the march of officers and soldiers for the sake of taking the small-pox. Yours, J. H.

PETER PENNIMAN TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Minden, August 20, 1776.

SIR: Soon after the arrival of the *Scotch* officers at this town, pursuant to the order of the honourable Board, we wrote a few lines to your Honour, requesting a solution of certain questions relative to the manner of conducting ourselves with regard to said officers and their servants. One of the Selectmen was ordered to sign said letter in the name of the rest, but it seems inadvertently omitted it, which we suppose might be the reason of our not being favoured with an answer; and, by way of excuse, we must say, that we were not apprized of the above-mentioned omission (at least most of us) till a few hours ago. And as the same difficulties still remain on our minds, we are under a necessity of troubling your Honour with another epistle on the subject.

As we observed in our former letter, two large roads pass through this town, one of which leads from *Worcester* to *Providence, Rhode-Island*, and the other from *New-York* and *Connecticut* to *Boston*. The latter of these has for many years been called the Middle Post Road. Now, these officers (at least some of them) are desirous of boarding in the centre of the town, where these great roads intersect each other; the Selectmen are not willing to gratify them in this respect, thinking it would not be altogether agreeable to the spirit of the resolves of Congress. The officers take it as an abridgement of the liberty granted them, and insist that they have a right to board where they like in any part of the town. We beg to be instructed in this matter.

Another difficulty has arisen with regard to these officers' servants or waiters; they have brought five men servants and two women, wives, they say, of two of the men servants. The resolve of Congress makes no provision for servants; nor did your Honour mention anything concerning them in your letter to the Selectmen. The officers refuse to pay for their board; and we cannot find any one willing to trust to any pay. A difference having arisen between one of said officers and his servant, the officer has left the house where he used to board, and he left his servant behind, refusing to pay his board; the entertainer, to secure his pay, detains the officer's trunk and part of his clothing. We must entreat your Honour to explain our duty to us in these matters.

We are, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servants.

In the name and by the order of the Selectmen of the Town of *Minden*:

PETER PENNIMAN.

COMMITTEE OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.

At a meeting of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, for the several Towns in the County of *Middlesex*, assembled at *Concord*, in said County, August 20, 1776: Present the Committees of thirty-two Towns, and about one hundred Members.

Voted, and chose the Honourable *James Prescott*, Esq., Chairman.

Chose *Oliver Prescott*, Esq., Clerk.

Then passed the following Resolves unanimously:

Whereas confederacies are judged to be formed or forming in many parts of the country, and may be strengthened, and many other great inconveniences ensue from such persons who are inimical to the cause of *American* liberty collecting together: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That we will use our best endeavours to prevent such persons assembling together for such purposes, and restrain them from all intercourse with each other, or with the officers or privates sent into this County, or any of these States, as prisoners, by confining them to their towns or farms, or laying them under bonds, or by committing them to close custody, or otherwise, as may be judged proper, agreeable to the orders of this State; and that all such as are notoriously inimical, (whatever their pretensions may be,) shall be disarmed and confined to the limits of their towns or farms, until properly released from said confinement by said Committee.

And whereas divers wicked persons, intending to defraud the inhabitants of these States, and for the sake of base and unlawful gain, have forged, altered, and uttered divers Notes and Bills of this and the other *American* States, and have also used divers artifices and much low cunning to depreciate the value of our Paper currency, to the great damage of the good people of these States, &c.: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That we will use our utmost efforts in discovering all such frauds, and bringing to condign punishment all such wicked persons as aforesaid, agreeable to the laws of this State.

It is recommended to the Committees of Safety for the several towns in the County aforesaid, that such persons as are prisoners, and have hired themselves out for their support, be not permitted to go out of the limits of such towns, until the time of their contract be fulfilled, unless some other person go with them, at the order of the Committee of such town where they reside; that their respective masters see that they keep good hours, and conduct themselves well in their families; that the said prisoners be not allowed to frequent publick houses, and have no spirituous liquors on the *Sabbath*, on any pretence whatsoever; and that they be not permitted to dwell with any person judged to be inimical to the *American* States.

It is also recommended to the several towns in the County aforesaid that may be defective, that they procure, as soon as may be, their town-stock of powder, and furnish such of the poor in their several towns with fire-arms, as are not able to equip themselves agreeable to the order of this State.

And whereas there are divers persons in these States now on parole, who frequently visit the officers and privates who are prisoners in the several towns, to the great danger and disquietude of the good people of this State: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of *Reading* be desired to acquaint the honourable Board therewith, and desire that all such towns as have officers quartered in them may be excepted from said parole, that so all such intercourse may be prevented for the future.

It is also recommended that the Committees of the several Towns in this County desire their Representatives to use their utmost influence in the General Court to procure an order of this State, that all persons travelling through the same shall have passes, denoting their friendliness to the *American* States, and make provision for the taking up and examining all suspected persons.

And we do hereby bear testimony against all mobs, riots, and disorderly proceedings; and will endeavour to suppress all vice, immorality, and profaneness.

*Voted*, That a Committee be appointed to call County meetings for the future, if occasion requires, and that they write to the Committees of the several Towns, and inform them in said notification for what purpose said meeting is called.

Then chose *Ephraim Wood*, Esq., *Jonas Haywood*, Esq., and *James Barrett*, Esq., a Committee for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the Clerk be desired to transmit an extract from the Minutes to the publisher of the *Monday* and *Thursday* paper.

Extract from the Minutes:

OLIVER PRESCOTT, Clerk.

ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

At the Court at *St. James's*, the 21st day of *August*, 1776. Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas the time limited by his Majesty's Order in Council of the 17th of *May* last for prohibiting the exporting out of this Kingdom, or carrying coastwise, Gunpowder, Salt-

petre, or any sort of Arms or Ammunition, will expire on the 23d of this instant, *August*; and whereas it is judged expedient that the said prohibition should be continued for some time longer, except in those cases where (for the benefit and advantage of trade, and for the use and defence of ships trading to foreign parts, and of the transports and victualling vessels employed in his Majesty's service) his Majesty, by his several Orders in Council of the 13th and 27th of *October*, and of the 6th and 22d of *November* 1775, and of the 5th and 19th of *February* last, has thought proper to permit and allow the exportation of and carrying coastwise Gunpowder, Saltpetre, Arms, and Ammunition, under certain conditions and restrictions mentioned in the said Orders: His Majesty doth therefore, by and with the advice of his Privy Council, hereby order, require, prohibit, and command, that no person or persons whomsoever (except the Master-General, Lieutenant-General, or principal Officers of the Ordnance, for his Majesty's service) do, at any time during the space of three months, to commence from the said 23d day of this instant, *August*, presume to transport into any parts out of this Kingdom, or carry coastwise, any Gunpowder, Saltpetre, or any sort of Arms or Ammunition, or ship or lade any Gunpowder, Saltpetre, or any sort of Arms or Ammunition, on board any ship or vessel, in order to transporting the same beyond the seas, or carrying the same coastwise, except in the cases comprised within the aforementioned Orders in Council of the 13th and 27th of *October*, and the 6th and 22d of *November*, 1775, and of the 5th and 19th of *February* last, without leave or permission in that behalf first obtained from his Majesty or his Privy Council, upon pain of incurring and suffering the respective forfeitures and penalties inflicted by an act passed in the twenty-ninth year of his late Majesty's reign, intituled "An act to empower his Majesty to prohibit the exportation of Saltpetre, and to enforce the law for empowering his Majesty to prohibit the exportation of Gunpowder, or any sort of Arms and Ammunition; and also to empower his Majesty to restrain the carrying coastwise of Saltpetre, Gunpowder, or any sort of Arms or Ammunition." And the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of *Great Britain*, the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, the Master-General of the Ordnance, and his Majesty's Secretary at War, are to give the necessary directions herein, as to them may respectively appertain.

STEPH. COTTRELL.

At the Court at *St. James's*, the 21st day of *August*, 1776. Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas his Majesty was graciously pleased, by his Royal Proclamation, bearing date the 22d day of *March* last, to promise and declare that the bounties of £3 for every Able Seaman, and of £2 for every Ordinary Seaman, fit for his Majesty's service, should be paid in the manner thereby directed to every such Able and Ordinary Seaman, not above the age of fifty, nor under the age of eighteen years, who should, on or before the 30th day of *April* then following, enter themselves to serve in his Majesty's Royal Navy, either with the Captains or Lieutenants of his Majesty's ships, or the chief officers on board such tenders as should be employed for raising men for the service of the Royal Navy: And whereas the time thereby limited was, by Orders in Council, prolonged and extended from the said 30th day of *April* to the 31st day of this instant, *August*; and it being judged expedient for his Majesty's service that the said bounties should be continued to be paid for some longer time; his Majesty, with the advice of his Privy Council, doth therefore order, and it is hereby accordingly ordered, that the time limited for payment of the said bounties be prolonged and extended from the said 31st day of this instant, *August*, to the 31st day of *October* next, inclusive; whereof all persons concerned are to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

STEPH. COTTRELL.

THOMAS JONES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Virginia, Northumberland County, August 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have delivered to Mr. *Thomas Walker*, at the request of Captain *Nicholson*, four hundred and thirty-two half barrels of gunpowder, eighteen chests of arms,

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loose muskets, and twenty pieces of osnaburgs. Mr. *Walker* tells me he received only four hundred and thirty-one half barrels of powder. The persons I intrusted to deliver it are certain they delivered the whole quantity. I hope it will be found right.

As soon as I was informed by Captain *Conway* of his arrival, and that the powder, &c., was landed and stored not more than two miles from navigation, in the lower end of the County, I thought it by no means a safe place for so valuable a cargo, especially as Lord *Dunmore's* fleet was lying at no great distance from it; therefore I directed it to be carted about twelve or fourteen miles higher up the country, where it might be more immediately under my inspection. This, together with the necessity of having a constant guard, has occasioned a considerable expense, but not more, I hope, than will be thought requisite. The several accounts were laid before the Committee, who regulated them as they thought proper, except some few which I made a particular agreement for.

You may be assured, gentlemen, that I have acted as if it had been upon my own account, and the trouble I have been at you are exceedingly welcome to. I think myself happy in having had it in my power to serve the Province of *Maryland*, particularly upon so interesting an occasion. There is still a balance due to the Colony of *Virginia*, of £3 18s. 2d., which Captain *Walker* has promised to pay.

I am, with regard, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,  
THOS. JONES.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CECIL COUNTY COMMITTEE.  
[No. 153.] Annapolis, August 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We approve very much of what you have done, and send you five hundred pounds currency by Captain *George*. You will be pleased to purchase all the guns and blankets you can for the use of the Province. There are not enough to be had here, and are greatly wanting. Cartouch-boxes, bayonets, belts, and gun-slugs, are sent up to *Chester-Town* for the Eastern-shore companies, and Colonel *Richardson* has orders to distribute them among his battalion. Canteens are high. We have a number of workmen engaged in making wooden bottles at 2s., a few at 2s. 7d., and hope to supply you from *Kent*.

Enclosed is an order of Convention relative to the pay and rations of the Flying-Camp Militia. Knapsacks and haversacks are making at *Baltimore-Town*, and shall be sent up for the companies, and priming-wires and brushes, if our contractors furnish them in time, which we expect they will do. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Cecil County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ISAAC GRIEST.  
[No. 154.] Annapolis, August 21, 1776.

SIR: We have received your favours of the 19th and 20th instant. If *Jacobs* will not set all his hands to work on the tents, and give the utmost despatch in his power in having them completed, he must deliver the linen to *Johnson*, as the troops must not be detained on their march to the northward. Cloth at twenty-five shillings is abundantly too high for blankets. We think the bottle-makers should be exempt from mustering while they are engaged in the service of the publick, and don't doubt that their Captains will excuse them for not attending. They must work day and night. Bayonet-belts must be supplied the Flying-Camp out of the magazine. We shall want six hundred more knapsacks and haversacks, and desire they may be immediately made as soon as the linen arrives from *Parker*, which will be in a day or two at farthest. Deliver it to *Johnson* to be made up into tents. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Isaac Griest*, Quartermaster.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.  
[No. 155.] Annapolis, Maryland, August 21, 1776.

SIR: The President informs us that, by the order of the Convention, he wrote to you for £10,000, for money advanced by this Province on account of this Congress. If the

requisition in that letter is complied with, we shall be obliged if you will order the money to be paid into the hands of *Stephen Stewart*, who will convey it safely to us.

We are, with great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servants. By order:

DANL. OF ST. THOS. JENIFER, *President*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Honourable Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO SAMUEL DORSEY.  
[No. 156.] Annapolis, August 21, 1776.

SIR: We approve your patterns for a tent, but cannot give the price you ask. One of the *Baltimore* tentmakers was here, and says he will make them with a round seam for two dollars. If you would make them with such seams on your model, we would have you proceed; otherwise, be pleased to make some agreeable to the *Baltimore* pattern, at twelve shillings. If you do not care to make them on those terms, send the linen you have to *Baltimore-Town* to *William Johnson*, who has agreed to make at those prices.

The tent-poles we will pay you for according to the price given at *Baltimore*, which we cannot now ascertain. We wish to hear more fully about the bayonets.

We are, &c.  
To Mr. *Samuel Dorsey*, *Anne-Arundel* County.

CAPTAIN DARNES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Queen-Anne's County, August 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yesterday Captain *Dean* produced an order from your Board, ordering the arms out of the hands of my company into that of Captain *Dean's*, which I think exceeding hard, as I myself, the rest of the officers, and many of the privates, have taken very uncommon pains to collect arms for the use of this company.

I suppose the situation of my company may have been misrepresented to you. Mr. *Joseph Nicholson*, one of your Board, informs me it has; that is, that there was not a probability of arming my company. I can venture to assure you that by *Saturday* next we shall be well armed. I make not the least doubt, gentlemen, but in that case you would prohibit the culling of my arms.

My men are exceedingly distressed for want of linen; it is not to be had here. Therefore shall be much obliged by two bolts of linen. Please despatch it immediately, as we are daily expecting orders to march.

Am, gentlemen, your very ready, humble servant,  
JOHN DARNES.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

DOCTOR WEISENTHALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Baltimore-Town, August 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Dr. *Finley*, is one of the candidates that has offered himself several times for a Surgeon's place in one of the battalions of Militia. He is well known to Colonel *Hall*, of whom probably best inquiry may be made concerning his fitness for the service. Mr. *John Dorsey*, of *Frederick* County, likewise has applied, of whom I had opportunity to speak the last time I was in *Annapolis*. Mr. *John Johnson* has been long willing to accept a Mate's station, who is at present in *Frederick-Town*. As I have not received your particular directions concerning Surgeons of the Militia, I have taken the liberty to mention only the above, as Dr. *Finley* intended to go down personally.

Colonel *Ewing's* battalion marched away without any Surgeon, though I furnished them with some trifling medicines, especially to Captain *Posey*, who had the most sick, as well as Captain *Young's* company.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
C. WEISENTHALL.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

AMOS GARRETT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Hartford County, August 21, 1776.

SIRS: I received by the hands of Colonel *Aquila Hall* the sum of £50, to be applied towards the *Saltpetre* Works

under my care. The same is continued carrying on, but—what is the reason I can't say—we can't produce the quantity I have heard made at some places. We are assiduous at the business, and lose no time from the work, except when employed in collecting the stock. The exact quantity made I can't justly say, having not weighed off for some time. I expect some odds of two hundred weight. We daily increase the same something.

I have sent down by this conveyance seventeen bayonets and seven muskets fixed with bayonets. The muskets and bayonets were to have been presented to the Committee of this County for the use of the publick; but this opportunity offering immediately to *Annapolis*, and Mr. *John Hall*, Lieutenant in Captain *Paca's* company, informing of their being immediately wanted, I thought it advisable to send them down, and trust your Honours will have them valued, and allow me what they may be valued at, and pay the same, and of the bayonets, as per account enclosed, to Mr. *Hall*, who will receive and transmit it to me.

There is also in the box a gun our Committee agreed to give a man forty-five shillings for, which I paid him. Some small repair I did to the lock, and is charged in the account, as also two bayonets put to two guns Colonel *Carvell Hall* put into my hands to repair, and some charges for the repairs. I also send in the box a gun sent by Mr. *Gabriel Christie*, and one other Mr. *John Hall* got from some other person, all which hope will get safe to hand. I will continue to make the bayonets; but the fitting these muskets and repairing some other old guns from our neighbours has kept my man, who is but slow, employed.

I am your Honours' most humble servant,  
AMOS GARRETT.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

The Province of <i>Maryland</i> , to <i>Amos Garrett</i> ,		Dr.
	£ s. d.	
To 17 bayonets, at 7s. 6d.....	6 7 6	
To cash paid <i>James Brown</i> for a gun bought by the Committee of <i>Harford</i> , and directed me to pay for and repair.....	2 5 0	
Repairing the screws.....	0 1 6	
To 2 bayonets on 2 muskets Colonel <i>Hall</i> gave me to repair,	0 15 0	
Repairing the locks.....	0 5 0	
To 1 musket, No. 1.....	3 15 0	
To 1 musket, No. 2.....	3 15 0	
To 1 musket, No. 3.....	3 15 0	
To 1 musket, No. 4.....	3 15 0	
To 1 musket, No. 5.....	3 10 0	
To 1 musket, No. 6.....	3 0 0	
To 1 musket, No. 7.....	2 15 0	
To a box and carting the guns to the vessel.....	0 7 6	
To <i>Gabriel Christie</i> 1 gun.....	3 0 0	
To Colonel <i>Hall</i> 2 guns.....	6 0 0	
To <i>John Hall</i> 1 gun.....	4 5 0	
	£47 11 6	

Received 24th *August*, 1776, for Mr. *Amos Garrett*, the above and in full.

EDWD. HALL.

CÆSAR RODNEY TO THOMAS RODNEY.  
Philadelphia, August 21, 1776.

Last night, by the post, I received an account of your defeat in the election, and in which I was not disappointed, being convinced you continued to be sanguine in your expectations without taking the necessary steps to carry a point of that sort; added to all the rest of your bad policy, you suffered *Caldwell's* company to march away just before the election, when there was no necessity for it, as the other companies were not half full in any of the Counties. *Parke* tells me the conduct of your Light-Infantry heretofore had drawn down the resentment of the people, which put it in the power of that party who were opposed to you to make this use of it.

As to the orders which *Hodgson* has on me, he can't stand in need of the money; for, knowing that I could not be down, and that Mr. *McWilliam* had not the wherewithal to satisfy his order, the Delegates procured of Congress three thousand dollars for the purpose of advancing a month's pay to the soldiers and contingent expenses, fifteen hundred of which have been sent down to Colonel *Patterson*. However, as you have paid him forty odd pounds in part, it is so far well. I hope you have taken his receipt, but cannot tell how you ascertained *Hume's* debt, as you had not the bond.

As Mr. *Read* will go to the Convention, and our Colony

requires two Delegates to make a representation, I shall come home next week if possible; but if I should not be down time enough, pray attend to the Orphan's Court. The present Convention is solely for the purpose of framing Government, and will not be allowed to go out of that line, except it be so far as is necessary to supply the Flying-Camp with such things as may be heretofore omitted. The people may perhaps think better of this matter the next time they choose. I am yours, &c.,

CÆSAR RODNEY.

To Mr. Thomas Rodney.

P. S. One *Woodcock*, at *Wilmington*, has been speaking to me about a privateer he was applied to to build by Captain *Pope*. He says he has a parcel of carpenters sent to him and cannot go on for want of the iron-work, rum, &c. Some person among you ought to go immediately and enter into a contract with him and find the means of supplying him.

PETITION OF THE OFFICERS OF THE FIRST AND SECOND REGIMENTS OF VIRGINIA.

Presented 21st August, 1776, and agreed to be explained and sent to the Delegates in Congress.

[Referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governour and Council of State of the Commonwealth of VIRGINIA:

The Petition of the Captains and Subalterns of the two OLD VIRGINIA Regiments humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners, actuated by the love of their country, were forward to enter into military duty, and promised to themselves those advantages of rank to which their early services would of right entitle them. That although they were, many of them, actually imbedded and encamped near *Williamsburgh* before the two first regiments of *North-Carolina* Continentals were even directed to be raised, as your petitioners are informed, yet your petitioners, holding at that time only Colonial commissions, having the highest respect for the authority of the Congress, cheerfully submitted to the precedence given the *North-Carolinians*, although younger in the service than themselves, and then employed in the Colony of *Virginia*, to which your petitioners belonged. That the same temper, which prompted your petitioners to submit in the instance above specified, does also dispose them to insist upon that rank to which they are entitled. That your petitioners are well informed that the two first regiments are upon the Continental establishment from the first of *November*; they are therefore much at a loss to account for the present date of their commissions, which are brought down as late as the middle and last of *January*, by which your petitioners will lose their just rank in the Continental line, an inconvenience which will be particularly felt by the First Regiment in their junction with the troops to the northward, as the dates of commissions will be the only criterion by which to ascertain the right of command. Your petitioners are also of opinion that the Congress probably intended to give rank to the two first regiments by taking them upon their establishment so early in the last fall. Your petitioners are informed, and have good reason to believe, that their present commissions were dated without a particular attention to the consequences, which will so materially affect your petitioners, especially if succession should be taken through the whole Continental line. Your petitioners therefore look up to your honourable Board for redress in the premises, and trust that, if necessary, your honourable Board will make such representation to the Congress upon the subject of this address as shall give it success.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

Rank to commence from the day they were taken into Continental pay.

MEMORIAL OF PREUDHOME LA JEUNESSE.

[August 21, 1776, referred to the Board of War.]

To the Hon. JOHN HANCOCK, Esq., President:

The Memorial of PREUDHOME LA JEUNESSE, of MONTREAL, in CANADA, humbly sheweth:

That by his great zeal for the *American* cause in the late expedition of *Canada*, he was much distinguished by the commanding officers of the Continental Army; but after their retreat he could not be of further use, and was directed

to offer his services to the honourable the Continental Congress. That he has been in *Philadelphia* upwards of six weeks, inactive, and much desirous to enter into the Continental service, daily pressed upon by his own countrymen and other *Frenchmen*, or persons who understand *French*, wishing to be employed under your memorialist, of whom he might have fifty or more, if he had a commission to enlist them, and who will certainly disperse if they have not soon an answer. That his said countrymen, and more especially your memorialist, can never return to their homes whilst a King's Governour is in full possession thereof; but whenever it should be thought proper for the Continental Army to reënter *Canada*, your memorialist thinks that a corps of *Canadians*, *Frenchmen*, and others who speak *French*, might be of great use in that service. Your memorialist once more prayeth that his case may be considered, and that the honourable the Congress would be pleased to grant him a commission of Captain of a corps of *Canadians*, *Acadians*, *French*, and others who speak *French*.

And your memorialist, as in duty bound, &c.,

PREUDHOME LA JEUNESSE.

*Philadelphia*, August 21, 1776.

At a Board of War, August 21, 1776.

Agreed to report to Congress, That the Petition of *Preudhome la Jeunesse* be granted, and a Commission be given him to be Captain of a Company of *Canadians*, *Acadians*, and *French*, to belong to Colonel *Livingston's* Regiment, and to join the Army at *Ticonderoga* as soon as may be.

PASS FOR SERGEANT SUTHERLAND.

In Committee, Lancaster, August 21, 1776.

Sergeant *Sutherland*, of the Seventh Regiment of Royal Fusileers, prisoner-of-war at *Lancaster*, in *Pennsylvania*, hath permission to go from *Lancaster* to *Reading*, with letters from Captain *Kinnear*, and accounts relative to that regiment, to be presented to General *Prescott*, and is to return to *Lancaster* on or before the 24th day of *August* instant, and deliver up this passport.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM ATLEE, *Chairman*.

Sergeant *Sutherland*, on his arrival at *Reading*, produced the above passport, and is now on his return, in which none will molest him.

August 22, 1776.

JAMES READ, *Chairman of Committee of Berks*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 23, 1776.]

New-York, August 21, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed I have the honour to transmit you a copy of my letter to Lord *Howe*, as well on the subject of a general exchange of prisoners in the Naval line, as that of Lieut. *Josiah* in particular, and of his Lordship's answer, which, from its matter and manner, is very different from General *Carleton's* orders which were forwarded yesterday.

The situation of the armies being the same as when I had the pleasure of addressing you last, I have nothing special to communicate on that head, nor more to add, than that I am, with all possible respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 17, 1776.

MY LORD: Being authorized by Congress, as their commanders in every department are, to negotiate an exchange of prisoners; and presuming, as well from the nature of your Lordship's command as the information General *Howe* has been pleased to honour me with, that the exchange in the Naval line will be subject to your Lordship's directions, I beg leave to propose the following mode of exchange for your Lordship's consideration, viz: "Officers for those of equal rank, and sailors for sailors."

If the above proposal should be agreeable to your Lordship, I am charged in a particular manner to exchange any officer belonging to the *British* Navy in our hands and of equal rank, for Lieutenant *Josiah*, who was lately made prisoner in a ship retaken by the *Cerberus* frigate. The



reason, my Lord, of my being charged to propose the exchange of Lieutenant *Josiah* in preference to that of any other officer is, that authentick intelligence has been received that, regardless of his rank as an officer, he has not only been subjected to the duties of a common seaman, but has experienced many other marks of indignity. As a different line of conduct, my Lord, has been ever observed towards the officers of your Navy who have fallen into our hands, it becomes not only a matter of right but of duty to mention this to your Lordship, to the end that an inquiry may be made into the case above referred to.

From your Lordship's character for humanity, I am led to presume the hardships imposed on Lieutenant *Josiah* are without either your knowledge or concurrence, and therefore most readily hope that upon this representation your Lordship will enjoin all officers under your command to pay such regard to the treatment of those that may fall into their hands as their different ranks and situations require, and such as your Lordship would wish to see continued by us to those who are already in our power, or who may hereafter, by the chance of war, be subjected to it.

I have the honour to be, my Lord, with great respect, your Lordship's most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Right Hon. Lord Viscount *Howe*, Admiral and Commander-in-Chief of the *British Navy in America*.

Eagle, off Staten-Island, August 19, 1776.

SIR: Concurring with the proposition you have been pleased to make in your favour of the 17th, for an exchange of prisoners in my department, viz: "Officers for those of equal rank, and sailors for sailors," I will take the liberty to propose an officer of the same rank with Lieutenant *Josiah* when he arrives. The *Cerberus* being absent, I have no other information respecting the situation of Mr. *Josiah*, than what is communicated in your letter; but the matter, you may be assured, shall be inquired into, and every attention paid to the rules of propriety, as well as the dictates of humanity, on all such occasions.

Principles and conduct form the true distinction of rank amongst men; yet, without a competent habit in the manners of the world, they are too liable to meet with unmerited disregard. But insult and indignities to persons of whatever rank, who are become parties in these unhappy disputes, cannot be justified, and are, I persuade myself, as much disapproved of by every officer under my command, as they can never cease to be by me.

I am, with great personal respect, sir, your most humble servant,

HOWE.

To General *George Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, August 21, 1776.

DEAR SIR: On *Monday* I received your favour of the 16th instant, with its several enclosures. The time you were in treaty I can readily conceive was very irksome and disagreeable; however, if the good consequences you intended are produced, you will think it well spent.

General *Carleton's* orders, for their indecent, illiberal scurrility, are equal, if not superior, to anything I have seen, and are such as I could not have expected from a person of his high rank. He holds forth a language very different from General *Howe*, as you would perceive by the copy of his letter I transmitted you. The assassination of General *Gordon* is a matter entirely new, having never heard of it before. The paper made up as a letter, and directed to me, which Major *Bigelow* brought with him, only contained a copy of the orders.

I am glad the works at *Fort Stanwix* are going on so well, and that they have so much provision in store. In a little time I hope they will be strong and complete.

By a letter from Governour *Trumbull* I am informed that a Captain *Van Buren* had procured a sufficient quantity of sail-cloth and part of the cordage wanted for the galleys in *Connecticut*, and that the rest would be probably obtained there. Upon the whole, I hope necessaries to fit them out will be obtained one way or another.

The enclosed letter from Colonel *Stark* was transmitted and referred to me by General *Gates*, in order that I might

determine upon the subject of it. I should suppose the value of rations ought to be settled with the Commissary, or submitted to Congress for their decision. I do not conceive it is with me to direct in this instance, and therefore think it right to give notice of it by this opportunity.

Since my last of the 13th nothing worthy of mention has occurred in this quarter, unless the ships-of-war having left their stations up the *North River* and joined the fleet again, is considered as such. On *Sunday* morning they came down with their remaining tenders. It is more than probable that an attempt by two of our fire-vessels to destroy them a night or two before contributed to their departure. The enterprise, though conducted with spirit and resolution, did not succeed to our wishes, only one tender having been burnt. The *Phoenix* was grappled for some time, but cleared herself without damage.

I am, sir, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER ON BOARD THE ROYAL SAVAGE, IN LAKE CHAMPLAIN, DATED AUGUST 21, 1776.

To-morrow, wind and weather permitting, we sail towards *St. John's*, where we may soon expect to come to action. Our fleet consists of one sloop, three schooners, four galleys, and seven gondolas, the whole well officered and manned, and under command of General *Arnold*. If we meet with the enemy, doubt not but we shall support our charge.

RICHARD BRUERÉ AND OTHERS TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

At the White-Plains, by order of the General Committee }  
for the County, August 21, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: On the 6th day of *July* last past, having given our parole to you at this place, under the consideration of being allowed a sum of money barely sufficient to pay our board and for the common necessities of life, and that the said sum was to be repaid by ourselves or friends before our departure from the country, and as one of us has written without the receipt of any answer or money to pay our way, we think it somewhat extraordinary, and you must have given the necessary orders for our being supplied, which have been neglected by some other of your officers. We have also been informed that some of your officers imagined the whole allowance of two dollars per week was to be paid for our board and washing, little considering what other necessities are wanting on these occasions; and as the small sum before mentioned, which we are to repay, we humbly conceive to be our own, and that the Committee having billeted us to such houses as may be most expedient for your convenience, we are left at liberty to bargain for ourselves. We are at present six weeks in arrear to our landlord; and must beg, gentlemen, that you will give us some answer.

From, gentlemen, your humble servants,

RICHD. BRUERÉ,  
THOS. R. HARRIS,  
SAML. COX.

To the Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, at *Harlem*.

DUTCHESS COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Dutchess County, August 21, 1776.

*Resolved*, That persons be appointed to inspect and take an account of all the Salt in this County, except what may be intended for the private use of families; and that no person presume to sell any Salt in, or remove it out of the County till the further order of this Committee; and that the persons so to be appointed be authorized to send for any persons, and examine them under oath, touching the premises.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Thomas Storm*, a member of this Committee, be authorized to wait upon the Convention of this State, and inform them that there is a quantity of Salt in this County, but supposed to be not more than sufficient to supply the inhabitants of the County, at one bushel for each family, and that it is exceedingly wanted; and pray the advice of the Convention, whether the Salt may be sold

and distributed, or whether, notwithstanding the wants of the County, it ought to be reserved for the use of the Army; and if the latter, which will be the most prudent and eligible mode of keeping and reserving it.

By order of the Committee:

EGBERT BENSON, *Chairman*.

PETITION OF CADWALADER COLDEN, JUN.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the State of New-YORK, in Convention:

The Petition of CADWALADER COLDEN, Jun., of ULSTER County, Esq., humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, impressed with the most painful apprehensions of the calamities that would flow from a separation of the *American Colonies* from the Government of *Great Britain*, did, in the beginning of the present most unhappy disputes, appear opposed to such measures as, he imagined, would involve his country in distress; in consequence of which, he was stigmatized by those from whom he differed in sentiment, with the odious appellation of an enemy to his country, and thereby became the object of invective, slander, and malevolence, and was often insulted and frequently threatened with destruction of his person and property. This notwithstanding your petitioner's attachment to the rights of private judgment, and although he conceived the freedom of disquisition and debate, on topics which affected the publick weal, to be the birthright of *Englishmen*, and a privilege which particularly distinguish the freeman from the slave. Nevertheless your petitioner, willing to avoid the giving the least cause of offence, determined no longer in vain to oppose the prevailing current opinion, of which, his determination, he, by letter, acquainted some of the Committee in the County so long since as the 3d of *May* last was a twelve-month, and in a few days after was among the first that signed the General Association. Since which time, your petitioner doth aver, that he hath in no way whatsoever opposed or obstructed any publick measures, nor hath he, in any one instance, either persuaded or dissuaded any man from pursuing the propensity of his own inclinations. In testimony whereof your petitioner hath publickly called upon his accusers and persecutors to adduce any proof to the contrary. Notwithstanding which, and without the least cause, your petitioner's house was surrounded by an armed body of men, commanded by Colonel *Palmer*, in the dead of the night of the 24th of *June* last, and on being granted admission, he, the said *Palmer*, and divers others, proceeded to search every part of the house of your petitioner for arms and ammunition, &c., and also examined his desk and chest of papers; and though said *Palmer* declared himself perfectly satisfied that your petitioner was destitute of all offensive weapons, &c., he nevertheless seized on the person of your petitioner, and sent him under strong guard to *New-Windsor*, and the next day he was conveyed as a prisoner to *Newburgh*; whereupon, being called before the Committee, he excepted to their jurisdiction, alleging its locality to their own Precinct, and that he lived in the Precinct of *Hanover*, and if guilty of any offence, the Committee of said Precinct was of competent authority to take cognizance thereof, and therefore desired that any matter he might stand charged with might be referred to the Committee of *Hanover*. But this being overruled, your petitioner appealed to the County Committee or Convention. Upon which, he was then discharged, giving his parole to appear before them when notified by a letter from the Chairman of that Board. That the next day your petitioner heard that Colonel *Palmer*, and some of the party who had surrounded his house in the night, had in the neighbourhood pretended to be in pursuit of a man said to be come from on board the man-of-war; that at the house of one *Mary Knap* they had actually overtaken and seized a man, (*one of their own party*), who was made to confess or say, that he had made his escape out of your petitioner's house when he heard the party coming to it in the night; and that he had delivered to your petitioner letters or messages from on board the man-of-war, and had also brought a letter to said *Mary Knap* from her husband, who was on board the man-of-war. That, considering the temper of the times, your petitioner thought such a report, if believed in his neighbourhood, might be of dangerous consequence to him, therefore immediately wrote a letter to the Chairman of the County Committee, (not

knowing him to be one of the Committee he had already seen before,) acquainting him of the circumstances of this affair, and desiring a hearing before the County Committee. But before this letter got to the hands of the Chairman, the Committee had sat, and ordered your petitioner to appear before them on the 9th day of *July*, to answer the charges that then might appear against him touching his being an enemy to the *American* cause. A copy of which order was served on your petitioner. That accordingly, on the 9th day of *July*, your petitioner appeared before the County Committee; and that though no charge was even adduced against your petitioner, much less supported, of his acting inimical to the liberties of his country, or that he in any manner whatsoever opposed, obstructed, or counteracted publick measures, and that the story concerning the man from on board the man-of-war escaping out of your petitioner's house was acknowledged by Colonel *Palmer* and some of his party to be only a piece of fun, (as he called it,) or contrivance formed to impose on the said *Mary Knap*; yet, to the surprise of your petitioner and the astonishment of the County, your petitioner was ordered to the common Jail of the County, in close confinement, under every circumstance of indignity and disrespect. From whence your petitioner took the liberty to inform your honourable Board of his grievances, and to pray for relief.

And your petitioner further sheweth, that though the President of your honourable Board was pleased to answer his letter the 16th of *July*, in which he informed him that your Board was pleased to refer the matter back to the County Committee, yet he did not receive the letter till the 31st; neither did the Chairman of the County Committee give notice to your petitioner of the matter being referred back to the Committee, nor send him the President's letter, till applied to for it. That your petitioner, upon the receipt of said letter, hearing that the County Committee was to meet the 6th instant, and not knowing whether they would please to call him before them, wrote a letter to the Committee, and also made application to them through his friends, desiring their reconsideration of the rigorous treatment he had received by a close confinement in a Jail, for near five weeks, without any charge against him, (as has been already shown,) and soliciting his discharge. Notwithstanding which, all the indulgence your petitioner was able to procure has been a release from the common Jail, upon giving security in the exorbitant sum of £2,000, not to go off his farm until fully discharged by your honourable Board.

Your petitioner, therefore, relying on the equity and humanity of your honourable Board, doubts not but that, as you are the advocates of freedom, you will show yourselves equally the patrons and protectors of the innocent and oppressed, and speedily grant him an ample release from the unmerited and arbitrary restraint he at present labours under. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

CADWALADER COLDEN, JUN.

Coldenham, August 21, 1776.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Crown-Point, August 21, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: When I parted with you to go on command to *Cumberland Head*, I little expected you would so soon leave us. My surprise was great on my return to find you were gone. Part of the troops marched away, and the rest were ordered to *Ticonderoga*. I have always considered this as a post of great importance. The works were in ruins, but they might have been repaired before this. Five thousand men, in my opinion, would have manned them, and stopped the enemy here had they attempted to advance. Wiser councils have fixed on *Ticonderoga*. That place is made very strong. Great attention has been paid to the fleet. It is now truly respectable. It goes down the Lake to-morrow under General *Arnold*. I make no doubt it will prevent the enemy from coming up this year, unless some extraordinary disaster should happen to it.

There is a considerable number of *Indians* and *Canadians* with the Regulars at the *Isle-aux-Noix*. I expect some of them will be paying me a visit here in a few days. I am preparing to entertain them.

The Sixth Battalion has always remained here. We expected almost every day to go up to *Ticonderoga*. As the whole Army was to be removed there, I did not throw up

any works till a few days ago. I thought it very necessary that my camp should be secured. I fixed on an eminence on the east side of the Point, and have made some strong intrenchments on the land side, and shall throw up some works on the side next the water, which will secure us against surprise; and a few pieces of artillery, if I can find them, would cover our retreat, should the main body of the enemy approach. The General has been pleased to approve of my intrenching, and directed me to stay here. My men have got in good spirits, and seem very well contented at their present station.

I should apprehend that some troops should be continued on this Point till spring, when the place should be fortified strongly. Should the enemy get possession of it, very bad consequences will follow. A regiment of the Eastern troops might come here when my regiment leaves it.

General *Gates* is reforming the Army, and is very successful. He pursues the same plan I have heard you speak of to keep off the small-pox. Should anything extraordinary happen in this quarter you may expect that I shall trouble you, now and then, unless I find it disagreeable to you.

I am, honoured, sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble and obedient servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

#### CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, August 20, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Wm. Hillhouse*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Nathaniel Wales*, and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, To draw an Order on the Pay-Table in favour of Captain *James Chamberlain*, for Advance-Wages of 20s. per man for his Company, now ordered to *New-York*.

Order delivered Captain *Chamberlain* 20th August.

*Voted*, That his Honour the Governour is authorized and desired to furnish Captain *McCall* and Lieutenant *Jacob Dewit* of *Norwich* with as many Fire-Arms and Bayonets as they shall want to supply their men, out of the Colony Arms, in the hands of Mr. *David Trumbull*.

A Return of Officers for a Company, formed out of the Gentlemen of the Horse, under the command of Captain *James Chamberlain*, being made to his Honour the Governour and his Council of Safety, by which it appears that said Company have chosen *James Chamberlain* for their Captain, *Noah Chapin*, Jun., their Lieutenant, and *Simeon Chapman* for their Ensign, which is approved; and it is thereupon

*Voted*, To accept and approve said Officers; and they are hereby established in their several Offices to which they are chosen, to serve in said Company, as a Foot Company of Militia in defence of these States, until the present exigency is over; and his Honour is desired to commissionate them.

Commissions granted August 20, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, August 21, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *Wm. Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

An Account exhibited by Mr. *John Leffingwell*, of *Norwich*, for sundry repairs of Fire-Arms and stocking six Guns, amounting to £12 11s. 11d.; said Gun-Stocks were charged at 12s. each, out of which, 2s. on each Gun-Stock is deducted, which amounts to 12s. out of said sum of £12 11s. 11d., which leaves the sum of £11 19s. 11d., which is granted to said Mr. *John Leffingwell* on said Account, and an Order is to be drawn for the same accordingly.

Order drawn 21st August, delivered Colonel *Huntington*.

Mr. *Jepson*, of *Hartford*, applied to this Board for the purchase of four Cannon, six-pounders, at the Furnace at *Salisbury*, for the use of a Privateer; which being considered, and the question put, whether this Board will at present admit the sale of said Cannon, and passed in the negative.

*Voted*, That a Lieutenant, one Sergeant, and fifteen Privates, be detached from the Company under command of Captain *Thompson*, at *Black-Rock*, in *New-Haven*, and go to *Milford*, and there assist the inhabitants in building a Fortification at the Harbour in that place. And that the Selectmen of *Milford* have liberty, at the expense of said Town, to take four of the Colony Cannon from the Furnace at *Salisbury*, (viz: three nine-pounders and one twelve-pounder, if such are on hand, or as soon as they can be obtained,) and also one ton of Shot, suitable for said Cannon, to be used in the Fort, till further orders from the General Assembly, or the Governour and this Council. And if the General Assembly, or Governour and Council aforesaid, shall order said four Cannon to any other place during the present contest, the expense of transporting said Cannon, &c., to be repaid to said Town by the Colony. And the Overseers of said Furnace are hereby directed to deliver said Cannon and Shot accordingly.

Copy delivered Mr. *John Harpin*, August 21, 1776.

*Voted and Ordered*, That *Isaac Doolittle & Co.*, owners of the Powder-Mill at *New-Haven*, deliver three hundred weight of Powder into the hands of the Selectmen of *Milford*, taking their receipt to account with the Colony for the same.

Order delivered *John Harpin*, August 21, 1776.

*Voted*, To draw an order on Colonel *William Pitkin*, for three hundred weight of Gunpowder, in favour of the Selectmen of *Chatham*, taking their receipt to account for the same.

Order delivered Mr. *Hosmer*, August 21, 1776.

*Voted*, To draw an order on Colonel *William Pitkin*, for five hundred weight of Gunpowder, in favour of the Selectmen of *Middletown*, taking their receipt to account for the same.

Order delivered Mr. *Hosmer*, August 21, 1776.

*Voted*, To draw an Order on Colonel *William Pitkin*, for three hundred weight of Gunpowder, in favour of *Jabez Hamlin* and *Titus Hosmer*, Esquires, and the rest of the Committee, for overseeing the Lead Works at *Middletown*, &c., keeping a proper account thereof.

Order delivered Mr. *Hosmer*, August 21, 1776.

*Voted*, To appoint Mr. *Bela Elderkin*, of *Windham*, and he is hereby appointed, Second Lieutenant of Marines on board the ship-of-war belonging to this State.

#### GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Lebanon, August 21, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour to enclose the copy of a letter from the Hon. Major-General *Gates*, [of August 11,] with General *Carleton's* orders, and the letter to Major *Hawley* therein mentioned.

Permit me to add, that the practice of inoculating for the small-pox, which has been fallen into by the troops from your State, (as well Captain *Ferguson's* company at *Glasgow*, as others at *Number Four*,) every way hurts the publick service, and exposes the other troops anew to that infection, which has already rendered abortive the hopes of the Army, proved fatal to many, ruined the health of more, and exposed the whole to destruction. I have full confidence that this practice will appear in the same dangerous point of view to you as it does to General *Gates*, and that you will use such measures as your wisdom shall dictate to prevent any ill consequence from the past, and any future practice of the like nature. At the same time, I beg leave to assure you that every precaution will be taken in this State to prevent that fatal infection from being carried into the Army by the troops or others going from hence.

I am, sir, with great truth and regard, your obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. President of the Council of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

#### MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

In Council, August 21, 1776.

*Ordered*, That the Committees of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, of the several Towns and Plantations in this State be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to

take effectual care to keep within the limits of their respective Towns and Plantations all Prisoners of War who now are or shall hereafter be committed to their care, and agreeable to an order of Congress, the 21st May, to superintend their conduct; and in cases of gross misbehaviour, or refusing to labour for their support, (excepting such Officers as are on parole,) to confine them in the County Jail. And the Sheriff of the said County is hereby ordered and directed to receive into his custody any such Prisoners as the Committee or Committees may send them for their misbehaviour. And the said Committees are hereby directed to report their doings to the Council as soon as may be. And further, any Prisoners of War strolling from the Town to which they have been destined to other Towns, be by the Committee of said Town sent to the common Jail. And the Secretary is directed immediately to publish this order in the several Newspapers.

A true copy. Attest: JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Sec.*

In Council, August 22, 1776.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Correspondence, &c., in the several Towns in this State, do forthwith transmit to the Sheriff of the County whereunto they respectively belong, an accurate list of all Prisoners of War in their respective Towns, expressing their names, and to what Company or Corps they did belong; to the end that the several Sheriffs may be able to make a true return thereof to this Board as soon as may be, and, as the Congress have requested, an immediate Return of all Prisoners of War within this State be made to them.

A true copy. Attest: JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Sec.*

In Council, August 22, 1776.

*Ordered*, That the Sheriffs of the several Counties within this State do make a Return of the names of all the Prisoners of War that shall be returned to them by the several Committees in their respective Counties, together with such as may be confined in the several Jails within their respective Precincts, to the Council, that a Return thereof may be made to Congress as soon as may be.

A true copy. Attest: JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Sec.*

Council Chamber, Watertown, August 21, 1776.

*Ordered*, That the several Committees appointed by a Resolve of the Great and General Court, on June 25, 1776, to enlist five thousand of the Militia in their respective Counties for the reinforcement of the Continental Army in *Canada* and *New-York*, do forthwith make Returns to the Council of the number of men enlisted in each County, and what Companies have actually marched to each of those departments, with the number of men there is in each Company, and when they marched, and, in general, of all their proceedings relative to the said enlistment; and that the Committees appointed by a Resolve of July 10, 1776, to raise two other Regiments for the Northern or *Canada* Department, do forthwith make the like Return; and that the foregoing Orders be published in the *Boston* and *Watertown* Newspapers.

By order of the major part of the Council:

JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Sec.*

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO MAJOR GAINS.

State of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }  
August 21, 1776. }

SIR: You are hereby appointed Mustermaster, to muster the following companies of soldiers, raising for the Continental service, under the command of Captains *Hodgdon*, *Calfe*, *Brown*, *Clements*, and *Dearing*, passing ninety in each company, officers included, receiving none but good able-bodied, effective men, well equipped; and make return of muster-rolls as soon as may be.

MESHECH WEARE.

To Major *George Gains*.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GENERAL HOWE.

Whitehall, August 22, 1776.

SIR: In answer to the favour of your letter of the 3d of June, relative to the embarrassment and confusion which had been occasioned in the Army by vacancies having been

filled up here and also by you, I am to inform you that the Secretary of War, having taken his Majesty's pleasure thereupon, and written to you fully on that head, I flatter myself all those difficulties are removed, and that for the future you will have none of the like nature to complain of.

I am, &c.

GEO. GERMAINE.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GENERAL HOWE.

Whitehall, August 22, 1776.

SIR: I have the favour of your letter of the 4th of June last, with two enclosures; the one, a state of the goods removed from *Boston*, and the other, a plan on which the corps of *Loyal Nova-Scotia* Volunteers was then formed; and as your plan holds forth encouragement to those who have success in recruiting, I trust the officers, by their activity and attention, may be able soon to complete the corps.

I am, &c.,

GEO. GERMAINE.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GENERAL HOWE.

Whitehall, August 22, 1776.

SIR: Your letters of the 7th and 8th July, from *Staten-Island*, were delivered to me by Lieutenant-Colonel *Blunt*, of the Fourth Regiment, and I had the honour of laying them before the King. His Majesty entirely approves of your prudence in waiting for the arrival of one of the expected reinforcements; nor is this, your discretion, the sole object of his royal approbation; it has been graciously extended to the whole of your conduct and plan; in both of which you have exhibited such wisdom, zeal, and attention to the service, as deservedly reflects the highest honour upon you, and must contribute most effectually to the support and advancement of the honour of Government.

As his Majesty had reason to imagine that Vice-Admiral Lord *Shulldham* had stationed a proper number of ships off the harbour of *Boston*, in order to thwart all designs which the Rebels might have of seizing any of the succours which might be sent to you, he has been much hurt and surprised to find that so many of the Highland corps have had the misfortune to fall into the hands of the enemy. And I am to inform you that orders will be sent to Lord *Howe* to make inquiries into that matter.

His Majesty expressed great satisfaction at the account which you give of the coming in of so many of his subjects. Such a step, whilst it proves that they are impressed with a grateful sense of their situation, in obeying the mildest and best of Kings, will, it is to be hoped, when they find themselves sure of receiving protection, induce others to give similar proofs of their loyalty and zeal for Government.

I have sent to the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury the particulars of your request respecting an early supply of woollens, linen, and shoes, for the Provincial troops, and have no doubt but a due and speedy attention will be paid to it.

The behaviour of Captains *Reynor* and *Curtis*, in their respective commands, has given the King great satisfaction.

I am, &c.,

GEO. GERMAINE.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GENERAL HOWE.

Whitehall, August 22, 1776.

SIR: I had the honour of receiving and laying before his Majesty your letter, dated *Halifax*, June 7, 1776, wherein you acknowledge the receipt of my despatches of the 1st and 7th February and 28th March.

Sensible as you were that the interests of your King and country required your presence in the neighbourhood of *New-York*, I am not at all surprised at the lively mortification which you suffered on account of your tedious detention at *Halifax*, and in being so long prevented from executing those plans which your zeal and wisdom had projected, and to which the high order of the troops was likely to ensure success. It must at that time have been some alleviation of your uneasiness, to know that the delay was not occasioned by any neglect; and it will afford you no small degree of present satisfaction to be informed that the King, having read and considered the reasons which you assign for your detention at *Halifax*, is of opinion that an earlier removal from there was impracticable. His Majesty was also pleased to express his entire approbation of your idea respecting the intended motions and employment of the Army.



I herewith transmit you a copy of a despatch sent to General Sir *Guy Carleton*, which I think makes it unnecessary for me to enter into a discussion of that part of your letter which relates to the difficulties that might arise upon a junction of your respective armies. A duplicate of this despatch is sent herewith, which, for fear any accident should happen to the original, you will transmit to Sir *Guy Carleton* by the first opportunity. And as Lord *Howe* has the command of the fleet, and there happily subsists the most perfect harmony between you, I flatter myself that there is no occasion for me to say anything about the disposal of the transports. With regard to the Forty-Seventh Regiment, I must beg leave to refer you to my former letter of the 21st of *June*.

The loss of the ordnance store-ship in *Boston Bay* is an unlucky and very mortifying circumstance; and I am to acquaint you that orders are given for a strict inquiry to be made into that affair.

I am, &c.,

GEO. GERMAINE.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GOVERNOUR TRYON.

Whitehall August 22, 1776.

SIR: I am very glad to find by your letters of the 8th of *July*, which I received by Lieutenant-Colonel *Blunt*, that your information of the disposition of the inhabitants of the Province continues to give you ground to expect that when the presence of the Rebel force is removed, and protection held forth by the King's troops, they will in general give testimony of their fidelity to his Majesty and attachment to the Constitution.

The steady loyalty of the people of *Staten-Island* cannot be too much commended, and their affectionate reception of the troops under General *Howe* cannot fail to recommend them to the particular favour of Government; and I have the pleasure to acquaint you that it is his Majesty's command that you do signify to them, in the most publick manner, his Majesty's very great satisfaction in their conduct, and in the proofs they have given of their loyalty and affection, and to assure them of his Majesty's paternal regard and constant protection.

The next advices we receive from General *Howe* will, I trust, make it necessary for me to give you some instructions respecting your government. In the mean time I have the satisfaction to repeat the assurances I have been before authorized to give you, that your perseverance in the line of conduct you have adopted, upon such laudable motives, is very much approved by the King.

I am, &c.,

GEO. GERMAINE.

To Governour Tryon.

P. S. Mr. *Knox* having, by my directions, transmitted to the War Office that part of your letter, No. 7, respecting Lieutenants *Grant* and *Campbell*, enclosed I send you a copy of the answer thereto.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GOVERNOUR CARLETON.

Whitehall, August 22, 1776.

SIR: I have had the honour of laying before the King your letter, dated *Montreal*, 20th *June*, 1776, wherein you transmitted to me the agreeable news of the repulse of the Rebels at *Trois Rivières*, and of the precipitate manner in which they had evacuated *Canada*; and I have the satisfaction to inform you that his Majesty much approves of your conduct, and that of the officers and forces under your command.

The zeal manifested by his Majesty's national and foreign troops is very commendable; and although the hasty retreat of the enemy deprived them of an opportunity of distinguishing themselves in action, I am thoroughly persuaded that the high opinion which you entertain of them is well founded, and that you will upon no occasion find yourself disappointed in depending upon their fidelity and valour.

The very particular and disagreeable situation that you have, in your letter of the 2d *June*, described Captain *Fors-ter* to have been in, made it necessary for him to enter into the agreement concerning his prisoners that you have sent me a copy of; the reasons he has given for his conduct are solid, and show the humane feelings of a brave officer.

It is hoped that the prisoners you will have been able to take, will be the means of procuring the release of such of

his Majesty's officers and loyal subjects as are in the disgraceful situation of being prisoners to the Rebels; for although it cannot be that you should enter into any agreement or treaty with Rebels for a regular cartel for the exchange of prisoners, yet I doubt not but your own discretion will suggest to you the means of effecting such exchange, without the King's dignity and honour being committed, or his Majesty's name used in any negotiation for that purpose; and I am the more strongly urged to point out to you the expediency of such a measure, on account of the possible difficulties which may otherwise occur in the case of foreign troops serving in *North-America*.

I have had the pleasure of finding Captain *Le Maître* (who brought your despatches) a very intelligent person, and I had a particular satisfaction in recommending him to his Majesty's favour, as an officer of merit, and one for whom you interest yourself.

I am, &c.,

GEO. GERMAINE.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GOVERNOUR CARLETON.

Whitehall, August 22, 1776.

SIR: I had the honour to lay before the King your letter of the 22d of *June*, wherein you acquaint me that you had formed the Army under your command into four Brigades, and given the command of them to Lieutenant-Colonel *Nesbitt* of the Forty-Seventh Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel *Frazer* of the 24th Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel *Powel* of the Fifty-Third, and Lieutenant-Colonel *Gordon* of the Twenty-Ninth; and his Majesty was pleased to observe thereupon, that those officers might continue to act as Brigadiers until part of your Army should be ordered to join the troops under the command of General *Howe*, and that then their rank of Brigadiers must cease, in order to prevent the impropriety of their having higher rank and pay than several of the Lieutenant-Colonels who are their seniors in that Army.

You will here permit me to inform you that the King, upon reading that part of your letter of the 20th *June*, where you take notice of the troops under the command of Major-General *Phillips*, was pleased to observe, that although officers of Artillery, when ordered on duty, certainly command according to their rank and the dates of their commissions, yet that it never has been the custom of the *British* service, nor, as it is apprehended, of any other in *Europe*, that either General officers or others of Artillery, should roll in duty with the officers of the line; and that Major-General *Phillips* having acted under you in that predicament, must not in future be considered as a precedent.

I am, &c., &c.,

GEO. GERMAINE.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GOVERNOUR CARLETON.

Whitehall, August 22, 1776.

SIR: The rapid success of his Majesty's arms in driving the Rebels out of *Canada* does great honour to your conduct, and I hope soon to hear that you have been able to pursue them across the Lakes, and to possess those posts upon the frontiers which may more effectually secure your Province from any future insult.

His Majesty, in appointing you Commander-in-Chief of his forces in *Canada*, was pleased to extend your commission to the frontiers of his Provinces bordering thereupon, wisely foreseeing that it might be necessary for the completing your plan of operations, that you should march your Army beyond the limits of your own Government. I trust before this letter reaches you that you will, by your spirit and activity, have cleared the frontiers of *Canada* of all the Rebel forces, and will have taken the proper measures for keeping possession of the Lakes. That service being performed, his Majesty commands me to acquaint you that there still remains another part of your duty to be undertaken, which will require all your abilities and the strictest application—the restoring peace, and the establishing good order and legal Government in *Canada*. It is an object of the greatest importance to this country; the difficulties attending it are immense; but his Majesty depends upon your zeal and upon your experience for carrying it into execution. The rewarding those who have preserved their loyalty, and the punishing those who have forsaken their allegiance, will tend to the future safety of your Province,

by convincing the inhabitants that the laws can be executed for the protection of the innocent and the punishment of delinquents. His Majesty, ever anxious for the happiness of his subjects, commands me to inform you that no time should be lost in beginning so important a work, and that you do therefore return to *Quebeck*, detaching Lieutenant-General *Burgoyne*, or such other officer as you shall think most proper, with that part of your forces which can be spared from the immediate defence of your Province, to carry on such operations as shall be most conducive to the success of the Army acting on the side of *New-York*; and that you direct the officer so detached to communicate with, and put himself as soon as possible under the command of, General *Howe*. You will order such artillery as you will judge necessary to proceed with this detachment. And as a great quantity of heavy cannon and military stores were sent, upon the supposition that *Quebeck* might have been in the hands of the Rebels, you will, upon requisition from General *Howe*, supply him with such cannon and stores as may not be wanted for the protection of *Canada*.

I cannot finish this despatch without repeating to you the confidence which his Majesty places in your duty, your zeal, and your attachment to his service; and that you cannot more effectually recommend yourself to his loyal approbation and favour than by exerting yourself as successfully in your civil capacity as you have already done in your military command.

I am, &c., &c.,

GEO. GERMAINE.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GOVERNOUR CARLETON.

Whitehall, August 22, 1776.

SIR: The proofs which many of the *Indians* have already given of their zeal and fidelity, and the manifest utility which large parties of them must be of to the Army, leaves no room to doubt but you will have exerted every means in your power to induce them to a general declaration in our favour; and the better to enable you to prevail on them to do so, a considerable supply of goods, suitable for presents to them, has been provided; the greatest part of which is sent out on board the *Lord Shuldham*, armed victualler, now at *Cork*, in her way to *Quebeck*, and the remainder will be sent by one of the victuallers which are to sail from hence.

Mr. *Hey* not choosing to return to *Quebeck*, his Majesty has been pleased to promote Mr. *Livius* to the office of Chief Justice of the Province in his room. Mr. *Southouse*, who had lately been appointed Attorney-General, is made a Judge of the Common Pleas for the District of *Montreal*, and Mr. *Monck*, Solicitor-General of *Nova-Scotia*, succeeds Mr. *Southouse* as Attorney-General.

A mistake appearing to have been made in Mr. *Owen's* warrant, by appointing him a Judge for the District of *Detroit* instead of *Montreal*, a new warrant has been made out which rectifies that mistake, and the Receiver-General will have orders from the Treasury to pay him the salary for the past year, according to his present appointment.

Enclosed I send you two intercepted letters of *Benefield & Company*, merchants at *Montreal*, which will inform you of their connexion with the Rebels, and the service which they proposed rendering them if they had been suffered to continue in the possession of the Province.

I am, &c., &c.,

GEO. GERMAINE.

SILAS DEANE TO COUNT VERGENNES.

Paris, August 22, 1776.

SIR: I was this morning informed of the arrival of Mr. *Arthur Lee*, and that he would be in *Paris* to-morrow. This was surprising to me, as I knew of no particular affair that might call him here; and considering the extreme jealousy of the *British* Ministry at this time, and that Mr. *Lee* was the agent of the *United Colonies* in *Great Britain*, and known to be such, I could wish, unless he had received some particular intelligence from the *United Colonies*, that he had suspended his visit, as I know not otherwise how he can serve me or my affairs, now (with the most grateful sense I mention it) in as favourable a course as the situation of the times will admit.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

C. STEVENSON TO DOCTOR FRANKLIN.

St. Eustatia, August 22, 1776.

SIR: I received some days past a packet from *Amsterdam*, to my address, for you, which I forwarded by Mr. *Russell* via *Virginia*, whose confidence and care I could safely rely on.

Yesterday I received a second, (marked B,) which will be handed you by Mr. *Forbes*, bound for *Philadelphia*. I have his assurance of his particular attention, and hope it will be received in safety.

I shall at all times be ready to render you my services of this or any other kind without reserve.

And am, with every respectful attention, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

CORNS. STEVENSON.

To Doctor *Benjamin Franklin*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO COMMODORE HOPKINS.

In Marine Committee, Philadelphia, August 22, 1776.

SIR: As you are now about to return to *Rhode-Island*, where we understand the *Alfred* and *Cabot* remain inactive, we think proper you should exert your utmost endeavours, in conjunction with the commanders of those vessels, to get them equipped and manned with all possible expedition for a six months' cruise.

We think a most important service may be performed by the *Alfred*, *Columbus*, *Cabot*, and *Hampden*, by despatching them for *Newfoundland*, with orders to destroy the *British* fishery there. They must make prize of every *British* ship or vessel they meet with; they must seize and destroy their fishing boats and stages, and make prisoners of all their fishermen, or such of them as will not freely enter into our service. And as it is highly probable they may take more prizes than they can conveniently spare men to bring into port, it may be proper in such case to destroy them. The season is now come when the *Newfoundland* men begin to load their fish cargoes, consequently no time must be lost; and if the *Columbus* is not in port when you reach *Rhode-Island*, you'll despatch the *Alfred*, *Cabot*, and *Hampden*, immediately, appointing such place of rendezvous and such signals as will enable them to meet again in case of separation, and also enable the *Columbus* to follow and join them; and whenever she returns from her present cruise, you must order her on this service, giving the commander of her a copy of the instructions, signals, &c. We doubt not there are some *British* ships of war on the *Newfoundland* station to protect their fishery, and of course our Commanders may act with such caution as to avoid being taken themselves; but we hope this will not prevent a spirited and resolute conduct in the execution of this expedition, which we flatter ourselves will in the event prove highly detrimental to our enemies—honourable and beneficial to the *United States of America*. These being the objects we have in view, we desire that your orders to the Commanders may be adapted in the best manner your knowledge and experience can devise to obtain the ends proposed.

When this small squadron have done the enemy as much mischief as they can in that quarter, they must proceed into the Gulf of *St. Lawrence*, and there take cruising ground as may be most likely to intercept the supplies of *Indian* goods and other stores that we suppose will be sent from *England* for *Canada* when they know that our troops have evacuated that country.

There is another object well worthy of their attention, but we fear the acquisition of it is too uncertain to found a cruise upon—we mean the capture of *Hudson Bay* ships, which, in their return, must be very valuable. If the Captains should be of opinion that by dividing their force they can accomplish both these services, we would submit that point to your and their determination. We have no doubt but they will take valuable prizes in the Gulf of *St. Lawrence*; if the cruising ground is well chosen; and they must send their prizes for such of our ports as they will be most likely to reach with safety.

We deliver you herewith some of the Marine books, list of Continental Agents in every State, and several of the printed Declarations of Independence. They may do well to notify the inhabitants of the *French* Islands of *St. Pierre* and *Miquelon* of this Declaration, and sound how the inhabi-

tants stand affected towards us, assuring them the *French* Government favour our cause, and will probably become our allies by treaty. Perhaps our ships may find shelter and protection in these Islands, if the enemy have ships in that quarter too strong for us.

Should this fleet take any prizes whose cargoes might be particularly useful to the inhabitants of these States, they may do well to convoy such into port; and if they gain any intelligence that the Commanders think important, they must despatch one of the small vessels with the account to us, putting into the first port, and sending an express with it to the General or to us.

You will instruct the Commander of each vessel to write us, by all opportunities, of their proceedings, and of the occurrences they meet with. They must make us monthly returns of their crews, of the supplies made to them, of the provisions, and make copies of their log-books and journals, to be transmitted to us at their return. They must be careful of their ships' stores and materials; use their officers and men in such a manner as will recommend the service, and at the same time preserve strict discipline. They will no doubt, from principles of humanity and generosity, treat their prisoners with all kindness and attention their respective situations and circumstances will admit of; and we hope their conduct will in all things be such as to merit the continuance of our confidence.

You will direct the Commanders of each vessel to be very exact in keeping a list of all persons on board that are entitled to prize-money, mentioning their names, stations, and shares, copies of which they must furnish the Agent or Agents, that receive the prizes, in order that just and equitable distribution of prize-money may in due time be made.

We also wish to have a full and just valuation of all the cannon, stores, &c., which you brought from *Providence* that have been appropriated to publick use, or that remain for that purpose; and we desire you would have the vessels you took and the property in them libelled and tried, in order that such part as is condemned may be sold, the accounts settled, and distribution of the prize-money made.

We are, sir, your very humble servants,

JOHN HANCOCK,	GEO. WALTON,
ROBT. MORRIS,	SAML. HUNTINGTON,
STEP. HOPKINS,	FRA. LEWIS,
JOSEPH HEWES,	GEO. READ.

To *Esek Hopkins*, Esq., Commodore Continental service.

#### MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN HACKER.

Philadelphia, August 22, 1776.

SIR: Since the dates of those orders we have already addressed to *John Paul Jones* and you, as Commanders of the Brigantine *Hampden*, we have, in consultation with Commodore *Hopkins*, altered your destination, as you will learn from him. You are, therefore, to receive fresh orders from the Commodore, and obey them as if from, sir, your very humble servants.

To *Hoisted Hacker*, Esq.

#### MARINE COMMITTEE TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN.

Philadelphia, August 22, 1776.

SIR: Commodore *Hopkins* recommends the purchase of the armed schooner his fleet lately carried into *New-London* as an advisable measure for this Committee to adopt; and in hopes to promote the publick service thereby, we now request you will purchase said schooner on the best terms in your power, and assist the Commodore to fit, equip and man her with all possible expedition as a Continental cruiser. He is ordered to offer the command to Captain *Chew*, of *New-London*, and we hope he may accept it, as he is so well recommended by your Committee. You will supply this vessel with all necessary provisions and stores for a six months' cruise, providing the whole on the best terms, and in due time rendering us an account thereof.

If you have not money sufficient for his purpose, your draught on us will be duly honoured, by, sir, your very humble servants.

To *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., Esq.

#### MARINE COMMITTEE TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN.

Philadelphia, August 22, 1776.

SIR: The Secret Committee have directed Mr. *Barnabas Deane*, of *Whethersfield*, *Connecticut*, to deliver you sundry articles he has imported on Continental account, which you are to receive for use of the *American Navy*, granting Mr. *Deane* a receipt for the whole, in order to answer the accounts of the said Secret Committee; but as Mr. *Deane* is in want of some of those very articles, as well as others, for the frigate built under his direction, you are to supply any of these, and assist him in procuring any other articles wanted for that ship, charging the same to his account, or to the ship's, as you shall judge most proper.

You are hereafter to render us an account of the expenditure of all stores you receive or buy on account of the Continent.

The salt you will keep for the purpose of putting up pork the ensuing season for the use of the Navy.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

To *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., Esq.

#### MEMORIAL OF REDMOND BURKE.

[Read August 22, 1776. Referred to the Board of War. Postponed for further consideration.]

To His Excellency the President and the Honourable Members of Congress:

#### The Memorial of REDMOND BURKE:

GENTLEMEN: Your memorialist having set forth in a former memorial to his Excellency the President, which he begs leave to refer to, that on account of his health and other motives, not necessary to mention, he had obtained leave from General *Lincoln* to withdraw from the Army in the Southern Department, in order to serve in a more favourable clime, is sorry now to be under the disagreeable necessity to declare some of these motives, which, for very obvious reasons, besides trespassing on your time, might far better be buried in oblivion. They were gross indignities, added to flagrant injuries. A considerable part of the pay and rations granted by Congress being withheld from him for above a year, during the Presidency of *Rawlins Lowndes*, Esquire, in *South-Carolina*, and the command of General *Howe*, notwithstanding repeated applications to his Colonel and these two gentlemen, as will appear from indubitable vouchers; and having applied to General *Lincoln*\* for redress some time after the fall of *Savannah*, the defeat of *Briar Creek*, and the loss of our galleys at *Purisburgh*, your memorialist was first desired to attest his claim before a magistrate, though 'twas sufficiently evident, from the date of his commission and the resolve of Congress, together with the certificates of the Paymasters and Commissaries, which were adduced; and having accordingly attested his claim, was then required to get a certificate from his Colonel, then in camp, that he believed the oath to be true. Your memorialist was then at length induced to do what nothing but the vicinity of the enemy could have prevented his doing long before, namely, to gratify his Colonel's ardent desire, which he had often evinced, by withdrawing from the Army in that department, in order to try the service elsewhere. The Colonel being in other respects a man of worth, and for a long time particularly friendly to your memorialist, and being since killed in action, 'twould be a painful task to unfold the motives of his pique, or enumerate the many little injustices that proceeded from it; suffice it to say, that to put an end to animosity, he obtained the General's leave at *Purisburgh* to withdraw, and informed him of his intention of serving to the northward. And now, gentlemen, he begs to refer you again to his former memorial, which was presented to his Excellency the President of Congress, and which he desired should be laid before the Board of War. The Board have determined upon it in a manner that, 'tis hoped, will appear very injurious and unworthy that fidelity and perseverance with which your memorialist flatters himself he has acted in struggling through innumerable difficulties to rejoin those whom he esteemed his friends, in rejecting overtures made to him both on the Continent and in the Isles, in neglecting very flattering opportunities of comfortably settling amongst

\* The memorialist does not mean, in enumerating losses, to reflect on General *Lincoln*, who is well known to be a brave and faithful servant of the publick.

opulent relations in *Jamaica*, to say nothing of his service since the very commencement of hostilities, and his having lost, in General *Provost's* ravage of *South-Carolina*, whatever little property he had by his own industry acquired, his house being pillaged and burned at that time, nor of what is of far greater consequence to him, his having forfeited by his attachment to the *American* interest whatever claims he might have in the *British* dominions. He has only further to relate, that since his arrival here, while waiting for the determination of the Board of War, his necessities were seized on for diet and lodging, and to the liberality of the *Freemasons* only 'tis owing that he is not now languishing in a prison for debt. The memorialist submits the premises to the candour, justice, and humanity of Congress.

Philadelphia, August 22, 1776.

On *Monday* last Captain *Alexander Hunter* came to town, who was taken last *January* by Lord *Dunmore*, and returned to *Great Britain*, from whence he got a passage in one of the fleet which brought out the second division of *Hessians*, from which he made his escape in a boat yesterday week. By him we learn that the first division of foreign troops sailed the beginning of *May*; and the second, consisting of twenty-seven sail, the 26th; that they fell in with each other off *Sandy-Hook*, and came in together on *Monday*, the 12th instant; that made up about one hundred and ten sail, and contained eight thousand *Hessians* and *Waldeckers*, and one hundred of the *English* Guards. They were in general healthy, except a little of the scurvy and itch. The *English* troops on *Staten-Island* were embarking when he left the fleet, and the foreigners were disembarking to encamp on *Staten-Island*. He also informs that there were five thousand foreigners more to follow in a third division.

From the best accounts, we find the force at *Staten-Island* to be—

General <i>Howe</i> , from <i>Halifax</i> , with	8,000
The <i>Scotch</i> , who embarked at <i>Glasgow</i> for <i>Boston</i> , 3,400, out of which 850 were taken by our cruisers,	2,350
The defeated troops under <i>Cornwallis</i> and <i>Clinton</i> from <i>South-Carolina</i> , supposed not more than	2,500
The two divisions of <i>Hessians</i> , <i>Waldeckers</i> , and <i>English</i> Guards, which arrived on <i>Monday</i> , the 12th instant,	9,000
Lord <i>Dunmore's</i> scrubby fleet, about fifty fighting men, but with negroes, Tories, &c.,	150
Total,	<u>22,000</u>

Number of Marines unknown.

Ships *Asia* and *Eagle*, of sixty-four guns, the *Roebuck* and *Phoenix*, of forty-four, one bomb, and about twenty frigates and sloops-of-war. They have also about three hundred sail of transports, store-ships and prizes.

Some persons, in calculating the above, add fifteen hundred, as part of the Army destined for *Carolina*, of whose arrival we have not had any account, either at *South-Carolina* or *Staten-Island*.

#### BERKS COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation for Berks County, at Reading, August 22, 1776. }

Mr. *Berie-Hertel de Rouville*, and his son Mr. *Jean Baptiste de Rouville*, having represented to this Committee that they are in great want of money for their support during their stay at *Reading*, and that if one of them could go to the city of *Philadelphia*, he could negotiate business with Monsieur *Picotte de Bellestre*, in *Bucks* County, and procure from him a necessary supply of money for the support of them, the said Messieurs *de Rouville*, and therefore praying the permission of this Committee for one of them to go to *Philadelphia* on the business aforesaid, the Committee grant permission to the said Mr. *Jean Baptiste de Rouville* to go directly to the said city of *Philadelphia*, and to be absent on the business aforesaid for the space of ten days from his departure to-morrow evening, under an engagement to present himself to the honourable the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, and to exhibit to them this passport immediately on his arrival in the city.

By order of the said Committee:

JAMES READ, *Chairman*.

In Committee of Safety, August 26, 1776.

Allowed to pass to *Bristol* for the purpose above-mentioned.

SAML. MORRIS, *Chairman*.

#### COLONEL WILSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 26, 1776. Referred to Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Franklin, Mr. J. Adams.]

Amboy, August 22, 1776.

SIR: A number of copies of the resolutions of Congress offering rewards to the foreign troops who will desert the service of *Great Britain*, have been transmitted here. Permit me to express my surprise that no distinction is made between officers and privates. Several other gentlemen—one of them a *German*, well acquainted with the manner and disposition of his countrymen—have signified their concern on this account. I am informed that a Colonel in the *Hessian* Army has given intimations that he would willingly listen to overtures. Perhaps it is not yet too late to offer additional rewards to officers in proportion to their rank and pay.

I am, with much esteem, sir, your very humble servant,  
JAMES WILSON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 26, 1776.]

New-York, August 22, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour to transmit Congress a copy of a letter I received yesterday evening by express from General *Livingston*; also, copies of three reports from Colonel *Hand*.

Though the intelligence reported by the spy on his return to General *Livingston* has not been confirmed by the event he mentions, (an attack last night,) there is every reason to believe that one is shortly designed. The falling down of several ships yesterday evening to the *Narrows*, crowded with men, those succeeded by many more this morning, and a great number of boats parading around them, as I was just now informed, with troops, are all circumstances indicating an attack, and it is not improbable it will be made to-day. It could not have happened last night, by reason of a most violent gust. We are making every preparation to receive them; and I trust, under the smiles of Providence, with our own exertions, that my next, if they do attack, will transmit an account that will be pleasing to every friend of *America* and to the rights of humanity.

I have the honour to be, with all possible respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Elizabeth-Town, August 21, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: In the utmost haste I must inform you, that very providentially I sent a spy last night on *Staten-Island* to obtain intelligence of the movements of the enemy, as many things, apparently new, were seen from our lines. He has this moment returned in safety. The substance of his information I must give you in short. He went on the Island about midnight, and got, undiscovered, to the house of the person to whom he was sent, who informed him that the whole force of the enemy, of every kind, was thirty-five thousand men, fifteen thousand of whom were left on the Island, but all the rest embarked; that they expected to attack every hour, he thinks this night at farthest. It was to be on *Long-Island* and up the *North River*. That the fifteen thousand men were to land and attack at *Bergen Point*, *Elizabeth-Town Point*, and at *Amboy*. He has heard the orders read, and heard the Generals talk of it. The wagons are all laid out and ready; that they appear very determined, and will put all to the sword. They are in great want of provisions; pork tolerably good, but flour exceedingly bad. They have eat up all the cattle, and are now killing and barrelling up all the horses they meet with. All the field-pieces are taken on board except two. The informant may be depended on, being employed by the General, and carries his baggage. He has been employed in purchasing cattle; he has given ten pounds for a cow, and ten dollars for a sheep. That the Tories on the Island are very illy treated lately, so that the inhabitants, who at first



were so pleased, would now be willing to poison them all; they take from them everything they choose, and no one has anything they can call their own.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most humble servant,

WILL. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at *New-York*.

The Bearer is to pass all ferries and posts, and to be hastened with all speed.

WILL. LIVINGSTON.

Narrows, August 21, 1776.

SIR: Twelve small vessels and two men-of-war came in from sea late yesterday evening. The small craft and one of the men-of-war joined the fleet at the watering place. Some of the blue-coated gentry embarked yesterday afternoon below the *Narrows*, and then moved up. The Admiral had a large company on board in the evening; his ship was ornamented by displaying a variety of colours on the occasion.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

EDWD. HAND.

To General *Nixon*.

Narrows, August 21, 1776, nine o'clock.

SIR: Since I reported this morning, nineteen transports have been filled with men, and they still continue to embark.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

EDWD. HAND.

To General *Nixon*.

Narrows, August 21, 1776, five o'clock, P. M.

SIR: There are at least fourteen sail of transports, some of them crowded with men, now under sail; and more, from the noise, are hoisting anchor. Those under sail move down as fast as they get from among the fleet.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

EDWD. HAND.

To General *Nixon*.

LORD STIRLING TO COLONEL NIXON.

August, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have taken the earliest opportunity of communicating your letter of this day, with the paper enclosed, to the General. He has ordered me to tell you, that while one regiment only was on *Governour's Island*, he never had an application of the like kind; that since he has reinforced it with another regiment, several of those applications have been made; that in our present situation *Governour's Island* is more strong and better guarded than any other post of the Army; that when the expected reinforcements arrive, your post will have a proportional reinforcement; and that in the mean time it is your duty to make the best defence you can with the force under your command, ever relying that the General will pay the highest attention to every post, and particularly to so important a one as that which is under your immediate command.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

STIRLING, Brigadier-General.

To Colonel *John Nixon*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 22, 1776.

This night we have reason to expect the grand attack from our barbarian enemies; the reasons why, follow: The night before last, a lad went over to *Staten-Island*, supped there with a friend, and got safe back again undiscovered; soon after he went to General *Washington*, and upon good authority reported, that the *English Army*, amounting to fifteen or twenty thousand, had embarked, and were in readiness for an engagement; that seven ships of the line, and a number of other vessels of war, were to surround this city, and cover their landing; that the *Hessians*, being fifteen thousand, were to remain on the Island, and attack *Perth-Amboy*, *Elizabeth-Town Point*, and *Bergen*, while the main body were doing their best here; that the *Highlanders* expected *America* was already conquered, and that they were only to come over and settle on our lands, for which reason

they had brought their churns, ploughs, &c.; being deceived, they had refused fighting, upon which account General *Howe* had shot one, hung five or six, and flogged many.

Last evening, in a violent thunder-storm, Mr. (a very intelligent person) ventured over. He brings much the same account as the above lad, with this addition, that all the horses on the Island were, by *Howe's* orders, killed, barrellled up, and put on board, the wretches thinking that they could get no landing here, and of consequence be soon out of provision. That the Tories were used cruelly, and with the *Highlanders* were compelled to go on board the ships to fight in the character of common soldiers against us. The *British Army* are prodigiously incensed against the Tories, and curse them as the instruments of the war now raging.

Mr. further informs, that last night the fleet were to come up, but that the thunder-storm prevented. The truth of this appears, from the circumstance of about three thousand red-coats landing at ten o'clock this morning on *Long-Island*, where, by this time, it is supposed our people are hard at it. There is an abundance of smoke to-day on *Long-Island*, our folks having set fire to stacks of hay, &c., to prevent the enemy's being benefited in case they get any advantage against us. All the troops in the city are in high spirits, and have been under arms most of the day, as the fleet have been in motion, and are now, as is generally thought, only waiting for a change of tide. Forty-eight hours or less, I believe, will determine it as to *New-York*, one way or the other.

The thunder-storm of last evening was one of the most dreadful I ever heard; it lasted from seven to ten o'clock. Several claps struck in and about the city; many houses damaged; several lives lost. Three officers, a Captain and two Lieutenants, belonging to Colonel *McDougall's* regiment, encamped opposite to us, were struck instantly dead, the points of their swords for several inches melted, with a few silver dollars they had in their pockets; they (the persons) were seemingly roasted. A dog in the same tent was also killed; a soldier near it struck blind, deaf, and dumb. One in the main street was killed, as likewise ten on *Long-Island*; two or three were much burnt and greatly hurt. When *God* speaks, who can but fear?

PETITION OF ABEL NOBLE AND PETER TOWNSEND.

To the Honourable House of Convention of the Representatives of the State of NEW-YORK:

The Petition of ABEL NOBLE and PETER TOWNSEND, Proprietors of STIRLING Iron Works, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners having contracted to make about sixteen tons of large anchors, eighteen tons of bar iron, and five tons of steel, for the Continental service, have, for the making the said anchors, constructed a new anchor work, as the bellows and cranes of the old works were not sufficient for the wroughting of anchors of twenty-seven and thirty hundred weight; but forasmuch as the artificers and labourers have been and still are liable to be draughted out of the Militia, your petitioners will not be able to perform their contract unless the said artificers and labourers are protected from serving in the said Militia: Your petitioners therefore most humbly pray that your Honours will be pleased to grant a protection to so many artificers and labourers as are mentioned in the schedule hereto annexed, from serving in the said Militia, until the said contract shall be performed, and also to the number of hands mentioned in the said schedule for carrying on the furnace, which is now under blast, and which must unavoidably stop unless such protection be granted. And your petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

ABEL NOBLE,  
PETER TOWNSEND.

SCHEDULE.

For the Anchor Work.

5 Firemen, that is, one to each fire, 2 Tenders, with coal and other needfuls,  
10 Sledgemen,

For the Steel Works—Six Fires.

6 Firemen, 1 Smith,  
6 Assistants, 2 Colliers,  
1 Stock taker, 10 Colliers' hands,  
1 Carpenter, 4 Coal carters,  
1 Clerk for the above steel, Likewise 1 Carpenter.

*Forge for making Anchor and Bar Iron.*

5 Firemen, to work at the fires,	3 Head colliers,
5 do. Assistants,	15 hands, labourers for the colliers,
1 Stock taker,	6 Coal carters, for the forge and
1 Carpenter,	anchor work,
1 Blacksmith,	1 Clerk, for the forge and anchor
1 Teamsman, to cart pigs from the	work,
furnace to the forge,	1 Overseer, for the forge and anchor
1 Turner,	work,
1 Founder,	1 Smith,
1 Keeper,	4 Miners,
2 Fillers of the furnace,	2 Mine carters,
2 Pounders of ore,	10 Coal carters,
1 Mine burner,	5 Master colliers,
1 Stock taker,	25 Castlers' labourers,
1 Gutterman,	1 Furnace clerk,
2 Carpenters,	1 Overseer or chief manager.
1 Wagon-maker and mender.	

ABEL NOBLE,  
PETER TOWNSEND.

## GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL MIFFLIN.

King's Bridge, August 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: As his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has thought fit to appoint a Court to inquire into the conduct of the Captain of the row-galleys in the late action up the river, and seems desirous that all the information possible should be obtained from home, and that you, in particular, should attend, if you could be spared—if nothing extraordinary should happen in the morning, I would have you ride to the city and attend the Court, which is to sit at ten o'clock. I think it would be best also to take two or three gentlemen with you who seem to be best acquainted with the affair.

I am, dear sir, your humble servant,

W. HEATH.

To General Mifflin.

## CADWALLADER COLDEN, JUN., TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Coldenham, August 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 16th of *July* I had not the honour to receive till the evening of the 31st, and am sorry that I am still under the necessity of troubling you again on the same subject, though not from the same disagreeable place. Upon the receipt of your letter, I wrote to the County Committee, which I heard was to sit the 6th of *August*, desiring them to reconsider my case, and also got some of my friends to attend their meeting, who inform me that the Committee was about coming to a resolve that, as I had appealed to the Congress, (now the Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*;) I should remain in jail till discharged by them; but, with much difficulty, my friends prevailed with them to accept of security for my abiding on my own farm until fully discharged by your honourable Board; upon which I was sent for, and gave security accordingly. I then desired to have a copy of the proceedings of the County Committee in my case, in order to lay before your Board, which was refused; but they resolved to send a copy to you. I sent to the Chairman, ten days ago, to know if he had sent them, and informed him that I wanted to apply to your Board for my discharge, and that it was necessary you should be furnished with what the Committee had to allege against me, and the minutes of their proceedings thereon. He said he could not get ready the copy of those papers in less than eight days. Yesterday I sent to him again, and the papers were not yet made out, but Mr. *Boyd* said they should be ready by this morning.

I think it hard that I am not allowed a sight of those papers. However, am confident, if they have the least regard to decency and truth, they can't contradict one assertion contained in my petition to your honourable Board. Perhaps they may not send a copy of my last letter to the Committee; therefore shall send a copy of it by the bearer, for your perusal, as it contains an explanation of a sentence that passed from me when before the Committee the first time, which I have not touched upon in my petition, but they may perhaps have made use of it against me.

Since I wrote that letter, it has occurred to me that perhaps the reason of my being disappointed in meeting with that relief I so confidently expected from your Board, was owing to the mode of application, which I did not advert to when I first applied to you. I hope the enclosed petition will be more unexceptionable, and that you will please to lay it before the honourable Convention, and use your good

offices that the prayer thereof may be granted, to, sir, your most obedient, most humble servant,

CAD'R COLDEN, JUN.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President of the Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

P. S. One great reason that I am so solicitous to have my discharge is, that I want to be at liberty to go to see my honoured ancient father once more, who, I am sure, must be overwhelmed with grief and anxiety, at this critical moment, for the fate of a country in which he must soon leave all that is dear to him.

## GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 22, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: You may rely upon my diligence in forwarding the galleys as fast as possible. The business has been much retarded by so many of the carpenters being sick, and the misfortune I met with in hurting my leg, which for some days has rendered me incapable of attending upon the business; but my leg is growing better fast, and shall endeavour to forward the business with all possible despatch. I have been very uneasy myself that the galleys are not completed before now.

I sent an express to *Albany* some days ago for deck nails and other necessities, for the galleys, which will be here tomorrow, without fail. In compliance with the General's request, I shall send to *Albany* to General *Schuyler* for what necessities we shall want for the shipping.

Instead of a thousand axes his Honour Governor *Trumbull* mentioned in his letter, there was but eight hundred and two came to hand. I shall send the remainder by this conveyance.

I am, dear General, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, JUN.

To General Gates.

## GENERAL GATES TO EGBERT BENSON.

Tyonderoga, August 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The 29th ultimo I granted Doctor *Stringer*, at his earnest request, a permission to go to *New-York* with all expedition, to procure medicines for the General Hospital and Army in this department. He made me a solemn promise he would not delay an instant in returning to his duty, with the medicinal stores so much wanted, and which the troops here are almost ready to mutiny to obtain. I am this day informed that Doctor *Stringer*, instead of fulfilling his promises and returning with all imaginable despatch to his duty, is gone a preferment hunting to the Congress at *Philadelphia*, while the troops here are suffering inexpressible distress for want of medicines. I entreat, sir, you will instantly lay this letter before General *Washington*, and receive his commands for sending a supply of medicines to Doctor *Potts*, at *Lake George*. Not one of the ten chests of medicines, which you told me at *New-York* were sent to the ten regiments that marched in the spring from thence, have ever been received by either of those regiments; therefore be sure you send the supply now demanded by some person whose particular duty it will be to see it delivered to Doctor *Potts*. Many of the Regimental Surgeons here have not any medicines, nor do I believe there is a pound of bark in the whole camp. I cannot be long answerable for the consequences of the shameful neglect of the Army in this department. The *United States* expect the same good service from their troops here as everywhere else. This they cannot have, unless they command the same attention to be paid the health of their soldiers here as elsewhere.

I am, dear sir, your affectionate humble servant,

HO. GATES.

[Copy to Dr. *John Morgan*, Director-General of the Hospitals.]

## COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, August 22, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: A small reconnoitring party which I sent down towards *Gilliland's* is just now returned. The Corporal tells me all is very quiet there; that *Gilliland* and the few other inhabitants there had informed him that there had been no appearance of an enemy since the flag of truce came up; that *Gilliland* seemed very friendly, and was very

anxious to know our operations, but received very little satisfaction from the party.

*Gilliland* also mentioned, that Captain *Frazier* had told him that there were no parties of Regulars out, but forty *Indians* had, contrary to the desire of the officers at the *Isle-aux-Noix*, passed the sentries and insisted upon going to war; and that that party of *Indians* were out when *Frazier* was at *McCauley's*. The *Indians* may have returned back, but it is possible they still may be up this way. The scouting parties ought to be very careful.

I am, sir, your most humble and obedient servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

Newport, August 22, 1776.

By a gentleman from *Dartmouth* we are assured that a privateer belonging to *Fair-Haven* had taken a very large *Jamaica* ship, with seven hundred hogsheads of sugar, two hundred hogsheads of rum, and a large quantity of cotton. This ship was so valuable that the Captain of the privateer, who was the best pilot for the *Eastern-Shore* of any on board, went on board the ship to carry her in, and was parted with by the privateer last *Sunday* week. The privateer is arrived with more prisoners than men belonging to her.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, August 22, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I received your favour of the 7th instant, and make no doubt you have received mine of the 12th and 13th instant, to which I beg leave to refer. I find, by my son's letter of the 17th, you have returned to *Albany*, and was so full of business you had not time to write me. Shall be obliged to you for such particulars of the treaty with the *Indians* as may be communicated, when your leisure will permit.

The axes and clothing are already sent by the same route you direct in your last to *Skenesborough*. I am informed the last ten or fifteen miles of that road are difficult to pass; and as a ready communication with the Army is of importance, I hope it may be mended and made passable. I now enclose you an account of the cost of the axes and estimate of the cost of transportation, also an account of the sums advanced to the head carpenters, and also to the sea Captains, to enable them to raise men for the Lake service.

Since my last, Captain *David Howley*, of *Fairfield*, and Captain *Frederick Chappel*, of *New-Haven*, have been with me, and have undertaken, each of them, to raise a company of seamen, and proceed to *Ticonderoga* with all expedition. I have recommended them to General *Washington*, and requested him to permit them to enlist seamen out of our Militia now at *New-York*. I have advanced to each of them £100, being the same sum advanced Captain *Warner* before, making £540 in the whole. It is agreed to allow said Captains six shillings for each seaman they shall enlist, for their trouble and expenses.

I likewise enclose you invoices of clothing already sent forward for the use of the Northern Army; more is providing and will be forwarded as soon as possible, with tents for our troops serving there, of which I have to request you to advise Congress, before whom I shall lay the accounts for payment. I send the clothing to you without their particular orders for that purpose, but not without thinking it absolutely necessary.

Our furnace at *Salisbury* continues in blast. I have given the overseer orders to prepare the swivels you request as fast as can be done conveniently without putting a stop to casting cannon. Six, nine, and twelve-pounders are cast there. Should any of them be wanted at the northward, shall be willing to supply you as far as in our power. The bearer will stop at the furnace, and procure a more full and particular account when the swivels will be ready, and inform you. Would you have them sent out by the way of *Skenesborough*, or to the *North River* as before proposed?

Inoculation for the small-pox, I find, has been practised by troops on their march to join your Army. I hope a practice so pernicious in every respect will be discouraged. I have taken the liberty to suggest my fears and sentiments to General *Gates* on this subject. Indeed, sir, if it is not timely restrained, it appears to me it must prove fatal to all our operations, and may ruin the country.

In obedience to orders from Congress, I have appointed the Regimental Paymasters to the regiments from this Colony. I think the measure a good one, but am told that Congress has never marked out their duty, nor given any instructions on that head.

I flatter myself it is now in your power to discharge the balance due to us on last year's account. With that hope, the bearer, one of our Committee of Pay-Table, waits on you, and by him shall likewise hope to receive the sums due on the account for axes and cash advanced to carpenters and seamen, now enclosed to you.

Yours, &c., &c.,

J. TRUMBULL.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

Boston, August 22, 1776.

Last *Thursday* was sent into *Marblehead*, by the *Franklin* vessel-of-war, Captain *Skimmer*, and on *Saturday* last was conveyed round to this harbour, a brig from *St. Augustine*, bound for *Bristol*, with five thousand raw and half-dressed deer skins, and about two tons of indigo. There were on board of said brig a Lieutenant, a Sergeant, and a Drummer, of the Fourteenth Regiment, going on the recruiting service.

*Monday* last arrived at *Portsmouth* a vessel from *Holland*, laden with dry goods, drugs, spices, &c.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, August 22, 1776.

SIR: Your Excellency's letter of the 13th instant came to hand last evening, and, agreeable to your directions, I shall order Captain *Burbeck*, with his company of Artillery and the company of Artificers, to march as soon as possible for *Norwich*, and from thence to go by water to *Norwalk* and *New-York*.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,  
ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. Major *Wadsworth* was appointed Major of Brigade to this division of the Army the 22d day of *April*; and when the Continental regiments were ordered to *New-York* and *Ticonderoga*, as the brigade was divided, I directed him to do duty as Brigade-Major to the regiments that are ordered in to take the place of the Continental regiments, until further orders.

THOMAS RICE TO JAMES WARREN.

Pownalborough, August 22, 1776.

SIR: In obedience to the recommendations of the General Court, I have obtained what subscriptions I could in the east Precinct in said town for the exchanging hard money for Continental bills, and herewith transmit the same. I found in general a ready mind amongst the people, but they had not ability. Our means of getting money, not only in this town but County, is at an end; and what little the people had, they were obliged to part with for the necessaries of life. Everything the people have in their power to do for the publick weal they are in general ready to perform, and hope impossibilities are not expected.

I am, in behalf of the Committee of Correspondence, &c., your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

THOS. RICE.

To Hon. *James Warren*, Esq.

We whose names are hereunto subscribed, not only in obedience to the recommendation of the General Court, but from an earnest and sincere desire to promote the liberty and happiness of *America*, do voluntarily offer to exchange hard money for Continental bills, when called upon therefor, to the amount of the number of dollars affixed to our respective names, to be applied to carrying on the war in *Canada*.

*Ebenezer Whittier*.....\$40    *John Barber*.....\$30  
*John Langdon*, Jun..... 35    *Thos. Rice*..... 4

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO PETER PENNIMAN.

In Council, August 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Council have received yours of the 20th instant, and have ordered the Sheriff of the County of

*Worcester* to remove all the prisoners in the town of *Mendon* to the town of *Grafton*. Every officer that has had a servant allowed him is to support his servant so long as he retains as such; and if any officer refuses to do it, he is not to be allowed any servant for the future. And that the servant who has been dismissed be sent to the Sheriff of the County of *Worcester*, to be by him confined in jail, unless he will consent to go to labour for his support in such town, and to continue within the limits thereof as you shall appoint him.

To the Committee of Correspondence in the Town of *Mendon*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO ELIJAH GROUT  
AND SELECTMEN OF CHARLESTOWN, NO. 4.

In Committee of Safety, August 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: A letter from General *Gates* complains loudly of the conduct of some persons acting as physicians in your town, inoculating soldiers for the small-pox, thereby hindering them from joining the Army where there is no danger of the infection; and that he fears by their means the disorder will be spread in the new Army. We are of opinion, that there is great danger that the small-pox may be carried from *Number Four* to the Army, which, if it should happen, will be of the most destructive consequence; therefore recommend it to you to put an immediate stop to inoculation in your town, and take the most strict care to have all infection cleansed, which will ease the minds of our brethren in the Army, and probably prevent much damage to them.

To *Elijah Grout*, Esq., and Selectmen of *Charlestown*.

BENJAMIN HARRISON, JUN., TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Virginia, Williamsburgh, August 23, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I do myself the honour to transmit you an account of the state of my office at this day. Balance on hand, \$140,856 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The 20th instant is pay-day again to the whole Army, and after the warrants are discharged, I shall send another account, that the honourable Congress may judge when I shall want money again.

I have the honour to be, your very obedient servant,

BENJ. HARRISON, JUN.,

Deputy Paymaster-General.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN DARNES.

[No. 155.]

Annapolis, August 23, 1776.

SIR: It was represented to our Board that your company had but about forty muskets, those very indifferent, and that there was not any probability of your getting a sufficient number to make up the deficiency. Upon this information, as the Convention has directed us to despatch all the companies of Flying-Camp Militia that could be armed with the utmost despatch, and as Captain *Deans* wanted but a few effective arms to complete his company, we issued the orders, which we should not have done had we been truly informed of your circumstances. Advise us of the number you have delivered to Captain *Deans*, and we will replace them as soon as possible, that your company may march. We have not any linen. We are, &c.

To Captain *Darnes*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO EDWARD PARKER.

[No. 156.]

Annapolis, August 23, 1776.

SIR: We will take the blankets you told Captain *Norwood* you could procure for the publick, fifty for his company, and the remainder you will keep till further orders. Be pleased to have them valued by two gentlemen who may be indifferent, and the price shall be paid to you or your order, on transmitting the account. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Edward Parker*.

J. NICHOLSON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Queen Anne's County, August 23, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Darnes* has been exceedingly active in endeavouring to arm his company of the Flying-Camp, to

march to the northward. He has nearly got them equipped for that purpose. He only wants thirty fire-locks, which he can procure from *Winters*, provided he can obtain the consent of the Council of Safety; without which, he will not spare them, as he looks upon them to belong to the publick, in consequence of his contract. Captain *Darnes* has been encouraged by me to make application to you for them, upon a supposition that that part of the Flying-Camp which belongs to the *Western Shore* will be armed there. Indeed, if Captain *Darnes* obtains the consent of the Council to get *Winters's* arms, it will be the means of getting off Captain *Fiddiman's* company likewise, because Captain *Darnes* will then be able to spare some guns from his company, which are inferior to *Winters's* arms, but at the same time are so much superior to any *Fiddiman* is likely to procure for his company, that he will gladly accept of them, and march off early next week.

I shall do myself the pleasure of waiting upon the Council next week, as soon as Mr. *Johnson* is elected for *Caroline*, which will immediately be the case, without opposition. I speak thus, from assurances made me by every man of interest and note in the County, every one of whom I have had personal interviews with. I congratulate you on the favourable turn our affairs are likely to take in *Canada*.

I am, with much respect, sir, your very humble servant,

J. NICHOLSON, JUN.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President, &c.

APPOINTMENT OF JAMES WHITE AS DEPUTY-COMMISSARY OF  
THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia, August 23, 1776.

To all whom it may concern: Be it known, that Colonel *Joseph Trumbull*, Commissary-General, has thought proper to appoint me Commissary for the States of *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*; and in consequence thereof, I have thought proper to appoint *James White* Deputy-Commissary for the Province of *Pennsylvania*.

The allowance for the troops marching through to Headquarters, is one pound of beef per man per day, one pound of bread per man per day, and one gill of rum per man per day, or three pence in lieu thereof, six pounds of candles per week for one hundred men for guards, and eight pounds of soap for one hundred men per week.

I do certify, that the above allowance is issued at *Amboy* and the other posts in *New-Jersey*, agreeable to my instructions from Colonel *Trumbull*, Commissary-General.

CARPENTER WHARTON.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO LIEUTENANT BALDWIN.

Philadelphia, August 23, 1776.

SIR: The Continental schooner *Wasp*, under your command, being now thoroughly repaired, well fitted, equipped, and manned, you are immediately to proceed in said schooner on a cruise against the enemies of these States. We deliver you herewith a Marine book, by which you will know who are our enemies, and also how to conduct yourself in conformity to the Continental Rules and Regulations. You have likewise a list of the Agents in the several States, to some of whom you must address the prizes you take.

We deliver you herewith a letter for a gentleman in *Bermuda*, which is of much consequence to *America*. You are therefore to proceed with the utmost expedition to *Port Ellis*, at the east end of that Island, and deliver the said letter as quickly as possible; receive from him any others he may send in return; and as you will then be near the best cruising ground for *West-India* ships, you may make a cruise about that latitude, for such length of time as your provisions will enable you to keep the sea, unless success should tempt you to return much sooner with a good prize.

Use your people well, but preserve strict discipline; treat prisoners, if any you make, with humanity, and in all things, be duly attentive to the honour and interests of *America*. If you can get any seamen at *Bermuda*, ship as many as you can accommodate, and bring us the best account you can obtain of the state and condition of that Island with respect to provisions, number of inhabitants, what cannon, arms, &c., they have there, and inquire particularly after any *British* men-of-war that have been there, that are there, or



that are expected. Should you be unfortunately taken, either going to or after you leave *Bermuda*, be sure to destroy all letters you may have for us from that Island. Should you gain any intelligence you may think important, you must quit all other pursuits to inform us thereof as soon as possible.

Wishing you success, we are, sir, your humble servants.

To Lieutenant *John Baldwin*, commanding the Schooner *Wasp*.

#### PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

"In Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, June 1, 1776:

"Whereas the Honourable Continental Congress, by their Resolve of the 30th of *May*, empowered the said Committee to regulate the price of Salt:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said article of Salt shall not exceed the following prices, viz: coarse Salt, 7s. 6d. per bushel, 3s. 9d. the half bushel, and 2s. per peck; fine Salt, 8s. per bushel, 4s. the half bushel, and 2s. 2d. per peck."

And whereas *Stephen Shewell* and *Joseph Shewell*, inhabitants of this City, have knowingly counteracted said Resolution of the 1st of *June*, by selling coarse Salt at 12s. per bushel, and 1s. 6d. the half peck, and fine Salt at 2s. the half peck; and being charged with a breach of said Resolve before this Committee, *Joseph Shewell*, being present, acknowledged the charge to be just:

Therefore this Committee, in discharge of the duty they owe to the publick, and in order to show to the world their resolution to support their limitations, which they are of opinion are founded on just and generous principles, after giving them previous notice, do declare and hold up to the world the aforesaid *Stephen Shewell* and *Joseph Shewell* as enemies to their country, and preclude them from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these States.

Committee-Chamber, August 23, 1776.

NATHANIEL DONNELL, *Sec. pro tempore*.

#### ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Woodbridge, August 23, 1776.

The Battalions of Associators from the City of *Philadelphia* having completed six weeks' military service for the defence of the Colony of *New-Jersey*, are hereby, agreeable to orders of Convention, relieved from further duty on this station, and directed to proceed to *Philadelphia* as soon as the necessary accommodations for their march can be procured. General *Mercer* takes this opportunity to return his hearty thanks to those gentlemen for the readiness with which they have, on every occasion, executed such parts of the military service as their stations required.

H. MERCER, *Brig. Gen.*

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED ELIZABETH-TOWN, AUGUST 23, 1776.

Last week I left the Army upon the *Mohawk River*, at the breaking up of the treaty with the *Indians*. We had present nineteen hundred and sixty-six, including men, women, and children, of the *Indians*, who have solemnly engaged for a strict neutrality. Both the passes into *Canada* are now so well fortified that I think we have no reason to apprehend the enemy will enter that way.

The fort on the pass from the *Mohawk River* to *Wood Creek*, called *Fort Stanwix*, has been repaired by Colonel *Dayton's* regiment, by the order of General *Schuyler*. It is a very important station, and I believe, without exception, the strongest fort on the Continent. A wide ditch is sunk round it, about ten feet deep, the glacis on the outside are raised six feet above the surface, and the wall of the fort within the ditch ten feet, and that is picketed upon the top. We have several pieces of cannon, from six to twelve-pounds, and the passes up *Wood Creek* can be stopped in a few hours, so that no artillery or baggage can be brought from the Lakes, and small-arms cannot hurt us. This fort upon the 5th instant we honoured with the name of our worthy General—*Fort Schuyler*.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 26, 1776.]

New-York, August 23, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to inform Congress, that yesterday morning, and in the course of the preceding night, a considerable body of the enemy, amounting by report to eight or nine thousand, and these all *British*, landed from the transport ships mentioned in my last, at *Gravesend-Bay*, on *Long-Island*, and have approached within three miles of our lines, having marched across the low cleared grounds near the woods at *Flatbush*, where they are halted, from my last intelligence.

I have detached from hence six battalions, as a reinforcement to our troops there, which are all that I can spare at this time, not knowing but the fleet may move up with the remainder of their Army, and make an attack here, on the next flood tide. If they do not, I shall send a further reinforcement, should it be necessary, and have ordered five battalions more to be in readiness for that purpose. I have no doubt but a little time will produce some important events. I hope they will be happy. The reinforcement detached yesterday went off in high spirits; and I have the pleasure to inform you, that the whole of the Army, that are effective and capable of duty, discover the same, and great cheerfulness. I have been obliged to appoint Major-General *Sullivan* to the command on the Island, owing to General *Greene's* indisposition. He has been extremely ill for several days, and still continues bad.

By yesterday evening's post I received a letter from General *Ward*, enclosing a copy of the invoice of ordnance stores taken by Captain *Manley*, with the appraisement of the same, made in pursuance of my direction founded on the order of Congress, which I do myself the honour of transmitting.

You will also receive the treaty between the Commissioners and the *Indians* of the *Six Nations* and others at the *German-Flats*, which General *Schuyler* requested me to forward, by his letter of the 18th instant.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 23, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday morning the enemy landed at *Gravesend Bay*, upon *Long-Island*, from the best information I can obtain, to the number of about eight thousand. Colonel *Hand* retreated before them, burning, as he came along, several parcels of wheat, and such other matters as he judged would fall into the enemy's hands. Our first accounts were, that they intended, by a forced march, to surprise General *Sullivan's* (who commands during the illness of General *Greene*) lines; whereupon I immediately reinforced that post with six regiments. But they halted last night at *Flatbush*. If they should attack General *Sullivan* this day, and should show no disposition to attack me likewise, at the making of the next flood, I shall send such reinforcements to *Long-Island* as I may judge expedient, not choosing to weaken this post too much, before I am certain that the enemy are not making a feint upon *Long-Island*, to draw our force to that quarter, when their real design may perhaps be upon this.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. Major-General *Heath*, at *King's Bridge*.

P. S. The flood tide will begin to make about eleven o'clock, at which time, if the detachment ordered yesterday were to move to the high and open grounds about Mr. *O. De Lancey's* and *Bloomingdale*, they would be ready to come forward, or return back, as occasion should require; it will give them a little exercise, and show them wherein they are wanting in any matter.

#### COLONEL COOKE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, August 23, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Upon the recommendation of your Honour of the 12th instant, a number of able-bodied effective men, not obliged to do duty in any train-band, with sundry gentlemen of the Horse, within the limits of my regiment,

amounting in all to fifty-two men, among which are a very considerable number of old commission officers, voluntarily engaged in the publick service for this present important emergency, and yesterday I here led them to the choice of officers; and by a major vote they nominated the following persons, viz: *Joseph Smith, Jun.*, for their Captain; *John Trowbridge, Jun.*, Lieutenant; and *Eleazer Hubbee*, Ensign; and have joined themselves to my regiment as a distinct company. I therefore desire your Honour to send them commissions. With them came Major *Starr*, of the Light-Horse, who was very active in procuring them to engage in this service; and as both my Field-Officers were in the service, I desired him to officiate as Major of my regiment, which he cheerfully accepted of, and which I doubt not will meet with your Honour's approbation.

As the Militia regiments from the County of *Fairfield* were destitute of any Chaplains, the Rev. *Ebenezer Baldwin* generously offered his services, and is now here officiating in that capacity for my regiment and for the Fourth; and if it be agreeable to your Honour, I desire he may have a warrant for that purpose. And as my regiment came also without any Doctor, and several of the men were taken ill soon after our arrival, and help of that kind very difficult to be obtained here, I desired Dr. *Charles Peck* (who has been improved many years as a Physician, and who came down with the company above mentioned) to officiate in that character, and trust he will be of great service; and would therefore desire that he also may have a warrant, either for a Surgeon or a Surgeon's Mate,

I am, sir, with all due respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,  
JOSEPH P. COOKE.

#### A PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency the Honourable WILLIAM HOWE, General and Commander-in-Chief of all His Majesty's Forces within the Colonies lying on the ATLANTICK OCEAN from NOVA-SCOTIA to WEST-FLORIDA, inclusive, &c., &c., &c.

Whereas it is represented that many of the loyal inhabitants of this Island have been compelled by the leaders in rebellion to take up arms against his Majesty's Government: Notice is hereby given to all persons so forced into rebellion, that on delivering themselves at Head-Quarters of the Army, they will be received as faithful subjects, have permits to return peacefully to their respective dwellings, and meet with full protection for their persons and property. All those who choose to take up arms for the restoration of order and good government within this Island, shall be disposed of in the best manner, and have every encouragement that can be expected.

Given under my hand, at Head-Quarters on *Long-Island*, this 23d day of August, 1776. WM. HOWE.

By his Excellency's command:

ROBERT MACKENZIE, Secretary.

#### GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

King's Bridge, half-past one o'clock, P. M., }  
August 23, 1776. }

DEAR GENERAL: I am so unhappy as not to have received your letter until this moment, having been all this forenoon with the Engineers, viewing the ground and laying out the works; but upon sight of your letter, I have ordered the detachment here to parade and march for *Mount Washington* as soon as possible, and the detachment at that place, which consists of near eight hundred, to march forward agreeable to your Excellency's direction.

I hope soon to hear good news from *Long-Island*. I have never been afraid of the force of the enemy: I am more so of their arts. They must be well watched. They, like the *Frenchman*, look one way and row the other. However, I trust they will not find *Americans* deficient either in fortitude or policy.

A floating bridge, or number of boats, seems to be highly necessary for a communication on *Harlem River*. I submit to your Excellency's consideration, whether some of the fire rafts (as they are called) might not be employed to advantage for this purpose.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, your Excellency's humble servant,  
W. HEATH.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

#### GENERAL HEATH TO COLONEL NICOLL.

King's Bridge, August 23, 1776.

COLONEL NICOLL: You are forthwith to march with the detachment lately put under your command to *Fort Washington*, where you are to halt (unless there should be an alarm) until evening, and then return here; but if there should be an alarm, you are to march on towards *Bloomingdale* and join General *Mifflin*, who is gone forward, and under whose command you'll be.

I am, sir, your humble servant,  
W. HEATH, M. G.

P. S. As soon as two companies are paraded, you will march them forward, leaving an officer to order the others after you, as fast as they come on the parade.

#### GENERAL HEATH TO COMMISSARY OF PROVISIONS.

King's Bridge, August 23, 1776.

SIR: A number of Militia belonging to Captains *Pitkin, Lomas, Cheney, Forbes*, and *Grant*, of Colonel *Wolcott's* regiment, on their march from *Connecticut* to *New-York*, are destitute of provisions, and cannot obtain any at the publick houses; their number is something short of two hundred. Upon their application to you, you are to supply them with one day's provisions to carry them to the city.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,  
WM. HEATH, M. G.  
To the Assistant Commissary of Provisions at *Mount Washington*.

#### GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL MIFFLIN.

King's Bridge, August 23, 1776—two o'clock P. M.

DEAR SIR: Being out with the Engineer I did not receive the enclosed until just now. I have ordered the detachment here to parade immediately, and march as far down as your post. You will immediately march the detachment at your post forward as far as you may think proper, agreeable to his Excellency's direction. Colonel *Nicoll*, who commands the detachment here, will halt at your post unless there should be an alarm, when he will follow as fast as possible. If all should be quiet he is to return before evening.

I am, dear sir, your humble servant,  
WM. HEATH.  
To General *Mifflin*.

#### GENERAL TEN BROECK TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

August 23, 1776.

SIR: As the necessities of the service at this present time require all the regiments to be completely filled with their proper officers, I must acquaint you the North Regiment, which was Colonel *Graham's*, is deficient of two Colonels, and of several other officers, who are gone in the service. I beg you lay this before the Convention, and pray the following persons may be promoted as Field-Officers in the regiment: *Robert G. Livingston, Jun.*, Colonel; Major *Simon Westfield*, to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Major *Landon*, to be the first Major; and Captain *David Van Ness* to be second Major. Staff Officers: *Henry Van Hovenberg*, Adjutant; *Cornelius Schormerhorn*, Quartermaster. As for the Captains and subalterns, I cannot make a proper arrangement. If they must be elected in by the companies, as has been customary, the precedent is bad, and we get unfit persons for officers, who have no command over the men. I shall wait your directions to me in the same, and act accordingly. Ask only for blank commissions for three companies, and shall fill them as you direct.

I am, your very humble and obedient servant,  
PETRUS TEN BROECK.  
To the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

#### COLONEL CORTLANDT TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 23, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I have received your favour of yesterday, and have made the contents known to General *Waterbury*, Colonel *Wynkoop* being absent. He left this in order to recover his health, which was greatly impaired. I found him very unwell on my arrival. Hope his departure may be agreeable, as he desired me to acquaint the General that he would return as soon as his health would permit.

General *Waterbury* was thinking to have sent me up to *Cheshire's*, but is now resolved that I shall stay. I am informed the road from *Cheshire's* to *Fort Edward* is still very bad, and *Wood-Creek* wants more clearing out.

Many of the carpenters are sick, so that the carpenters go on but slowly. There are several carpenters among the troops, I am informed, and have advised General *Waterbury* to draught them for that purpose. Give me leave, dear sir, to assure you that nothing shall be wanting on my part to execute whatever commands the General thinks proper to order, and will do my endeavours to forward on the works, which go on better for being well looked to. The General will please further to advise me; who am, with respect, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP CORTLANDT.

GENERAL GATES TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.  
[Read September 2, 1776.]

Tyonderoga, August 23, 1776.

SIR: Having an opportunity by a safe hand going immediately to *Philadelphia*, I do myself the honour to enclose your Excellency a list of the Naval force of the *United States* now at *Crown-Point*, under the immediate command of Brigadier-General *Arnold*. I also transmit your Excellency my orders and instructions to General *Arnold*, which I earnestly wish to merit the approbation of Congress. I have lately reported all extraordinary occurrences in this department to General *Schuyler*, and doubt not but he has constantly forwarded them to your Excellency. *Saturday* se'nnight, I expect the whole of the Militia of the different States, with the two established regiments from *Boston*, will be arrived here. I shall thereupon send your Excellency a general return of this Army. I have that confidence in Congress, that I am persuaded no supplies wanted in this Army will be withheld from it longer than the time that it is absolutely necessary to prepare and send them.

The enclosed letter, signed by myself, and in the name of all the officers of the regiments from *Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*, I beg leave to present to your Excellency, and to entreat your recommendation of their request to Congress.

With great respect, I am, sir, your Excellency's most faithful and obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.  
To His Excellency *John Hancock*, Esq.

List of Armed Vessels on LAKE CHAMPLAIN, August 22, 1776.

NAMES OF VESSELS AND COMMANDERS.	No. of Guns.	Size of Guns.	No. of Swivels.	No. of Men.
Sloop <i>Enterprise</i> ..... <i>Dickson</i> .....	12	4-lbs. ....	10	50
Schr. <i>Royal Savage</i> , Hon. <i>Gen. Arnold</i> .	12	4 6-lbs. 8 4-lbs.	10	50
Schooner <i>Revenge</i> ..... <i>Seaman</i> .....	8	4 4-lbs. 4 2-lbs.	10	35
Schooner <i>Liberty</i> ..... <i>Premier</i> .....	8	2 4-lbs. 6 2-lbs.	8	35
Gondola <i>New-Haven</i> ..... <i>Mansfield</i> ....	3	1 12-lb. 2 9-lbs.	8	45
Gondola <i>Providence</i> ..... <i>Simmonds</i> ....	3	Ditto.	8	45
Gondola <i>Boston</i> ..... <i>Sumner</i> .....	3	Ditto.	8	45
Gondola <i>Spitfire</i> ..... <i>Ulmer</i> .....	3	Ditto.	8	45
Gondola <i>Philadelphia</i> ..... <i>Rue</i> .....	3	Ditto.	8	45
Gondola <i>Connecticut</i> ..... <i>Grant</i> .....	3	Ditto.	8	45
Gondola <i>Jersey</i> ..... <i>Grimes</i> .....	3	Ditto.	8	45
Galley <i>Lee</i> ..... <i>Davis</i> .....	6	1 12, 1 9, 4 4-lbs.	10	50
Total.....	67		104	535

The two last will sail in three days for *Crown-Point*. Three large row-galleys, and one more gondola will be finished in ten days at *Skenesborough*, and I think will, under the command of General *Waterbury*, join the fleet under General *Arnold* in a fortnight from this day.

HORATIO GATES, Major-General.  
To the Hon. *John Hancock*, &c., &c.

Ticonderoga, August 22, 1776.

SIR: In justice to our country and ourselves, we cannot help informing you, that attempts have been made (and nearly effected) to intercept all intelligence to and from the gentlemen of the Army. Not only letters of a publick nature, as well to General Officers as others, have been opened and detained, but even letters of private and domestick concern exposed to the malevolent eye of men evidently

inimical to our cause. Under these circumstances, we cannot possibly be possessed of that intelligence our situation and the importance of our cause require. The Eastern troops receive letters free of postage twice every week, from their respective Provinces, in consequence of resolves passed by their Conventions, whereby no less than two post-riders are constantly employed. The same respect and indulgence we conceive ourselves equally entitled to; as gentlemen and as officers we expect it. We would, therefore, wish to see a regular post established upon the same principles, who should constantly ride between *Philadelphia* and this place. Unless this scheme be immediately adopted, we shall conceive ourselves slighted; in short, we shall consider it a manifest injury to our country, as the enemy will still continue to receive information of all our motions, and we remain totally ignorant of theirs. However, your known zeal in the cause, as well as your regard for the Southern troops, will, we trust, induce you to use every necessary precaution in conveying intelligence to us. We write to you as President of the Congress, therefore beg you will lay this letter before them.

We have the honour to subscribe ourselves your most obedient, humble servants,

HORATIO GATES, Major-General.  
A. ST. CLAIR, Colonel.  
MATT. OGDEN, Lieutenant-Colonel.  
JAMES IRVINE, Lieutenant-Colonel.  
ANTHY. JAS. MORRIS, Major.  
ISRAEL SHREVE, Lieutenant-Colonel.  
ANTHY. WAYNE, Colonel.  
J. P. DE HAAS, Colonel.  
WM. DE HART, Major.  
FRANCIS JOHNSTON, Lieut. Colonel.  
NICH. HAUSSEGER, Major.  
WM. MAXWELL, Colonel.  
DAVID RHEA, Major.

GENERAL ORDERS—BY GENERAL GATES.

Head-Quarters, (Ticonderoga,) August 6, 1776.  
(Parole, London.) (Countersign, Dresden.)

The following promotions are ordered to take place in Colonel *De Haas's* Battalion, viz: Ensign *Robert Allison*, Second Lieutenant, vice *Christopher Staddle*, promoted; *George Archer*, Third Lieutenant, vice *R. McCullum* resigned; *John P. De Haas*, Jun., Ensign, vice *John Low*, deceased; *Jacob Shallus*, Ensign, vice *Benjamin Rice*, promoted.

Head-Quarters, August 7, 1776.  
(Parole, Amsterdam.) (Countersign, Candem.)

Colonel *Moses Hazen*, tried at a General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Poor* is President, and charged with neglect of duty in general, and in particular for refusing to receive into the store the goods General *Arnold* sent to *Chamblee* by Major *Scott*, and not placing proper guards, and suffering them to be plundered. The Court having deliberately weighed and considered the charge against Colonel *Hazen*, are clearly of opinion it is without foundation; they do therefore adjudge him "not guilty," and unanimously acquit him with honour. The General confirms the sentence of the General Court-Martial, and orders Colonel *Hazen* to be released from his arrest.

Head-Quarters, August 8, 1776.  
(Parole, Switzerland.) (Countersign, Berne.)

Head-Quarters, August 9, 1776.  
(Parole, Uxbridge.) (Countersign, Bergen.)

Captain *Carlisle*, of Colonel *Bedel's* Regiment, tried by the General Court-Martial of which Colonel *Poor* is President, for behaving unbecoming to the character of an officer, in attempting to fire upon Lieutenant-Colonel *Wait*, and abusing him. Upon due consideration of the evidence, the Court unanimously find the prisoner guilty, and sentence him to be cashiered. The General approves the sentence, and orders Mr. *Carlisle* to adjust what accounts he may have in camp, and then immediately to leave the Army.

Head-Quarters, August 10, 1776.  
(Parole, Portsmouth.) (Countersign, Salem.)

Lieutenant-Colonel *Cortlandt*, with the officers and soldiers of Colonel *Wynkoop's* Regiment, and the Companies

of *New-York* Militia, to go in batteaus to-morrow morning, early, to *Skenesborough*. They are to take as many boats as possible. The Batteau-Master to deliver them the boats this morning.

The Batteau-Master is immediately to send to the different encampments, and collect all the oars. Neither officer nor soldier is for the future to use any of the oars for any other purpose than that they were designed for. Proper poles must be cut, to carry provisions and baggage.

Colonel *Wingate's* and Colonel *Wyman's* Regiments to furnish twelve Subalterns, twelve Sergeants, twelve Corporals, five Drums, and two hundred and fifty-nine Privates, to assist in manning the Fleet. They must be sent to Brigadier-General *Arnold*, at Head-Quarters, at six o'clock this evening. They will have the same extra allowance as the other troops serving in the Fleet. The General desires that as many seamen as those corps can furnish may be sent with the above command.

Lieutenant *Brown*, of Colonel *Winds's* Regiment, tried by the General Court-Martial of which Colonel *Poor* is President, for ungentlemanlike behaviour in general, disobedience of orders in not coming on from *New-York* with the regiment, for discharging soldiers from the Continental service, and receiving money from the soldiers for their dismissal. The Court having considered the evidence in this cause, do adjudge Lieutenant *Brown* is not guilty, and do acquit him.

Ensign *Ross*, tried at a General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Poor* is President, for leaving the Army, and going on to *Crown-Point* with a batteau and men, contrary to orders. The Court, considering the evidence on this charge, find him guilty; but, from the peculiar circumstances of his case, and the apparent necessity of his proceeding to *Crown-Point*, do therefore adjudge him only to be reprimanded by the Commanding Officer of the Regiment.

The General approves both the above sentences, and orders Lieutenant *Brown* to be released from his arrest, and the sentence on Ensign *Ross* to be executed immediately.

One Field-Officer, three Captains, six Subalterns, six Sergeants, six Corporals, two Drums, and one hundred and forty-four Privates, to march to-morrow morning at daybreak to the landing, to take thirty batteaus across to *Fort George*. The Field-Officer will return with his party directly upon his delivering the boats at the Fort, and halt for that evening at some miles distant to the northward, and proceed the next morning at daylight to the landing at the end of the Lake. This command to be furnished entirely from the Fourth Brigade.

Head-Quarters, August 11, 1776.

(Parole, *Dickinson*.)

(Countersign, *Philadelphia*.)

The Guard in the Fort, formerly kept by Colonel *Wyntkoop*, is to be relieved by the Fourth Brigade.

Colonel *Wingate's* and Colonel *Wyman's* Regiments, of the *New-Hampshire* Militia, are to be considered as part of Colonel *Stark's* Brigade, and to obey his orders.

Colonel *Patterson* is to take the command of the Second Brigade during the absence of Colonel *Reed*.

Head-Quarters, August 12, 1776.

(Parole, *Adams*.)

(Countersign, *Willson*.)

Inquiry to be made if there are any Blockmakers in any of the Corps. Their names, regiments, and companies, to be reported to the Deputy Adjutant-General this evening.

When the weather clears up, the General hopes the troops will turn out in a spirited manner to finish the works. The honour of the Army, and the preservation of the liberties of *America*, depend upon their animated exertions this campaign; that happily finished, freedom will be restored to *America*, and every inhabitant, under his own vine and fig tree, may enjoy the inestimable blessings thereof.

*After Orders*.—The Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Poor* was President, is dissolved.

Head-Quarters, August 13, 1776.

(Parole, *Willson*.)

(Countersign, *Harrison*.)

The Brigade of the *Massachusetts* Militia commanded by Brigadier-General *Bricket* is to encamp upon the high ground to the westward of the old fort of *Ticonderoga*.

General *Bricket* and Colonel *St. Clair* will agree upon the spot, and mark out the camp accordingly.

The General observes that cooking in the streets of some of the encampments has been permitted. The Officers commanding Brigades will in their Brigade Orders positively forbid such an unsoldierlike and pernicious custom to be continued. If the Commanding Officers of Corps are at any time remiss in their duty, the Commandants of Brigades will, without reserve, take notice of it.

Mr. *William McCalla*, tried by the late General Court-Martial of which Colonel *Poor* was President, for selling a batteau, the sails and part of the rigging of a schooner, and four barrels of pork, belonging to the Continent, at *Chamblce*.

The Court, on examination, do adjudge Mr. *McCalla* guilty; but, from the appearance of the testimony, are of opinion that it is rather on account of great imprudence than fraud. They do therefore adjudge him to be publicly and severely reprimanded at the head of Colonel *St. Clair's* Brigade.

The General confirms this sentence of the General Court-Martial, and orders the execution immediately.

The Majors of Brigades are to attend punctually at eleven o'clock for orders. Those who are at a distance may send an Adjutant in bad weather, but the orders will at no time be given to a Sergeant.

Lieutenant *Robert Pearsly*, of Colonel *Wingate's* Regiment, is appointed Wagonmaster-General, in the room of Lieutenant *Doty*, who has resigned on account of sickness.

Head-Quarters, August 14, 1776.

(Parole, *Johnston*.)

(Countersign, *Morris*.)

Two Captains, six Subalterns, eight Sergeants, eight Corporals, four Drums and Fifes, and one hundred and fifty Privates, are to be draughted from the Brigade of *Massachusetts* Troops commanded by Brigadier-General *Bricket*, to join and do duty with the Corps of Artillery. General *Bricket* will direct that the Corps furnish only active, able-bodied men for this service.

The following promotions are ordered to take place in Colonel *Stark's* Regiment:

Ensign *C. Stark*, Second Lieutenant, Adjutant, vice Lieutenant *Chandler*, deceased.

Ensign *Timothy Blake*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Battin*, deceased.

Ensign *Thomas Pritchard*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Carr*, deceased.

Mr. *Patrick Cogan*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Pritchard*, promoted.

Mr. *Al. Center*, Ensign, vice Lieutenant *Stark*, advanced.

The Commanding Officers of Corps are directed to see that all the sails belonging to the publick, which have been used as tents, be immediately delivered in to Mr. *Lane*, as Conductor of Naval Stores. A number of oilcloths belonging to the Artillery have been used as covers of tents; these are likewise to be immediately delivered to Major *Badlam*, Commanding Officer of Artillery.

Head-Quarters, August 15, 1776.

(Parole, *Allen*.)

(Countersign, *Miffin*.)

All persons possessed of any whited brown or white paper may have ready money for it at Head-Quarters, or the like quantity and quality immediately returned upon its arrival from *Lake George*.

The Commanding Officers of Brigades will, Regiment by Regiment, examine the men's arms and ammunition, and report all deficiencies to the General.

A return of the powder-horns and shot-bags now in each Corps to be sent to-morrow, at orderly time, to the Adjutant-General.

When more salt arrives from *Albany*, the Commissary is to issue weekly eight quarts to one hundred men until further orders.

*Thomas McCoy* is appointed an Ensign in the Sixth Battalion of the *Pennsylvanians*; he is to be obeyed as such.

*After Orders*.—A General Court-Martial, taken from the Regiments in the First Brigade, consisting of one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, and ten Captains, to sit to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, at or near the President's tent, to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them; all evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court. Colonel *Greaton* President.



Head-Quarters, August 16, 1776.

(Parole, *Gerry*.)(Countersign, *Rush*.)

All the brass blunderbusses in camp belonging to the publick or taken from the enemy are to be delivered in immediately to Mr. *Lane*, Conductor of Naval Stores.

The Majors of Brigades are to see that the weekly returns are delivered in correct and punctually at orderly time to-morrow.

The Chief Engineer to see all the spades and axes in store helved, and a party are to be constantly kept grinding axes. When men are brought to the parade of a morning for work, the General expects their tools to be ready for them.

The *Massachusetts* Brigade to furnish three hundred men, with officers in proportion, for fatigue to-morrow.

Strayed yesterday from Head-Quarters a fat sheep belonging to the General. He has that opinion of the soldiers under his command that they will return him his sheep whenever they find it.

Head-Quarters, August 17, 1776.

(Parole, *Brazton*.)(Countersign, *Wythe*.)

The First, Second, and Third Brigades, to mount the two following Guards for the security of the encampment upon *Mount Independence*: one main Guard at the Isthmus, consisting of one Field-Officer, two Captains, six Subalterns, six Sergeants, six Corporals, four Drums and Fifes, and one hundred and twenty Privates. The other Guard is to mount upon the hill above the lines upon the west point, where the redoubt is marked out, and is to consist of one Captain, three Subalterns, three Sergeants, three Corporals, two Drums, and sixty Privates. Colonel *Wayne*, who surveyed the mount, with the officers commanding Brigades, will station the Guard at the Isthmus. The Guard in the rear of the redoubt above the lines will be stationed by the Adjutant-General, the Chief Engineer, and the Commanding Officer of the Artillery.

The Chief Engineer to deliver fifteen axes to the Field-Officer of the main Guard, and ten to the Captain of the redoubt Guard, to-morrow morning at guard mounting. They are to be answerable for these axes to the Officers who relieve them, and those Guards are not to be relieved until the axes are in good order delivered to the relieving Officers.

One Captain, three Subalterns, three Sergeants, three Corporals, two Drums, and one hundred Privates, from the Brigade commanded by General *Bricket*, to parade at Head-Quarters at twelve o'clock, to take twenty batteaus to *Skenesborough*. Captain *Williamson* will deliver the batteaus to the Commanding Officer of the party.

Forty Seamen from the same Brigade, to be draughted and paraded at Head-Quarters to-morrow morning at seven o'clock, to go on board the fleet at *Crown-Point*. They will go down in two batteaus. The Officer commanding them will apply to General *Arnold* for his orders.

Colonel *Greaton* is to take the command of the First Brigade during the absence of General *Arnold*.

Head-Quarters, August 18, 1776.

(Parole, *Jefferson*.)(Countersign, *Lee*.)

In every duty, whether guard, detachment, or fatigue, the Officers are to be proportioned to the number of men, according to the establishment of the Army. A Field-Officer is to command any number above two hundred.

A General Court-Martial, taken from the Regiments of the Fourth Brigade, consisting of one Lieutenant-Colonel, two Majors, and ten Captains, to sit to-morrow morning at nine o'clock, to try such prisoners as may be brought before them. All evidences and persons concerned, are to attend the Court. Lieutenant-Colonel *Ogden*, President; Captain *Joseph Morris* to attend the Court as Judge Advocate.

Head-Quarters, August 19, 1776.

(Parole, *Rutledge*.)(Countersign, *Deane*.)

The Commanding Officers of Regiments and Corps are to be answerable that every officer, non-commissioned officer and soldier, who shall hereafter be infected with the small-pox, be immediately sent to the General Hospital at *Lake George*; but previous to their being sent they are to make oath as follows:

I, *A. B.*, do solemnly swear, by the ever-living *God*, that I have not received the infection of the small-pox by inocu-

lation, or by any application internal or external, but have taken the same in a manner entirely unknown to me, and as I firmly believe, by the oath I now take, in the natural way, and no other. So help me *God*.

In case any man refuses to take the above oath, his conscience accusing him that it would be perjury so to do, he is to declare the name of the person who inoculated him, and the place where it was done, that the perpetrators of so villainous an act may be instantly brought to condign punishment.

*After Orders*.—A General Court-Martial in the Second Brigade, consisting of three Field-Officers and ten Captains, to sit to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, at the President's tent, to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them.

Head-Quarters, August 20, 1776.

(Parole, *Williams*.)(Countersign, *Gerry*.)

*Edmund Monro* is appointed Quartermaster of Colonel *Reed's* Regiment, of Brigadier-General *Bricket's* Brigade, in the room of Mr. *Brett*.

The General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Greaton* is President, is dissolved.

Head-Quarters, August 21, 1776.

(Parole, *Henry*.)(Countersign, *Carroll*.)

Marauding is become so frequent that the General expects every officer will in a spirited manner exert himself to prevent it, and bring the perpetrators to exemplary punishment. Last night a poor inhabitant was robbed of all himself and distressed family had to depend upon for their winter support, by certain villains, who said they belonged to the *Jersey* Regiment. There are more villains that wear blue, than those suspected in the *Jersey* Regiment. The General recommends it to the Commanding Officer of the Fourth Brigade to endeavour by every means in his power to discover and bring to justice all persons suspected of pillaging and marauding. The Army is paid to protect, not pilfer the inhabitants.

The Colonels of the Regiments of Militia are forthwith to bring in their demands for mileage and billeting, that they may be discharged without delay.

Mr. *Ryan*, Adjutant of Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion, of *Pennsylvania*, tried at a General Court-Martial, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *Ogden* was President, on an accusation of assaulting and abusing Major *Haussegger*, is found guilty by the Court, and sentenced to be severely reprimanded by Colonel *St. Clair*, at the head of the Fourth Brigade.

The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be put in execution, at such time and place as Colonel *St. Clair* shall think proper.

The General Court-Martial, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *Ogden* was President, is dissolved.

Head-Quarters, August 22, 1776.

(Parole, *Richmond*.)(Countersign, *Gunden*.)

The following Resolves of the most honourable the Congress of the *United States of America*, are to be strictly observed by the Surgeons and Surgeons' Mates of this Army:

"*Resolved*, That the several Regimental Chests of Medicines and Surgical Instruments, which now are or shall hereafter be in the possession of the Regimental Surgeons, be subject to the inspection and inquiry of the respective Directors of Hospitals, and the Director-General; and that the Regimental Surgeons shall, from time to time, when thereto required, render account of the said Medicines and Instruments, to the said Director, and if there be no Director in any particular departments, to the Director-General. The said accounts to be transmitted to the Director-General, and by him to the Congress, and the Medicines and Instruments not used by any Regimental Surgeon, to be returned when the Regiment is reduced, to the respective Directors, and an account thereof by them rendered to the Director-General, and by him to the Congress.

"That the Regimental and Hospital Surgeons in the several departments make Weekly Returns of their sick to their respective Directors in the said departments.

"That all extra expenses for bandages, old linen, and other articles necessary for this service, incurred by any Regimental Surgeons, be paid by the Director of the department, with the approbation of the commander thereof."

## GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, August 23, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: This will be delivered to you by Doctor *McCrea*, whom, at the recommendation of Doctor *Potts*, I have appointed First Surgeon to the fleet under your command; he has instruments and medicines, two things much in request with you. Mr. *Francis Hagan* accompanies Mr. *McCrea* as his Assistant Surgeon. I cannot procure any instruments for him here, but wish you could hire Doctor *Spiram's* for the voyage. You are, I am told, acquainted with Doctor *McCrea*. I am assured his abilities are their own recommendation. Another gondola sails from hence this morning, and the row-galley will sail to-morrow. Yesterday Mr. *Titcomb*, master-carpenter from *Skeneborough*, returned thither from hence; he got a good recruit of ship-carpenters, twelve of his gang being now sick; he is a fine-looking fellow, and seems desirous to command the row-galley he has just finished; he professes himself a seaman. From the sense and manly appearance of Mr. *Titcomb*, I think you would do well to appoint him; but I shall not interfere further than to recommend him. I wrote yesterday to General *Waterbury*, to spur him up to reinforce you with all speed with the row-galleys. I am confident he will exert himself to join you as expeditiously as possible.

The rumour we heard of an action at *New-York* proves premature. The enemy had embarked from *Staten-Island*, but not landed again, when the last accounts came from thence. It is positively asserted that the *Hessian* General had sent to General *Washington* to know what treatment the prisoners of that Principality were to expect, and was answered that they must expect to be treated as hirelings. May health, honour, and success attend you.

I am, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,  
HORATIO GATES.

To Brigadier-General *Arnold*.

P. S. Captain *Thatcher*, of Colonel *Swift's* regiment, is just come from Governour *Trumbull*, where I sent him express. He says you had consented to his commanding a row-galley. He seems very fit to do it.

## CAPTAIN NELSON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 2, 1776.]

Ticonderoga, August 23, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I beg leave to acquaint you of my having received information that a number of troops are raised and still raising in *Westmoreland* County, and being myself desirous of serving my country in that quarter, if approved of by your Honour, where I might be of service to the public and my family; at the same time, I do not mean by this to insinuate that I am tired of the service to the northward, as I am ready and willing at all times to march wherever ordered; but having, agreeable to resolve of Congress, joined a regiment (Colonel *De Haas's*) by order of General *Arnold*, in *Canada*, which in all probability will march home in the fall, was the reason of my making this request. Your Honour, I hope, will consider my request, and, if approved of, permit me to march my company to the westward when the regiment arrives in *Philadelphia*.

I have the honour to be, your Honour's most humble servant,

JOHN NELSON,  
Captain of the Rifle Company.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

## GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, August 23, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I have this minute received yours by Doctor *McCrea*, and am very happy at his arrival, as I was determined to have sailed the first fair wind, even without a Surgeon. I believe him to be a very good one. I have borrowed Doctor *Sparham's* instruments. I am glad to hear the gondola and galley are likely to join me so soon. I have not the least objection to Captain *Titcomb's* commanding one of the galleys. I think he had better take the second he is building, as taking him from his gang before she is finished will retard the business. I believe Captain *Thatcher* a very good officer, and could wish he might take the command of one of the galleys which is done. General *Washington's* answer to the *Hessian* General, I hope, will

have the desired effect. I think it very proper. I thank you for your good wishes, and am, with every sentiment of friendship and esteem, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To General *Gates*.

## COLONEL BREWER TO GENERAL GATES.

Bennington, August 23, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I am now on my march from this place with part of my regiment or battalion. The Council of this State, or the Committee appointed to provide my regiment with camp utensils, have not yet sent them, by reason of which my men are entirely destitute. My marching orders are urgent from them; likewise I find the same from you to the Commissary here. I am determined to push as far as I can find any kind of pot or kettle to look in. Have sent my Adjutant with this to your Honour, begging your advice and instructions in that matter; also, where you would have me repair to with my regiment. The other part of my regiment will be on their march next week; by them I expect the camp utensils will come, as I have sent two expresses to *Number Four*, and one to *Watertown*, now after them. Upon seeing a letter from you to Major *Hawley* relative to the conduct of inoculation at *Number Four*, I find that a damn'd puppy of a quack has carried on the diabolical practice at *Williamstown*, about twelve miles from this. I have made bold to send your sentiment in that matter to the Committee of that town this morning, and make no doubt they will either do him justice, or send him to you to receive his reward.

I am, sir, your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

SAML. BREWER, Colonel.

To General *Gates*.

New-London, August 23, 1776.

Last Saturday a French sloop arrived here from the *West-Indies*, loaded with sugar, molasses, and coffee, and a few articles of *European* goods.

Three vessels have arrived here from *New-York* with Tories, collected from that city and *Long-Island*, who are sent into the country towns.

By means of the great number of prizes carried into different ports at the eastward, *Jamaica* rum is sold at 4s. 4d. per gallon by the hogshead, and sugar at five dollars per one hundred weight in *Boston*.

Three of our people (soldiers) who were prisoners at *Quebeck* have made their escape, and arrived at *Rhode-Island*. They report that the officers who are prisoners in *Quebeck* meet with hard usage.

## JOHN AVERY TO RICHARD PETERS.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, Council Chamber, }  
August 23, 1776. }

SIR: Yours of the 6th instant has been received, and such steps are taken as 'tis presumed will enable the Council speedily to furnish you with a particular list of prisoners in this State. In the mean time they would observe that there have been upwards of four hundred privates and twenty-one officers, being Highlanders, but lately dispersed into different towns in this State, besides twenty-one other officers and many more privates. Many, and perhaps the largest part of the privates, are, by their own consent, at labour for their subsistence.

The list of officers of the troops raised here, the date of their commissions, &c., will be forwarded as soon as the Council can have the proper returns made to them.

By order of the Council:

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary Board of War.

## GENERAL LEE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Savannah, August 24, 1776.

SIR: Your letter with the thanks of the Congress reached me at *Purisburgh*. The approbation of the freely-chosen Delegates of a free and uncorrupt people is certainly the highest honour that a man of any sentiment can be ambitious of, and I shall consider it as a fresh stimulus to excite

my zeal and ardour in the glorious cause in which I am engaged. May the God of righteousness prosper your arms in every part of the empire in proportion to the justice with which they were taken up! Once more, let me express the high satisfaction and happiness I feel in this honourable testimony, and, once more, let me assure the *United States of America* that they cannot meet with a servant (whatever may be his abilities) animated with a greater degree of ardour and enthusiasm for their safety, prosperity, and glory.

The present state of this Province, its strength and weakness, I shall transmit to the Board of War, according to the directions I have received.

Be persuaded, sir, that I am, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

GENERAL LEE TO BOARD OF WAR AND ORDNANCE.

Savannah, August 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Any irregularity of returns of the forces under my command will not, I hope, be imputed to me; the extensive business of superintending the safety of so vast a territory as that which the Congress have committed to my charge, renders it impossible for me to attend to the detail of the regiments, or, in any reasonable time, to collect and digest the various returns; but I have given orders to the Brigadiers to be as accurate as possible on this subject in their respective districts, and have no reason, from my knowledge of the men, to think they will be deficient. As a thorough knowledge of the present condition of this Colony, of its strength and weakness, is certainly a matter of very serious consideration, I shall lay before the Board the best and most accurate information I am able.

*Georgia* is a State of much greater importance to the empire of *America* than is generally supposed, at least than what I myself imagined before I visited it. The variety of navigable rivers, commodious harbours, and fine inlets; the prodigious quantities of rice, and immense stocks of cattle, both on the islands and on the main; but, above all, the gentleness and salubrity of the winter seasons, with the conveniency of its situation for commerce with the *West-India Islands*, would render it a most valuable possession to the enemy. The *Altamaha*, a very noble river, already furnishes a considerable quantity, and may, in time, furnish any quantity of lumber. The garrison of *St. Augustine*, and, indeed, the whole Province of *East-Florida*, draw their subsistence from *Georgia*; and if all intercourse with her were cut off, that nest of robbers and pirates would probably fall to the ground, and of course the empire of the *United States* become more round and entire. These circumstances, summed up together, must evince the importance of keeping *Georgia*, or any part of it, out of the hands of the enemy. The means of doing it demands the utmost attention. I have turned my thoughts to the subject, and shall beg leave to submit the result to the consideration of the Congress. The present state of the strength of this Colony consists of Colonel *McIntosh's* battalion, (a return of which is here enclosed,) a company of independent Artillery, consisting of three officers and twenty-three privates, with about twenty-five hundred Militia of all sorts; but in a very great part of these (as I learn from the authority of their own Captains) very little confidence can be placed, their principles being extremely contaminated by a most pernicious banditti of enemies to the common liberty. *McIntosh's* battalion is really a very fine one, (one of the best, I think, on the Continent;) but as, perhaps, it might appear a hard task to insist on this battalion's acting with the necessary rigour against some of their nearest connexions and relations, accused of being concerned in treasonable practices, it is my intention to remove them either into *South* or *North-Carolina*, where they can be more serviceable, and have an opportunity of completing themselves, which, in this State, from the dearth of men, is impossible, and replace them with an equal or greater number from *South-Carolina*.

Such is the present condition of the strength of *Georgia*; very far from being adequate to its defence. My scheme for its security is, as row-galleys and armed boats are so well calculated for what is called the inland navigation as to give them an infinite advantage over vessels merely sailing,

(which, in these strait, confined waters, have no room for manœuvring,) to depend upon them; they will secure the rivers against the predatory incursions of the enemy, prevent the desertion of negroes, sweep the coasts clear of tenders; but, above all, facilitate the means of the different States mutually assisting each other with troops, cannon, provision, and other requisites, which is now effected with difficulties, slowness, and monstrous expense. Three galleys are already on the stocks in this port, and we have armed and equipped several boats with swivels, and one gun on the bow of each; the least of them capable of containing thirty men, and rowed with fourteen oars. Sailors, of whom we find so great a scarcity, are not necessary for this species of vessels; the soldiers are competent to the business. Besides the equipment of these galleys and boats, I proposed establishing little forts or redoubts in certain situations on the rivers *St. Mary's*, *Satilla*, *Sapello*, and *Altamaha*, which may enable us to make incursions from time to time, when circumstances require it, into *East-Florida*, and render it dangerous for them to make attempts of a similar nature into *Georgia*. These redoubts or little forts will likewise serve as places of rendezvous, refreshment, and retreat, for bodies of horse rangers, which ought continually to be patrolling on the frontier. Such are the best methods, after having consulted the most intelligent people, which, in my opinion, can be devised for the defence and security of this State, unless, indeed, we could prevail on the Province to contract their frontier, by breaking up all their settlements on the other side of the *Altamaha*, which, to me, I confess, appears a wiser and more economical measure; but this, I am afraid, is not to be accomplished.

I must now beg leave to lay before the Board a matter of the highest concern, and which certainly demands the most serious attention of Congress, as, unless remedied, it may not only distress the circumstances of the publick, but bring a disgrace on the *American* character—I mean the unconscionable advantages which individuals, merchants, mechanicks, farmers, and planters, are suffered to take of the publick necessities. If boats, wagons, horses, drugs, clothing, skins, necessaries, even little refreshments, such as fruit or garden stuff, are wanting for the soldiers, no price being regulated, the extortion is monstrous; the expenses of the war must not only be prodigiously swelled by this want of regulation, but the officers and soldiers are disgusted to the service by the toleration of such impositions; for instance, the *Virginians* and *North-Carolinians* are so much out of temper with *Charlestown* on this head, that should it again be attacked, and the assistance of these troops again be requisite, I am afraid we shall find a dangerous repugnance in them to march, when ordered. I most devoutly wish, therefore, that Congress will make it an object to remedy this evil. Might they not recommend or enjoin the Legislatures of the different States to appoint a Committee of Assessors from their respective bodies to fix the prices of the different articles in their Provinces? Whether this method is or is not proper, I cannot pretend to say; but something, I must repeat, should be done.

The waste, difficulty, and expense arising from a want of method in provisioning the troops, when assembled in any particular spot, upon an emergency, are so great, that magazines ought to be established in every Province, more particularly in those which have the greatest probability of being attacked; by these means, the troops will not only be better fed, but be an immense saving to the Continent; for the contractors, not being pressed for time, can, at their leisure, purchase every species of necessaries in these parts, where they are best and cheapest; but, when a great and sudden demand is made, either for cattle, corn, spirits, &c., they are under a necessity of taking that which is next at hand, and giving the sellers their own price. On this consideration, in concurrence with the President and Council of *South-Carolina*, I have thought it expedient to establish some magazines, in *South-Carolina*, of pork, beef, corn, &c., besides straw and whiskey, which, in these low, damp countries, are absolutely necessary; at all events, this establishment can be no loss to the Continent, as the beef and pork, at least, can always with advantage be exported to the *West-Indies*. Were I at a less distance from the Congress, I should not take the liberty of laying out a single dollar without having obtained their approbation; but, at this distance, I must assume such a power, or let the publick

affairs go to wreck, and of course prove myself totally unworthy of the great trust the Congress have reposed in me.  
I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
CHARLES LEE.

To the Board of War and Ordnance.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.  
[No. 156.] In Council of Safety, Annapolis, August 24, 1776.

SIR: This letter will be handed to your Excellency by Mons. *Pelieirson D'hugé*, who came passenger in an armed brig, purchased for the Province of *Maryland* by Messrs. *Vambibber* and *Harrison*, our Agents in *'Statia* and *Martinique*, who inform that he was warmly recommended to them as a "gentleman of character and experience in the management of artillery." We should have employed him in our Province, had he been desirous of entering into its service.

For, and on behalf of the Council, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

DAN. OF ST. THOS. JENIFER, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN DARNES.  
[No. 157.] Annapolis, August 24, 1776.

SIR: We wrote you yesterday the reason of our ordering the deficiency of arms in Captain *Dean's* company to be supplied out of yours. Enclosed is an order on *Winters* for forty muskets fitted. You will be furnished with cartouch-boxes, knapsacks with haversacks, bayonet-belts, gun-slings, and wooden bottles, at *Chestertown*. Colonel *Richardson* will give you marching orders. A small quantity of osnaburgs arrived this morning, and we send you two pieces for the use of your company. We are, &c.

To Captain *Darnes*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COUNTY COMMITTEE.  
[No. 158.] Annapolis, August 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We send up by Captain *Walker* a quantity of powder imported in Captain *Conway*. Our Commissary has orders to receive and have the same stored in or near *Baltimore-Town*, until the magazine building under your directions can be completed. We should be obliged to you for your assistance in seeing the powder landed and properly secured, and should be glad to hear the magazine is finished, so that it may be removed there for greater safety.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation, *Baltimore County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO STEPHEN STEWARD.  
[No. 159.] Annapolis, August 24, 1776.

SIR: We request the favour of you to purchase the necessities for the Military Hospital in *Annapolis*, according to the enclosed memorandum given in by Dr. *Tootell*.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Stephen Steward*, *Anne Arundel County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GERARD HOPKINS.  
[No. 160.] Annapolis, August 24, 1776.

SIR: We send you up by Captain *Walker*, who commands the small tender belonging to the *Defence*, some powder he has brought up from *Virginia*. The quantity you will be pleased to take a particular account of, and give Captain *Walker* a receipt for. The powder is to be stored in some convenient place in or near *Baltimore-Town*, until the magazine can be completed. You are to send down forty half-barrels of musket powder by the schooner *Resolution*; also send by her whatever has been heretofore ordered to be sent, and not already complied with.

We desire you would apply to Captain *Nathaniel Smyth*, and inquire whether there be any cannon at *Whetstone Point* not mounted, that can be spared. If there should be, send them down here by the schooner *Resolution*; also the scow purchased by *Jesse Hollingsworth*. We are informed there

are some nine and eighteen-pounders not mounted, lately brought down. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Gerord Hopkins*, Commissary of Stores, *Baltimore*.

P. S. Send also any shot that may be ready.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL RICHARDSON.  
[No. 161.] Annapolis, August 24, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Darnes* has an order on Mr. *Winters* for forty muskets, which will completely furnish his company, and enable him to supply Captain *Dean* with some. Captain *Bourke's* company is now here, but will leave us for the head of *Elk* this afternoon.

We have appointed Mr. *Potter* Surgeon Assistant, and we enclose you his warrant. Medicines must be furnished at *Philadelphia* by the Congress.

We approve of your having the arms repaired in *Philadelphia*, and desire you will give the necessary orders for that purpose to your companies as they march.

Tents, we are informed, may be had at *New-York*; they cannot be got here; perhaps they may be got at *Philadelphia*; if they can, you will get what will be necessary for your battalion. This Province must defray the expense in the first instance, but the charge will be Continental.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *William Richardson*.

JOHN HANSON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Frederick-Town, August 24, 1776.

SIR: By direction of the Committee, I wrote you a few days ago, acquainting you that the money sent here for the support of the prisoners was all expended, and to request you would be pleased to order more to be sent up, which I now repeat. That you may know what sum may be necessary, have enclosed you an account of the expenses attending the prisoners per week; and am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANSON, JUN., *Chairman*.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, President of the Council of Safety.

	£	s.	d.
15 prisoners in the Tory jail, prisoners per week.....	6	2	6
15 officers from <i>Savannah</i> , at 15s. allowed by Congress.....	11	5	0
20 soldiers, their servants, at 8½d. a day.....	5	2	1
A guard of 12 men, at 3s. day and night, finding themselves	12	12	0
Captain of the guard, at 6s. do.....	2	2	0
Sergeant of the guard, at 4s. 6d. do.....	1	11	6
	£38	15	1

N. B. The expense will be increased in the winter, on account of firing, &c.

COL. HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Head of Elk, August 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Alexander*, of the Flying-Camp, having had his company completed for a considerable time past, and hearing nothing from his Field-Officers, hath requested me to inform your Honours that he only waits your orders to march. The guns, bayonets, and cartouch-boxes, are ready, as also the blankets. Cloth might have been had for tents, but as no orders were received on that head, there is no one prepared here. There are about twenty canteens prepared, and I believe the rest may be had here if thought necessary. If anything further is wanted please to command, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

H. HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the Hon. Council of Safety, at *Annapolis*.

P. S. My bayonet-forgers have been two of them sick for some time, but yesterday began to work again.

CAPTAIN DEAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Head of Elk, August 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Just arrived at the head of *Elk*, and expected to have been furnished with bayonets and knapsacks and canteens, but find there is nothing provided for me here, nor a Field-Officer to direct me. I purpose continuing my march to *Philadelphia*, where I hope your Honours will have me provided for. As I am anxious to serve my country, I hope those necessities may not be forgot. I engaged Mr.



*Price's* boats for £10, who would not go under that sum, but think it was rather much.

I am, in haste, gentlemen, your humble servant,  
JNO. DEAN.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, August 24, 1776.

SIR: The late conduct of Lord *Drummond* is as extraordinary as his motives are dark and mysterious. To judge the most favourably of his intentions, it should seem that an overweening vanity has betrayed him into a criminal breach of honour. But whether his views were upright, or intended only to mislead and deceive, cannot at present be a matter of any importance. In the mean time I have the pleasure to acquaint you that Congress highly approve of the manner in which you have checked the officious and intemperate zeal of his Lordship. Whether his designs were hostile or friendly, he equally merited the reproof you have given him; and I hope for the future he will be convinced that it is highly imprudent to attract the attention of the publick to a character which will only pass without censure when it passes without notice.

The Congress having considered the matter thoroughly, are of opinion to decline taking any publick or further notice of his Lordship or his letters, and particularly as you have so fully expressed their sentiments on the subject in your letter to him. It was the consideration of this point that induced Congress to detain the express till now.

I have the honour to be, with perfect esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Washington*.

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation and Inspection, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 24th August, 1776:

Present: William Atlee, Lodwick Lowman, William Bowsman, Casper Shaffner, Christopher Crawford, Eberhart Gruber, John Miller.

*William Atlee* in the chair.

*Thomas Bridges*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *Henry Rankin*, *Caleb Johnson*, here in Committee, agreeing to be answerable for him agreeable to the resolves of the Committee.

*Resolved*, That an addition is necessary to be immediately made to the Barracks; and the Congress and Convention having left it to the Committee to make such addition as we shall judge necessary, it is agreed that the addition be made of brick, by extending the wings so as to have four rooms in length on each side added, whereby there will be twelve rooms on each side more than at present.

*William Henry*, Esq., is requested to assist the Committee in superintending and directing this work; and Mr. *George Burkhart* and *Frederick Mann* it is agreed shall be employed as the Carpenters, and are desired to furnish the bills for scantling, &c., for the building with all expedition.

JOHN FRASER TO DOCTOR FRANKLIN.

Reading, August 24, 1776.

SIR: I took the liberty of addressing some lines to you about two months ago. As I never was favoured with an answer, perhaps they did not reach you; even if they had, I am not surprised that matters of importance should prevent any attention to them; however, as it was about business of the utmost consequence to myself and the peace of my family, I hope you will excuse me if I intrude once more. When I'll have tried every possible chance, I'll have no neglect to reproach myself with. From such considerations, I have wrote sundry letters to Mr. *Clinton*, whom I personally knew at *Esopus*; I even wrote about four weeks ago to Messrs. *McKean* and *Samuel Adams*, but without so much as an answer. I write this, however, with confidence, yet would be extremely sorry to be deemed troublesome. I will certainly not be so after this, even if unsuccessful now, but quietly trust to fate. The cause of my writing the first time was from my receiving a letter from *Montreal*, dated

the 6th of *May*, wherein I was informed that you were so good as to agree to my return to *Canada*; the letter, however, had scarcely come to hand, when I learned that you were come back from *Montreal*, and was on your way to *Philadelphia*. I therefore begged you would let me know whether I had been misinformed or not; if I was not, I willingly hoped there was no impropriety in my getting even then my passport. In my first letter I said very little about my case; I will say as little now, because I must suppose you acquainted with the merits thereof. I will only observe, that I was treated with such rigour in *Canada*, that it was with pleasure I learned the order for *Albany*, although at the very worst and most inclement time of the winter season. I looked on the cause of my apprehension to be so trivial and insufficient, that I never entertained the least doubt of procuring liberty to return to *Canada* as soon as I would be heard here. To demand papers that chanced to be in my custody in a publick and judicial capacity, and which papers related to transactions prior to any footing in *Canada*, I thought there was no right to ask, therefore the greatest impropriety to grant; and I have had the satisfaction of never meeting with any, whatever his politicks, that has differed with me in opinion. As to the papers, in themselves they are not of the smallest consequence; they relate to private persons; and were these papers in ashes, there would be just the same hold of the persons concerned had they remained in *Canada*. These papers, however, are the cause of my being now eight long months torn from my family—sufferings, to be sure, of a private nature, and nothing in the scales of publick matters; but for that very reason I would fain expect not to be made to suffer any longer for a supposed private injury, but be redressed and let go by the gentlemen who are at the head of publick affairs. I am really sensible this is perhaps the worst time for an individual to expect any attention; but, sir, I have already given my reasons, and I hope you will easily forgive my being so full of my own personal affairs. The obligation would be greater than I can express, would you procure relief, were it even to go to *Canada* on my parole, to return when required, or at least to get leave to go to *Philadelphia*. I beg pardon for being so troublesome.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble and obedient servant,

JOHN FRASER.

To *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 26, 1776.]

New-York, August 24, 1776.

SIR: The irregularity of the posts prevents your receiving the early and constant intelligence it is my wish to communicate. This is the third letter which you will probably receive from me by the same post. The first was of little or no consequence, but that of yesterday gave you the best information I had been able to obtain of the enemy's landing and movements upon *Long-Island*. Having occasion to go over thither yesterday, I sent my letter to the post office at the usual hour, (being informed that the rider was expected every moment, and would go out again directly,) but in the evening, when I sent to inquire, none had come in.

I now enclose you a report made to me by General *Sullivan* after I left *Long-Island* yesterday. I do not conceive that the enemy's whole force was in motion, but a detached party rather. I have sent over four more regiments, with boats, to be ready either to reinforce the troops under General *Sullivan*, or to return to this place if the remainder of the fleet at the watering place should push up to the city, which hitherto (I mean since the landing upon *Long-Island*) they have not had in their power to do, on account of the wind, which has either been ahead, or too small, when the tide has served. I have nothing further to trouble the Congress with at present, than that I am their and your most obedient, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Long-Island, August 23, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: This afternoon the enemy formed, and attempted to pass the road by *Bedford*. A smart fire between them and the Riflemen ensued. The officer sent off

for a reinforcement, which I ordered immediately. A number of Musketry came up to the assistance of the Riflemen, whose fire, with that of our field-pieces, caused a retreat of the enemy. Our men followed them to the house of Judge *Lefferts*, (where a number of them had taken lodgings,) drove them out, and burnt the house and a number of other buildings contiguous. They think they killed a number; and, as evidence of it, they produce three officers' hangers, a carbine, and one dead body, with a considerable sum of money in pocket. I have ordered a party out for prisoners to-night. We have driven them half a mile from their former station. These things argue well for us, and I hope are so many preludes to a general victory.

Dear General, I am, with much esteem, your very humble servant,

JNO. SULLIVAN.

To General *Washington*.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 16, 1776.

(Parole, *Enfield*.)

(Countersign, *Danvers*.)

In recommending Paymasters, it is to be observed that no officer can be appointed unless he resigns his former commission, which he is to do in person at Head-Quarters.

Major *Livingston* and *William Blodget* are appointed Aids-de-Camp to Major-General *Greene*; they are to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

*David Astin*, of Colonel *Silliman's* Regiment, and Captain *Mead's* Company, convicted by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Wyllys* was President, of "breaking open a store and stealing rum, molasses, and fish;" sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes.

*John McAlpine* and *John Hopper*, of Captain *Smith's* Company, Colonel *Malcolm's* Regiment, convicted by the same Court-Martial of "being drunk on their posts;" sentenced to receive thirty lashes each.

The General approves the above sentences, and orders them to be put in execution at the usual times and places.

The Orders of the 6th instant, respecting soldiers abusing people at market, and taking their things, not being known to the troops who have come in since, it is now repeated that the General will punish such offenders severely; and he requires of the officers who visit the Guards to see whether the former order is put up in each Guard-house, and whether an officer attends at the market agreeable to former orders, and report thereon to their Brigadiers.

Captain *Andrew Billings* to do duty as Major to Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment till further orders.

Unless orders are attended to and executed, they are of no consequence, and the greatest disorders will ensue; the General therefore requests that the officers would be very careful not only that the orders be made known to the men, but that they see themselves that they are executed. If every one in his own department would exert himself for this purpose, it would have the most happy effect.

The badness of the weather has undoubtedly prevented an attack, as the enemy's troops have been embarked some time. The General therefore directs that two days' victuals be kept ready dressed by the troops, and their canteens filled with water, so that the men may be prepared; otherwise, in case of an attack, they will suffer very much.

All tents to be struck immediately on the alarm being given, viz: two guns at *Fort George*, three from *Bayard's* or *Bunker's Hill*, with a flag in the day, and a light at night.

The divisions of the Army, or Brigades doing separate duty, proving very inconvenient, the whole are to be brought into the general detail to-morrow. The Brigade-Majors are to be at Head-Quarters at six o'clock to settle the detail, and the Major and Brigadier Generals are requested to send at the same time a note of the number of men each may want for fatigue, or direct the Engineer having the care of their works respectively so to do.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 17, 1776.

(Parole, *Falmouth*.)

(Countersign, *Essex*.)

*Benjamin Durant*, of Captain *Wadsworth's* Company, and Colonel *Bailey's* Regiment, convicted by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Wyllys* was President, of "getting drunk on Guard;" sentenced to receive thirty lashes.

*Patrick Lion*, of Captain *Curtis's* Company, Regiment late *Learned's*, convicted by the same Court of "sleeping on his post;" sentenced to receive twenty-five lashes.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

*Benjamin Wallace*, of Captain *Stewart's* Independent Company of *New-York Forces*, convicted by the same Court of "desertion, and inlisting into another Company;" sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes.

The General approves the above sentences, and orders them to be executed at the usual time and place.

The General recommends to all Commanding Officers of Divisions, Brigades, and Regiments, in issuing their several orders, to be careful they do not interfere with General Orders which have been, or may be issued; and those gentlemen who have not had an opportunity, from their late arrival in camp, to know what have been issued, will do well to inform themselves, and more especially before any special order is issued which may have a general effect.

The Guard ordered to mount at *Lispenard's* Brewery in the evening, to mount in the day also, and march off the parade with the other Guards.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 18, 1776.

(Parole, *Grantham*.)

(Countersign, *Fairfield*.)

As nothing contributes so much to the good order and government of troops as an exactness in discipline and a strict observance of orders, and as the Army is now arranged into different Divisions, those divisions formed into Brigades, and the Brigades composed of Regiments, the General hopes and expects that the several duties of the Army will go on with regularity, cheerfulness, and alacrity. As one means of accomplishing this, he desires that no Regiment, Brigade, or Division, will interfere with the duties of another, but walk in their own proper line, the Colonels taking care not to contravene the orders of their Brigadiers, the Brigadiers of their Major-Generals, and that the whole pay due attention to the General Orders; which can only be set aside or be dispensed with by orders of equal dignity. The Army, under such a regulation, will soon become respectable in itself and formidable to the foe. It is an incumbent duty, therefore, upon every officer of every rank to be alert and attentive in the discharge of the several duties annexed to his office; his honour, his own personal safety, and, for aught he knows, the salvation of his country and its dearest privileges, may depend upon his exertions. Particular causes may, and doubtless will happen, to render it necessary (for the good of the service) that a change of officers, &c., should be made from one Brigade to another; but whenever there appears cause for this, it will be notified by general or special orders.

The General cannot quit the subject, as this may possibly be the last opportunity previous to an attack, without addressing the private men, and exhorting the troops in general, to be profoundly silent, and strictly obedient to orders, before they come to, and also while they are in, action, as nothing can contribute more to their success than a cool and deliberate behaviour, nor nothing add more to the discouragement of the enemy than to find new troops calm and determined in their manner. The General has no doubt but that every good soldier and all the officers are sufficiently impressed with the necessity of examining the state and condition of their arms; but his own anxiety on this head impels him to remind them of it after every spell of wet weather, lest we should at any time be caught with arms unfit for immediate use.

The Regiments of Militia from *Connecticut* are to be formed into a Brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General *Wolcott*, who is hourly expected, and in the meantime to be under the command of Colonel *Hinman*, the eldest Colonel of the Militia.

Though the fire-ships which went up the *North River* last *Friday* evening were not so successful as to destroy either of the men-of-war, yet the General thanks the officers and men for the spirit and resolution which they showed in grappling the vessels before they quitted the fire-ships. And as a reward of their merit, presents each of those who stayed last, and were somewhat burnt, fifty dollars, and forty to each of the others. And had the enterprise succeeded, so as to have destroyed either of the ships-of-war, the General could have been generous in proportion to the service.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 19, 1776.

(Parole, *Georgia*.)

(Countersign, *Hartford*.)

*John Green*, of Captain *Johnson's* Company, and late Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, convicted by a General

Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Wyllys* is President, of "breaking out of his quarter-guard and being absent two days;" ordered to receive thirty-nine lashes. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed at the usual time and place, and the prisoner to be then returned to his quarter-guard.

The Court-Martial to sit to-morrow, for the trial of Lieutenant *Hubbel*, of the Regiment late Colonel *McDougall's*. The Judge Advocate will be informed of the witnesses by General *Putnam*.

A Subaltern's Guard to go over to-morrow, to relieve the Guard at *Hoebuck Ferry*.

Colonel *Hitchcock's* Regiment to move to-morrow to *Burdett's Ferry*, and relieve the party now there; they are to join General *Mifflin's* Brigade, and receive orders from Major-General *Heath*, agreeable to General Orders of the 12th instant. General *Putnam* will order boats.

The Adjutants of such Regiments as have lately come, to apply at the Adjutant-General's Office for blank returns, which they are to fill up and bring in at Orderly time, viz: eleven o'clock every *Saturday*.

After this day, a Major to mount at the main guard, at the Grand Battery, instead of a Lieutenant-Colonel.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 20, 1776.

(Parole, Hampton.)

(Countersign, Gates.)

*Nathaniel Mun*, of Captain *Peters's* Company, Colonel *Read's* Regiment, convicted by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Wyllys* is President, of "desertion and enlistment into another corps."

*James Mumford*, of Captain *Ledyard's* Company, Regiment late Colonel *McDougall's*, convicted by the same Court-Martial of the same crime.

*Alexander Moore*, Sergeant in Captain *Conway's* Company, Colonel *Winds's* Battalion, convicted by the same Court-Martial, of "desertion."

*Christopher Harper*, of the same Company and Battalion, convicted by the same Court-Martial of the same crime.

Each of the above prisoners were sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes. The General approves the sentences, and orders them to be executed at guard-mounting to-morrow morning, at the usual place.

The troops lately arrived are informed, that it is contrary to General Orders to fire in camp. Such fire-locks as are loaded, and the charges cannot be drawn, are to be discharged at retreat-beating, in a valley, under the inspection of an officer. The officers of such troops are desired and required to prevent all the firing in the camp, as it tends to great disorder.

The Regiments of Militia, now under the command of Colonel *Hinman*, from *Connecticut*, are, in case of an alarm, to parade on the grand parade, and there wait for orders.

The officers who have lately come into camp are also informed that it has been found necessary, amidst such frequent changes of troops, to introduce some distinctions by which their several ranks may be known, viz: Field-Officers wear a pink or red cockade; Captains, white or buff; Subalterns, green. The General flatters himself every gentleman will conform to a regulation which he has found essentially necessary to prevent mistakes and confusion.

The trial of Lieutenant *Hubbel* is postponed till to-morrow.

The General Court-Martial to sit on *Thursday*, as a Court of Inquiry into the conduct of Adjutant *Brice*, of Colonel *Smallwood's* Battalion, charged with "disobedience of orders and disrespectful behaviour to his Commanding Officer."

The General being informed, to his great surprise, that a report prevails, and is industriously spread far and wide, that Lord *Howe* has made propositions of peace, calculated by designing persons more probably to lull us into a fatal security, his duty obliges him to declare that no such offer has been made by Lord *Howe*; but, on the contrary, from the best intelligence he can procure, the Army may expect an attack as soon as the wind and tide shall prove favourable. He hopes, therefore, every man's mind and arms will be prepared for action, and when called to it, show our enemies and the whole world that freemen contending on their own land are superior to any mercenaries on earth.

The Brigadiers are to see the spears in the different works under their command kept greased and clean.

General *Sullivan* is to take the command upon *Long-Island* till General *Greene's* state of health will permit him

to resume it, and Brigadier Lord *Stirling* is to take charge of General *Sullivan's* division till he returns to it again.

*Edward Tilghman*, Esq., is appointed as an Assistant Brigade-Major to Lord *Stirling*, the duty of the whole division being too great for one officer. He is to be respected and obeyed accordingly.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 21, 1776.

(Parole, King's Bridge.)

(Countersign, Jersey.)

Adjutant *Taylor* to do the duty of Brigade-Major to General *McDougall's* Brigade during Major *Platt's* illness. He is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Lieutenant *Hobbie*, of Captain *Hyatt's* Company, Regiment late General *McDougall's*, tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Wyllys* was President, for misbehaviour in leaving one of the hulks in the *North River*, was acquitted, and the complaint reported groundless. Ordered that he be discharged from his arrest.

A Court of Inquiry to sit on *Friday* at Mrs. *Montagnie's* upon Captains *McCleave*, *Stanton*, and *Tinker*, charged with backwardness in duty up the *North River* last week, and misbehaviour on *Sunday* last when the men-of-war came down the river. Court to consist of the following persons, and to meet at ten o'clock: General *McDougall*, President; Colonel *Malcolm*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Wesson*, Captain *Peters*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Shepard*, Major *Brooks*, Captain *Van Dyck*, Members. The Judge-Advocate to attend, and all witnesses.

Fifty men, properly officered, to parade every morning, at six o'clock, at General *Putnam's*, there to take orders from him. Not to bring arms. These to be continued every day till further orders.

Fifty men, also for fatigue, to parade to-morrow morning, properly officered, on the grand parade, without arms. Take orders from Captain *Post*.

Ten men, with one subaltern, who have been used to the sea, to parade at General *Putnam's* this afternoon, two o'clock, to proceed to *King's Bridge*, up the *North River*. Take three days' provisions. The like number, for the same service, to parade to-morrow morning, six o'clock, at General *Putnam's* quarters; take three days' provision. Both parties to parade without arms.

Twenty men, with a subaltern, to parade for fatigue to-morrow morning, without arms, on the grand parade, to proceed to *Bayard's Hill*, and work upon the well. Take orders from the person who has the direction of digging the well.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 22, 1776.

(Parole, Johnstown.)

(Countersign, Kingston.)

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 23, 1776.

(Parole, Charlestown.)

(Countersign, Lee.)

The Commissary-General is directed to have five days' bread baked and ready to be delivered. If the Commissary should apply to the commanding officers of regiments for any bakers, they are to furnish them without waiting for a special order.

The General was sorry yesterday to find that when some troops were ordered to march, they had no provisions, notwithstanding the orders that have been issued. The men must march if the service requires it, and will suffer very much if not provided. The General therefore directs all the troops to have two days' hard bread and pork ready by them, and desires the officers will go through the encampment and quarters to see that it be got and kept.

The General would be obliged to any officer to recommend to him a careful, sober person, who understands taking care of horses and waiting occasionally. Such person being a soldier, will have his pay continued, and receive additional wages of twenty shillings per month. He must be neat in his person, and to be depended on for his honesty and sobriety.

The officers of the Militia are informed that twenty-four rounds are allowed to a man, and two flints; that the Captains of each company should see that the cartridges fit the bore of the gun. They then are to be put up in small bundles all the cartridges except six, writing each man's name on his bundle, and keep them safely till the alarm is given, then deliver to each man his bundle—the other six to be kept for common use. In drawing for ammunition,

the commanding officers should, upon the regimental parade, examine the state of their regiments, and then draw for cartridges and flints, agreeable to the above regulation. Captain *Tilton* will assist them in their business, and, unless in case of alarm, they are desired not to draw for every small number of men who may be coming in.

The enemy have now landed on *Long-Island*, and the hour is fast approaching on which the honour and success of this Army and the safety of our bleeding country depend. Remember, officers and soldiers, that you are freemen, fighting for the blessings of liberty; that slavery will be your portion and that of your posterity if you do not acquit yourselves like men. Remember how your courage and spirit have been despised and traduced by your cruel invaders, though they have found by dear experience at *Boston*, *Charlestown*, and other places, what a few brave men, contending in their own land and in the best of causes, can do against base hirelings and mercenaries. Be cool, but determined. Do not fire at a distance, but wait for orders from your officers. It is the General's express orders, that if any man attempt to skulk, lay down, or retreat, without orders, he be instantly shot down as an example. He hopes no such scoundrel will be found in this Army; but, on the contrary, every one for himself resolving to conquer or die, and, trusting to the smiles of Heaven upon so just a cause, will behave with bravery and resolution. Those who are distinguished for their gallantry and good conduct may depend upon being honourably noticed and suitably rewarded. And if this Army will but emulate and imitate their brave countrymen in other parts of *America*, he has no doubt they will, by a glorious victory, save their country, and acquire to themselves immortal honour.

The Brigade-Majors are immediately to relieve the Guards out of the Regiments ordered to *Long-Island* from other Regiments of the Brigade, and forward such Guards to the Regiments.

Major *Newbury's*, Colonel *Hinman's*, Major *Smith's*, Colonel *Cook's*, Colonel *Talbot's*, Colonel *Baldwin's*, and Major *Strong's* Regiments of *Connecticut* Militia to parade this evening, precisely at five o'clock, on the grand parade. Major *Henly* will attend, and show them their alarm posts, and direct them in manning the lines.

When any of the Field-Officers for picket or main guard are sick, or otherwise incapable of the duty, they are immediately to signify it to their Brigade-Major. But the General hopes that trifling excuses will not be made, as there is too much reason to believe has been the case.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 24, 1776.

(Parole, *Jamaica*.)

(Countersign, *London*.)

All the intrenching tools are to be collected and delivered in to the store. Officers who have given receipts will be called upon, as they are answerable for them, if there should be any deficiency.

The General has appointed *William Grayson*, Esq., one of his Aids-de-Camp; he is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

In case of action, any orders delivered by Colonel *Moylan*, Quartermaster-General, as from the General, to be considered as coming from him, or as delivered by an Aid-de-Camp.

The Adjutants of the *Connecticut* Militia are directed to make themselves acquainted with parapet firing; and the other officers of those corps would do well to attend to it and practise their men every day. Their honour and safety will much depend upon their avoiding any confusion in manning the lines.

The Court-Martial of which Colonel *Wylls* was President, is dissolved. The Brigade-Majors, in forming the new one, to be careful to have it full, and officers who can attend.

The Court-Martial to proceed, at their first sitting, to the trial of Adjutant *Brice*, of Colonel *Smallwood's* Battalion, charged with "disobedience of orders."

The changing of the Regiments occasioning some difficulties in the duty, the Brigade-Majors are to send by the Orderly Sergeant every morning a duty return of the officers and men in their respective Brigades.

The passage of the *East River* being obstructed in such a manner, with chevaux-de-frise, &c., as to render it dangerous for any vessels to attempt to pass; the sentinels along the river contiguous to where the obstructions are placed

are to hail and prevent any vessels attempting to pass, otherwise than between the *Albany* pier and a mast in the river which appears above water nearly opposite.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, August 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received your favour of the 18th, with its several enclosures, on *Thursday*, by Mr. *Allen*.

My letter of the 13th does not, nor was it meant to contain the most distant hint, of your entertaining doubts or suspicions of my not having communicated to Congress such parts of your letters as were material. It was only designed to answer yours, where you say, since my arrival here you had not written to them on military affairs, supposing whatever information you might give, and which was necessary for them to know, would be communicated by me. My request to be advised of the information you might give Congress of any matters of which you wrote me at the same time, was to prevent my sending them unnecessary intelligence, and the trouble of having needless copies and extracts made out.

I am in hopes the articles mentioned in the letter to Captain *Varick* will have come to hand before this; also those contained in the enclosed list, shipped on board the schooner *Union*, Philip *Sandford*, master, the 19th instant, as the Quartermaster-General has reported to me.

The treaty with the *Indians*, agreeable to your request, I have transmitted Congress.

It gives me pleasure to find the vessels for the Lakes are in such forwardness, and going on with so much industry. I yet hope we shall have a Navy there equal to every exigency, and that will be superior to those the enemy can build.

Captains *Hanly* and *Chappel* are now here, with permission from Governour *Trumbull* and myself to enlist, if they can, two hundred seamen out of the Militia just sent from the State of *Connecticut*. How they will succeed, I cannot determine.

I wish you had proceeded as your own judgment and inclination led in the case referred to me for my advice, respecting Colonel *Dayton's* officers. I am sorry that persons of their rank and of their connexions should have given in to such dishonourable and disgraceful practices; and I feel myself much concerned for themselves and friends. But as the matter is with me to determine; as their making concessions at the head of the regiment would not answer any purpose but that of rendering them objects of ridicule and contempt; as they could never after claim and support that authority over their inferiors that is necessary to good government and discipline; as publick justice and a regard to our military character require that matters of such a nature should meet every possible discouragement; as my conduct might otherwise be deemed reprehensible; and to deter others from the like conduct, which is but too prevalent, I cannot but advise that the several persons concerned be subjected to the trial of a Court-Martial. If the Court should be of opinion that they ought to be broke and dismissed the service, Colonel *Dayton*, his Major, and other officers, will recommend such as will be proper persons to fill the vacancies occasioned by their removal.

On *Wednesday* night and *Thursday* morning a considerable body of the enemy, said to be eight or nine thousand, landed at *Gravesend Bay*, on *Long-Island*. They have approached within about three miles of our lines; and yesterday there was some skirmishing between a detachment of them and a party from our troops. Their detachment were obliged to give ground, and were pursued as far as where they had a post at a Judge *Lefferts's*. His house and outhouses served as quarters for them, and were burnt by our people. We sustained no loss in this affair, that I have heard of, except having two men slightly wounded. Our people say the enemy met with more: they found one dead body, in the habit of a soldier, with a good deal of money in his pocket, and got three hangers and a fusee. They fired a shell from a howitz, which fell on and burst in a house where some of the enemy were; but whether they were injured by it, I have not learned. A firing has been heard this morning, but know nothing of the event.

I am, dear sir, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.



GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, August 24, 1776.

SIR: On *Thursday* last the enemy landed a body of troops, supposed to amount (from the best accounts I have been able to obtain) to eight or nine thousand men, at *Gravesend Bay*, on *Long-Island*, ten miles distance from our works on the Island, and immediately marched through the level and open lands to *Flatbush*, where they are now encamped. They are distant about three miles from our lines, and have woods and broken grounds to pass (which we have lined) before they can get to them. Some skirmishing has happened between their advanced parties and ours, in which we have always obtained an advantage. What the real designs of the enemy are, I am not yet able to determine. My opinion of the matter is, that they mean to attack our works on the Island and this city at the same time, and that the troops at *Flatbush* are waiting in those plains till the wind and tide (which have not yet served together) will favour the movement of the shipping to this place: others think they will bend their principal force against our lines on the Island, which, if carried, will greatly facilitate their designs upon this city. This also being very probable, I have thrown what force I can over, without leaving myself too much exposed here; for our whole number (if the intelligence we get from deserters, &c., be true) falls short of that of the enemy; consequently the defence of our own works, and the approaches to them, is all we can aim at. This, then, in a manner, leaves the whole Island in possession of the enemy, and of course of the supplies it is capable of affording them. Under these circumstances, would it be practicable for your Government to throw a body of about one thousand or more men across the Sound, to harass the enemy in their rear or upon their flanks? This would annoy them exceedingly, at the same time that a valuable end, to wit, that of preventing their parties securing the stocks of cattle, &c., would be answered by it: the cattle to be removed or killed. The knowledge I have of the extraordinary exertions of your State upon all occasions, does not permit me to require this, not knowing how far it is practicable; I only offer it, therefore, as a matter for your consideration, and of great publick utility, if it can be accomplished.

The enemy, if my intelligence from *Staten-Island* be true, are at this time rather distressed on account of provisions: if, then, we can deprive them of what this Island affords, much good will follow from it.

The foreigners are yet upon *Staten-Island*, the *British* troops are upon *Long-Island* and on ship-board.

With great respect and esteem, I remain, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour Trumbull, Connecticut.

COLONEL KNOX TO GENERAL HEATH.

New-York, August 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I send you Lieutenant *Preston*, of the Artillery, to mount the guns and get the implements and ammunition to the post at *King's Bridge*. You will please to give him such directions as you think proper. You must give him men, as it is utterly impossible for us to spare one from this place. You must also find a boat for the carriages, &c., as General *Putnam* refuses to let one go from this. I wish you the greatest good fortune; and am, dear sir, yours affectionately,

H. KNOX.

To Major-General Heath, King's Bridge.

JAMES LIVINGSTON TO JOHN JAY.

New-York, August 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am just now informed by Captain *Wright* that he can raise a company of men in this town and suburbs. Should take it as a particular favour you'd mention the matter to the gentlemen of the Provincial Congress; and if approved of, beg you'll furnish him with money for that purpose. He is a good recruiting officer, and I believe he'll soon raise his company. I shall settle the matter respecting the rank of the officers with General *Schuyler*, agreeable to orders from Congress. As soon as these two companies of *Wright* and *Stewart* are filled, General *Washington* will order them to the northward, where I pro-

pose going to-morrow, or next day at farthest, if not wanted here.

The enemy are at *Flatbush*—their numbers not known; though we every moment expect an attack. I shall wait your answer this evening.

I am, with respect, yours, &c., JAS. LIVINGSTON.  
To the Hon. John Jay, Esq., at Harlem.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 24, 1776.

The day before yesterday a detachment of the enemy landed at *New-Utrecht*, on *Long-Island*; they are said to be about nine thousand. Two or three skirmishes happened yesterday between their advanced guards and ours, in each of which we were victorious; we lost not a man, but killed several of the enemy—among the rest, one *British* and one *Hessian* officer; the former had a good deal of gold in his pocket; cannot get fairly at particulars; the *Hessian* had a rifle. We have got several neat cutteaus and fuses, such as officers use, from which we suppose the officers were killed or very badly wounded, and carried off the field by the enemy. The enemy (the advanced guard said to be three thousand) attempted getting to *Bedford*, on the *Jamaica* road, but were driven a mile and a half farther back than where they set out from. There is firing on the Island now.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

King's Bridge, August 24, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: In order to ease Head-Quarters as much as possible, and on account of our distance from thence, General or Garrison Court-Martials have been appointed at this post for the trial of offenders. Brigadier-General *Mifflin* has sent me the enclosed this day, but I pause until I know your Excellency's pleasure, (which I desire you would be pleased to signify as soon as convenient,) whether the before mentioned offender and all others, except in very extraordinary cases indeed, are to be tried by Court-Martials appointed here, or referred to those appointed from Head-Quarters.

A very considerable quantity of sails and rigging, stripped off the vessels lately sunk near *Mount Washington*, at present remain there. I submit to your Excellency's determination if it would not be well to send them farther up the river, where they might be safely stored, as it cannot be done here, the stores being wanted for other uses.

On the 21st instant the body of a man was taken up at *Burdett's Ferry*. The commanding officer there not being able to find any civil authority, appointed a court of inquiry to consider the cause of his death, who reported the enclosed. The body was afterwards buried, and the money and effects are in the hands of Colonel *Ward*. It since appears that *Hardenbrook* (for that was his name) was by occupation a carpenter, belonging to the city of *New-York*, who had been heretofore employed by *Dunmore* and *Tryon*, and for whom he retained an affection; that upon the day of the ships falling down the river, he attempted to get on board of them, but found a watery grave, the reward of such unrighteousness. I am told that he has a brother in the city, who is a staunch friend to *American* liberty, and who I suppose is as yet unacquainted with the fate of his brother.

The detachment from the two brigades, amounting to ten or eleven hundred men, with surprising alertness, almost instantly turned out on yesterday, and marched some miles towards the city, and this day, upon the flood tide, formed upon their parade. The officers and men appeared greatly disappointed on yesterday, when they were told that the enemy were not moving, and that they might return to their quarters. The men grow more sickly, as your Excellency will see by the returns.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, your Excellency's most humble servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency General Washington, at New-York.

GENERAL MIFFLIN TO GENERAL HEATH.

DEAR GENERAL: I request you to appoint a General Court-Martial as soon as possible for the trial of Lieutenant *Priestly*, of Colonel *Magaw's* battalion, Captain *Beatty's* company, who is charged by his Captain with making use

of indecent, abusive, and traitorous expressions against his brother officers and his country.

I have ordered the two battalions to parade at eleven o'clock, the time of low water, that we may be ready to march if necessary. Captain *Horton* gave the alarm yesterday through misinformation. If we discover any movements of the enemy you will hear three cannon. A heavy firing was seen and heard from our post last night, supposed to have happened at *Long-Island*; fifty cannon, besides small-arms, were heard.

Yours, affectionately,  
To Major-General *Heath*.

T. MIFFLIN.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL MIFFLIN.

King's Bridge, August 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Lieutenant *Priestly* being charged not only of making use of indecent and abusive, but also of traitorous expressions against his country, I think it advisable to take the opinion of his Excellency General *Washington* on the affair, whether he shall approve of a General Court-Martial to be appointed here, or that he should be tried by a General Court-Martial appointed by the Commander-in-Chief himself: his determination I will obtain to-morrow. I much approve the vigilant steps you have taken this day, in order to be ready to aid our friends below, should there be occasion for it. Your alertness on yesterday does honour to yourself and corps.

I am, dear sir, yours, affectionately,  
To General *Mifflin*.

W. HEATH.

JOHN THOMAS, JUN., TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

In Committee of Safety for the County of Westchester, }  
August 24, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: We have heretofore informed your honourable House that, in consequence of your orders, we had caused a number of disaffected persons to be apprehended and confined in our jail; since which many more have been confined. We must acquaint your honourable House that these persons are chiefly considerable farmers, and this present season loudly calls upon them to attend the putting their seed in the ground, if they could be released from imprisonment with safety to our country. In consideration of which, we are now induced to apply to your honourable House for your orders respecting these persons: whether (as this Committee are very well acquainted with their respective conduct, and capable of judging which of them are dangerously disaffected and which are not) your honourable House will think proper to invest this Committee with power to examine, release, or confine those persons, as to them shall seem just and consistent with the good of our cause. We have undermentioned a list of the names of those persons for your further information.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, JUN., *Chairman*.

*Tories.*

Nathan Whitney,	Gabriel Purdy,	William Barker, jun.,
Peter Huggesford,	John Beasley,	William Barker,
Jeremiah Travis,	John McCord,	Gilbert Horton,
Isaac Hatfield,	Monmouth Hart,	Captain Jos. Purdy,
Peter Corney,	Edmund Ward,	Josiah and Isaac Brown,
Peter Drake,	Caleb Morgan,	Bartholomew Haines,
Lewis Palmer,	John Betts,	Joseph Haviland,
Samuel Merritt,	Joseph Gidney,	Adam Seaman,
Jeremiah Travis, jun.,	John Gidney,	John Sead,
Tunis Post,	Jos. Purdy,	John McCullum.
William Rady,		

COLONEL SAMUEL DRAKE TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, August 24, 1776.

The members of the honourable Congress of the State of *New-York* are informed that the officers of the Third Battalion in General *Scott's* brigade have made choice of Mr. *John Eliot* as Chaplain for said regiment. The Congress is requested by their signature to establish Mr. *Eliot* in that office, in which he has served from the 7th of this instant.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAML. DRAKE, *Colonel*.

To the Members of the Congress of the State of *New-York*.

JOHANNES SLEGHT TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Committee Chamber, Kingston, August 24, 1776.

SIR: The report of the Committee appointed by the Representatives of the State of *New-York*, in Convention at *Harlem*, together with your letter, &c., we this day received, by which we find that the prisoners now at *Kingston* are to be removed to *Morristown*, and that the old paroles are to be cancelled, &c.; but we beg leave to remark, that although we would be very glad to be rid of these guests, we are apprehensive it will be difficult to get them removed, because they are not able, and we suppose not willing, to pay the cost of their removal. Nor can we see how it is possible for us to cancel their old paroles, as they never were in our possession; a copy of them only was sent to us, the originals we suppose remain in Congress. Your further directions about these matters with all possible speed will much oblige your most humble servants.

By order: JOHANNES SLEGHT, *Chairman*.

To *Abm. Yates*, Jun., President of the Provincial Congress of the State of *New-York*, at *Harlem*.

DR. POTTS TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort George, August 24, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Your Honour's favour of the 23d instant, by Mr. *Watson*, I received this morning. I assure your Honour I have spared him from our huckster's shop every article in my power. What keeps Mr. *Henry* with the medicines I am at a loss to know. I sent one of my mates three days since to *Albany* to expedite his coming, and to purchase if possible some articles we are wholly out of. I have also wrote to the Committee of *Albany* and to *Salisbury* to send me as soon as possible all the old linen or rags they can procure, as well as to recommend to the farmers and others to cure a quantity of herbs for the use of the Hospital. It pains me much to think of our destitute situation, for should your Honour be attacked, we have not bandages or lint to dress fifty men. I can with confidence assure your Honour nothing shall be left undone in my power to procure every necessary for the good of the Army in my line of duty.

I heartily thank your Honour for your orders respecting the returns of the Regimental Surgeons, as well as your approving of my sentiments in regard to Dr. *McCrea*. I was greatly surprised in having some patients sent here in the small-pox from among the new levies. I have strictly examined them. I cannot as yet find they have been inoculated. Should I discover such a thing, shall be careful to transmit to your Honour every matter relative to it, as well as effectually secure the patients. One thing I would recommend to your Honour's notice, which I hope you will not think foreign to my duty: as the Army is greatly exposed to intermittents and bilious complaints from their situation, I am humbly of opinion it would conduce to their health if every man was allowed half a gill of bitter rum per day. It can be made with four pounds of gentian root and two pounds of orange-peel to a hogshead. If these articles are not to be had, the Regimental Surgeons can readily procure some snakeroot, centaury, or dogwood-bark, which will answer nearly as well.

Enclosed have sent your Honour the returns of the Hospital, on which I have only to observe, that we have a greater number than appears from the return, owing to the names being struck out of the Hospital book, but I still detain them under the name of convalescents, who will be sent forward in a day or two.

I have taken the liberty to send your Honour a tolerably good wether, and a cask with some beans, squashes, cucumbers, and a few small melons. The moment I can procure any good vinegar it shall be forwarded to you.

I am your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

JONA. POTTS.

ELBRIDGE GERRY TO GENERAL GATES.

Hartford, August 24, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I am here on my journey to *Philadelphia*, from which I have been absent about a month for health, and by a gentleman for *Albany* enclose you a *Connecticut* paper. The Army at *New-York*, by the last ad-

vices, were in *statu quo*, and by a line from General *Washington*, of the 6th instant, "the Militia from *Connecticut* were coming in fast, and they had received aid from *Philadelphia* and that Government;" also, "the troops in health were in high spirits, and not at all backward in making the last appeal." At *Lebanon* I was informed by Governour *Trumbull*, that fourteen regiments of the *Connecticut* Militia, in addition to their levies, were on the march to join the Army, and would contain on an average about five hundred men each, and that as many more were in readiness to relieve these when it should be found necessary; so that I think *New-York* will be well prepared for defence.

We have seen *Carleton's* general orders. What a brute they discover him to be. He is angry that your reconnoitering parties have taken off one of his General Officers; but is it not justifiable upon the principle of retaliation? and will the Continent do justice to their frontier inhabitants, who are indiscriminately murdered by *Indians* in the service of his *Britannick* Majesty, unless they continue to repay them in their own coin? For my own part, I think that, until they recall their *Indians*, we shall be guilty of unpardonable neglect, unless we employ our scouts to take off their officers and men in this way, although the General himself may be in danger, when parading for his pleasure.

We want very much to see you with the sole command in the Northern Department, but hope that you will not relinquish your exertions till a favourable opportunity shall effect it.

At *Dorchester*, I saw Miss *Tyler* and friends: she desires to be remembered to General *Gates* and the Deputy Paymaster-General. I expect, and indeed hope, to see action at *New-York*; and remain, with esteem, sir, your assured friend and humble servant,

E. GERRY.

To Major-General *Gates*.

#### J. TRUMBULL TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, August 24, 1776.

SIR: I enclose you returns of those men who have deserted from the regiments raised in the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, now serving in the Northern Army.

It is the earnest request of the Honourable Major-General *Gates*, that measures be taken for returning them as speedily as may be to the corps to which they belong.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. TRUMBULL,  
Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the Honourable President of the Convention of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

#### COLONEL MOULTON TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Hampton, August 24, 1776.

State of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, ROCKINGHAM, ss.

Pursuant to orders directing me to raise and equip fifty-nine men out of the regiment under my command, in order to join and assist our Army at *New-York* at this important crisis, I have, with the greatest despatch in my power, caused said number of men to be raised and equipped, (saving two,) and have also mustered said men, and paid to each commission officer one month's pay advance, and to each non-commissioned officer and private their bounty, besides £2 10s. to each officer and soldier for their travelling expenses from their homes to Head-Quarters, agreeable to the resolve of the Council and Assembly of said State. And having formed said men into a company, and appointed a Captain and two subalterns to the same, (a list of which is enclosed,) I have ordered said Captain to march off with his company, on *Thursday*, the 25th instant, and to continue the same with all possible despatch towards *New-York*, by the way of *Hartford*, in the State of *Connecticut*, where I have directed him to stop, to receive directions for his further regulation. I have also furnished him with such copies and certificates as I apprehended would be necessary that he should have committed to his care.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
JONA. MOULTON.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the State aforesaid.

#### CLAUDE CRESPIGNY TO RALPH IZARD.

Teignmouth, Devonshire, England, August 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I was favoured with yours of the 12th, and though I have neither information nor entertainment to send you in return for it, I am at least bound to send you my best thanks; this, indeed, I should have done sooner, if I had not for some days past been rambling about the country; among other places to *Mount Edgecombe*, which, for its views, is, I think, much the finest place in *England*.

Mrs. C. is much obliged to you for your good wishes. The benefit she receives from bathing is really wonderful. All the symptoms of weakness and relaxation which she brought with her entirely vanished within a week, and have not since appeared.

We shall remain till the 13th *September*, when I hope to return to *Bath*. This place is exceedingly private, (not even a publick room or coffee-house,) and would, of course, be dull, if it were not for our own society. Two of them are well known to you, and send their compliments—*C. Townshend* and *Ley*.

We find all our Ministerial acquaintance very happy with the contents of the *Gazette* of the 10th. I confess I do not see any great cause for exultation. It seems fortunate, indeed, that General *Howe* had attempted nothing without his reinforcements; but it by no means seems clear that with these reinforcements he will be able to act to any effectual purpose. From what I have heard, it is probable, that instead of making an attempt against *New-York*, as was intended, all his force will be bent against *Philadelphia*.

The hopes from Lord *Howe's* negotiation are, I find, entirely vanished before the opening of his commission. In short, I believe that at *St. James's* they have only now the wicked hopes of being able to protract the war; and this, I believe in my conscience, they will do, so long as fleets and armies can be paid for. They laugh at the Declaration of Independence; and though cool and serious people must think it the worst piece of intelligence that was ever communicated to this country, I have no doubt but it will be made a matter of triumph with the Government as fulfilling the Ministerial prophecies of that event. In their exultation, they will not choose to remember, that Independence was not predetermined in *America*, but is only the immediate and necessary consequence of their own acts. I can only say, as Lord *Chatham* did upon some such occasion: "God may perhaps forgive them, but their country never will."

By the post of to-day, we have just heard that Sir *Peter Parker* and General *Clinton* have been but indifferently received at *South-Carolina*. I suppose the *Gazette* will not give any particular accounts of this expedition; but if the experiment is lost, some notice must be taken of it.

I have not at present a single correspondent in *London*, so that I shall be much obliged to you for any particulars that may arrive upon the interesting subject of *America*, especially such as are not likely to make their appearance in the *Gazette*.

Mrs. C. unites with me in sincerest regards and wishes to you and Mrs. *Izard*.

I am, dear sir, very heartily yours,

C. C.

Charlestown, South-Carolina, September 4, 1776.

Advices from the camp near *Seneca*, of August 25th, inform us, that Colonel *Williamson* had returned from the expedition through the *Cherokee* lower settlements. He had an engagement on the 12th near *Temawsey*, with about three hundred of the enemy, when they were routed, leaving sixteen men dead on the field of battle. Our loss was, killed, Lieutenant *Rogers* and one private; wounded, Major *Downs*, Captain *Lacey*, Captain *Andrew Neal*, Lieutenant *Hargrove*, and ten privates. Captains *Lacey* and *Neal*, Lieutenant *Hargrove*, and one private, are since dead. The loss of the enemy, in killed and wounded, was thought to be sixty or seventy men. As desolation was spread throughout the lower towns, the Colonel's next object was the middle settlements, where he expected to meet, about this time, Brigadier-General *Rutherford*, with two thousand *Carolians*. Accounts were received at the camp, that Colonel *Lewis* was preparing to march, with a considerable body of men from *Virginia*, in order to attack the *Overhill* settlements, so that there is little doubt but these faithless savages

will soon be effectually chastised. Mr. *James Holmes*, and several others who were prisoners among the *Cherokees*, have made their escape, and got to *Fort James*, in *Georgia*. They say the *Indians* despair of being able to withstand Colonel *Williamson's* Army, and that *Cameron* and one *Hugh Hamilton* had gone over the Hills, from whence they intend to proceed for *Mobile*.

## CAPTAIN MANTZ TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, August 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I arrived at this city on the 23d instant, to join our respective battalions, commanded by Colonel *Charles G. Griffith*, by whom I understand we are at the loss of a Major, and desired I should act in that capacity until further order from the honourable Council of Safety, whom I expect will give me the preference, as I raised the first company in this battalion, and I believe that I am one of the first in the Province of the Flying-Camp. If the honourable Council will please to commission me to act as Major, I would be highly obliged to you to forward it as quick as possible; and remain, with gratitude, your humble servant,

PETER MANTZ.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## TO MAJOR-GENERAL PUTNAM—ORDERS.

SIR: It was with no small degree of concern I perceived yesterday a scattering, unmeaning, and wasteful fire, from our people at the enemy; a kind of fire that tended to disgrace our own men as soldiers, and to render our defence contemptible in the eyes of the enemy. No one good consequence can attend such irregularities, but several bad ones will inevitably follow from it. Had it not been for this unsoldier-like and disorderly practice, we have the greatest reason imaginable to believe that numbers of deserters would have left the enemy's Army last year; but fear prevented them from approaching our lines then, and must forever continue to operate in like manner whilst every soldier conceives himself at liberty to fire when and at what he pleases. This is not the only nor the greatest evil resulting from the practice: for, as we do not know the hour of the enemy's approach to our lines, but have every reason to apprehend that it will be sudden and violent whenever attempted, we shall have our men so scattered, and, more than probable, without ammunition, that the consequences must prove fatal to us; besides this, there will be no possibility of distinguishing between a real and false alarm.

I must, therefore, sir, in earnest terms, desire you to call the Colonels and Commanding Officers of corps, without loss of time, before you, and let them afterwards do the same by their respective officers; and charge them, in express and positive terms, to stop these irregularities, as they value the good of the service, their own honour, and the safety of the Army, which, under *God*, depends wholly upon the good order and government that is observed in it.

At the same time I would have you form a proper line of defence round your encampment and works, on the most advantageous ground. Your guards which compose this, are to be particularly instructed in their duty; and a Brigadier of the day to remain constantly upon the lines, that he may be upon the spot to command, and see that orders are executed. Field-Officers should also be appointed to go the rounds and report the situation of the guards. No person to be allowed to pass beyond the guards without special order in writing.

By restraining the loose, disorderly, and unsoldier-like firing before mentioned, I do not mean to discourage partisan and scouting parties; on the contrary, I wish to see a spirit of this sort prevailing, under proper regulations, and officers, either commissioned or non-commissioned, (as cases shall require,) to be directed by yourself, or licensed by the Brigadier of the day, upon the spot, to be sent upon this service. Such skirmishing as may be effected in this manner will be agreeable to the rules of propriety, and may be attended with salutary effects, inasmuch as it will inure the troops to fatigue and danger; will harass the enemy; may make prisoners, and prevent their parties from getting the horses and cattle from the interior parts of the Island, which are objects of infinite importance to us, especially the two last.

All the men not upon duty are to be compelled to remain

in or near their respective camps or quarters, that they may turn out at a moment's warning, nothing being more probable than that the enemy will allow little enough time to prepare for the attack.

The officers also are to exert themselves to the utmost to prevent every kind of abuse to private property, or to bring every offender to the punishment he deserves. Shameful it is to find that those men who have come hither in defence of the rights of mankind, should turn invaders of it, by destroying the substance of their friends.

The burning of houses, where the apparent good of the service is not promoted by it, and the pillaging of them, at all times and upon all occasions, is to be discountenanced, and punished with the utmost severity. In short, it is to be hoped that men who have property of their own, and a regard for the rights of others, will shudder at the thought of rendering any man's situation, to whose protection he had come, more insufferable than his open and avowed enemy would make it, when, by duty and every rule of humanity, they ought to aid, and not oppress, the distressed in their habitations.

The distinction between a well-regulated army and a mob, is the good order and discipline of the first, and the licentious and disorderly behaviour of the latter. Men, therefore, who are not employed as mere hirelings, but have stepped forth in defence of everything that is dear and valuable, not only to themselves but to posterity, should take uncommon pains to conduct themselves with uncommon propriety and good order, as their honour, reputation, &c., call loudly upon them for it.

The wood next *Red-Hook* should be well attended to. Put some of the most disorderly riflemen into it. The Militia, or the most indifferent troops, (those I mean least tutored and seen least service,) will do for the interior works; whilst your best men should at all hazards prevent the enemy's passing the wood and approaching your works. The woods should be secured by abatis, &c., where necessary, to make the enemy's approach as difficult as possible. Traps and ambuscades should be laid for their parties, if you find they are sent out after cattle, &c.

Given under my hand, at Head-Quarters, this 25th day of August, 1776.

GO. WASHINGTON.

## COLONEL KNOX TO GENERAL HEATH.

New-York, August 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have seen your letter to Major *Henly* requiring him to come to you immediately. I thought it was agreed upon between you and me that he was to stay till after the expected action, and am very sorry that you thought otherwise. I should be unhappy to oppose his promotion, for whom I have so good an opinion, and must beg the favour of you to appoint an Aid-de-Camp as *pro tempore*, and when the capital affair is past I shall have the pleasure to present you with as deserving an officer as is in the Army.

In the interim, I am, sir, your very humble servant,

H. KNOX.

To Major-General *Heath*, commanding the division of the Army at *King's Bridge*.

## COLONEL VARNUM TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Red-Hook, August 25, 1776.

SIR: I am very sensible the important concerns which engross your Excellency's attention at this critical period must render particular applications very disagreeable. But the same benevolence and philanthropy which characterize you the father and the friend of the Army in general, will cause the distresses of an individual to find a place in your compassionate breast. Ever since I waited upon your Excellency, the expectation of a battle hath continued me in my present command. New difficulties arising, I can derive no satisfaction from that quarter. A letter from Mr. *Ellery* (enclosed) convinces me that promotions in the Army are not designed for those whose principles are disinterested enough to serve the Continent without. My disgrace is unalterably fixed, by conferring the "*detur digniori*" upon those of inferior standing, without the least competition of superior merit. Was promotion in the Army a favour, my tongue and my pen should be silent; but it is the just reward



of merit and rank. I do not esteem myself obligated to the publick for the commission I hold, nor for the greatness of the pay annexed to it. They can challenge no further services from me, whose every effort to deserve their good opinion has been discountenanced. My continuance here can be of no possible advantage. The variety of incidents that may happen in an engagement will possibly demand my submission to the orders of a Brigadier-General, whose standing, till lately, hath been subordinate to mine. Disobedience at a critical moment may lose a victory which is courting our embrace. My pride is too great ever to bend to reasons of policy to the wounding of my honour. How cruel the alternative, to be obliged either to submit to my own infamy, or, by refusing, incur the penalties of death! However, I remember a saying of *Sertorius*: "A just man will receive victory when it kindly offers, but will not seek or defend his own life upon dishonourable terms."

If my conduct hath hitherto gained your Excellency's approbation, and if my complaint is well founded, how can you deny me, the only consolation left, your permission to retire from a service no longer eligible? My philosophy is at an end. I can no longer command myself, much less can I command others. Disappointment, shame, grief, resentment, all harrow up my soul at once, and force me to adopt the language of *Young*:

"The day too short for my distress; and night,  
E'en in the zenith of her dark domain,  
Is sunshine to the colour of my fate."

The enclosed answer to Mr. *Ellery's* letter, with the other to Mr. *Hancock*, I could wish to send to *Philadelphia* as they are; but, while acting under a commission from the Congress, cannot.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,  
J. VARNUM.

To General *Washington*.

#### GENERAL HEATH TO MAJOR HENLY.

King's Bridge, August 25, 1776.

DEAR HENLY: The business of this division daily increasing, and ten regiments distantly posted frequently requiring orders, &c., and Major *Keith's* time almost entirely taken up in writing, I find myself necessitated to call upon you to attend your duty here. By this time, I presume, you have been able to afford Mr. *Shaw* so much assistance as to make him fully acquainted with everything necessary from you; and, as I consented to your stay but for a week, I hope there will be no objections to your coming; if there should be, although with reluctance, I shall be constrained to name another Aid-de-Camp in your room, being determined to have my own officers, according to established practice.

I am, dear *Henly*, yours, &c.,

W. HEATH.

To Major *Henly*.

#### GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 31, 1776.]

Albany, August 25, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I was honoured with a letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, enclosing one from Colonel *Stark*, transmitted to him by General *Gates*, [5th August,] written in behalf of all the Field-Officers in the Army, copy whereof I do myself the honour to enclose.

Colonel *Stark's* letter convinces me that the reasons I suggested for not determining what money ought to be given in lieu of a ration were well founded; for if I had done it, I should have differed in opinion with all the Field-Officers in the Army, and with the Commissary; for although I do not presume to say, in contradiction to those gentlemen, especially to the Commissary, (who I should suppose to be well informed,) that a ration does not cost the publick one shilling lawful money of *New-England*, yet I will venture to say that it ought not to cost the publick so much by at least fifty thousand dollars a year on ten thousand men, or five dollars for each man, and that it can be furnished equally good and equally well for that sum less, and that without the least impeachment of either Mr. *Trumbull*, Mr. *Livingston*, or any other furnishing Commissary, as men of integrity and ability; for every man acquainted with publick business must allow that it cannot be carried on, for a variety of reasons, with that economy which prevails in private

affairs. Some of those reasons may be found by a retrospect of my letters to Congress during last campaign. To save a sum so very considerable, is, however, well worthy of attention, and I assure Congress that it has claimed much of mine, and that I have given such orders as I hoped would, in a great measure, remedy the evil. I am sorry to say that they have not had the desired effect; and I can suggest but one way more in which it may be done, and that is by contract; for although I am far from being a friend to contracts, on account of the chicane that usually attends them, yet of two evils it is most eligible to choose the least; and a contract well guarded appears to me such. A contract, if entered into, should, I think, in the first place, specify every article allowed for a ration.

2dly. It should determine what ought to be given in other species, or in money, in lieu of such articles as it may be impossible for the contractor to furnish in the present situation of affairs—such as milk, molasses, and rice.

3dly. The contract should specify what is to be given for a ration at *Albany*, and what at *Ticonderoga* and *Fort Stanwix*, that from the difference between the price allowed at *Albany* and those two places, the price for any intermediate post may be ascertained according to the distance from *Albany*.

4thly. The contractor should transport the provisions to *Ticonderoga* and *Fort Stanwix*, and every intermediate post, at his own risk, excepting only what may be destroyed by the enemy.

5thly. The publick Commissaries at the different posts should receive it, and pass their receipts to the contractor for the quantity delivered, for his voucher. Here the Commissary can have no inducement to give a receipt for more than he receives, as he must be accountable for all he receives, as hereafter directed.

6thly. The contractor, when he delivers any barrelled pork or beef, and the Commissary, before he passes a receipt for the same, should each take two or more barrels out of the parcel, and these being opened, and the meat taken out and weighed, the mean weight shall be allowed as the weight in each barrel in that parcel, and the contractor shall, if the pork or beef be found in good order, have his receipt therefor, and the Commissary shall stand charged therewith.

7thly. As flour casks have always the tare marked on them, the neat weight may be ascertained at the place of delivery by weighing them, which will always be less than when they left *Albany*, occasioned by the waste in transporting them in carriages.

8thly. The quantity of peas, *Indian* corn, rice, and the other articles, to be determined by measurement or weight.

9thly. Every barrel of pork or beef, when delivered at any post, to be tapped, that if there should be any deficiency of brine the contractor may fill it up, or the pork or beef to remain in store until issued, at his risk. The starting of hoops by accident, and the tapping of barrels by wagoners and teamsters to lighten the load, have been the cause of great loss, for which it is next to impossible to provide a remedy.

10thly. All flour to be bored, as is done at *New-York* or *Philadelphia*, to discover whether it is sound and merchantable. Such as is found otherwise, to be returned to the contractor. In case of a difference in opinion between the Commissary and contractor on this and the foregoing article, the same to be determined by two arbitrators taken by the parties, who may choose another if they do not agree.

11thly. When fresh beef is furnished, the contractor to have it killed at or near the post where it is to be issued, and the quarters weighed and delivered to the Commissary, the Commissary to determine the quantity he chooses to have killed each day, and to pass his receipts for what he receives.

12thly. The contractor obliged to furnish a stipulated proportion of fresh and salt meat.

13thly. The Commissary-General to charge every Commissary with the provisions delivered to him by the contractor, and no person employed that cannot give three thousand pounds good security.

14thly. Every Commissary employed in issuing provisions to take receipts from the troops, not for so many rations, but for such a quantity of each article as may be delivered, thence to determine what may be due to any corps for deficiencies, if any there shall be, and whether any corps has at any time drawn more provisions than it ought.

This is what has occurred to my mind on the subject. If it in any way tends to promote the interest of my country, I shall be fully satisfied.

The Paymaster informs me that our military chest is again so much reduced that a speedy supply will be necessary. I hope the Treasury Board will be ordered to send a supply. I suppose something more than one hundred and twenty thousand dollars per month is expended in this department.

On my way to the *German-Flats*, Mr. *Duane* informed me that Congress had ordered ten thousand dollars for the treaty to be held with the *Indians*. As the publick's creditors on account of the *Indian* department were very pressing for their money, I have been under the necessity of drawing on the Paymaster for part of what is due. I should be glad to know if Congress approves that I should pay off all the debts in that manner that are already accrued, and those that daily accrue.

Colonel *Nicolson's* and Colonel *Elmore's* Regiments (the former consisting of one hundred and twenty-six present fit for duty, and the latter of three hundred and forty-four, officers included) are to march to-day into *Tryon* County. As the enemy, by our last accounts, were not constructing any vessels of force at *St. John's*, I begin to apprehend that they will attempt to penetrate by the way of *Oswego*, as the *Indians* suggest. The batteaus they build at *St. John's* may be in order to amuse us, as they may easily convey them down the *Sorel* to the *St. Lawrence*, to be employed to the westward. I have ordered scouts to be continually kept out towards *Oswego* and *Oswegatchie*, and have desired General *Gates* to send others to the north end of the Lake *St. François*, or to any part of the river *St. Lawrence* above *Montreal*, that we may have the earliest intelligence possible of their intentions, and prepare ourselves accordingly.

Our naval force on *Champlain* is increasing rapidly. Three stout galleys and some gondolas I believe are finished since the date of the enclosed return.

If Colonel *Campbell* is not to return to the Army, it will be necessary to appoint another Deputy Quartermaster-General.

The line of duty for the Regimental Paymasters should be minutely pointed out, as also that of the Muster-Masters; and I should be happy to be furnished with it the soonest possible.

I am, sir, with great respect and esteem, your most obedient and most humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 25, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 20th instant was yesterday delivered me by Captain *Wynkoop*; he is to remain at this place. The want of subordination and discipline in an army cannot be too much lamented; it is the source whence all disorder and misfortune arise.

The sail-cloth is just arrived from *New-England*, and will be forwarded immediately.

The Paymaster has sent Mr. *Winslow* one hundred thousand dollars. He could not spare more. I shall immediately write for a further supply.

Enclose you an extract of a letter from General *Washington*, of the 21st instant, received yesterday.

I momentarily expect to learn from Congress what money is to be allowed in lieu of a ration of provisions. As it was the Commissaries' business, I have constantly refused to determine what should be allowed for a ration, certain that I should incur the blame of the officers or Congress, and therefore I have informed the latter that I never will do it, unless they or General *Washington* order me.

*Elmore's* and *Nicolson's* corps march to-day to *Tryon* County. As a few of each of these corps are to the northward, I wish you to send them down, unless they are appropriated to any particular service from which you cannot spare them.

As we do not learn that the enemy are building any large vessels at *St. John's*, I begin to apprehend that there is too much truth in the *Indian* account that a large army will attempt to penetrate by the way of *Fort Stanwix*. The building of batteaus at *St. John's* may be only done with a design to amuse us, as they can easily be conveyed into the *St. Lawrence*. Scouts are out constantly towards *Oswego*

and *Oswegatchie*. I wish two or three trusty hands could be sent across to the north end of *Lake St. François*, or to any place above *Montreal*, to see if any batteaus and troops are passing up the *St. Lawrence*, that we may have the most early intelligence.

If you are not properly supplied with vegetables from *Saratoga*, would it not be best to send a soldier whom you can depend on, every week, on purpose? I am informed you have no mutton at *Tyonderoga*: a good number of sheep are at *Fort George*, from whence you could be from time to time supplied.

I find the jealousies with respect to me have not subsided in the country. I am informed that some Committees to the eastward, in this and the adjacent States, are trying me. I wish Congress may at last comply with my entreaties, and order an inquiry on the many charges made against me, that I may not any longer be insulted. I assure you that I am so sincerely tired of abuse, that I will let my enemies arrive at the completion of their wishes, by retiring as soon as I shall have been tried, and attempt to serve my

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 25, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Titcomb's* company of carpenters are all sick, except four, and applied for discharges. The tools they brought with them are private property, and they mean to carry them off. And I should be glad to know your Honour's mind, whether I shall stop the tools or not, as we shall of necessity want them for the mechanicks that are draughted out of the companies.

Your Honour thought I should do well to discharge the carpenters as they should apply; but they make such frequent applications that I don't choose to discharge so many of them without further instructions, for it will entirely ruin our business as to the shipping. We supply the carpenters with all the help we can possibly get them out of the regiments.

I am, dear General, in the utmost haste, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. I have now got so well of my lameness that I am able to go among the workmen.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, August 25, 1776, 7 o'clock, A. M.

HONOURED SIR: Yesterday evening the signal was given for sailing by the General. The vessels moved a little ways down, but the wind was so trifling that they came to, after going about a mile. This morning they seem under way, but not much wind.

Besides our complement of marines which was ordered, yesterday General *Arnold* sent me an order for sixty men, besides officers, to go in batteaus along with the fleet, and in a few days, he informed me, he would probably send for more of my regiment.

I would have understood by your last letter to me, I should remain at this post with the regiment; but if this plan of General *Arnold's* is carried into execution, I shall have soon but a small number of them left here; perhaps a few may be thought sufficient for this place.

The greater part of the men of this regiment would incline to engage in the service again after the present year, but if General *Arnold* is to make detachments upon fatiguing and dangerous parties from this regiment alone, I fear few would remain after the end of the campaign to show their attachment to the cause. The Lake is now sickly. Men in open batteaus will be much exposed to agues, &c. If an expedition were necessary down the Lake, my whole regiment would cheerfully engage in it; but to be on the Lake for any time, as they are no watermen, is disagreeable to them.

I will send out (if I am permitted) continual parties down towards the fleet, as well as upon land, and will be able to give the earliest intelligence of the approach of an enemy, and will maintain the works I am completing till a reinforcement can arrive, or till prudence may make it necessary to retreat before a very superior enemy, if I am not weakened by an over proportion of detachments.

Our men are on fatigue daily, besides mounting strong

guards, so that their duty is perhaps equal to any other regiment in the Army for the present, and are ever ready for any commands. I would beg leave to mention to you, as this duty is equal to that of any other regiment, that if men are to go down the Lake, the parties which should join General *Arnold* in his cruising should be composed from the Army, in the usual course of detail, when my contingency of men will be prepared.

Should you think it necessary upon any occasion that I should go down the Lake with the regiment, on an expedition, I will go with cheerfulness, because it would be my duty, and would at the same time give me and my men an opportunity, perhaps, of revenging ourselves upon the enemy for part of the injuries this regiment has suffered.

I would not be understood to reason upon the propriety of any order which should issue from you; nay, the execution would be the first reasoning. It is for you to command; it is for your officers to obey. As I understood from your last orders that I was to stay here with the regiment, and as we were likely to suffer more than any other regiment, I have used the freedom to address you on the subject.

I have nearly completed a good intrenchment round my camp, and am forming an interior work which will further add to our security. I have been searching rubbish and water for some pieces of artillery. We have got two good small guns, and expect to discover some more. I have wrote to Colonel *Balding* and Major *Hay* for some stuff for carriages; I hope it will be sent. I will endeavour to have the artillery properly mounted. The guns may be useful to the Army in future. I have had a canoe down below the *Split Rock* these two days. All is well there.

I am, honoured sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,  
**THOS. HARTLEY.**

To Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. I have sent a party for batteaus. The fleet and others have carried away almost all our boats. I have sent up three bad ones to be repaired.

JAMES BOWDOIN TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Boston, August 25, 1776.

SIR: One of the enemy's ships-of-war, said to be the *Milford*, of twenty-eight guns, has, at different times within a month past, been cruising in our bay, and has taken several prizes. She now again makes her appearance, and has chased several vessels into port. It is a misfortune that the Continental ships-of-war lately built in this State could not be sent out for want of guns; but as it is said those built at *Providence* are provided with guns, it is probable that one or all of them can with some exertion be got ready in two or three days for our bay, and, in case of meeting with the *Milford*, give a good account of her. It is supposed that some of Admiral *Hopkins's* ships are also at *Providence*, and that they can join the others in this service. As we know your Honour's zeal and the zeal of your State to render every possible service to the general cause, which cannot be better promoted than by taking the enemy's ships-of-war, we doubt not that it will be exerted upon this occasion in a way effectual to answer the end proposed. We shall endeavour to procure the loan of guns, and get fitted one of the Continental ships at *Newburyport*, pierced for twenty-four guns; and shall order one of our armed brigs belonging to this State, now in this port, and several others of them, if within the reach of orders, to join the said ships as soon as they appear here. In order thereto, you will please to inform us of the signals you shall agree upon, by which those ships may be distinguished. This is wrote by the instance of several gentlemen of the Council, all of whom (could they have been convened) would have concurred with it.

With every sentiment of respect, I am, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,  
**JAMES BOWDOIN.**

Hon. *Nicholas Cooke*, Esq., Governour of *Rhode-Island*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN NICHOLSON.

[No. 162.]

Annapolis, August 26, 1776.

SIR: It will be uncertain whether we can meet with a vessel here to go to *James River* for the coal; we shall be glad, therefore, if you will procure for us three that will

bring from fifteen hundred to two thousand each, and despatch them down to us with the greatest expedition. The *Resolution* must go with them for their protection. She must call here in her way, as we shall send a person in her, with cash, to contract for the coal. We are, &c.

To Captain *James Nicholson*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO SAMUEL DORSEY.

[No. 163.]

Annapolis, August 26, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety request you will immediately send down what tents you have made; they are much wanting, as all our troops are under marching orders.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Samuel Dorsey*.

BALTIMORE COUNTY COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, August 26, 1776:

Present: S. Purviance, *Chairman*; W. Lux, *Vice-Chairman*; R. Alexander, W. Buchanan, J. Merryman, C. Ridgely, (of Wm.), W. Wilkinson, B. Griffith, J. Calhoun, J. Cradock, W. Aisquith, A. Britton, J. Gittings, T. Sollers, J. Cockey, D. Shaw, T. Gist, J. Boyd.

In Committee, Baltimore, August 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY: The following is the list of Companies recommended by this Committee to form a Battalion:

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. John Cockey.....Captain.....              | } Containing sixty-four Privates.  |
| John Robert Holliday.....First Lieutenant..  |                                    |
| Nathaniel Britain.....Second Lieutenant      |                                    |
| Benjamin Talbot.....Ensign.....              |                                    |
| 2. Edward Cockey.....Captain.....            | } Containing sixty-five Privates.  |
| Beale Owings.....First Lieutenant..          |                                    |
| William Harvey.....Second Lieutenant         |                                    |
| William Scarf.....Ensign.....                |                                    |
| 3. Gist Vaughan.....Captain.....             | } Containing fifty-three Privates. |
| Thomas Moore.....First Lieutenant..          |                                    |
| Nicholas Merryman, jun.....Second Lieutenant |                                    |
| Humphrey Chilcoat.....Ensign.....            |                                    |
| 4. Henry Howard.....Captain.....             | } Containing sixty-nine Privates.  |
| John Wilson.....First Lieutenant..           |                                    |
| William Ensor.....Second Lieutenant          |                                    |
| Joshua Welsh.....Ensign.....                 |                                    |
| 5. John Talbot.....Captain.....              | } Containing sixty Privates.       |
| John Dunnoch.....First Lieutenant..          |                                    |
| James Norris.....Second Lieutenant           |                                    |
| Joshua Anderson.....Ensign.....              |                                    |
| 6. John Hall (of Joshua).....Captain.....    | } Containing forty-eight Privates. |
| Thomas Marshall.....First Lieutenant..       |                                    |
| Philip Suits.....Second Lieutenant           |                                    |
| William Davis.....Ensign.....                |                                    |
| 7. Daniel Shaw.....Captain.....              | } Containing ninety-five Privates. |
| John Sharp.....First Lieutenant..            |                                    |
| Abraham Cox.....Second Lieutenant            |                                    |
| John Wiley.....Ensign.....                   |                                    |
| 8. Stephen Gilt, jun.....Captain.....        | } Containing seventy Privates.     |
| Thomas Bond.....First Lieutenant..           |                                    |
| Aquila Tipton.....Second Lieutenant          |                                    |
| Nicholas Gill.....Ensign.....                |                                    |

The Committee resumed the consideration of the complaint exhibited against *Jesse Hollingsworth* for selling Tea above the limited price, who, being called in, confessed the fact; but alleged, in excuse, that he had opened the chests at the earnest request and solicitation of several persons, who voluntarily offered him the price he sold it for, which was offered to him for the whole chest at *Philadelphia*, where he had determined to send it; that he had not sold one-half of the chest at 10s. He then produced letters which proved that price to have been offered to him for the whole, and that it was selling there at 16s. by the chest. He acknowledged he had done wrong, but was sorry for it. He declared that he had never done any other act to contravene the Resolutions of Congress or Convention; but, on the contrary, had on every occasion exerted his utmost for the service of his country; therefore he hoped that his countrymen, with whom he wished to live in union and harmony, would forgive this first offence, and he should be very careful to avoid any other; and that he would very willingly return to every person who had bought Tea of him the overplus price, provided he or she made an affidavit of the quantity bought within six weeks from this date, or would pay it to any charitable use that the publick may direct.

Attest:

**GEO. LUX, Secretary.**

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WARD.

Philadelphia, August 26, 1776.

SIR: The service in the Eastern Department requiring an officer of rank and experience, and Colonel *Whitcomb*

having declined accepting his commission, the Congress have been induced, both from a regard to your merit while in the Army, and your zeal and attention since you left it, to request you will, if consistent with your health, take the command of the forces in that quarter. As soon as Congress can fix on some officer to relieve you, they will do it, and only desire you in the mean time to continue in command until such appointment. Your readiness to comply with the wishes of your country, gives me the strongest reason to believe you will not resist their application at this juncture.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Ward*, *Boston*.

PETITION FROM GEORGE MEASAM.

[Read August 26, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the Members of Congress of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

The Memorial of GEORGE MEASAM, late of MONTREAL, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist was well known by the late Brigadier-General *Montgomery* to be a true friend to the *American* cause, by sundry circumstances, both before and after the capitulation of *Montreal*. And in consequence thereof, the General thought fit to recommend him as a proper person to intrust the care and management of the Post-Office for that Province, and was honoured with a commission from the Postmaster-General for that purpose, and did direct the same and support it with his own proper moneys until the *American* Army was obliged to retreat from thence.

That the General was further pleased to desire your memorialist (with Major *Lockwood*) to superintend the landing of the stores taken by Colonel *Easton*, commencing the 20th day of *November*, 1775. And on the 10th day of *December* following, your memorialist was put in publick orders to superintend the publick stores at *Montreal*, and did superintend the same, and also the Commissary of Provision's Department, and flatters himself that he has been the cause of saving a large sum of money to the *United States*, by being a check over the Commissary, and obliging him to keep his accounts in such manner as to show an exact weight of all provisions received and issued, and not accounting for them by rations only, as is generally the case; for in the confused manner the orders were given for provisions, the Commissary's accounts plainly prove they far exceed the quantity of provisions actually issued by a very large amount during the time there was no Commissary-General to superintend that department in *Canada*. Your memorialist now presumes that department is quite regular, as it is under the care of the Commissary-General.

That your memorialist continued to direct and superintend the other publick stores at *Montreal*, till the retreat of the Army from thence, and the stores were, by order of the Commanding Officer, issued to the Army for publick service.

That hitherto your memorialist has had no rank, rate, or salary affixed to his said office, and has a very small account still unsettled. Prays to know where he is to be referred to for a settlement.

That at present there is no superintendent Storekeeper of all the other garrison stores at *Ticonderoga*; and that your memorialist humbly conceives it is highly necessary such an officer should be appointed for that garrison and the Northern Army.

Therefore, as your memorialist was concerned pretty largely in the *Indian* trade at four different posts above *Montreal*, and was possessed of other property—land, trade, and dealings in the said Province—and has been obliged to abandon all upon the retreat of the Army from thence, finds himself, under these circumstances, necessitated to pray your Honours will be pleased to confirm him in his appointment as Superintendent and Storekeeper for the Northern Army, or elsewhere, with such rank, rate, or salary, as your Honours shall judge proper.

And your memorialist shall pray, &c.

GEO. MEASAM.

Philadelphia, August 25, 1776.

JAMES WORK TO WILLIAM ATLEE.

Donegal, Pennsylvania, August 26, 1776.

SIR: I understand this morning that this man I here send you, *William Davis*, is one of the regular prisoners belonging to the companies confined now in *Lancaster*. I just understand he has been working about this good while, and han't been much in town. I understand he got in drink yesterday, and behaved ill; and as the most of our men are gone to the Army, the poor women and children are afraid to see such a man amongst them, and going at large these distressing times. So that whoever in town has the care and oversight of said prisoners, will take notice that this man by no means be permitted to come into this neighbourhood again, &c.

From your humble servant,  
To *William Atlee*, Esq., Chairman, or to whom it may concern.

JAS. WORK.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 28, 1776.]

New-York, August 26, 1776.

SIR: I have been duly honoured with your favours of the 20th and 24th, and am happy to find my answer to Lord *Drummond* has met the approbation of Congress. Whatever his views were, most certainly his conduct respecting his parole is highly reprehensible.

Since my letter of the 24th, almost the whole of the enemy's fleet have fallen down to the *Narrows*; and from this circumstance, and the striking of their tents at their several encampments on *Staten-Island* from time to time previous to the departure of the ships from thence, we are led to think they mean to land the main body of their Army on *Long-Island*, and to make their grand push there. I have ordered over considerable reinforcements to our troops there, and shall continue to send more as circumstances may require. There has been a little skirmishing and irregular firing kept up between their and our advanced guards, in which Colonel *Martin*, of the *Jersey* levies, has received a wound in his breast, which it is apprehended will prove mortal. A private has had his leg broken by a cannon ball, and another has received a shot in the groin from their musketry. This is all the damage they have yet done us; what they have sustained is not known.

The shifting and changing the regiments have undergone of late, has prevented their making proper returns, and of course put it out of my power to transmit a general one of the Army. However, I believe our strength is much the same that it was when the last was made, with the addition of nine Militia regiments more from the State of *Connecticut*, averaging about three hundred and fifty men each. These are nine of the fourteen regiments mentioned in my letter of 19th. Our people still continue to be very sickly.

The papers designed for the foreign troops have been put into several channels, in order that they might be conveyed to 'em; and from the information I had yesterday, I have reason to believe many have fallen into their hands.

I have enclosed a copy of Lord *Drummond's* second letter in answer to mine, which I received since I transmitted his first, and which I have thought necessary to lay before Congress, that they may possess the whole of the correspondence between us, and see how far he has exculpated himself from the charge alleged against him. The log-book he mentions to have sent Colonel *Moylan*, proves nothing in his favour: that shows he had been at *Bermuda*, and from thence to some other Island, and on his passage from which to this place, the vessel he was in was boarded by a pilot, who brought her into the *Hook*, where he found the *British* fleet, which his Lordship avers he did not expect were there, having understood their destination was to the southward.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Sloop Polly, August 19, 1776.

SIR: While attending in the boat on the 17th instant, I was favoured with yours of that date, and in answer to those points it seemed to allude to, I could then only return a verbal message by Mr. *Tilghman*, which I flatter myself would remove the suspicions you entertained. As my first



motive for asking Lord *Howe's* permission to land at *New-York* was to give me an opportunity of explaining myself to your Excellency on the subject of my parole in relation to my return to this place, so the hope I entertained of effecting it in this way made me perhaps too negligent in not saying anything on that subject in my letter to you. Aware, however, of the possibility of not being able to obtain an interview with your Excellency, I had taken the precaution to prepare a letter to Colonel *Moylan* on that subject, which I read to Mr. *Tilghman* on his delivering me that from your Excellency, but which I forbore delivering, as not thinking it sufficiently explicit. But should suspicions on any other point in the parole have arisen, I have only to beg that your Excellency will have the goodness to permit me to a personal interview, which will either afford me an opportunity of exculpating myself, or will place me in a situation to suffer that treatment which must follow an infraction of parole.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,  
**DRUMMOND.**

P. S. I enclose my letter to Colonel *Moylan*, which I have alluded to, together with the log-book.

#### COURT-MARTIAL ON COLONEL ZEDTWITZ.

*Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the Line, held at Head-Quarters, in the city of NEW-YORK, by order of His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA, for the trial of HERMAN ZEDTWITZ, Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army of said States, AUGUST 25, 1776.*

Brigadier-General JAMES WADSWORTH, *President.*

Colonel John Bailey,	Lieutenant-Colonel <i>Johonnot</i> ,
Colonel Smallwood,	Lieutenant-Colonel <i>Ware</i> ,
Colonel Haslett,	Lieutenant-Colonel <i>Bedford</i> ,
Colonel Carey,	Lieutenant-Colonel <i>Beldin</i> ,
Colonel Cook,	Major <i>Hayden</i> ,
Lieut. Col. <i>Sheppard</i> ,	Major <i>Sherman</i> .

*Wm. Tudor*, Judge-Advocate.

The Court being duly sworn, proceeded to the trial of Lieutenant-Colonel *Zedtwitz*, brought prisoner before the Court, and accused of "holding a treacherous correspondence with, and giving intelligence to, the enemies of the *United States*."

The prisoner being called upon to plead to said charge, moves the Court that he may be allowed time till to-morrow to plead and prepare for his defence. The Court grant the request of the prisoner, and the Court adjourned to *Monday* morning, 26th of *August*, at ten o'clock.

*August 26th.*—The Court met according to adjournment, and proceeded to the trial of Lieutenant-Colonel *Zedtwitz*, adjourned from yesterday.

The prisoner being arraigned on the aforementioned complaint, pleads not guilty.

The Judge-Advocate laid before the Court the letter hereto annexed; which being shown to the prisoner, he concedes to be his handwriting; which letter is read to the Court, as follows:—(See the paper marked A.)

*Augustus Stein* was sworn, and deposes as follows:—(See the Deposition marked B.)

The evidence being gone through in support of the complaint, the prisoner is called upon to make his defence, and produces the paper marked C, which is read to the Court.

The prisoner produced Brigadier Lord *Stirling* as a witness, who, being sworn, deposes:

LORD STIRLING. In the spring of the year, when the talk was of the *Hessians* coming out, Lieutenant-Colonel *Zedtwitz* told me that if he could be permitted to write or communicate with them by the authority of the General or the Congress, he could bring over a number of them. At my request he wrote a letter in *Hess*, which, he said, was on the subject, but I had no translation of it, and no use was ever made of it. About a fortnight ago he said to me, well, they are now come, my Lord, and I will get my two thousand pounds which the *English* Government cheated him out of; and went on to tell me how, but I paid but little attention to the story. He never shew me any letter, nor pointed out any method he intended to take to obtain the two thousand pounds, nor have I ever exchanged a word with him since.

The Court, being cleared, are of opinion that the prisoner is guilty of concerting a plan, and attempting to treacherously correspond with, and give intelligence, to the enemy; and the Court sentence and adjudge that the prisoner be cashiered and rendered incapable, and he is hereby cashiered and rendered incapable of ever holding a commission in the service of the *United American States*.

JAMES WADSWORTH, *Brig. Gen., President.*

[ A. ]

*New-York*, August the 24th, 1776.

HONORABLE SIR: As I have not the honor to be acquainted with his Lordship, the Admiral *How*, I Therefore thake the Liberty to bag your Eccillency humly to Explain the contents of this broke *English* To the Admiral, wich I believe will not be displeasing to his Lordship? By giving you this inteligence de World will ardenly Blame my character, by serving in an Armee and giving the Enemy Intelligence, but I apiel to your Eccellency, wich knows that I was Forced to accept or to be a Ruined man, with my wife and Children, bysids this I baged your Eccelley's Councell & promised to do all in my power for his Majesty, as I loked on myself as a forced man of a Rebellion Mopp.

Since I Came from *Canada* I should have done some Service To your Arnee, but one *Forbuck* and The Major was tharken, this Spoiled all my plans, *Forbusch* in his Trial said that your Eccellency ordered him to tell me if I will Eccute a certain Comission my fortune shall be made, the Court asked If he has told me the Same he said no, because he was afraid I was to goeal a week, This Vilain had not the least Reson to tell any thing of, because nobody thoth of it and nobody asked him. from this moment I was Suspected; They lucked Sharp after me, but 3 days Ego, gen. *Washington* Send for me & If I would Translate a paper of great consequenc in god *Hy german*, I promised to do it, he Dictated himselff the Contents ar as follow.

The Continental Congress promises Every men of the *Hessian* Trops wich Comes to this Armee 200 Akers of land and a Horse & a Kow, and if he has no mynd to Serve he Shall recieve the sam and go to thake possession of these plantations—only they must leave there Fireloks & Acoutremens wich will be payd For, bysieds a heape of Scourilious Ecpresions aiginst the Governement and the King & &. This paper was send to *Philadelphia* to be printed both in *Englisch* & *german*, and distributed in your Arnee.

The 20th of this I Found 4 Fellows at the generals House wich proposed to Spoil the Watering place, they brought along 14 Botles of Stof as Black as an Ink it was Tried and Found good as they. The gen: promised Every one £1000 if it Stands 6 weeks, pleas to keep a good luk out. This is at present all I am abel with Truth to Write.

The Last what I can Tell is: I found a gentelman wich is allways near the general and has the opportunity To See all the general Returns of the Strenght of the Armee, where and how Strong the detachments are Comanded—he is a friend to his Majesty but an Interested one, he askd £4000 Sterling in hard gold for delivering the Acurat state of the Armee as above mentj: till the First of *december* Every week to me, the money must be paid before hand, and I must Swear an oath in case I Should be thaken and Even Ecceuted, never to mention his name: I Told him If he will accept of half The sume, I will propos it, but I myself Can do nothing without orders, he agreed to it. I bag for an anwer in this case. beare of this I humbly bag to give Something, he is poor but Truly atasched to his King, has served 9 years in *Royale America*, and Refused a Lieutenants comission.

Trugh gen. *Washington* Recomendation I Epect every day my Comission as full Colonel and comander of the 3 forts on the *Nort River* 65 miles from heer. this is given to me for a havy wound I Reiceved a the Storm of *quebec*, wich disables me from doing Field Service.

Your Eccell: most obedient & humble Servant,

H. ZEDTWITZ, *Lt: Coll.*

[ B. ]

*Wednesday, August 21st.*—Colonel *Zedtwitz* came to the house of Captain *Bauman*, and, among other discourses, asked me whether I was engaged in the service. I answered him, no. Upon which he observed, then I could go whither I pleased, and that he wanted much to speak to me. I

New York August the 24<sup>th</sup> 1776

Honorable Sir,

As I have not the honor to be acquainted with his Lordship the Admiral How, I Therefore take the Liberty to say Your Excellency humbly to Explain the Contents of this broke English To the Admiral, with I believe will not be displeasing to his Lordship? By giving you this intelligence the World will certainly blame my Character, by serving in an Army and giving the Enemy Intelligence, but I appeal to Your Excellency, who knows that I was forced to accept or to be a Ruined Man with my wife and Child, by which this I begged Your Excellency's Council & promised to do all in my power for His Majesty, as I looked on myself as a forced Man of a Rebellious Mopp.

Since I came from Canada I should have done some service to your Army, but one Forbush and The Mayor was Thank you this spoiled all my plans, Forbush in his Trial said that your Excellency ordered him to tell me if I will execute a certain Commission my fortune shall be made, the Court asked if he has told me the same he said no, because he was afraid I was to go at a ~~weak~~ <sup>weak</sup>, This Nelson had not the least reason to tell anything of, because nobody thought of it and nobody asked him, from this moment I was suspected. They looked upon me, but 3 days ago Gen. Washington sent for me & if I would translate a paper of great consequence in good Hygerman, I promised to do it, he ~~and~~ Debated himself the Contents as as follow<sup>ed</sup>.

The Continental Congress promises Every Man of the Hessian Troop with Comes to this Armes 200 Acres of land and a Horse & a Cow, and if he has no mind to serve he shall receive the same and go to take possession of these plantations - only they must leave their Tools & Houtings which will be paid For, besides a heape of Scourillions Expressions against the Government and the King &c. This paper was sent to Philadelphia to be printed both in English & German and distributed in your Army.

The 20<sup>th</sup> of this I Found 4 Fellows at the general's House with proposed to spoil the Watering place, they <sup>bought</sup> 14 Bottles of Stof as Black as an Ink. it was tried and Found good as they

The gen: promised Every one £2000 if it stands 9 weeks,  
plans to keep a good Luck out! This is at present all I  
am able with Truth to Write.

1 The Last what I can Tell is: I found a gentleman with  
is always near the general, and has the opportunity  
to see all The general Returns of the Strength of the Army,  
where and how strong the detachments are Comanded —  
he is a friend to his Majesty but an Interested one,  
he asked £4000 Sterling in hard gold for delivering the  
Actual State of the Army as above ment: till the First  
of the Decemr Every week to me, the Money must  
be paid before hand, and I must swear an oath in Case I  
should be thaken and Even Executed never to mention his  
Name: I Told him If he will Take accept of half  
The sume, I will proposit, but I myself Can do nothing  
without orders, he agreed to it. I beg for an answer  
in this case. beare of this I humbly beg to give  
something, he is poor but Truly attached to his King,  
has served 19 years in Regale America and Refused a  
Lieutenants Comission.

Tough gen. Washington Recommendation I Expect every day  
my Comission as full Colonel and Comander of the 3  
forts on the North River 65 Miles from here this is  
given to me for a heavy wound I Received at the storm  
of quebec which disables me from doing Field service

Yours Ocell. most obedient & humble Servant

W. Westcott

L. Colly.

To His Excellency Governor  
Tryon & Co

conjectured he had some writing to do for me with respect to the regiment.

*Thursday, 22d.*—Said Zedtwitz called again, asking sundry questions, such as, whether I would not be glad to return to my native country, and what a person should commence to enrich himself. I told him I could not tell; that I was poor, but had always found a good living in the country, or words to that purpose; on which he went out of the house in my company. Near the same he told me he should have liked to have communicated something to me, had Captain Bauman not been in the way—asking, on my crossing the street to part with him, whether I would be silent; and answering him with yes, he said, for the rest let me alone, I shall be the making of your fortune. I answered, I would wait on him at his house; but received for answer, that would not do; and we parted.

*Friday, 23d.*—He sent a man for me to wait on him in the camp; when, after entering the tent, he told me that he must divulge what he had to say shortly; which was, that he believed we were all lost. I answered that this was my opinion also. That he wanted me to go to *Long-Island* with a letter to Governour Tryon; that he had intelligence from him by the means of a woman; that he would strongly recommend me to the Governour, and that I should receive part of the reward at my arrival, and whether I was ready to set off the next day. I answered yes; and *Saturday*, the 24th, he accordingly called on me, but having no opportunity, as I supposed, to deliver his letter, Captain Bauman being present, he looked at me, and I give him the wink, that I would see him in the camp, which I did, as near as I can guess, about one o'clock, when he delivered me the letter directed to Governour Tryon, now before the Court, and desired me to deliver it to Governour Tryon, which I promised to do.

N. B. I suspected him already on *Thursday*, the 22d, which caused me to give him the foregoing answers, in order to discover his plan.

AUGUSTUS STEIN.

The Deponent adds: I took the letter. I went immediately to Captain Bowman's house, and broke the letter open and read it. Soon after, Captain Bowman came in, and I told him I had something to communicate to the General. We sent to Captain Hamilton, and he went to the General's, to whom the letter was delivered.

*Question.* Is the letter which has now been read the letter delivered you by the prisoner?

*Answer.* It is the same.

[C.]

#### *Self-defence of Lieutenant-Colonel ZEDTWITZ.*

In the last war I was detached from the King of Prussia's grand Army as Captain of a squadron of Light-Horse to join the *English* Cavalry. The Marquis of Granby was my commander. In a short time he was so pleased with my behaviour, that I dined every day at table with him. In five months I received orders to join my regiment. When I parted with my Lord Granby, he said if I lived longer he would promote me in the *English* Army. I thanked him, and said I was unfit for the *English* service on account of the tongue. I heard nothing more of him till when the disputes between *England* and *Spain* about the *Falkland Islands* began. He wrote me a letter to *Germany*, contracting to enlist one thousand Riflemen, fully equipped and fit for service, for which he would pay me £24 sterling per man. He gave immediate orders to enlist twenty of them, and transport them myself to *England*, and if they answered the end, I should be full Colonel of the regiment, and my advance money should be paid immediately, and the rest of the whole payment should be paid at the same time in letters of credit in *Hanover*. I marched off with my recruits to *London*. They were tried and approved of. I delivered the Marquis my accounts, but, to my misfortune, after nine or ten days he died. I applied to his father the Duke of Rutland. He gave me an indifferent answer, and said he had no business with his son's military affairs. I went to General Conway, who served with me in *Germany* as Colonel of a regiment of Dragons. He went with me to Lord North for my money, but my Lord told us he knew well that I advanced this money, and as soon as the papers were found I should be paid; if not found, I must wait till next meeting of Parliament. I sent my men, upon my own expense, home; because

the *English* had settled the difference with *Spain*. I then came with my wife and family to *America*. Lord North gave me (perhaps for my money) two good letters of recommendation, one to *Quebeck* to General Carleton, the other to Governour Tryon. This is the cruel fate to be ruined by an *English* Government for having done it all the service in my power.

After two years residing here, the dispute between *England* and *America* began. I was one of the first that entered the service as a Major, and thought to study how to get my money which was robbed from me, and pay my debts which I was obliged to contract in this service. About three weeks ago I went to Lord Stirling, and told him of my loss in *England*, and told him further that I had formed a plan to get it again at all events. His Lordship answered, that it would be a difficult matter. After this, I wrote the letter now in the possession of the Court, and stood it to write to Governour Tryon such stories as he might believe, without any intention on my part of performing.

1st. My plan and meaning when I wrote about "spoiling the waters," was a mere fallacy to deceive them, as I knew it impossible, as the waters of the city are daily guarded.

2d. What I wrote about *Forbes*, my intent was to make the Governour believe that he might expect great service from me.

3d. For telling the Governour about sending £2,000 sterling, my meaning was to take that money for myself as my property, and showing the answer to the letter to your Excellency, and sending a receipt back again.

4th. I said in my letter that I wrote a plan to draw the *Hessians* over to us. I never would have done it. That they (the enemy) must have been long since informed of it, and particularly as the orders have been given in publick to me, which was in a very short time all over the city.

5th. For writing the Governour that I expected to be commander of the forts up the *North River* was done on purpose, because, had the Governour dined with me, instead of delivering him the forts, should have informed your Excellency, and confined the Governour.

H. ZEDTWITZ, Lieutenant-Colonel.

MAJOR HENLEY TO GENERAL HEATH.

New-York, August 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: It would afford me the highest pleasure could I, consistent with my own reason for my country's service, conform to your letter Major Keith has just delivered me. But (as Colonel Knox is pleased to do me the honour to say that he cannot nor will not be answerable for the conduct of his regiment in case I leave him before the action—that I should be ungenerous to him and unjust to myself,) I am sorry cases are so circumstanced as occasions me to beg you'll be pleased to appoint some person to take my place; at the same time do assure you I shall ever think myself under the greatest obligations to you; and am, with all respect, your most obliged, humble servant,

THOMAS HENLY.

To Major-General Heath, King's Bridge.

P. S. I cannot seal this without praying you'll put the most favourable constructions on my conduct. My situation is exceedingly delicate.

Yours, as above,

THOMAS HENLY.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 26, 1776.

Skirmishing continues, but little execution done on either side. A Lieutenant and four of our men were taken prisoners, being deceived by the enemy's rifle-shirts, and mistaking them for our men.

On *Saturday* a letter was discovered which was written by Lieutenant-Colonel Zedtwitz to Tryon. He says, that having consulted him, he had accepted a commission through necessity, and now commands part of the Rebel mob; that the discovery of *Forbes* and the Mayor had like to have ruined his scheme; that he had been at General Washington's, who wanted him to transcribe an advertisement, to be distributed among the *Hessians*, the purport of which was, that he would give each deserter among them, if they would join our Army, two hundred acres of land, a horse and a cow, and the land only if they did not join our Army; that a per-



son at Head-Quarters could be prevailed on to give a weekly return of the number and state of our Army for £4,000 in hard money, and he was not to be discovered even if *Zedtwitz* lost his life in the scheme; that he said he did not think £4,000 would be given, but he would promise him £2,000; that he (*Zedtwitz*) was now Lieutenant-Colonel, but daily expected a full commission, when he was to go and have the command of the forts up the *North River*, &c. He was tried this morning, and confessed the writing; said he did it to deceive *Tryon*, and get some money which was due to him from the Crown for services performed in *Germany*. Sentence is not pronounced.

Our people at *Elizabeth-Town* and the enemy on *Staten-Island* cannonaded each other yesterday afternoon, without doing any damage except disturbing the congregation.

—  
New-York, Monday, August 26, 1776.

*Tuesday* last two of our privateers, commanded by the Captains *Rogers* and *Pond*, fell in with three vessels from *Halifax*, and took them; the first and second loaded with hay and wood, a third loaded with *Sutler's* stores for the Army at *Staten-Island*. They also took a fourth prize, loaded with oil, bound for *Halifax*; that are all carried safe into port.

*Wednesday* evening last we had here as violent a thunder gust as has been remembered by the oldest man now living amongst us. The lightning struck a markee in General *McDougall's* camp, near the *Bull's Head* in the *Bowery*, and instantly killed Captain *Van Wyck* and his two Lieutenants, *Versereau* and *Depyster*. A soldier named *Ephraim Bartlet* was also killed in the house of Mr. *Joseph Hallet*, in *Hanover Square*, and several others much hurt. We also hear four men were killed on *Long-Island*, and some houses and barns burnt near *Tappan*.

*Tuesday* last a number of ships, with troops on board, sailed from *Staten-Island* out of the *Narrows*; next day they were followed by many more, and about ten o'clock *Thursday* morning about ten thousand men landed between *New-Utrecht* and *Gravesend*, on *Long-Island*. *Friday* a party of them came and took possession of *Flatbush*, which immediately brought on a very heavy fire from our troops, who are advantageously posted in the woods and on every eminence round that place.

An advanced party of the Regulars are encamped a little to the northwest of *Flatbush Church*, and have a battery somewhat to the westward of Mr. *Jeremiah Vanderbilt's*, from whence they continue to fire briskly on our people, who often approach and discharge their rifles within two hundred yards of their works. We have had only four men wounded since the enemy landed; but we are certain many of them fell; one, a *Hessian*, was killed last *Friday*—several dollars were found in his pocket, and he had an excellent rifle; and many of the Regulars are in rifle dresses.

PETITION OF GEORGE HARRIS.

To the Honourable Convention of the State of NEW-YORK, now sitting at HAERLEM, in the County of NEW-YORK:

The Petition of GEORGE HARRIS most humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner has lived in *Rye*, in the County of *Westchester*, these fourteen years last past, in the capacity of a schoolmaster, during which term in that toilsome occupation he acquired a small estate, between five and six hundred pounds in value, and that with the approbation of his employers, till the unhappy dispute commenced between the Colonies and *Great Britain*. The cause of the former being warmly espoused by him, and arguments in support of the liberties of *America* strenuously maintained against his neighbours, in hopes that their minds would be turned so as to set a true estimate on the great and valuable blessings of freedom they enjoyed in this once most happy and generous land, that was the receptacle of the industrious poor emigrating from subjugated countries where slavery and poverty was entailed on them and their posterity—the people of *Rye*, being wholly devoted to the interest of the Crown, shut their eyes and ears against reason and knowledge, and every day grew more and more disgusted with your petitioner on account of his political principles, till at last a scheme was set afoot to effect his ruin, which was thus: On the 27th day of *July* last past your petitioner was, in the night, robbed of a silver watch and four dollars in

cash by a person whom he thinks and takes to be *Izariah Wetmore*, of *Rye*, whose father was competitor with your petitioner for the school, and did what he could to injure him in his business. The next day a certain Mrs. *Budd*, who keeps a disorderly and base tavern in *Rye*, whose husband is a man of ill fame and now in arms against his country with the *British* forces near *New-York*, entered a complaint against your petitioner, saying that she found his watch near her bed, or in her house, and that he opened her window to disturb her; upon which your petitioner was committed to jail without being examined by any magistrate; upon which the people of *Rye*, or some of them who favoured the schoolmaster, (*Wetmore*), broke open the school-house that I occupied so many years, in which at that time was upwards of one hundred and forty-four pounds in cash, of which they have robbed your petitioner to the amount of more than twenty-six pounds, which he can get no account of. After a confinement of almost three weeks, your petitioner was enlarged, upon his verbal promise of giving security to appear when called upon. Two days after your petitioner was let out of jail, he deposited into the hands of *John Thomas, Esq.*, bonds, exceeding the sum of three hundred pounds, to appear as above. Now he is out of business, and the fruits of his long and steady labour wasting amazingly, as it hath been this month past, his school taken away, and the school-house denied him by *James Wetmore*, the brother of that arch-Tory or enemy to his country, *Timothy Wetmore*, who has and does yet keep up the spirit of toryism in *Rye*, he being their grand *Moloch* whom they adore and worship, and, indeed, who justly has deserved to have been removed before now to some distant place, where his influence would not reach or be able to debase the people with his pernicious doctrines which he is so fond of inculcating daily, though he now might spare himself the trouble of further preaching, as he has so well grounded the whole neighbourhood in principles most inimical to *American* freedom and liberty. Your petitioner having given a true and faithful narrative of his grievous and unfortunate case, and he being very near-sighted, and now in years advanced, having for a series of years served to the utmost of his power that base people of *Rye*, who after his services seek his ruin unmerited, prays you, in your wisdom, tenderness, and compassion, to take his deplorable case into your consideration, and grant him relief, as his destruction is sought by persons that are as great enemies to the State of *New-York* as the forces under the command of Lord *Howe*, and as he alone is the person who is a real friend to *America* in the foolish and simple town of *Rye*. The relief your petitioner prays is, that your Honours will grant him a line to *John Thomas, Esq.*, ordering that his bonds and watch may be delivered to him, which would enable him to prosecute those that have robbed him and recover his money. Should your Honours think proper at any time to call upon your petitioner to answer the charge of that vile woman Mrs. *Budd*, (whose house is only frequented by persons that discourse about the hanging the leading gentlemen that stand gloriously for their country, and the straggling or strolling persons that fall in her way, who can be entertained till debauched to the last degree,) he will directly obey and attend, as well as he did perform his promise to Mr. *Thomas* two days after being out of prison, when he might go away with his substance where he pleased; but his character being so well established for probity, and his innocence such that he could not harbour the most distant thought of running away, which, were he to do, his enemies would be the most rejoiced. The said *Timothy Wetmore* purposes to prosecute your petitioner as soon as the day is carried by *Great Britain*, which he thinks is now at the eve, for being, as he supposes, the author of a letter written against him and his principles, and publicly read at the *White Plains* last spring in the midst of a concourse of people. These are the causes of malice and rancour against your petitioner, who hopes to be relieved by your honourable House; and, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

GEORGE HARRIS.

Haerlem, August 26, 1776.

—  
GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, August 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am honoured with your Excellency's favour of the 21st instant, enclosing Colonel *Stark's* letter to General *Gates*.

On the 16th instant I wrote to Congress, desiring that the money to be allowed for rations in this department might be determined; that I had refused to do it until ordered by your Excellency or by Congress, and gave my reasons for it. I have not yet been honoured with their answer. I was perfectly right in my conjecture that if I did it I should either incur the censure of Congress or the blame of the Army. The latter would have happened, for I should not have estimated a ration so high as the Field-Officers and the Commissary have done, conceiving that it may be furnished at a rate considerably less.

The sail-cloth and part of the cordage from *Connecticut* passed this yesterday, on its way to *Tyconderoga*. Colonel *Nicolson's* and Colonel *Elmore's* regiments (copies of whose returns I enclose) are to march to-day into *Tryon* County.

As by our latest accounts the enemy are not constructing any vessels of force at *St. John's*, I begin to apprehend that they build batteaus merely to amuse us, as they can easily convey them into the *St. Lawrence* to transport troops, &c., to the westward, and that they will attempt, as the *Indians* suggest, to penetrate by the way of *Oswego*. I have ordered scouts to be kept out continually towards that place, and also towards *Oswegatchie*, and have desired General *Gates* to send others to that part of the *St. Lawrence* above *Montreal*, that we may have the earliest intelligence if any troops should be filing off to the westward.

We are greatly distressed for musket ball and cartridge paper, that lately come up being all for cannon cartridges. Please to order up what can be spared from your quarter, as also forty horn-lanterns, and what bullet-moulds can be procured.

Enclose your Excellency copy of a return of our Naval force, which, since the date of that return, is, I believe, augmented with three stout galleys, of seventy-three feet keel, and one or more gondolas.

General *Gates* has promised me a return of the Army, and in the mean time has sent me the Commissary's return of issues, copy of which I enclose. General *Gates* advises me, that since the 13th about three hundred *Massachusetts* Militia have joined, and that there are between twelve and fifteen hundred *Connecticut* Militia at *Skenesborough*, and the Sixth Battalion of *Pennsylvanians* at *Crown-Point*; and that those are not included in the return.

I am, dear sir, with every respectful sentiment, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyconderoga, August 26, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Enclosed you will find some letters that were brought to me yesterday by three inhabitants from Mr. *Gilliland's*, thirty-four miles north from *Crown-Point*, upon the west side of the Lake. An inhabitant, with his family, who were taken from their plantation by the *Indians* about a month ago, and carried to *St. John's*, was released from thence by order of General *Carleton*, and had a canoe given him to return home, and the within letters put into his hands; he delivered them to the men who brought them to me, as they were going into *New-England* to fetch their families, and he wanted to go home with his, to look after his cattle and plantation. He told *Gilliland* that he had it in command from General *Burgoyne* to assure the inhabitants upon both sides of the Lake that they should not for the future be molested; that they might all continue to live peaceably upon their farms, and recommended it to all those who had fled to return.

The enclosed letters are all (General *Thompson's* excepted) wrote in so extraordinary a style and manner, that I think the authors must be either suborned by the enemy, or the letters themselves a forgery; for I can no other way account for officers writing such letters. They ought to be sent without delay to Congress, which no doubt you will immediately do. When I inquired of the messengers what the inhabitant who brought the letters to *Gilliland's* said of the strength and proceedings of the enemy, they informed me he had told them that the enemy were straining every nerve to come and attack us; that they had large boats, or gondolas, which carried each a brass twenty-four-pounder, and that they made no doubt of being an overmatch for us upon the

Lake. The messengers were to all appearances very undiscerning, ignorant men, and could give me no further intelligence worth communicating. They seemed happy at being assured the inhabitants were not to be molested, and anxious to set off to fetch their wives and family, and to replace them upon their farms. They say it will be more than a fortnight before they can get back here in their way home. By that time I may know the determination of Congress about them.

I am astonished at not receiving the musket-cartridge paper, which I wrote for so repeatedly and so long ago. I desire you will spare neither pains nor cost to send it here. Grindstones are also excessively in request; we have not one left fit to grind an axe. One hundred reams of musket cartridge paper is as little as should be sent immediately. By a letter this moment received from General *Waterbury*, I am informed that the ship-carpenters fall sick so fast at *Skenesborough* that the vessels are much retarded. I shall pick up all I can from the troops here, and send them without delay to *Skenesborough*. The day before yesterday I despatched twelve. General *Arnold* sailed with ten of the fleet yesterday morning from *Crown-Point*. A sloop and a gondola will follow from hence to-morrow. In my last I enclosed you a victualling return and the Commissary's return of provisions at this post; those from *Lake George* and *Skenesborough* should be every week sent you from those posts. I cannot think there will be any attack made upon the side of the *Mohawk River*, as your *Indian* intelligence declares. Depend upon it, the blow, when it falls, will fall here. Very few of the Militia have arrived here since my last. I understand two of the Continental regiments from *Boston* are between *Number Four* and *Skenesborough*. Two of the *Connecticut* regiments of Militia are got to that post, and the last two regiments of *Massachusetts* Militia are, I am told, upon their march up. A very correct general return is preparing, but cannot be finished to go by this conveyance. I am just now told that the two Continental regiments are stopped by your order on their march from *Number Four* hither. As I am assured by the authority of the *Massachusetts* Government that they were perfectly cleansed at *Boston* from all infection, after inoculation, I have ordered them to march here without delay; for notwithstanding the number victualled, we want men. More than one-half that eat do not act. The sick, the lame, and lazy, you well know, make an unreasonable proportion in our Army.

August 27th.—The excessive bad weather yesterday obliged me to delay this despatch until this morning, which has given time to send you the enclosed general return. As I have not frequently a convenient opportunity to forward letters to his Excellency General *Washington* and the most honourable the Congress, I take it for granted you immediately send all those with the returns I send you, or exact copies thereof, to the General, who, I am certain, will directly transmit them to Mr. *Hancock*.

The bearer and his companion are sent from *Dartmouth* College upon business that materially concerns that Seminary. You will give them your attention, and such answer to their requests as you shall think for the publick interest.

I am, dear General, &c.,

HORATIO GATES.

Quebeck Harbour, August 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Through the great humanity of his Excellency General *Carleton*, all the prisoners in *Canada* are allowed to return to the Colonies on their parole, and will embark for *New-York* this day or to-morrow. If you can obtain leave of the commanding officer, I would be glad you would meet me at *New-York*, with my papers, that I may get all my accounts settled on my arrival there. You'll please to take the first opportunity of writing to Mr. *Biddle*, and inform him of our having obtained liberty to return home; and request him to acquaint our friends at *Carlisle*, by express, if the post does not immediately set out after the receipt of your letter. If you cannot be permitted to go down to *New-York*, please to send my horses by some careful person, and give him directions to take Dr. *McKenzie's* horse from Captain *Van Buren's*. The Doctor will pay the keeping of him to any person *Van Buren* sends his account to, at *New-York*.

The gentlemen with me are all well. My best compli-

ments wait on my friends at your camp; and am, dear Major,  
your affectionate, humble servant,

WM. THOMPSON.

—  
Montreal August 14th, 1776.

DEAR SIR, I am permitted by his Excellency which I did not expect to obtain to inform you that I am well as are the other hostages that are with me.

I am much surprised to hear that the Congress instead of redeeming us according to the cartail have not only refused to do it but have demanded Captain *Forster* to be delivered up to answer his conduct in what they are pleased to term the massacre of the *Ceadars*. I would fain flatter myself that the Congress would never have thought of such unheard of proceedings, had they not had a false representation of the matter. Do not think I am under any constraint when I say and call that *God* who must judge of the truth to witness that not a man living could have used more humanity than Capt. *Forster* did after the surrender of the party I belonged to, and whoever says to the contrary, let his station in life be what it will he's an enemy to peace and a falacious disturber of mankind.

What reason they can give for not redeeming us I can not conceive if they are wrongly informed that the affair of the *Ceadars* was a massacre why dont they rather fulfill the cartail than let their hostages remain in the hands of a merciless enemy; or do they regard their troops only while the Heavens make them victorious. Were we in the hands of a rigorous power (as they would intemate) have they not every colour of justice, after so enormous a breach of faith loadened with chains, to cast us into some horred place and tell us to languish out our days under a sentance past by our own people. If they say there is some hidden reason in the system of politics, why we should not be redeemed, I answer that it is a hidden reason far beyond the reach of policy to find out. For could they suppose it policy to distress his Majesty's troops by retaining such a number of men, from them it would not only be the breach of their faith that would threaten them for consider the number of prisoners already in the hands of the *British Army*, and also consider the chance of war that may yet throw greater numbers into their hands; and will people rest content when they find their own rulers willing to let them remain prisoners in the hands of what themselves term (tho' unjustly) a merciless people? or will they not, fired with resentment for such inhuane treatment, take arms to suppress the power that regards them no longer than while their blood is spilling in their service. If this which appears too probable should happen, consider whether those persons will not be followed by a number of their friends which must naturally make a great devesion in the Colonies then take a view of *Great Britain* and her allies pouring on you and let the most sanguine expecter of *America* then judge how long the Colonies then divided can stand the fury of the combat. I know your influence has been great and for that reason have wrote that you may if possible yet prevent *America* from being branded with the name of injustice.

If you suspect I write this for the sake of getting my own liberty your suspicion wrongs me 'tis not my own confinement but the breach of a treaty (which even Savages have ever held sacred) that causes me to write.

You'll be so kind as to convey the enclosed to my wife and if ever I had so much of your love as to demand any favor of you let this be the time that I may implore your assistance for my distressed wife & helpless orphan's, may *God* grant that I may once more see them, till when, I am your affectionate brother,

EBEN. SULLIVAN.

The Hon. General *John Sullivan* at *Dover*, Colony of *New-Hampshire*, near *Portsmouth*.

—  
Montreal August 14th, 1776.

DEAR SIR, I am permitted by General *Burgoine* once more to writ, & I embrace it with a worde or two to a friend, not to me only, but to y<sup>e</sup> whole world of mankind, and as such and as a brother let me writ, we y<sup>t</sup> are hostages here for y<sup>e</sup> fulfilling of a cartail made y<sup>e</sup> 28th of *May* between Captain *Foster* & Genl *Arnold*, have heard y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Congress are determind in no wise to fulfill; y<sup>e</sup> reasons they have for not doing it; is known perhaps to none but *God* and themselves, Perhaps they say Captain *Foster* has broak it on his side, as I have heard our

people were fired upon by y<sup>e</sup> Savages, & y<sup>t</sup> those people were plundered y<sup>t</sup> surrendered (by y<sup>e</sup> Savages) contrary to y<sup>e</sup> capitulation made by Capt. *Foster* & Major *Butterfield*; allowing it to be; was it in Capt. *Foster's* power with about 20 men of his own to stop or in y<sup>e</sup> least to hinder y<sup>e</sup> outrages of above three hundred Savages; No! neither do I conceive with what propriety that they have made a demand of Capt. *Foster* & his com<sup>ny</sup>, They may as well demand y<sup>e</sup> sun from y<sup>e</sup> firmament; it is not my friend and brother because I am here a prisoner, & am kept from my family & friends y<sup>t</sup> I write thus; no such thing, I am with a humain, kind benevolent people. But where oh, where is y<sup>e</sup> justness of the case, as I said before, unless they have some reasons in the cystem of pollicy unknown to all worlds except *God* & themselves; none knows y<sup>e</sup> fortune of war; We have now a large number of prisoners in their hands; methinks I foresee nothing but misery & destruction attending such a people who pay no more respect to sacred contracts; in y<sup>e</sup> most heathenest parts of y<sup>e</sup> globe have they not been most punctually fulfilled; & shall we who call ourselves Christians be less careful; forbid it Heaven; your influence over the people at *Concord* as well as elsewhere I know is great, I therefore as a prisoner earnestly desire you would use your utmost endeavours towards y<sup>e</sup> exchange of prisoners; if the Congress exchanges prisoners it may go well; if not it may prove their fatal overthrow; whoever supposes Capt. *Foster* to be blameworthy & not to have done his utmost to rescue all y<sup>t</sup> fell into the hands of the Savages; their suppositions be groundless, & he blameless. For I know not how soon I may be called out of time into eternity, he behaved as an officer, as a Christian. I must leave you dear sir, not doubting but you have been for a long time in y<sup>e</sup> armes of his love before whom we must shortly appear, & to whom I earnestly beg your prayers for me & my dear family, y<sup>t</sup> we may each one of us be found att his coming not haveing on our own but his righteousness. I am your friend & brother.

THEO. BLISS.

To the Revd. *William Emerson*, att *Concord*, near *Boston*.

P. S. Duty & love where due. All communication between armes this way is stopt, so to here from you at present, I can't expect. Excuse y<sup>e</sup> freedom of this; a gentleman from *Quebeck* tells me our brother & family are all well & have had the small-pox.

T. BLISS.

—  
Montreal August 14th 1776.

To Col. *Israel Morey*, at *Orford*, *New-Hampshire*, in the County of *Grafton*.

DEAR SIR: I have leave by his Exelency to right to my friends, which I take as a grate favor, to inform you that I am at present well and have ben yused so ever since I have ben a prisnor. I am informd that the Congrass dus Refuse to Fulfil the Cartail Made Betwene Capt. *Foster* and Gen. *Arnel*, which I was left as one of hostedgges of that preformmence, are sold to our Enemies and Lie intieley to thair marcy, to deel with me so and the orther 3 gentelmen as thay think propper, the Congrass make a handel, I hear, that Capt. *Foster* aloude the *Indein* to masacree after thay had taken us; But he Did Not, he saved numbers of lives to my sartain knowledge, and the *Indein* carred of 13 men to thare homes. Capt. *Foster* bought ten at 16 Dollers apece not long sence. I cant form a idee which shuld the reson the Congrass can give, why thay did not fulfil the Cartail, they cant but know that twas a seacred thing made by one of thare Genl. Officers. and think all Nation must condem it, for in old times, the hethen loock on Cartail to be biden. The Colonys cant expect that the kings troops will lay aney constrant on the *Indein* aney longer, when thay wont fulful sacret contrats. But I resine not without resentment, to my hard fate as *Joseph* did when his brotheren sold him into *Egypt*. When I shall return god only knows: remember me to all frends fairwell.

EBED GREENE.

N. B. My complement to Mrs. *Rogers* and his family.  
and Majr *Child* and family. E. G.

—  
PAROLE OF AMERICAN PRISONERS TO GENERAL CARLETON.

We, whose names are underwritten, do hereby solemnly promise and engage to his Excellency General *Carleton* not to say or to do anything against his Majesty's person and

Government, and to repair, whenever required so to do, wherever his Excellency, or any other his Majesty's Commander-in-Chief in *America*, shall please to direct. In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our names, at *Quebeck*, this 9th day of *August*, 1776.

Men's names.	Province.	County.	Town.
Matthew Butler.....	Mass. Bay	Hampshire	Conway.
Judah Marsh.....	do.	do.	New-Salem.
Asa Ladd.....	do.	Essex	Haverhill.
Samuel Merry.....	do.	Berkshire	Pittsfield.
John James.....	N. Hampshire	Portsmouth	Dover.
Daniel Warner.....	do.	Cheshire	Westmoreland.
Daniel Romack.....	do.	Rockingham	New-Market.
Moses Head.....	do.	Strafford	Tamworth.
Samuel Lowell.....	do.	Hillsborough	Hollis.
John Bigford.....	do.	Strafford	Rochester.
Daniel Beeman.....	Connecticut	Litchfield	Kent.
Ezekiel Johnston.....	New-York	do.	New-Windsor.
David Valteau.....	do.	New-York	New-York city.
George Farrell.....	West N. Jersey	Burlington	Springfield.
Jacob Edmonds.....	do.	Hunterdon	Maidenhead.
Jacob Bennet.....	do.	Bergen	New-Barbadoes.
John White.....	do.	Hunterdon	New-German-town.
William King.....	do.	Somerset	Princeton.
John Lloyd.....	do.	Salem	Pilesgrove.
Peter Gosper.....	East N. Jersey	Somerset	Milstone.
Thomas Hamilton.....	West N. Jersey	Gloucester	Woodbury.
Isaac Doaty.....	East N. Jersey	Somerset	Brunswick.
John Castle.....	West N. Jersey	Hunterdon	Maidenhead.
Frederick Bamston.....	do.	Salem	Salem.
Samuel Burke.....	do.	Sussex	Greenwich.
William Vaughan.....	Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	Philadelphia.
Thomas Howell.....	do.	New-Castle	Wilmington.
Hugh Thompson.....	do.	Philadelphia	Philadelphia.
Francis Harbison.....	do.	Chester	Londonderry.
Robert Creghead.....	do.	Cumberland	Peters.
Benj. Bartholomew.....	do.	Philadelphia	Philadelphia.
Andrew Byers.....	do.	Chester	Nottingham.
John Clendinin.....	do.	New-Castle	Brandywine Hundred.
Benjamin Flach.....	do.	Bucks.	Maxfield.
Edward Cottor.....	do.	Philadelphia	Philadelphia.
Moses McCurdy.....	do.	Cumberland	Allen.
Jacob Lambert.....	do.	Chester	Edgemont.
Peter Huff.....	do.	Philadelphia	Nordon.
Abraham Chapman.....	do.	Chester	Goshen.
Samuel Wood.....	do.	New-Castle	Brandywine Hundred.
John Johnston.....	do.	do.	Milltown.
Casper Driver.....	do.	Lancaster	Monaghan.
George Taylor.....	do.	Philadelphia	Philadelphia.
John Hoffenberger.....	do.	do.	do.
Thomas Nilson.....	do.	Chester	Londonderry.
George Miller.....	do.	Philadelphia	Rockhill.
Samuel Overhulser.....	do.	do.	Philadelphia.
Christopher Whoe.....	Maryland	Frederick	Frederick.
Edward Pritchard.....	Flintshire	do.	New-Market, left at Quebeck.
Bohan Watts.....	Nova-Scotia	Salem	Salem.
William Mason.....	Pennsylvania	York	Barnea.
Richard Simpson.....	Old England	Yorkshire	Naisborough.
Joseph Smith.....	do.	Norfolk	Norwich.
Solomon Isaacs.....	do.	London	Tower-Hill.
Robert Quill.....	do.	Somerset	Froome.
William Westwood.....	do.	Bedfordshire	Risely.
John Wilkes.....	do.	Gloucestershire	Upton.
William Jordan.....	Ireland	Down	Drumore.
James Henderson.....	Scotland	Glasgow	Glasgow.
Peter Haus.....	High Germany	do.	Pinger.
John Wickhanham.....	do.	do.	Diepmond.
Michael Williams.....	do.	do.	Switzenburgh.
Pierre Millere.....	Bordeaux	La Gaine.	Bordeaux.
Peter F. Freets.....	Denmark	do.	Copenhagen.
Richard Branin.....	Linster, Ireland	Meed	Killan.
John Davison.....	Ulster	Monaghan	Gleatobury.
John Reily.....	do.	Fermanagh	Enniskillen.
John Fausst.....	do.	do.	do.
John Foster.....	do.	Antrim	Billy.
William Blear.....	do.	Derry	Moynemore.
Adam Martin.....	do.	do.	Lushen.
Patrick McGlaughlin.....	Connaught	Sligo	Carrickkeel.
Isaac Martin.....	Ulster	Antrim	Billy.
Samuel Hughes.....	Leinster	Kilkenny	Durrow.
John Motong.....	do.	West Meed	Mullingar.
Thomas Curren.....	do.	Longford	Granard.
George Hudson.....	Dublin	Dublin	City of Dublin.
Felix McElhenan.....	Ulster	Derry	Fermanagh.
Lowry Mealy.....	do.	Donegal	Raphoe.
Abraham Boyd.....	do.	Antrim	Glenarm.
Robert Agnew.....	do.	do.	Kilwater.
John Connolly.....	Connaught	Galway	Galway.
Robert Lee.....	Ulster	Tyrone	Benburb.
Henry Scott.....	do.	Antrim	Bellemena.
Patrick Lamb.....	Leinster	Dublin	City of Dublin.
Thomas Pratt.....	Munster	Cork	Youghal.
John Curren.....	Leinster	Longford	Granard.
Robert Hazlett.....	Ulster	Derry	Clady.
Neal Harlin.....	do.	do.	Londonderry.
Edward Demy.....	do.	Donegal	Rathmelton.
John Hogseed.....	do.	do.	Tubaugh.
James Dixon.....	do.	Down	Loughbrickland.
Terrey Dawson.....	Munster	Cork	Clanakilty.
William Docherty.....	Ulster	Donegal	Killygordon.
Hugh McClean.....	do.	do.	Ballinmasa.
Thomas Johnston.....	do.	Tyrone	Ballindary.
William Macdonald.....	do.	Derry	Tammimore.

Men's names.	Province.	County.	Town.
Thomas Davis.....	Ulster	Down	Bellymoney.
Thomas Haron.....	Munster	Waterford	Capoquin.
Patrick Dyer.....	Connaught	Sligo	Sligo.
John Caoe.....	Ulster	Down	Grayboure; left at Quebeck.
John Somervell.....	do.	Farmanagh	Enniskillen.
Evan Davis.....	do.	Tyrone	Cookstown.
Thomas Mitchell.....	do.	Derry	Hurryfree.
Matthew Lamont.....	Kentire, Scott'd	do.	Left at Quebeck.
John Burns.....	Munster	Limerick	Rickale.
William Wilson.....	Ulster	Antrim	Ballimanagh.
John Armagh.....	do.	Donegal	Blanket Neck.
James Kennedy.....	do.	Armagh	Acton.
Charles Kane.....	do.	Antrim	Ballamoney.
William Campbell.....	do.	Londonderry	Macrath.
Patrick Doyle.....	do.	Down	Loughindoin.
Michael McConnell.....	do.	Donegal	Raphoe.
John Grimes.....	Connaught	Galway	Galway; left at Quebeck.
Patt Hays.....	Munster	Cork	Cork.
Adan Rex.....	Massa. Bay	Boston	Boaton.
John Penton.....	West Jersey	Gloucester	Swedesborough.
Henry Moses.....	Pennsylvania	Lancaster	Heidleburgh.
George Kilpatrick.....	Ulster	Down	Ballinahinch.
George Butler.....	Old England	Essex	Walthamston.
Francis Paine.....	Massa. Bay	Worcester	Worcester.
Samuel Hubbard.....	do.	Berkshire	Landon.
John Farrow.....	do.	Lincoln	Broad Bay.
Benjamin Wiggins.....	do.	Worcester	Spencer Town.
Samuel Seaban.....	Rhode-Island	Bristol	Bristol.
Thomas Foster.....	York	New Salem	Ritchfield.
Jabez Rogers.....	East Jersey	Morris Town	Morris Town.
William McQuown.....	Pennsylvania	Lancaster	Hanover.
Jos. Martin.....	do.	Chester	West Bradford.
Ephraim Damely.....	do.	Philadelphia	Upper Marrain.
Henry Weaver.....	do.	York	Germany.
Felix Mellon.....	Ulster	Tyrone	Glaslough.
William Haleddy.....	do.	Derry	McKaskie.
John Dagley.....	Munster	Waterford	Waterford; left at Quebeck.
Sam Finharty.....	Leinster	Kildare	Minnout.
John Brannan.....	do.	Queen's	Stradbally.
Daniel McCormall.....	Ulster	Cavan	Bailieborough.
Michael Whelon.....	Leinster	Queen's	Mountrath.
Hugh Sweney.....	Ulster	Derry	Derry.
William Boyd.....	do.	Antrim	Ballimanagh.
Samuel Heslet.....	do.	Derry	Derry.
Simon Hynn.....	Munster	Cork	Cork.
Michael Barker.....	Ulster	Monaghan	Tidavenny.
John Doore.....	Munster	Waterford	Tallagh.
Humph. Richardson.....	Connecticut	Wyndham	Coventry.
Leonard Metcalfe.....	Old England	Middlesex	Wapping.
Alexander Thomas.....	Pennsylvania	Cumberland	Carlisle.

N. B. Five of the foregoing were left at *Quebeck*.

REV. MR. OLCOTT TO GENERAL GATES.  
Charlestown, No. 4, August 26, 1776.

SIR: I received the favour of yours of the 19th instant, and agreeable to your Honour's directions immediately notified the Chairman of our Committee of Safety, who immediately summonsed the Committee, and took under consideration the conduct of Doctor *Stevens* in inoculating the troops. As the Doctor's conduct, on examination, appeared to them much less aggravated than was represented, they thought it sufficient for the present absolutely to forbid the Doctor's inoculating any more, either the marching troops or others, till further orders, and to take all possible precautions that no infection be communicated from any here to the Army.

Death has saved Colonel *Fuller* the trouble of a Court-Martial, and another of his company is, I hear, at the point of death; so that they are like to pay dear for their imprudence and breach of orders.

Your Honour's zeal and activity for the health and safety of the Army is highly commendable, and very pleasing to us all. We all very sincerely and ardently wish you success, and, particularly, any commands which shall be conducive to the publick service shall be readily and cheerfully performed by your Honour's unknown friend and very humble servant,

BULKLEY OLCOTT.

To the Hon. *Horatio Gates*.

SAMUEL HUNT TO GENERAL GATES.  
Charlestown, No. 4, August 26, 1776.

SIR: We have received the favour of your Honour's request of the 19th instant, directed to the Committee of Safety for the town of *Charlestown*, and communicated to us through the hands of the Reverend Mr. *Olcott*, desiring of us to examine into the conduct of Doctor *Stevens*, in inoculating the troops on their march through this place to *Ticonderoga*. As we may presume to say we have the publick



service of the Army, and the deliverance, freedom, and safety of our country, as truly at heart as any can pretend to, so we cannot but join with your Honour in condemning a practice that must have the most pernicious effects in regard to the health and success of the Army; and had your Honour's information respecting Doctor *Stevens's* conduct, "that he has inoculated the Militia as fast as they arrived at *Number Four*," been founded on the truth of fact, we truly acknowledge it would justly have merited the high resentment your Honour has expressed.

Pursuant to your Honour's request, we have called Doctor *Stevens* before us, and had him under examination. We are sorry to observe that we are under the necessity and disadvantage of examining the Doctor without his being under the solemnity of an oath, by reason that no qualified Magistrate could be obtained to administer it; yet the Doctor has made such solemn declarations before us, which, together with collateral evidence from other quarters, is to us satisfactory as to the true state of the matter relative to his conduct in inoculating. Indeed, sir, we cannot pretend, after due examination, wholly to exculpate the Doctor; all that we think necessary to take upon us at present is, to give your Honour an exact account of what we find to be the true state of the Doctor's conduct, and our doings relative thereto, and then your Honour will be capable of judging how far the Doctor is culpable, and whether or not we have done the duty that might be expected of us in the case.

When Captain *Wetherbee* began to enlist his company, the small-pox was brief in the Army at *Crown-Point*. Some who had intended to enlist, and others who had enlisted, in the whole to the number of about twenty-five, applied to Doctor *Stevens*, and were by him inoculated. Three or four weeks after this, Colonel *Wingate*, with a number of other officers on their march to *Ticonderoga*, applied to Doctor *Stevens* to be inoculated, and were by him refused, and on this ground, that he had lately understood it was contrary to general orders that any of the marching troops should be inoculated. A short time after this, being applied to by Colonel *Fuller* and Doctor *Merriam*, partly through their importunity, and partly through their signifying that they had applied to a General Officer for liberty, who had not forbidden them, Doctor *Stevens* was prevailed upon to inoculate them and their servants and Lieutenant *Mooney*, to the number of five. And this is the whole number of the marching troops that Doctor *Stevens* has inoculated, though great numbers have applied to him and been refused. We trust, your Honour, from this representation, will view the matter in something of a different light from what it seems your informant has exhibited.

We only beg leave further to assure your Honour that we will take all possible care that no other of the troops shall be inoculated here, and that all, whether officers or others, now under inoculation here, shall be perfectly cleansed before they march to join the Army at *Ticonderoga*. We conclude by assuring your Honour that we shall be ever ready to serve you and the Army in this or any other business that may come before us.

SAMUEL HUNT, *Chairman*  
of the Committee of Safety for Charlestown.

To the Hon. *Horatio Gates*.

DOCTOR STEVENS TO GENERAL GATES.

Charlestown, No. 4, August 26, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I was on the 23d instant summoned before the Committee of this town, in consequence of a letter addressed by your Honour to the Rev. Mr. *Olcott*; which letter, together with the copy of one to Major *Hawley*, enclosed in it, were read to me. The proceedings of the Committee, and an account of my conduct, so far as it respects the crime whereof I have been accused, will be by them communicated. I should not, therefore, at this time trouble you in this manner, were it not the undoubted right, and I think I may add, the duty of every individual, when injured in his character or property, to speak in his own defence, that the offending party may be brought to justice. You are pleased to say, in your letter to Major *Hawley*, that "a villain of a Surgeon (or what is commonly called a Doctor) is inoculating the Militia as fast as they arrive at *Number Four*." As I know of no person who answers your description, I must think you have been grossly deceived

and imposed on by some ill-minded person, from sinister views. You are pleased to add further, that "were he" (viz: the Surgeon) "within my reach, it would not be many minutes before he should feel the weight of my resentment." I can therefore make no doubt but some part, at least, of that resentment will be felt by the person who hath so greatly discomposed you by his false information. I think I have a right to expect (I had almost said, to demand) that the informer be pointed out to me, that I may know where to seek a reparation of the injury done me, which can't be considered as trifling, since it has, for a time (at least) brought on me the displeasure of a person of your rank. I can say, with truth, that the bad effects of the small-pox in the Army is an evil which I feel in common with my countrymen, and no one has better wishes for the prosperity of your Honour and the Army under your command than your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

PHINEAS STEVENS.

To General *Gates*.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Providence, August 26, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with yours of yesterday, and most sincerely wish it was in my power to comply with your request. Of the two Continental ships built here, neither can be got ready in anything like the time you mention; one of them having such damage in her masts as hath disabled them, and the other not having a Captain appointed for her.

The *Alfred* is now in the river, but not a quarter part manned, nor hath she any orders for sailing; so that no assistance can be depended upon from this quarter.

I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

NICH. COOKE.

To the Hon. *James Bowdoin*, Esq.

Hartford, Monday, August 26, 1776.

Last *Saturday*, a number of gentlemen were brought to this town from *New-York*, where they were lately taken up on suspicion of entertaining sentiments unfriendly to the *American States*. We hear they are soon to set out for *Norwich*, where (for the present) they are desired to remain.

Last *Monday*, *David Matthews*, Esq., Mayor of the City of *New-York*, was brought to this town from *Litchfield*, and on *Friday* returned, having obtained liberty to remain there, under the care of Captain *Moses Seymour*.

Watertown, August 26, 1776.

The Selectmen of *Boston*, in the last *Thursday's* Paper, have advertised the publick "that only seventy-eight persons are now under the distemper of the small-pox in that town;" so that, in all probability, the town will be clear of that infection in the course of a fortnight, or three weeks at farthest.

The Hon. *Samuel Adams*, Esq., one of the Delegates for this State, and Colonel *William Tudor*, set off from *Philadelphia* for *Boston* the 12th instant.

Last week arrived at *Newbury* a ship of about three hundred and fifty tons burden, taken by Captain *Newman*. She was bound from *Antigua* for *Liverpool*. Her cargo consists of four hundred and fifty hogsheads of sugar, fifty hogsheads of rum, &c.

Last *Wednesday* arrived at *Portsmouth* a prize ship of about two hundred tons burden, mounting twenty guns, twelve of which were wood; she was bound from the Bay of *Honduras* for *London*, laden with mahogany and logwood, and taken by the *Hancock* and *Franklin* privateers.

By the Eastern post, we are informed that on *Monday* last arrived at *Portsmouth, New-Hampshire*, a vessel from *Holland*, with dry-goods, drugs, spices, &c.

The post from *Number Four* informs us of a gondola, with about twenty-five men, being taken by the enemy in *Lake Champlain*.

Yesterday morning arrived safe in *Marblehead* a prize ship from *Jamaica*, laden with sugar, cotton, &c. She was chased in by the *Milford* frigate and another cruiser, so near, that one of their forts hulled one of the enemy's vessels. We have not heard by whom she was taken.

## AMHERST (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Safety, Amherst, Massachusetts-Bay, }  
August 26, 1776. }

Whereas *Isaac Chauncey*, of said *Amherst*, convicted of being notoriously inimical to the *American States*, and confined within certain limits, hath, in defiance of authority, disregarded the injunctions laid on him, and clandestinely departed ('tis supposed) to some part of *Connecticut*, on no good design:

This is therefore to desire the good people of that State, or of other States where he may be found, to secure him in such manner that he may not have it in his power to injure *America*.

Also, whereas Lieutenant *Robert Boltwood*, of said *Amherst*, convicted and confined as aforesaid, having obtained liberty to journey to *New-Haven* on account of his health, hath absented himself much longer than was expected:

It is therefore desired that he may be carefully inspected where he is, or be sent to his own home.

Per order: NATHANIEL DICKINSON, Jun.

## J. WENTWORTH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Portsmouth, August 26, 1776.

SIR: I have the pleasure to advise the arrival at this port of a prize ship, named the *Nelly Frigate*, *Lyonel Bradstreet*, master, from the Bay of *Honduras*, for *London*, laden with a cargo of one hundred and twenty thousand feet mahogany logs, and forty tons chipped and unchipped logwood, sent in by the *Hancock*, Captain *Tucker*, and the *Franklin*, Captain *Skimmer*, in the service of the *United Colonies*; the vessel and cargo the property of inhabitants of *Great Britain*. I have libelled her, and shall pursue to trial, &c.

The trial on the recapture of the brig *Elizabeth*, taken by Commodore *Manley* and others, in the service of the Continent, and bound for *Halifax*, ended the 22d instant. The Jury acquitted her and cargo, which appearing so directly contrary to the resolves of Congress and the law of this Colony, that I conceived it my duty to appeal, in justice to the Continent and captors; which I hope your Excellency will approbate. Part of the claimants (notwithstanding the verdict is in their favour) are desirous of compromising with the captors, and offer them their full quota of salvage, which is the one-third of half the value of the vessel and cargo, we having established that the enemy were in possession more than ninety-six hours; but the flagrant error in the Jury forbid my conceding to any compromise for the captors, as in that case I must have surrendered the just claim of the Continent. Added to which, there was taken with the said brigantine a Mr. *Jackson*, a Mr. *Keighley*, and a Mr. *Newton*, passengers, with their effects; and those effects are intended, as the resolves of Congress express, to supply the enemy, and become forfeited. Yet they were released with the rest of the cargo. Each claim is separate. Should your Excellency recommend my compromising with those claimants, who are esteemed friendly, I shall comport with it; but as your last favour desired my pursuing the line of duty pointed out by the laws of the Continent, I shall steadily attend to them, unless otherwise directed. From a principle of humanity I could wish the suffering claimants could be relieved; but I think it out of the line of my duty to help them. In a few days I shall forward the appeal to the Secretary of Congress, and fully advise him thereon; and should he think it necessary, shall attend the trial at *Philadelphia*, or elsewhere that may be appointed.

The *Nelly Frigate* is a ship of three hundred and five tons, mounts two three-pounders and four two-pounders.

This Eastern country are anxiously concerned for your Excellency's success in the important battle expected to have taken place ere this; which *God* grant has terminated in favour of this distressed country.

Remaining with due respect your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

JOSH. WENTWORTH.

P. S. I should not have troubled your Excellency with this business, could I divine where my friend Mr. *Moylan's* residence is; until which your Excellency will excuse me.

## GENERAL BEALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Annapolis, August 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In case the Independent companies are incorporated into a battalion, or any more Regular troops

raised in this Province, I beg leave to recommend to your notice Major *Daniel J. Adams*, who, as an officer under me, has always discharged his duty with the greatest alacrity and spirit, both in and out of action.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

REZIN BEALL.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*.

## CAPTAIN PERKINS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Kent County, Maryland, August 27, 1776.

SIR: Please to send me as much money as will defray the expenses of the company under my command to *New-York*. The bearer, Mr. *Joseph Earle*, will receive it for me. Your compliance will oblige yours, &c.,

ISAAC PERKINS.

## MOSES CHAILLE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Worcester County, August 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed commission the honourable Convention were pleased to honour me with in *January* last. I have since that time altered my situation in life, which makes it inconvenient for me to keep the same. I hope the above reason will be satisfactory for my resigning.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your obliged, humble servant,

MOSES CHAILLE.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## E. JOHNSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Observation, August 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your letter requesting our furnishing Captain *Brooke's* company with arms. We are to inform you that, agreeable to your order of 16th *July* last, we have purchased a few arms, which, together with those taken from the Non-Associators, were delivered to such of the Militia as went to *St. Mary's*, but shall now be called in, and we will procure all the arms we can, but are in doubt it will not be in our power to get a sufficient quantity for Captain *Brooke's* company. You'll please to send some cash to pay for them, and also the sum of £20 10s. current money, to pay the constables of the different Hundreds for their collecting the number of inhabitants in the County, agreeable to your order, which are to be returned on *Monday* next, and shall be sent to you per next post.

Signed per order:

E. JOHNSON, Clerk.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

## DELAWARE CONVENTION.

In Convention at NEW-CASTLE, for the *DELAWARE State*, begun the 27th day of AUGUST, 1776, and continued by adjournment to the 21st day of SEPTEMBER following:

The Oath and Affirmation, with the Declaration taken, made and subscribed by the Members respectively:

I, . . . . ., will, to the utmost of my power, support and maintain the independence of this State, as declared by the honourable the Continental Congress; and I will, to the utmost of my ability, endeavour to form such a system of Government for the people of this State as, in my opinion, may be best adapted to promote their happiness, and secure to them the enjoyment of their natural, civil, and religious rights and privileges.

I, . . . . ., do profess faith in *God* the Father, and in *Jesus Christ* his only Son, and in the *Holy Ghost*, one *God* blessed forevermore; and I do acknowledge the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by Divine inspiration.

The Constitution or system of Government agreed to and resolved upon by the Representatives in full Convention of the *DELAWARE State*, formerly styled the Government of the Counties of NEW-CASTLE, KENT, and SUSSEX, upon *DELAWARE*, the said Representatives being chosen by the Freemen of the said State for that express purpose.

ARTICLE 1. The Government of the Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent*, and *Sussex*, upon *Delaware*, shall hereafter, in all publick and other writings, be called *The Delaware State*.

2. The Legislature shall be formed of two distinct branches; they shall meet once or oftener in every year, and shall be called *The General Assembly of Delaware*.

3. One of the branches of the Legislature shall be called *The House of Assembly*, and shall consist of seven Representatives to be chosen for each County annually, of such persons as are freeholders of the same.

4. The other branch shall be called *The Council*, and consist of nine members, three to be chosen for each County at the time of the first election of the Assembly, who shall be freeholders of the County for which they are chosen, and be upwards of twenty-five years of age. At the end of one year after the general election, the Counsellor who had the smallest number of votes in each County shall be displaced, and the vacancies thereby occasioned supplied by the free-men of each County choosing the same or another person at a new election in manner aforesaid. At the end of two years after the first general election, the Counsellor who stood second in number of votes in each County shall be displaced, and the vacancies thereby occasioned supplied by a new election in manner aforesaid. And at the end of three years from the first general election, the Counsellor who had the greatest number of votes in each County shall be displaced, and the vacancies thereby occasioned supplied by a new election in manner aforesaid. And this rotation of a Counsellor being displaced at the end of three years in each County, and his office supplied by a new choice, shall be continued afterwards in due order annually forever, whereby, after the first general election, a Counsellor will remain in trust for three years from the time of his being elected, and a Counsellor will be displaced and the same or another chosen in each County at every election.

5. The right of suffrage in the election of members for both Houses shall remain as exercised by law at present; and each House shall choose its own Speaker, appoint its own officers, judge of the qualifications and elections of its own members, settle its own rule of proceedings, and direct writs of election for supplying intermediate vacancies. They may also severally expel any of their own members for misbehaviour, but not a second time in the same Sessions for the same offence, if reelected; and they shall have all other powers necessary for the Legislature of a free and independent State.

6. All money bills for the support of Government shall originate in the House of Assembly, and may be altered, amended, or rejected by the Legislative Council. All other bills and ordinances may take rise in the House of Assembly or Legislative Council, and may be altered, amended, or rejected by either.

7. A President or Chief Magistrate shall be chosen by joint ballot of both Houses, to be taken in the House of Assembly, and the box examined by the Speakers of each House, in the presence of the other members. And in case the numbers for the two highest in votes should be equal, then the Speaker of the Council shall have an additional casting voice; and the appointment of the person who has the majority of votes shall be entered at large on the Minutes and Journals of each House, and a copy thereof on parchment, certified and signed by the Speakers respectively, and sealed with the great seal of the State, which they are hereby authorized to affix, shall be delivered to the person so chosen President, who shall continue in that office three years, and until the sitting of the next General Assembly, and no longer, nor be eligible until the expiration of three years after he shall have been out of that office. An adequate but moderate salary shall be settled on him during his continuance in office. He may draw for such sums of money as shall be appropriated by the General Assembly, and be accountable to them for the same. He may, by and with the advice of the Privy Council, lay embargoes, or prohibit the exportation of any commodity for any time not exceeding thirty days, in the recess of the General Assembly. He shall have the power of granting pardons or reprieves, except where the prosecution shall be carried on by the House of Assembly, or the law shall otherwise direct, in which cases no pardon or reprieve shall be granted but by a resolve of the House of Assembly; and may exercise all the other Executive powers of Government, limited and restrained as by this Constitution is mentioned, and according to the laws of the State. And on his death, inability, or absence from the State, the Speaker of the Legislative Council for the time being shall be Vice

President; and in case of his death, inability, or absence from the State, the Speaker of the House of Assembly shall have the powers of a President, until a new nomination is made by the General Assembly.

8. A Privy Council, consisting of four members, shall be chosen by ballot, two by the Legislative Council, and two by the House of Assembly: *Provided*, That no regular officer of the Army or Navy in the service and pay of the Continent or of this or of any other State shall be eligible. And a member of the Legislative Council or of the House of Assembly being chosen of the Privy Council, and accepting thereof, shall thereby lose his seat. Three members shall be a quorum, and their advice and proceedings shall be entered on record and signed by the members present, (to any part of which any member may enter his dissent,) to be laid before the General Assembly when called for by them. Two members shall be removed by ballot, one by the Legislative Council and one by the House of Assembly, at the end of two years, and those who remain the next year after, who shall severally be ineligible for the three next years. These vacancies, as well as those occasioned by death or incapacity, shall be supplied by new elections in the same manner. And this rotation of a Privy Counsellor shall be continued afterwards in due order annually forever. The President may by summons convene the Privy Council at any time when the publick exigencies may require, and at such place as he shall think most convenient, when and where they are to attend accordingly.

9. The President, with the advice and consent of the Privy Council, may embody the Militia, and act as Captain-General and Commander-in-Chief of them and the other military force of this State, under the laws of the same.

10. Either House of the General Assembly may adjourn themselves respectively. The President shall not prorogue, adjourn, or dissolve the General Assembly, but he may, with the advice of the Privy Council, or on the application of a majority of either House, call them before the time they shall stand adjourned, and the two Houses shall always sit at the same time and place; for which purpose, immediately after every adjournment the Speaker of the House of Assembly shall give notice to the Speaker of the other House of the time to which the House of Assembly stands adjourned.

11. The Delegates for *Delaware* to the Congress of the *United States of America* shall be chosen annually, or superseded in the mean time by joint ballot of both Houses in the General Assembly.

12. The President and General Assembly shall by joint ballot appoint three Justices of the Supreme Court for the State, one of whom shall be Chief Justice, and a Judge of Admiralty, and also four Justices of the Courts of Common Pleas and Orphans' Courts for each County, one of whom in each Court shall be styled Chief Justice, (and in case of division on the ballot the President shall have an additional casting voice,) to be commissioned by the President under the great seal, who shall continue in office during good behaviour; and during the time the Justices of the said Supreme Court and Courts of Common Pleas remain in office they shall hold none other except in the Militia. Any one of the Justices of either of said Courts shall have power, in case of the non-coming of his brethren, to open and adjourn the Court. An adequate fixed but moderate salary shall be settled on them during their continuance in office. The President and Privy Council shall appoint the Secretary, the Attorney-General, Registers for the Probate of Wills and granting Letters of Administration, Registers in Chancery, Clerks of the Courts of Common Pleas and Orphans' Courts, and Clerks of the Peace, who shall be commissioned as aforesaid, and remain in office during five years, if they behave themselves well; during which time the said Registers in Chancery and Clerks shall not be Justices of either of the said Courts of which they are officers, but they shall have authority to sign all writs by them issued, and take recognizances of bail. The Justices of the Peace shall be nominated by the House of Assembly, that is to say, they shall name twenty-four persons for each County, of whom the President, with the approbation of the Privy Council, shall appoint twelve, who shall be commissioned as aforesaid, and continue in office during seven years, if they behave themselves well; and in case of vacancies, or if the Legislature shall think proper to increase the number, they shall be nominated and appointed in like manner. The mem-

bers of the Legislative and Privy Council shall be Justices of the Peace for the whole State during their continuance in trust; and the Justices of the Courts of Common Pleas shall be conservators of the peace in their respective Counties.

13. The Justices of the Courts of Common Pleas and Orphans' Courts shall have the power of holding inferior Courts of Chancery, as heretofore, unless the Legislature shall otherwise direct.

14. The Clerks of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the Chief Justice thereof, and the Recorders of Deeds by the Justices of the Courts of Common Pleas for each County severally, and commissioned by the President under the great seal, and continue in office five years, if they behave themselves well.

15. The Sheriffs and Coroners of the respective Counties shall be chosen annually as heretofore; and any person having served three years as Sheriff shall be ineligible for three years after; and the President and Privy Council shall have the appointment of such of the two candidates returned for said offices of Sheriff and Coroner as they shall think best qualified, in the same manner that the Governour heretofore enjoyed this power.

16. The General Assembly, by joint ballot, shall appoint the Generals and Field-Officers, and all other officers in the Army or Navy of this State. And the President may appoint during pleasure, until otherwise directed by the Legislature, all necessary civil officers not hereinbefore mentioned.

17. There shall be an appeal from the Supreme Court of *Delaware* in matters of law and equity to a Court of seven persons, to consist of the President for the time being, who shall preside therein, and six others, to be appointed, three by the Legislative Council, and three by the House of Assembly, who shall continue in office during good behaviour, and be commissioned by the President under the great seal; which Court shall be styled *The Court of Appeals*, and have all the authority and powers heretofore given by law in the last resort to the King in Council under the old Government. The Secretary shall be the Clerk of this Court, and vacancies therein occasioned by death or incapacity shall be supplied by new elections in manner aforesaid.

18. The Justices of the Supreme Court and Courts of Common Pleas, the Members of the Privy Council, the Secretary, the Trustees of the Loan Office, and Clerks of the Courts of Common Pleas, during their continuance in office, and all persons concerned in any army or navy contracts, shall be ineligible to either House of Assembly; and any member of either House accepting of any other of the offices hereinbefore mentioned (excepting the office of a Justice of the Peace) shall have his seat thereby vacated, and a new election shall be ordered.

19. The Legislative Council and Assembly shall have the power of making the great seal of this State, which shall be kept by the President, or in his absence by the Vice-President, to be used by them as occasion may require. It shall be called *The Great Seal of the Delaware State*, and shall be affixed to all laws and commissions.

20. Commissions shall run in the name of *The Delaware State*, and bear test by the President. Writs shall run in the same manner, and bear test in the name of the Chief Justices or Justice first named in the commissions for the several Courts, and be sealed with the publick seals of such Courts. Indictments shall conclude, against the peace and dignity of the State.

21. In case of vacancy of the offices above directed to be filled by the President and General Assembly, the President and Privy Council may appoint others in their stead until there shall be a new election.

22. Every person who shall be chosen a member of either House, or appointed to any office or place of trust, before taking his seat, or entering upon the execution of his office, shall take the following oath, or affirmation if conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath, to wit:

"I, *A B*, will bear true allegiance to the *Delaware State*, submit to its Constitution and laws, and do no act wittingly whereby the freedom thereof may be prejudiced."

And also make and subscribe the following Declaration, to wit:

"I, *A B*, do profess faith in *God* the Father, and in *Jesus Christ*, His only Son, and in the *Holy Ghost*—one

*God* blessed forevermore; and I do acknowledge the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by Divine inspiration."

And all officers shall also take an oath of office.

23. The President, when he is out of office, and within eighteen months after, and all others offending against the State, either by mal-administration, corruption, or other means, by which the safety of the Commonwealth may be endangered, within eighteen months after the offence committed, shall be impeachable by the House of Assembly before the Legislative Council; such impeachment to be prosecuted by the Attorney-General, or such other person or persons as the House of Assembly may appoint, according to the laws of the land. If found guilty, he or they shall be either forever disabled to hold any office under Government, or removed from office *pro tempore*, or subjected to such pains and penalties as the laws shall direct. And all officers shall be removed on conviction of misbehaviour at common law, or on impeachment, or upon the address of the General Assembly.

24. All Acts of Assembly in force in this State on the 15th day of *May* last, and not hereby altered, or contrary to the Resolutions of Congress, or of the late House of Assembly of this State, shall so continue until altered or repealed by the Legislature of this State, unless where they are temporary, in which case they shall expire at the times respectively limited for their duration.

25. The common law of *England*, as well as so much of the statute law as have been heretofore adopted in practice in this State, shall remain in force, unless they shall be altered by a future law of the Legislature; such parts only excepted as are repugnant to the rights and privileges contained in this Constitution and the Declaration of Rights, &c., agreed to by this Convention.

26. No person hereafter imported into this State from *Africa* ought to be held in slavery on any pretence whatever; and no Negro, Indian, or Mulatto slave ought to be brought into this State, for sale, from any part of the world.

27. The first election for the General Assembly of this State shall be held on the 25th day of *October* next, at the Court-Houses in the several Counties, in the manner heretofore used in the election of the Assembly, except as to the choice of Inspectors and Assessors, where Assessors have not been chosen on the 16th day of *September* instant, which shall be made on the morning of the day of election by the electors, inhabitants of the respective Hundreds in each County; at which time the Sheriffs and Coroners for the said Counties respectively are to be elected. And the present Sheriffs of the Counties of *New-Castle* and *Kent* may be rechosen to that office until the first day of *October*, in the year of our *Lord* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine; and the present Sheriff for the County of *Sussex* may be rechosen to that office until the 1st day of *October*, in the year of our *Lord* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, provided the freemen think proper to reelect them at every general election; and the present Sheriffs and Coroners respectively shall continue to exercise their offices as heretofore until the Sheriffs and Coroners to be elected on the said 21st day of *October* shall be commissioned and sworn into office. The members of the Legislative Council and Assembly shall meet for transacting the business of the State on the 28th day of *October* next, and continue in office until the 1st day of *October*, which will be in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven; on which day, and on the 1st day of *October* in each year forever after, the Legislative Council, Assembly, Sheriffs, and Coroners, shall be chosen by ballot in manner directed by the several laws of this State for regulating elections of members of Assembly and Sheriffs and Coroners, and the General Assembly shall meet on the 20th day of the same month for the transacting the business of the State; and if any of the said 1st and 20th days of *October* should be *Sunday*, then, and in such case, the elections shall be held, and the General Assembly meet the next day following.

28. To prevent any violence or force being used at the said elections, no person shall come armed to any of them, and no muster of the Militia shall be made on that day, nor shall any battalion or company give in their votes immediately succeeding each other, if any other voter who offers to vote objects thereto; nor shall any battalion or



company in the pay of the Continent, or of this or any other State, be suffered to remain at the time and place of holding the said elections, or within one mile of the said places respectively for twenty-four hours before the opening said elections, nor within twenty-four hours after the same are closed, so as in any manner to impede the freely and conveniently carrying on the said election. *Provided always*, That every elector may, in a peaceable and orderly manner, give in his vote on the said day of election.

29. There shall be no establishment of any one religious sect in this State in preference to another; and no clergyman or preacher of the Gospel, of any denomination, shall be capable of holding any civil office in this State, or of being a member of either of the branches of the Legislature, while they continue in the exercise of the pastoral function.

30. No Article of the Declaration of Rights and fundamental rules of this State, agreed to by this Convention, nor the first, second, fifth, (except that part thereof that relates to the right of suffrage,) twenty-sixth, and twenty-ninth Articles of this Constitution ought ever to be violated, on any pretence whatever. No other parts of this Constitution shall be altered, changed, or diminished, without the consent of five parts in seven of the Assembly, and seven members of the Legislative Council.

GEORGE READ, *President*.

Extract from the Journals. Attest:

JAMES BOOTH, *Clerk*.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO COLONEL WHIPPLE.

Philadelphia, August 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Last week the Articles of Confederation were finished by the Committee of the Whole House. They are again printed as now amended by the Committee, and are delivered to the members in the same manner as before, and are to undergo one operation through Congress more before they are sent to the several States for confirmation. What alterations will be made in them I know not; but am afraid none for the better. This will occasion such a delay that there is no probability it will be sent in time to be laid before our Assembly before your return here: so I would not have you wait for it, but return as soon as convenient. The new Articles of War have passed Congress. The plan of a treaty of foreign alliance has passed in the Committee of the Whole.

By the leave of Lord Howe, the famous Lord Drummond has, by a flag to General Washington, proposed sundry articles as the basis of a negotiation or conference, (they are nearly the same as those proposed by Lord North, called Lord North's Conciliatory Propositions;) and he requested leave of General Washington for himself and one or two more to repair to this city to propose those terms, which he had the impudence to say would have been accepted by the Colonies a few months ago. The General did not think proper to give him leave to come here, but in his answer told him he should send the papers to the Congress and wait their answer. He severely reprimanded Lord Drummond for his officiousness in meddling with the business, but especially for his going to the Army under General Howe, contrary to his parole of honour which he gave when he was permitted to leave the Continent. I need not tell you the Congress have not accepted the proposed conference with his Lordship.

Lord Howe has wrote an answer to Dr. Franklin's letter to him which you saw. It is full of professions of friendship for America, and of esteem and regard for the Doctor—very polite, but very artful.

By a letter from the Agent who was sent in the *Reprisal*, Captain Wicks, to Martinico, he informs us that the Governor (or General, as they call him) told him that he had lately received orders by a frigate from France to give all possible assistance and protection to the American vessels, and that he was ordered to send out some ships of war to cruise round the Island for their defence, and that the same orders had been sent to the other French Islands. He also told the Agent, that if the American cruisers should bring any prizes into the ports of Martinico, he should not prevent their selling or disposing of them as they should think proper. This is in confidence.

We have just received the account of the enemy landing

on *Long-Island*. By the General's account, our men are in good spirits, seem firm and ready for action. From this and from some other circumstances, I hope I shall soon hear of the enemy's defeat and quitting the country, never more to return as enemies; which will give the greatest pleasure and satisfaction to your friend and humble servant,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

P. S. Mr. William Barril is sick with a fever. Dr. Rush says he is very dangerous. Please to give my regards to our friend Colonel Langdon, as I have not time to write to him. Tell him I have not received his letter last week as usual. I have received yours of the 20th from Milford's. Yours, *ut sup.*, J. B.

FRANCIS LEWIS TO MRS. GATES.

Philadelphia, August 27, 1776.

DEAR MADAM: I was yesterday honoured with your letter dated the 20th instant, and happy to find you enjoyed your health.

Your son, after a few days' stay in this city, went to *Princeton*, where he is at present, and in as perfect health as ever he enjoyed. I conversed with Dr. Witherspoon yesterday, who informed me that your son applied closely to his books, and highly extolled his abilities; this he spoke sincerely, and without flattery. As I purpose in a few days going to *Elizabeth-Town*, shall have the pleasure of seeing Bob, and, at my return, shall advise you.

I can assure you that General Gates and the Army under his command at *Ticonderoga* are well and in high spirits. We have frequent advices from that quarter through the medium of General Washington. There is little expectation of seeing enemies upon the Lakes this summer, whatever may happen the next. General Gates commands at *Ticonderoga*. General Schuyler is treating with the Indians at the *German-Flats*. They will always be on separate commands. But we are in pain for *New-York*. I fear that city is devoted to destruction. Lord and General Howe, Cornwallis, Clinton, and Dummore, upon *Staten-Island*, with about twenty-six thousand troops, of which they landed eight or nine thousand last Friday, and, by what we can learn, intend in a day or two attacking *New-York*. I feel for the distress of my family, who are still at *White Stone*, except Morgan, who, the next day after his return home, set off for *Ticonderoga*. His mother could not restrain him. We have about twenty thousand troops (say Militia) lining the coast of *East-Jersey* from *Powles Hook* to *Amboy*, and upwards of thirty thousand on *York* and *Long-Island*. The fate of this campaign a few days must determine.

I have not time at present to say more than that I am, and ever shall be, dear Madam, your sincere friend and very humble servant,

F. LEWIS.

P. S. It is said that General Carleton has drawn off the major part of his Army from the neighbourhood of the Lakes, and are filed off for *Quebeck*; from which it is conjectured they are to be brought round to reinforce General Howe, as General Burgoyne cannot penetrate the upper country by the Lakes.

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, August 27, 1776.

*Resolved*, That Captain Peters be requested to appoint double guards of the Associators this night, as a number of the Militia in the Barracks have been very riotous this day; and if they should discover any persons together in a disorderly manner, that they be confined until morning, and that a report be made of them to this Board by the Commanding Officer to-morrow morning.

By order of Council:

DAVID RITTENHOUSE, *Vice President*.

MEMORIAL OF THE CHEVALIER SAURALLE.

[Read August 27, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the Delegates of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in Congress assembled:

The Memorial of the Chevalier SAURALLE, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist is a young officer, who, after serving two years as a volunteer in the Artillery at St.

*Domingo*, obtained the rank of Lieutenant in that corps, to which he has preferred offering his services to the honourable Congress, as a letter from Mr. *De la Valletiere*, Governour of *St. Nicholas Mole*, shows; which letter, intended for the honourable Congress or General *Washington*, is without a direction, owing to the Governour's being unacquainted with the proper form of address. Which is humbly submitted to the honourable Congress.

LA CHEVALIER SAURALLE.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN STONE.

Philadelphia, August 27, 1776.

SIR: The Marine Committee have directed me to inform you that the *Hornet* sloop is now returned from her cruise, during which she has been extremely leaky, as Captain *Hallock*, the bearer hereof, will inform you.

The Committee have come to a resolution either to purchase the sloop or deliver her up to you, as they will not any longer hire her; but as the greatest part of the materials she now has on board belong to the publick, they would prefer buying her at the valuation, to stripping her; and when you consider that she will be a mere wreck when so stripped, and that the hull is old and shattered, I should imagine you would readily see that it is more your interest to sell than to receive her back in such bad condition, as you will have the hire to this time, in addition to the price. You will, upon the whole, receive a great sum for her.

I am, sir, your humble servant, ROBERT MORRIS.

To Captain *William Stone*, owner of the Sloop *Hornet*.

P. S. If you will not sell, pray appoint some person to receive her.

Philadelphia, August 27, 1776.

Since the departure of the able-bodied men from the forks of *Brandywine*, in *Chester County*, on the service of their country, the patriotick young women, to prevent the evil that would follow the neglect of putting in the fall crop in season, have joined the ploughs, and are preparing the fallows for the seed; and should their fathers, brothers and lovers be detained abroad in defence of the liberties of these States, they are determined to put in the crop themselves—a very laudable example, and highly worthy of imitation.

The Colonels *Ross*, *Matlack*, and *Schlegel*, are appointed by the Convention of this State, Commissioners for forming the Flying-Camp in *New-Jersey*.

JOHN HARRIS TO LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

Paxton, August 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Mr. *Bratts*, and Lieutenant *John Houfman*, a First Lieutenant in *Paxton* township, did last week apply to me for ammunition to be in order to suppress Tory riots, &c., that might happen in their neighbourhood, which they have great reason to apprehend, from some evil-disposed persons lately appearing among them, who rob spring-houses and other houses, (it's said,) frightening women, children, &c., in said township, and *Hanover* township, above the mountains, as their men are, in general, gone in the service. I think one quarter-cask of the gunpowder at *Lancaster*, with about sixty pounds of the lead at Mr. *William Carson's*, to save carriage, might be ordered, and delivered said *Bratts* by our Committee, (the demand is not greater, and may be of service,) said *Bratts* or the Committee or military officers of said township, being accountable for said ammunition, and that it may not be expended or wasted, but applied to the use given. For the small quantity of powder and lead of my own, I shall at any time our frontiers may appear to be in danger assist them with it, on application. As I know of not any powder but mine here, do not intend to send it to *Lancaster* till we have a prospect of better times. The *Indians* to the northward, southward, and westward, are for war against us, as I am informed by a letter from *Northumberland County*, by their post, two days ago. The *Susquehannah Indians* are, only, for peace with us. About twenty *Indians*, (enemies,) men, women and children, have been many days past at *Sunbury*, and make said report. I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JOHN HARRIS.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Observation and Correspondence, in *Lancaster*.

LIST OF PRISONERS, AUGUST 27, 1776.

*Thomas Deason*, brought to Jail with Mr. *Barrington*, and now confined, since the 17th of June; discharged.

*James Campbell*, sent by the Committee; discharged.

*Philip Stone*, sent by the Committee; discharged.

*James Ford*, sent by the Committee.

*William Poor*, sent by the Committee, suspected of assisting the officers in their escape from *Lebanon*.

*Thomas Redmund* and *John White*, accused of the same.

*Jemmy the Rover*, sent by the Committee, accused of threatening women.

*James Mansfield*, sent by Squire *Gruber*, and has since attempted to break Jail.

*Peggy King*, brought by Captain *Henry*; discharged.

*John Allen*, Corporal *Kate* and *Stemple*, sent by the Committee; discharged.

*John Vincent*, sent by the Committee; discharged.

*John Fitzgerald*, sent by the Committee as a deserter from the Continental forces.

*John Tiffdale*, sent by the Committee for threatening the inhabitants.

*Mary Mitchell*, *Mambo*, a Negro, *Dinah*, a Negro wench, sent by the Committee for conspiring the death of *Clendenin's* wife.

*Joseph Boon*, discharged by order of the Convention, enlisted the next day, and after receiving 40s., deserted and stole a piece of cloth, for which he has since been confined.

*Jacob Rese*, a deserter from Captain *Peter Grubb's* Company.

*James McIlwain*, sent by the Committee, with *Philip* and *Jacob Winter*; discharged on bail.

*Nancy Brown*, brought by the guard for stealing.

*Richard*, a Negro, brought by the guard; says he is free.

*Robert Ritchie*, sent by Squire *Gruber* as a regular prisoner of war; says he belongs to Captain *Doyle's* Company.

*John Dead*, kept in Jail by *John Kelly*.

ROBERT G. LIVINGSTON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Newark, August 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: At this moment, so important to the general welfare of *America*, it becomes every well-wisher of his country to discourage everything that has a tendency to weaken our present struggles; and as nothing can more effectually injure us in that way than a depreciation of the Continental currency, I was greatly surprised at the conduct of a gentleman of *New-York* in refusing a sum of money in that currency. The circumstances are these: I was bound with Mr. *Samuel Hake* to Captain *Anthony Rutgers* in a bond of £900. The last *Saturday* I sent the principal and interest due upon that bond by *Robert Hyslop* to Mr. *Rutgers* to discharge the same, but he absolutely refused to receive the money offered him, which was in Continental money.

I thought it my duty to inform you of this matter, as it may be attended with the most dangerous consequences to the publick interest; for if such a person as Mr. *Rutgers* may refuse it, who may not do the same, and where will it end? For my part, I have received lately very large sums in that money, with as great a readiness as I would gold or silver. But if I cannot pass it again, it will be dead and useless to me, and I must of course refuse it from my debtors, which must inevitably introduce the greatest confusion in the country, and which no friend of his country can think of without trembling.

I lay this matter before you, gentlemen, as being thoroughly convinced you will do everything in your power to put a stop to such practices.

I am, with great esteem, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

ROBERT G. LIVINGSTON.

To the Chairman of the Committee of the City and County of *New-York*.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 27, 1776.

SIR: I have drawn on you this day in favour of Colonel *Thomas Lowrey* for thirty thousand dollars, to be improved

in supplying the troops of the *United States in Pennsylvania and New-Jersey* with provisions. You'll please to pay the same, and charge them to my account accordingly.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Jos. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Hancock, Esq.*, President of Congress.

COLONEL HARRISON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, August 27, 1776, eight o'clock, P. M.

SIR: I this minute returned from our lines on *Long-Island*, where I left his Excellency the General. From him I have it in command to inform Congress that yesterday he went there, and continued till evening, when, from the enemy's having landed a considerable part of their forces and many of their movements, there was reason to apprehend they would make, in a little time, a general attack. As they would have a wood to pass through before they could approach the lines, it was thought expedient to place a number of men there, on the different roads leading from whence they were stationed, in order to harass and annoy them in their march. This being done, early this morning a smart engagement ensued between the enemy and our detachments, which being unequal to the force they had to contend with, have sustained a pretty considerable loss: at least many of our men are missing. Among those that have not returned, are General *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling*. The enemy's loss is not known certainly; but we are told by such of our troops that were in the engagement and that have come in, that they had many killed and wounded. Our party brought off a Lieutenant, Sergeant, and Corporal, with twenty privates, prisoners. While these detachments were engaged, a column of the enemy descended from the woods and marched towards the centre of our lines, with a design to make an impression, but were repulsed. This evening they appeared very numerous about the skirts of the woods, where they have pitched several tents; and his Excellency inclines to think they mean to attack and force us from our lines by way of regular approaches, rather than in any other manner.

To-day five ships of the line came up towards the town, where they seemed desirous of getting, as they turned a long time against an unfavourable wind. And on my return this evening, I found a deserter from the Twenty-Third Regiment, who informed me that they design, as soon as the wind will permit 'em to come up, to give us a severe cannonade and to silence our batteries, if possible.

I have the honour to be, in great haste, sir, your most obedient,

ROB. H. HARRISON.

[Same to General *Mercer*.]

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN COL. ATLEE'S BATTALION, OF PENNSYLVANIA, DATED NEW-YORK, AUGUST 27, 1776.

Yesterday about one hundred and twenty of our men went as a guard to a place called *Red Lion*, on *Long-Island*. About eleven o'clock at night the sentries descried two men coming up a watermelon patch, upon which our men fired upon them; the enemy then retreated, and about one o'clock advanced with about two or three hundred men, and endeavoured to surround our guard; but they being watchful, gave them two or three fires, and retreated to alarm the remainder of the battalion, except one Lieutenant and about fifteen men, who have not been heard of as yet. About four o'clock this morning the alarm was given by beating to arms, when the remainder of our battalion, accompanied by the *Delaware* and *Maryland* battalions, went to the place where our men retreated from. About a quarter of a mile on this side, we saw the enemy when we got into the woods (our battalion being the advance guard) amidst the incessant fire of their field-pieces, loaded with grape-shot, which continued till ten o'clock. The *Marylanders* on their left flank, and we on their right, kept up a constant fire amidst all their cannon, and saw several of them fall; but they being too many for us, we retreated a little, and then made a stand. Our Lieutenant-Colonel, *Parry*, was shot through the head, and I was under the necessity of retreating with him to this place, in order to secure his effects. Since which I have heard the enemy are within six hundred yards of our lines; which I think will cost them some number of men before they gain them.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 27, 1776.

I sit down, in the midst of confusion, to tell you that our people have been engaged with the enemy on *Long-Island* all this morning, and are at it yet. We cannot get at particulars. Those who have come over say the enemy have lost the most men. Lieutenant-Colonel *Parry*, of one of the *Pennsylvania* battalions, is killed; he died heroically, urging his men on against the enemy. Your kinsman, *Hermanus Rutgers*, was killed yesterday. Several of the enemy's ships have attempted coming up this morning, but both wind and tide are ahead, and they are hitherto baffled. Our men on the Island behave bravely. Heaven send them victory.

*Thirty-five minutes past twelve, P. M.*—Firing still continues, with intermissions. A man-of-war coming up, said to be the *Roebuck*, has just lost, by a flaw, all she gained last tack. Several fires have been kindled on the Island. I believe our people set fire to hay, grain, &c., to prevent the enemy's getting possession of them. Captain *Farmer*, of Colonel *Miles's* Regiment, is slightly wounded, and brought to this city. I think some men-of-war will be up next tide.

P. S. The First Battalion of *New-York*, Colonel *Lasher*, and the *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland* battalions, behaved with the greatest bravery, even to a fault. They were commanded by Lord *Stirling*. I fear some of the bravest officers from the southward are among the slain. We forced the enemy into their lines. *Parry* is killed, and Major *Abeel*, of *New-York*, killed.

GENERAL WOODHULL TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

West end of Queen's County, August 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed I send you a copy of a letter from Colonel *Potter*, who left me yesterday at eleven o'clock, after bringing about one hundred men to me at *Jamaica*. Major *Smith* has, I expect, all the rest that were to come from *Suffolk* County. There have about forty of the Militia joined me from the regiments in *Queen's* County, and about fifty of the troops belonging to *Queen's* and *King's* Counties, which are near all I expect.

I have got all the cattle southward of the hills in *King's* County driven to the eastward of the cross-road between the two Counties, and have placed guards and sentries from the north road to the south side of the Island, in order to prevent the cattle's going back, and to prevent the communication of the Tories with the enemy. I am within about six miles of the enemy's camp. Their Light-Horse have been within two miles; and unless I have more men, our stay here will answer no purpose. We shall soon want to be supplied with provision, if we tarry here.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

NATHL. WOODHULL.

To the Honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Harlem*.

Huntington, August 26, 1776.

SIR: I had not arrived at my house half an hour before I received by express from Captain *Thomson*, of *Brookhaven*, that two ships, one brig, and three tenders, had landed a number of Regular troops in a place between the *Old Man's* and *Wading River*; and that at one of the clock they were shooting the cattle. Major *Smith* has ordered the detachment designed for your party, to the eastward; and as our men are gone, and the wind fresh to the eastward, well know they cannot lie there. I expect them in our bay before morning, the only harbour in the *Sound*. Have not ordered any men from here as yet, but am mustering them, to make as good opposition as possible. We must have help here. Everything possible for me, shall be done. I think General *Washington* should be acquainted. Our women are in great tumult.

In great haste, I am, sir, your very humble servant,

GILBERT POTTER.

To Brigadier-General *Woodhull*.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL MIFFLIN.

King's Bridge, August 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: By express this moment I am informed that three ships have just come to *Anchor Point*, above *Frog Point*. I have detached a regiment to prevent their land-

ing to pillage or burn. You will immediately order two of the brass field-pieces, with ammunition, &c., complete, to this post. Three or four Artillerists at least must attend them.

I have applied to General *Washington* for the fire-rafts, for the purpose of constructing a floating-bridge over *Harlem River*. He approves of it if they will answer the purpose. I should be glad of your opinion per the bearer.

You will please to send the express to General *Washington* immediately. We have not a single horse here. I have written to the General for two or three.

I shall appoint a Court-Martial for the trial of Lieutenant *Priestly* this day.

I am, dear sir, yours affectionately, W. HEATH.

To General *Mifflin*.

GENERAL HEATH TO COLONEL GRAHAM.

King's Bridge, August 27, 1776.

SIR: By express this moment I am informed that three ships are just come to anchor above *Frog Point*, near the *New City*; you will, therefore, without the least delay, march your regiment to that neighbourhood, and prevent their landing or pillaging the stock. You will post your regiment in such manner as most effectually to answer the purpose of defeating the designs of the enemy.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

W. HEATH, M. G.

To Colonel *Morris Graham*.

P. S. You will send me intelligence as often as anything of importance transpires.

PETITION OF COMMODORE WYNKOOP TO THE CONGRESS.

To the Honourable the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA in Congress assembled:

The Memorial of JACOBUS WYNKOOP sheweth:

That your memorialist has been employed and served in the Continental service, and in the service of the *United States of America*, from the 28th day of *June*, 1775, until the 18th day of *August*, instant. That your memorialist, by his first appointment was a Captain in the Eighth Company and Fourth Regiment of Continental forces, raised in the Province of *New-York*. That his Honour Major-General *Schuyler*, Commander-in-Chief in the Northern Department, did, some time after the appointment of your memorialist to the Captaincy aforesaid, offer to your memorialist the command of the vessels on *Lake Champlain*, and signified to your memorialist that his Honour would recommend your memorialist to the honourable Continental Congress as a person fit for the said station. That your memorialist being at *Fort George*, did, in the month of *January*, in the present year, receive a letter from his Honour Major-General *Schuyler*, informing your memorialist that his Honour expected momentarily to hear from Congress on the subject of his appointment. That in the month of *April* last, your memorialist, at the city of *New-York*, did receive from the honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York* a certified copy of a letter written by his Honour Major-General *Schuyler* to the President of the said Provincial Congress, which is in the words following:

"Albany, March 8, 1776.

"SIR: I am honoured with yours of the 4th instant. The Continental Congress have resolved that Captain *Wynkoop* should be employed upon the Lakes, under Commodore *Douglass*. Whether the latter gentleman means to engage in that service I do not know; of this, Congress can very speedily inform itself, as he resides near *New-York*. Should he not engage, there is no person I would more willingly have to command the vessels than Captain *Wynkoop*. At any rate, I wish you to send him up the soonest possible, with a sufficient number of sailors for the two schooners and sloop.

"I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"PH. SCHUYLER.

"To *Nathaniel Woodhull, Esq.*"

"The foregoing is a true copy of the original, examined and compared by

ROBERT BENSON."

Your memorialist received at the same time an extract

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from the Minutes of the Committee of Safety for *New-York* aforesaid, a copy of which follows:

"In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 13, 1776.

"Ordered, That Captain *Jacobus Wynkoop* do enlist the number of Mariners desired by Major-General *Schuyler*, for the service at the Lakes, with all possible despatch. That Captain *Wynkoop* proceed to *Albany* with the said Mariners to General *Schuyler*, and take his directions as to the Vessels on the Lakes, until the honourable the Continental Congress shall have appointed him to that command, or some other gentleman shall arrive at the Lake authorized to take the command.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"JOHN MCKESSON, Secretary."

That in consequence of the aforesaid letter and order, your memorialist immediately enlisted a number of sailors, and proceeded up to *Fort George*, when he received from the Honourable Major-General *Schuyler* an order, in the words following:

"Fort George, May 7, 1776.

"SIR: You are immediately to repair to *Tyonderoga*, and take command of all the vessels on *Lake Champlain*, which you will with the greatest expedition put in the best condition possible for immediate service.

"I am, sir, your humble servant,

"PH. SCHUYLER.

"To Captain *Wynkoop*."

That your memorialist, expecting the appointment of Commodore of the Lakes, and not being willing to act in a subordinate capacity, did, agreeable to the said order, take upon him the command of the vessels on the Lakes aforesaid, and has since continued in that department, in the service of the said Continental Congress and of these *United States*, acting and exerting his abilities for the publick advantage. That on the 17th day of *August*, instant, your memorialist, being on his station, was alarmed by the report of a swivel from one of the schooners under his command, which was succeeded by a similar signal from another of the said schooners, which were making ready to get under sail; and conceiving that they ought not to move without his immediate orders, (unless in cases of alarm, when a boat should be instantly despatched to inform him of the occasion,) and fearing that some design had been formed by the Captains of the said schooners or their crews to go over to the enemy, by the command of your memorialist a swivel was fired to bring to the said schooners. That upon firing of the said swivel, they came to an anchor again, and your memorialist ordered the Mate to go in a boat and bring the Captains on board the Commodore's schooner. All preparations for sailing were stopped, and Captain *Premier*, commander of one of the said schooners, (the other Captain being on shore,) came on board the *Royal Savage*, then under your memorialist's immediate command. That your memorialist then desired to know from the said Captain for what reason those guns were fired and preparations made for sailing, who informed your memorialist that he had received from his Honour Brigadier-General *Arnold* orders to get his schooner immediately under way, and beat down the Lake about eight or ten miles, and if he made any discovery of the enemy, to send a boat and acquaint him of the particulars. That your memorialist, not having received any intimation of being superseded in the command aforesaid, and conceiving that any orders even from the Commander-in-Chief of the Army in the Northern Department, or the commanding officer at *Lake George* or *Tyonderoga*, respecting the vessels on the Lakes, should be directed and first communicated to your memorialist, and to be given out by him to the respective Captains under his command, your memorialist also being better acquainted with the state and condition of the said vessels, your memorialist did transmit to his Honour the said Brigadier-General *Arnold* a letter, in the words following:

"On board the *Royal Savage*, August 17, 1776.

"SIR: I find by an order you have given out that the schooners are to go down the Lake. I know no orders but what shall be given out by me, except sailing orders from the Commander-in-Chief. If an enemy is approaching, I am to be acquainted with it, and know how to act in my station.

"I am, sir, yours,

JACOBUS WYNKOOP,

"Commander of *Lake Champlain*."



That your memorialist soon after received a letter from his Honour the said Brigadier-General *Arnold*, informing your memorialist of the approach of the enemy, and intimating that the Commander-in-Chief had appointed him to take the command of the Navy on the Lake, and threatening your memorialist with an arrest. That your memorialist having thus received information of the approach of the enemy, that the service might not suffer by the dispute of the officers, issued out an order to the Captains of the said schooners, in the words following:

"On board the *Royal Savage*, August 17, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: You will immediately get under way and go down the Lake about eight or ten miles. If you make any discovery of the enemy, send a boat to acquaint me of the particulars. If none of the enemy appear, you are directly to return.

"Yours,

JACOBUS WYNKOOP, *Commander*.

"To Captain *Seaman* and Captain *Premier*."

That immediately after your memorialist had received the letter aforesaid from his Honour the said Brigadier-General *Arnold*, his Honour the said Brigadier-General *Arnold* came on board the *Royal Savage*, and asked your memorialist how he dared to countermand his orders, and acquainted your memorialist that he had power to take the command of the fleet, and showed a paper containing written orders from his Honour Major-General *Gates* to that purport. That your memorialist, conceiving that no officer could be placed over him in the naval department unless by appointment from the *United States* in Congress assembled, or the Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York*, except in causes of misdemeanour, and your memorialist being conscious of having done his duty, did acquaint the said Brigadier-General *Arnold* that he would receive no orders from him as a naval officer, under his present appointment, and that all orders from the commanders of the several posts on the Lake ought regularly to be first communicated to your memorialist. That his Honour the said Brigadier-General *Arnold* then despatched a letter to his Honour Major-General *Gates*, acquainting him with the above particulars, and on the 18th day of *August*, instant, your memorialist received a letter from the said Brigadier-General *Arnold*, in the words following:

"Crown-Point, August 18, 1776.

"SIR: The following is a paragraph of a letter and orders I have just received from the Honourable Major-General *Gates*, viz:

"It is my orders you immediately put Commodore *Wynkoop* in arrest, and send him prisoner to Head-Quarters at *Tyonderoga*.  
HORATIO GATES."

"In consequence of the above order, I do hereby put you in arrest, of which you will take notice and govern yourself accordingly. A boat and hands shall be ordered this evening or to-morrow morning to attend you to *Tyonderoga*. Please to let me know what time will be most agreeable.

"I am your humble servant,

"B. ARNOLD, *Brigadier-General*."

That agreeable to the above order your memorialist immediately repaired to *Tyonderoga*, and was ordered from thence by his Honour Major-General *Gates* to the honourable Major-General *Philip Schuyler*, and was informed by his Honour the said Major-General *Gates* that he had sent his crime forward.

That your memorialist humbly imagines if he had suffered the said schooners to go off unmolested, and the design of the Captains or crews of the said schooners had been to go over to the enemy, and such design carried into execution, that your memorialist would not have been suffered to escape with impunity; and that therefore it was his duty, when signals and preparations were made by them for sailing, to know their destination and issue out the necessary orders.

Your memorialist therefore humbly requests these *United States* in Congress assembled to take this memorial into their wise consideration, and grant him such relief as he is in justice entitled to.

JACOBUS WYNKOOP.

Albany, August 27, 1776.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 27, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: In answer to your favour of yesterday, with this I transmit you the original letter I received from

General *Schuyler* relative to the small-pox, by the hands of Captain *Thatcher*, who now goes down to receive the rigging, &c., for the galleys, and you will oblige me to return it by him. In consequence of the above letter, I immediately despatched several officers, and gave each of them a copy of it, certifying that the above mentioned officers were sent by me to see that the orders of General *Schuyler* were faithfully to be executed. You will readily see that the general design of his Honour's letter was to prevent the infection of the small-pox from coming among us from any quarter, and it may be that the Continental Regiments, in consequence of the declaration of said letter, have stopped. Lest this should be the case, I shall send off immediately to meet them and hasten them on.

As the seamen were draughted from here to go with General *Arnold*, I shall be glad, sir, if you would give Captain *Thatcher* the liberty of bringing with him a few from your place, if any there be, to help rig the galleys. You cannot be more anxious than I am to have them completed. The business is pushed on with all might, and nothing shall be wanting to fit them for action. We are remarkably kept back by sickness, but I think it will be a great advantage to rig them while the carpenter work is doing. Diligent search shall be made for the fellows mentioned in Colonel *Trumbull's* letter, and if they are found I shall send them to *Ticonderoga*.

I would mention to your Honour that there are some of Captain *Wetherbee's* company that were inoculated, that were ordered to keep back, came to this place before I knew of their being in. I have sent them back a little distance, and shall wait your Honour's orders concerning the matter. And am, dear General, with the greatest esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. The rain has been so great at this place, and the land so overflowed, there is hardly any passing from this to any part of the inhabitants or country.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CROWN-POINT, DATED AUGUST 27, 1776.

Our fleet, consisting of three schooners, one large sloop, four gondolas, and four galleys, now lie in *Lake Champlain*, near *Crown-Point*, and expect to sail in three days and lay in a narrow passage of the Lake to prevent the enemy from passing. We have information that the enemy are on their way to this place from *St. John's*—they have no other craft than batteaus. If they come, I trust we shall give them a warm reception, as our fleet is well fitted and manned. We have now at *Ticonderoga* about three thousand five hundred effective men, and more coming in daily. The Fort, and every height and point about it, is well fortified; besides we have the command of the Lakes.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

Lebanon, August 27, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 19th, as also that of the 11th instant, have been duly received, and it gives me much satisfaction to learn that our affairs under your department begin to wear so favourable an aspect, and that there is so great a prospect of our being able to preserve our superiority on the Lakes. Your attention and assiduity to prevent the spreading of that contagious disease, which has proved the bane of our Northern Army heretofore, I can't but think most seasonable, judicious, and salutary.

Am obliged for the kind mention you are pleased to make of my exertions, which shall not be wanting, and shall esteem myself happy if any endeavours of mine can serve the just and glorious cause in which we are engaged.

The tents and clothing are forwarding with all expedition. We expected medicine chests and everything necessary would have been provided by the Continent; however, we have sent one chest of medicines forward, and whatever is further wanted should be glad to have the earliest intimation of, that we may afford all the needful supplies in our power. And am, sir, with esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

## GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Lebanon, August 27, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 25th instant have just received, and in answer thereto, can only say that I wish it was in our power to afford you that assistance you request. But our armed vessel, as also the Continental brig which lay in our port, are all gone out on a cruise; they sailed last Sunday.

Two ships and two brigs have gone up our Sound to the westward, in order, as is supposed, to block the communication. Two are also cruising off *Block-Island* and *Montauque Point*.

The last intelligence from our Army at *New-York* is, that the enemy have landed about ten or twelve thousand troops on *Long-Island*, and sundry skirmishes have ensued, in all which we have had the better. They still continue under the protection of their ships. When the last express came away, *Saturday* last, two o'clock, P. M., they were then engaged. May God grant us success.

From, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. James Bowdoin, Esq.

## CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, August 27, 1776:

Present, His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

*James Jauncey*, Esq., of *New-York*, being in this State by order of General *Washington*, and on his parole to continue in *Middletown*, applies for liberty to repair to *Westchester*, in the State of *New-York*, and from thence to bring his and his son's families to *Middletown*. Whereupon it is

*Voted*, That the said *James Jauncey*, Esq., has liberty to take with him such person or persons as shall be advised to by *Jabez Hamlin*, Esq., and repair to *Westchester*, and from thence bring his wife and family, and also the wife and family of *James Jauncey*, Jun., Esq., to *Middletown* aforesaid, making as little stay in the State of *New-York* as may be, in doing the business aforesaid.

*Voted*, To draw an Order on the Pay-Table for £110 14s., in favour of *Isaac Doolittle* and *Jeremiah Atwater*, of *New-Haven*, owners of the Powder-Mill there, for making Gunpowder for this State, and to be in account, they standing accountable for what Powder they have made, which they say is forty-one hundred weight, as well as for what they shall hereafter make.

Order given August 27, 1776; delivered *Isaac Doolittle*.

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table for £300, in favour of Colonel *Jonathan Fitch*, of *New-Haven*, to enable him to purchase Clothing and Tents for the Northern Army, and to render his account, to be paid in Continental Bills, lodged in the Treasury by Mr. *Sherman*, if any such in the Treasury, or otherwise out of the proper Treasury.

Order drawn 27th August, and delivered Mr. *Doolittle*.

*Voted*, That Captain *Michael Melally* be, and he is hereby, appointed First Lieutenant of the armed Ship *Oliver Cromwell*, belonging to this State, and that his Honour the Governour be desired to commissionate him accordingly.

Commission sent him per *Thomas Winthrop*.

*Voted*, That *John Smith*, of *East-Hartford* be, and he is hereby, appointed Third Lieutenant of the armed Ship *Oliver Cromwell*, and his Honour the Governour is desired to commissionate him accordingly.

Commission sent per *Thomas Winthrop*.

Memorandum: Orders to be given to forward Camp-Kettles to the Northward, as they are much wanted.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, August 28, 1776:

Present, His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, To draw an Order on the Pay-Table for £1000, in favour of *Ebenezer Ledyard*, Esq., Commissary of the

Troops of the Fort in *Groton*, for Supplies and Buildings at that place, and to be in account.

Order drawn August 28, 1776, and delivered *Ebenezer Ledyard*, Esq.

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table for £625 4s., in favour of *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., for Money advanced by him to Captain *Harding*, of the Brig *Defence*, in finishing and fixing said Brig for a cruise, to be in account for Brig *Defence*.

Order drawn 28th August, and delivered *E. Ledyard*, Esq.

*Voted*, To draw an Order on the Pay-Table for the sum of £600, in favour of *Andrew Huntington*, to enable him to purchase Tents and Clothing for the Northern Army, to be paid in Continental Money, lodged by Mr. *Sherman*, and to be in account.

Order given 28th August, 1776; delivered *Ebenezer Ledyard*, Esq.

*Voted*, To draw an Order on the Pay-Table for £500, in favour of *Josiah Elderkin*, for supplies of Tents and Clothing for the Northern Army, to be paid out of money lodged by Mr. *Sherman*, if any such, otherwise to be paid in the proper money of this State, and to be in account.

Order given 28th August, 1776; delivered to *E. Ledyard*, Esq.

*Voted*, To order the Sheriff of *New-London* County to transport all the Prisoners from *Albany*, now confined in *New-London* Jail, to *Preston*, there to be delivered into the care of the Committee of Inspection of *Preston*, and to be kept on their parole, viz: *William Pemberton*, *Alexander Campbell*, *Thomas Swords*, *Samuel Anderson*, to be supported at their own expense, and *Walter Scott*, *John Scott*, *Jacob Zimmerman*, *Nicholas Weaver*, *Ralph Watson*, *John Duzenbury*, *Frederick Williams*, *Henry Wytenhouse*, *Dugal Campbell*, *Benjamin Grinman*, *Owen Conner*, *William McMullen*, *Israel Osborne*, and *Samuel Messenger*, to be allowed to labour for their support, under the inspection of the Committee of *Preston*.

Order given to the Sheriff and to the Committee August 28, 1776.

Memorandum: August 31, 1776, Colonel *Huntington*, Colonel *Elderkin*, Major *Hillhouse*, and Mr. *Wales*, attended on business with his Honour the Governour.

## COLONEL BAYLEY TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Newbury, August 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: According to your desire the Continental men under my inspection have tarried, and about twenty-five have inlisted to tarry until the 1st of *December*, to be under the command of *Samuel Atkinson*, Captain, *Jonathan Robbins*, Lieutenant, and *Peter Dustin*, Ensign, and will wait upon you for the bounty, marching money, and further orders, as I did not think best to inlist the inhabitants, and have sent Mr. *Atkinson* and the other two to inlist the remainder. The men will certainly be wanted. If our Army should proceed over the Lake, we shall employ them in that service, to make the road, drive the cattle, &c.; if not, the enemy will certainly come to us. I have sent to General *Gates*, and doubtless shall in two days know the certainty, and shall transmit to you. Colonel *Hand* will inform of other matters.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest regard, your most humble servant,

JACOB BAYLEY.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN HANSON.

[No. 164.]

Annapolis, August 28, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of your requests contained in your letter of the 24th instant, we have ordered the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* to pay to Mr. *Edelin* £250, to be applied by the Committee towards the support of the prisoners in *Frederick-Town*. When this sum is nearly expended, you will be pleased to inform the Council of Safety thereof, that a further supply may be ordered. We are, &c.

To *John Hanson*, Esq.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CHARLES COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 165.]

Annapolis, August 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Conway* is just ready to sail, and wants one hundred and fifty pounds of cannon powder. Be pleased to let him have it, and we will cause it to be replaced. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation of *Charles* County.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ROBERT BERRY.

[No. 166.]

Annapolis, August 28, 1776.

SIR: You are to proceed from hence to the coal mine in *Virginia*, and there endeavour to purchase five or six thousand bushels of coal. If you can hire vessels to bring the same up, the freight, as also the value of the vessels, if taken by the enemy, will be paid by the State of *Maryland*.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Robert Berry*.

## CAPTAIN DARNES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Chesterstown, Kent County, August 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I take this opportunity, by Mr. *Smith*, to inform you my company is now on their march. Have received knapsacks, haversacks, cartouch-boxes, bayonet-belts, and gun-slings; but are at a loss for camp-kettles, tent-cloth, and blankets, not having more than about forty blankets: the men complain for the want of them. If we could be furnished with cloth, we could now have tents made here. Captains *Smith's* and *Perkins's* companies are exceedingly well fitted with tents. It seems, from the number of troops that have marched for the northward, it would be almost impossible to be supplied there.

Gentlemen, if your Board should think proper to supply me with tent-cloth, camp-kettles, and more blankets, shall think myself infinitely obliged. The things might be put on board a *Rockhall* boat, where we may get them very handily.

I have had no cash for the support of my company, which I am much in want of.

Mr. *Winters* has not returned from *Annapolis*, therefore have not got our arms from him yet.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,  
JOHN DARNES.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COMMANDING OFFICER OF VIRGINIA BATTALION.

Philadelphia, August 28, 1776.

SIR: The Congress being informed that you are on your march to *New-Jersey*, with intention to pass through *Yorktown* and *Philadelphia*, I have it in charge to direct that you continue your march from *Yorktown* by the nearest route to *New-Jersey*, (avoiding *Philadelphia* on account of the small-pox,) where, on your arrival, you will execute such orders as General *Washington* shall think proper to give you.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To Colonel \_\_\_\_\_, Commanding Officer of one of the *Virginia* Battalions.

## PETITION OF JEAN LAUGEAY, ARTIFICIAL FIREWORKER.

[August 28, 1776, read and referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the Continental Congress:

HONOURABLE SIR: Your petitioner, *Jean Laugeay*, Frenchman, has been brought up to the art of artificial fireworks in *France*, an art so necessary to make signals and render lights, both to the navies and armies in camp, at the time of night, as to be looked upon by most nations in *Europe* as a considerable branch of the art of war; the importance whereof being so little known in this part of the world, has induced the petitioner to offer his service to the honourable the Continental Congress of *America* to be employed by them in the art of fireworks, and in such a station as they may, on inquiring into his character and abilities, judge him most capable of.

Should this honourable House think proper to employ the petitioner in their service, he shall by every means in his power endeavour to discharge the duty intrusted to him with every mark of honesty and fidelity.

I am, honourable sirs, with the utmost duty and respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JEAN LAUGEAY.

## PETITION OF PAUL FOOKS.

[Referred to the Board of War, 1776.]

To the Honourable the Continental Congress, &c.:

The humble Petition of PAUL FOOKS respectfully sheweth:

That your petitioner, having served under the former, and having been continued under the present Government of this State, in the office of Notary Publick and Interpreter of the *French* and *Spanish* languages, and being zealous to serve the righteous cause of *American* liberty to the utmost of his abilities, he presumes to offer his services to this honourable House as their Interpreter for the said languages. If he has the honour to be employed in this station, he flatters himself he may be useful, as many foreigners who daily arrive here are at a loss for such assistance.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

PAUL FOOKS.

War Office, Philadelphia, August 28, 1776.

As there is the most pressing necessity for all the troops, without exception, who are now in *Philadelphia* on their way to the camp, to march to *Amboy*, in the State of *New-Jersey*, it is hereby most earnestly requested that they do immediately proceed, without waiting for further supplies of arms or any other matter or thing, as care will be taken to furnish them when they arrive at camp.

RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

## CÆSAR RODNEY TO THOMAS RODNEY.

Philadelphia, August 28, 1776.

SIR: I have at last got from the shoemaker and sent down by the post *Betsy's* and *Sally's* shoes. I don't know which pair is *Betsy's* or which is *Sally's*; this they must find out themselves, if they ever come safe to hand. However, I know they are very dear, to wit: 14s. 6d. a pair.

I intended to come down, but have been prevailed on by the other Delegates to stay and attend Congress during their absence, the business in Congress being important to each Colony, especially ours. They proposed that the Convention should give the power of voting for the Colony to one Delegate, to prevent our Colony suffering while they were engaged in other business. This I consented to, being determined that the folly and ingratitude of the people shall not divert my attention from the publick good. I have seen Independence declared, and when I see this campaign well ended, (as I hope it will,) and regular Government established, then I intend to leave the publick and take the private paths of life. Future generations will honour these names, that are neglected by the present race.

As soon as I received the accounts from *Kent* and *New-Castle* of the elections, I wrote to Mr. *McKean* at *Amboy*, and desired he would give immediate attendance at the Convention. He got my letter, and in consequence thereof came to *Philadelphia* on Sunday night last, and set out yesterday morning very early to *New-Castle*. While he was here I mentioned to him the circumstance of vesting the power of voting (in Congress) in one Delegate. He liked much to have the power in one, but was so averse to, and determined against, the Convention taking upon them or concerning with the least iota, except the barely framing a plan of Government, that he was of opinion he should never consent to their appointing Delegates, or even altering their power, lest they should afterwards be inclined to hold it out as a precedent for their taking upon themselves some other matters which he thinks they would willingly be at. He says, for his part he is tired of attending the Congress, but is determined they shall turn him nor no one else out; that if they are determined to do those things by the strength of their majority,

he will try the strength of the country with *them*, even at the risk of the Court-House.

In the opinion of many people, the Convention of this Province are making such strides as will effectually knock up both them and their plan. When our Delegates return, I am to go home for the remainder of the fall. I am by promise to hear by every opportunity how they go on at *New-Castle*.

About ten thousand of the enemy are landed on *Long-Island*. They have been skirmishing every day since, and we are constantly looking for something important. *Washington* is in high spirits; says they have overstayed their time, and that he is now ready for them; the sooner the better.

*Putnam* commands on *Long-Island*, and has with him Major-General *Sullivan*, Brigadier-General *Lord Stirling*, and three other Brigadiers. Remember me kindly to my relations and friends.

I am yours, &c.,

CÆSAR RODNEY.

To *Thomas Rodney*.

P. S. I wrote to Colonel *Haslet* since the battalion went to *New-York*, but have not yet got an answer; therefore don't know how they are there.

DOCTOR FRANKLIN TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, August 28, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The Congress being advised that there was a probability that the *Hessians* might be induced to quit the *British* service by offers of land, came to two resolves for this purpose, which, being translated into *German* and printed, are sent to *Staten-Island*, to be distributed, if practicable, among those people. Some of them have tobacco marks on the back, that so tobacco being put up in them in small quantities, as the tobaccoists use, and suffered to fall into the hands of these people, they might divide the papers as plunder before their officers could come to the knowledge of the contents, and prevent their being read by the men. That was the first resolve. A second has since been made for the officers themselves. I am desired to send some of both sorts to you, that, if you find it practicable, you may convey them among the *Germans* that shall come against you.

The Congress continue firmly united, and we begin to distress the enemy's trade very much, many valuable prizes being continually brought in. Arms and ammunition are also continually arriving, the *French* having resolved to permit the exportation to us, as they heartily wish us success; so that in another year we shall be well provided.

As you may not have seen Dr. *Price's* excellent pamphlet, for writing which the city of *London* presented him a freedom in a gold box of fifty pounds' value, I send you one of them.

My last advices from *England* say that the Ministry have done their utmost in fitting out this armament; and that, if it fails, they cannot find means next year to go on with the war. While I am writing comes an account that the armies were engaged on *Long-Island*, the event unknown, which throws us into anxious suspense. God grant success.

I am, &c.,

B. FRANKLIN.

To *Horatio Gates*.

GENERAL MERCER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read August 29, 1776.]

Newark, August 28, 1776, five o'clock A. M.

SIR: General *Washington* had wrote me that some reinforcements would be necessary at *New-York* and *Powles Hook*; such troops as composed or were inlisted for the Flying-Camp were ordered to proceed immediately for this place. On the way yesterday evening, General *Wooster's* Aid-de-Camp met me, with a few lines from the General, signifying it was General *Washington's* orders that I should march, with all our Army under my command, immediately to *Powles Hook*. The necessary orders were sent to *Amboy*, *Woodbridge*, and *Elizabeth-Town*, last night, and I hope to have on *Bergen*, ready to pass over to *New-York*, if required, from three to four thousand men. Our whole force, including the *New-Jersey* Militia, from *Powles Hook* to *Shrewsbury*,

amounts to eight thousand and three hundred. I have directed fifteen hundred to be left at *Amboy*, four hundred at *Woodbridge*, and five hundred at *Elizabeth-Town*. Many of the *Pennsylvanians* have joined us with arms unfit for service, and some have refused to march on. What I can collect of the operations of yesterday is, that early in the morning the enemy advanced within forty yards of our lines; they received so well-directed fire of cannon and musketry, which obliged them to retreat, that a considerable body from our works sallied out and attacked them, but were repulsed, and obliged to give way to superior numbers.

Some men-of-war tried to get up to *New-York*, but the tide failed them; one was as high as *Red Hook*. It was believed that next tide, which makes early this morning, would bring them up. General *Washington*, with the greater part of the Army, was on *Long-Island* yesterday; and the action continued at two o'clock, when the note from General *Wooster* was sent off. Considerable firing has been heard this morning, which still continues. What troops are here I am pushing on to *Bergen*, and shall be with them immediately.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
HUGH MERCER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 28, 1776.

Yesterday morning the enemy stole through the woods I mentioned to you in my last our men were posted in; it is so extensive we could not sufficiently guard it. They have gained a little ground, but have bought it almost as dear as they did *Bunker's Hill*. Our Army, at least the small part that was engaged, behaved most manfully; they, as it were, surrounded our people, and we were obliged to fight our way through them. Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion has gained immortal honour. He was not with it himself; Lord *Stirling* commanded it, and the *Delaware* battalion, as part of his brigade. They fought the enemy, treble in number, in open field, several hours, till at last, surrounded on the side of a small creek, they were obliged to make the best retreat they could. Most of them swam the creek. Lord *Stirling*, at the head of three companies, attempted to force his way through the enemy. Captains *Bowie*, *Veazey*, Lieutenants *Sterret*, *Wright*, *Coursey*, *Dent*, *Bulter*, *Praul*, Ensigns *Furnandes*, *Courts*, are missing, and about one hundred and fifty men of *Smallwood's* battalion. The officers gave Lord *Stirling* the character of as brave a man as ever lived. We are very sorry for his loss, and are fearful that he is killed, from the danger he was seen in. General *Sullivan* is likewise missing, and many other officers, with about three hundred men; however, we are still in hopes of seeing many of them, as they are constantly coming in, having got round through the country; General *Parsons* has come in in the same way, after being out all this morning. I assure you there has been severe work on both sides. Our people who have come in say the fields and woods are covered with dead bodies; and a deserter informs the enemy have lost near six hundred men. I have the pleasure to inform you among their slain is General *Grant*, lately Colonel *Grant*, of the House of Commons, who gave the *Americans* the character of cowards. General *Parsons* saw his body; but the soldier who killed him and got his papers, &c., is missing. The enemy once attempted to force our lines, but were repulsed, and are now encamped about a mile from us.

Colonel *Smallwood* and Colonel *Ware* were necessarily detained here on a Court-Martial for the trial of Colonel *Zedtwitz*, who is sentenced to be broke, and rendered incapable of ever holding any military office.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 28, 1776.

We yesterday had a severe engagement with the enemy on *Long-Island*; they came through a wood where we were posted, in order to come to our lines; they did make an attempt to force them, but were repulsed; they gained a little ground, but at as great a price almost as they did *Bunker's Hill*. We have missing on our part General *Sullivan*, and about three hundred others. The Island is so extensive, and the enemy having got round our people,



that many of our men made their way through into the country, and are constantly coming in; General *Parsons* was missing in the same way, but came in this morning. From our people who have come in, we learn the enemy have lost great numbers; a deserter informs near six hundred.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED HEAD-QUARTERS, LONG-ISLAND, AUGUST 28, 1776.

Yesterday General *Washington* and his suite came over to this place upon receiving intelligence that Generals *Howe* and *Clinton* had landed with all the troops, except a few to guard *Staten-Island*. Immediately on our arrival we heard the noise of a very smart engagement with musketry and field-pieces; it proved to be Lord *Stirling's* brigade, consisting of *Smallwood's* regiment from *Maryland*, the *Delaware* regiment commanded by *Haslet*, and *Pennsylvania* regiment commanded by *Atlee*, besides some others, who behaved like heroes. They were surrounded by the enemy, who received constant and large reinforcements, whilst our brave men could not get the least assistance from their friends, as there were not men sufficient to fill our lines, and we expected an attack every minute. There were several other smart and pitched battles till evening, when Lord *Stirling's* men began to retreat. We have about five hundred and fifty missing at present. This morning General *Parsons* came in with a few men; he brings an account that the enemy have lost five hundred men, and a hat, with two bullet holes, marked Colonel *Grant*, and his watch. I wish it was General *Grant*, but their great officers don't like venturing. In the evening the enemy had a number of tents pitched about a mile distance. This morning about four o'clock I accompanied the General around the works, and we saw very large encampments; by these appearances, and information, the enemy are twenty thousand strong. Our sentries are very near theirs, who are about a quarter of a mile distance.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN THE MARYLAND BATTALION, DATED LONG-ISLAND, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DAYBREAK, AUGUST 28, 1776.

I have the pleasure to inform you I have survived a very warm engagement yesterday. Our battalion has suffered much; a great number of both officers and men are killed and missing. We retreated through a very heavy fire, and escaped by swimming over a river, or creek rather. My height was of use to me, as I touched almost all the way. A number of men got drowned. I have lost no officers and but few men. Captain *Veazey* and Lieutenant *Butler* fell early in the engagement. We are now all safe in our lines and forts.

The affair yesterday was only a skirmish on the Island, about three miles from our works. The particulars I cannot now give you, but we were deceived, and at one time surrounded with, I am convinced, ten thousand men. Our General, Lord *Stirling*, is missing.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONG-ISLAND, DATED AUGUST 28, 1776.

Yesterday's occurrences, no doubt, will be described to you in various ways. I embrace this leisure moment to give as satisfactory an account as I am able. A large body of the enemy that landed some time since on *Long-Island*, at the end of a beautiful plain, had extended their troops about six miles from the place of their first landing. There were at this time eleven regiments of our troops posted in different parts of the woods, between our lines and the enemy, through which they must pass if they attempted anything against us.

Early in the morning our scouting parties discovered a large body of the enemy, both horse and foot, advancing on the *Jamaica* road towards us. I was despatched to General *Putnam* to inform him of it. On my way back I discovered, as I thought, our battalion on a hill coming in, dressed in hunting-shirts, and was going on to join them, but was stopped by a number of our soldiers, who told me they were the enemy in our dress; on this I prevailed on a Sergeant and two men to halt and fire on them, which produced a shower of bullets, and we were obliged to retire.

In the mean time the enemy, with a large body, penetrated through the woods on our right and centre, or front, and about nine o'clock landed another body on their right, the whole stretching across the fields and woods between our works and our troops, and sending out parties accompanied with Light-Horse, which harassed our surrounded and surprised new troops, who, however, sold their lives dear. Our forces then made towards our lines, but the enemy had taken possession of the ground before them by stolen marches. Our men broke through parties after parties, but still found the enemy's thousands before them. Colonel *Smallwood's*, *Atlee's*, and *Haslet's* battalions, with General *Stirling* at their head, had collected on an eminence and made a good stand, but the enemy fired a field-piece on them, and being greatly superior in number, obliged them to retreat into a marsh, and finding it out of their power to withstand about six thousand men, they waded through the mud and water to a mill opposite them. Their retreat was covered by the Second Battalion which had got into our lines. Colonel *Lutz's* and the *New-England* regiments after this made some resistance in the woods, but were obliged by superior numbers to retire.

Colonel *Miles's* and Colonel *Broadhead's* battalions, finding themselves surrounded, determined to fight and run; they did so, and broke through *English*, *Hessians*, &c., and dispersed Horse, and at last came in with considerable loss. Colonel *Parry* was early in the day shot through the head, encouraging his men. Eighty of our battalion came in this morning, having forced their way through the enemy's rear, and came round by way of *Hell-Gate*; and we expect more, who are missing, will come in the same way.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, at Haerlem, August 28, 1776. }

SIR: I am commanded by the Convention to enclose to your Excellency the copy of a letter they received last evening from General *Woodhull*.

The Convention are of opinion that the enemy may be prevented from getting the stock and grain on *Long-Island*, if the regiments under the command of Colonel *Smith* and Colonel *Remsen* be sent to join General *Woodhull*. That this junction may be effected, and how, Major *Lawrence* (who is a member of this Convention and the bearer hereof) will inform your Excellency.

I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

By order: ABM. YATES, JUN., *President*.  
To His Excellency General *Washington*.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, at Haerlem, August 28, 1776. }

SIR: Enclosed you have a copy of a letter which the Convention of this State have directed to several of the Committees of your State, requesting their assistance in removing the inhabitants and stock from *Long-Island*. The Convention are sensible that the first application should have been to your Excellency, but necessity has obliged them to dispense with form, which they doubt not you will consider a sufficient apology.

The Militia of *Long-Island* are for the most part shut up within the lines, so that nothing can be done for its defence without your assistance. The Convention therefore find themselves under a necessity of applying to your Excellency for one thousand men, or any greater force which can speedily be obtained, who they conceive may greatly contribute to the security of the Island, and at the same time, in some measure, coöperate with our Army in the lines, or at least greatly weaken the attack of the enemy.

I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

By order: ABM. YATES, JUN., *President*.  
To His Excellency Governour *Trumbull*.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, at Haerlem, August 28, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: The Convention of the State of *New-York* are under the melancholy necessity of calling again upon

their sister States for their assistance, in a matter in which not only they but the whole Continent are interested. The enemy, who have landed upon *Long-Island*, will, we fear, have it in their power shortly to possess themselves of the whole stock, which amounts to between eighty and one hundred thousand head of cattle and as many sheep, as our forces are confined to their lines. These articles will doubtless be of the greatest use to the enemy: for the want of some of them we know they are already distressed. We must therefore request you immediately to afford all the assistance in your power to forward the removal of the stock from the Island, and to provide for them in your State till some further directions can be given with respect to them, and to lend your aid to such of the inhabitants as may wish to remove.

The importance of these objects need not be enlarged upon, nor need any arguments be urged to induce you to every necessary exertion. The readiness and publick spirit which the Committees in *Connecticut* have ever shown in carrying into execution all measures of publick utility, leave us no room to doubt but that they will exert themselves on this occasion, which is of the utmost importance to the general cause of *America*.

We are, gentlemen, &c.

To the Chairmen of the Committees of *Horseneck, Stamford, Norwalk, Fairfield, Stratford, Milford, New-Haven, Guilford, Seabrook, Lyme, Groton, New-London, and Stonington, in Connecticut.*

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Tyonderoga, August 28, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of the 14th instant, which is all I have been favoured with since that of the 19th of *July*.

I have at length the satisfaction to send a pretty correct General Return of the Army in this part of the northern district of *America*. A copy of my last letter to General *Schuyler*, which is in the packet, will explain the return to your Excellency. I also enclose my Orders and Instructions to Lieutenant *Whitcomb*, who went from hence the 20th instant, upon a scout towards *St. John's, Chamblee, &c.* The report of his last scout, which General *Sullivan* sent him upon, has already been sent to General *Schuyler*, who has doubtless transmitted it to your Excellency.

As the small-pox is now perfectly removed from the Army, I shall, in consequence of the intelligence received of the motions of the enemy, immediately assemble my principal strength to maintain this important pass, and hope General *Waterbury*, in a week at farthest, will be able to come with the three row-galleys to *Tyondcroga*, and proceed, the in-

stant they arrive and are fitted, to join General *Arnold* upon the Lake. In the mean time, we are exerting our utmost industry to fortify this post, a plan of which is enclosed. The weather of late has been so uncommonly wet and stormy for the season, that we are much retarded in our works. As the enemy feel alike the inclemency of the season, I hope we shall be prepared for them when they come.

My orders to Brigadier-General *Arnold* your Excellency will find in the packet. He read and entirely approved them before he left *Tyonderoga*. I hope they are the sentiments of your Excellency and the most honourable the Congress upon that momentous command.

As the *New-Hampshire* and *Connecticut* Militia have come without tents, much time is lost by those regiments in covering themselves. It happens very fortunately that *Mount Independence* affords an ample supply of materials for huts, otherwise those corps must soon have felt great distress. The *Massachusetts* Militia are arrived, well supplied with excellent tents and a sufficiency of good camp utensils. This, in our present circumstances, is a great help to us, and does that Province much honour.

Governour *Trumbull* acquaints me he has forwarded one thousand felling axes and two loads of clothing. His Excellency has, from the beginning of the misfortunes of this Army, done everything in his power to reëstablish it in health and power. Too much cannot be said in his praise.

Your Excellency must long ere this have received from General *Schuyler* the report of Major *Bigelow*, who returned with the flag of truce from *Isle-aux-Noix*. As I constantly report every extraordinary occurrence to General *Schuyler*, I take it for granted there is no delay with him in forwarding them to your Excellency and the Congress. I have ordered Commissary *Avery* to forward to Colonel *Trumbull* the returns and reports that are proper to be made in his department, and Doctor *Morgan* has before this shown your Excellency my letter to him of the 22d instant.

I am pleased at the account General *Schuyler* gives me of five hundred and thirteen thousand dollars being arrived at *Albany*, from *Philadelphia*; it is much wanted, both there and here, as the Militia were promised their mileage and billeting money at *Number Four*; but no money was sent there to pay them. This neglect caused much murmuring amongst them, and was very near stopping their march from thence. I wish good care was taken not to make any promises to troops but such as are punctually performed. I apprehend this promise was made by the Legislature at *Watertown*.

I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Return of the Regiment of Foot, in the service of the UNITED COLONIES, commanded by Colonel SAMUEL ELMORE.

COMPANIES.	OFFICERS PRESENT.												RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last return.									
	Commissioned.						Staff.		Non-Com'd.																			
	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'nts.	Ensigns.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.														
	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.															
Captain Theodore Woodbridge.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	30	2	-	9	4	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain Albert Chapman.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	31	3	4	13	-	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Captain Robert Walker.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	55	3	-	2	-	68	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4
Captain Frederick Parmelee.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	45	7	4	11	-	74	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	18
Captain David Smith.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	48	-	1	7	-	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Captain Israel Spencer.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	33	3	-	4	1	49	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	6
Captain William Satterlee.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	24	6	2	25	4	71	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Captain Joel Dickenson.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	11	3	-	41	-	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Total.....	1	-	1	5	8	6	3	-	1	1	-	-	26	16	277	27	11	112	9	504	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	37
Lieutenant-Colonel Brown, absent; Mr. Elisha Rexford, Chaplain, and Samuel Cook, Surgeon, absent.																		Privates on command at Fort George.....										95
Captain Albert Chapman, absent, and Lieutenant Gorham.																		Privates on command at Hartford.....										16
Ensign Hubbell absent.																		Privates on command at Skenesborough.....										1
Captain Israel Spencer, absent.																												112
Captain Joel Dickenson and one Lieutenant, and Ensign Andrews and Ensign Dean, on command at Fort George.																		Privates not joined the Regiment.....										24
Ensign John Fish, gone with Prisoners to Hartford.																		N. B. One of the above Deserters, belonging to Captain Chapman's Company, inlisted with Captain Thatcher's Company, in Colonel Swift's Regiment, at Skenesborough. Two of Captain Parmelee's Company, returned Deserters, inlisted with Captain John Tillman, in the Batteau service. Four Deserters, belonging to the said Company, listed in New-York, in Regiments unknown.										
Ensign Chapman, absent.																												
Four Sergeants on command at Fort George.																												
Two Sergeants on command at Hartford.																												

SAML. ELMORE, Colonel.

A Return of the state of Colonel JOHN NICHOLSON's Regiment, in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ALBANY, August 26, 1776.

COMPANIES.	Commissioned Officers.						Staff Officers.						Rank and File.														
	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	1st Lieutenants.	2d Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	First Mate.	Second Mate.	Sergeants present.	Drummers and Fifers.	Pres't, fit for duty.	On Command.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	Absent with leave.	Absent without leave.	On furlough.	Recruiting.	Deserted.	Prisoners.	Total.	
Captain Mott.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	13	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	19	
Captain Benedict.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	14	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	27	
Captain Graham.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48	
Captain Johnston.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	39	11	-	-	-	1	-	-	9	6	66	
Captain Cooper.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	39	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	2	61	
Captain Evans.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	
Captain Hanson.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	9	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	-	18	
Captain Copp.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	9	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total.....	1	1	-	5	5	5	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	13	3	89	83	1	4	2	1	4	-	51	8	243	
Lieutenant-Colonel <i>Frederick Weisenfels</i> , appointed to the Third Regiment of Yorkers.																											
Captain <i>Gershom Mott</i> , recruiting at <i>New-York</i> .																											
Lieutenant <i>Benjamin Pelton</i> , joined Colonel <i>Ritzema</i> , <i>New-York</i> .																											
Ensign <i>Charles Ivan Weisenfels</i> , recruiting at <i>New-York</i> .																											
Ensign <i>Francis Shaw</i> , sick in <i>Trenton</i> , in the <i>Jerseys</i> .																											
Lieutenant <i>John G. Lansing</i> , absent, with leave, at <i>Schenectady</i> .																											
Ensign ——— <i>Holmes</i> , on command at <i>Ticonderoga</i> .																											
Lieutenant <i>William Martin</i> , on command at <i>Haverstraw</i> .																											
Lieutenant <i>Thomas Nicholson</i> , } On command at <i>Haverstraw</i> .																											
Ensign ——— <i>Rattae</i> , }																											
Ensign <i>Thomas Lenanton</i> , taken prisoner at <i>Quebeck</i> , 7th <i>May</i> .																											
Captain <i>Benjamin Evans</i> , } On command at <i>Ticonderoga</i> , with thirty-																											
Ensign <i>Samuel Pribble</i> , } nine men.																											
Lieut. <i>William Tapp</i> , joined Colonel <i>McDougall's</i> Regiment, <i>New-York</i> .																											
Captain <i>John Copp</i> , recruiting at <i>New-York</i> .																											
Lieutenant <i>Isaac Guion</i> , recruiting at <i>New-York</i> .																											
Lieutenant <i>William Calbrath</i> , gone on command to <i>Poughkeepsie</i> .																											

\* The six Prisoners taken at Quebec and Staten-Island.

† The two Prisoners taken at Staten-Island.

JNO. BROGDEN, Adjutant.

General Return of the Forces of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, serving in the Northern Department, under the command of the Hon. Major-General GATES, TICONDEROGA, August 24, 1776.

CORPS.		OFFICERS PRESENT.												EFFECTIVE RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Since last Return.								
		Commissioned.						Staff.			Non-Com'd.	FILE.					Rank and File.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.							
		Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Sec'd Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Pres't fit for duty.						Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.
First Brigade.	Greaton's.....	1	-	1	3	4	4	2	-	1	-	1	11	9	115	69	20	125	-	329	-	-	311	-	5	1	-	
	Bond's.....	1	-	1	2	2	2	1	-	-	-	1	7	7	78	90	79	144	-	391	1	3	249	-	7	12	-	
	Burrell's.....	1	-	1	3	4	1	-	-	1	1	-	14	12	121	83	61	143	7	415	2	3	208	-	2	18	-	
	Porter's.....	1	-	1	6	4	5	2	-	-	-	1	20	7	93	111	28	114	2	348	3	6	212	3	4	1	5	
Second Brigade.	Reed's.....	-	1	1	6	4	4	5	-	1	1	1	23	11	195	54	57	42	-	348	-	2	292	-	3	8	1	
	Paterson's.....	1	-	1	2	5	5	4	-	1	-	1	20	8	150	74	65	79	14	382	3	4	258	-	3	4	3	
Third Brigade.	Lieutenant-Colonel Wait's.....	-	1	-	3	5	5	4	1	1	1	-	20	6	138	49	19	52	160	418	1	4	221	-	6	2	-	
	Stark's.....	1	1	1	7	6	7	5	1	1	1	1	24	9	188	79	57	29	1	354	1	5	286	1	10	-	-	
	Poor's.....	1	1	1	5	6	7	7	1	1	1	1	27	11	157	189	63	77	1	487	-	5	153	-	4	3	-	
	Maxwell's.....	1	1	1	7	5	6	4	-	1	1	1	23	9	234	50	116	16	-	416	3	7	224	-	3	1	-	
	Wingate's.....	-	1	1	8	7	9	8	-	1	-	-	32	12	425	76	14	112	-	627	-	3	124	-	1	-	-	
	Wyman's.....	-	1	1	9	7	6	6	-	1	1	-	36	17	381	81	49	77	-	588	-	-	164	-	3	-	2	
	St. Clair's.....	1	-	-	7	5	5	5	-	1	1	-	23	8	232	87	74	36	-	429	1	4	211	-	1	1	-	
Fourth Brigade.	De Haas's.....	1	1	1	7	6	8	7	-	1	1	1	26	5	274	74	83	24	-	455	4	10	185	-	2	-	-	
	Winds's.....	-	1	1	7	5	8	6	-	1	-	1	31	13	225	97	55	31	-	408	-	2	232	-	6	1	-	
	Wayne's.....	1	1	1	8	7	7	7	-	1	1	1	32	14	344	139	16	23	-	522	-	2	119	-	-	-	-	
	Nelson's Independent.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	49	9	-	-	-	58	-	1	22	-	-	-	-	
Fifth Brigade.	Reed's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	-	1	1	1	32	16	474	39	20	95	-	628	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Wigglesworth's.....	1	-	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	26	13	291	12	21	118	-	442	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	
	Wheelock's.....	1	-	1	3	3	5	5	-	1	1	-	15	12	224	15	5	291	-	533	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Woodbridge's.....		-	1	-	7	6	7	8	-	1	1	-	30	16	511	39	11	18	-	579	-	-	72	-	-	-	-	
Total.....		14	12	17	117	108	118	104	5	18	15	13	12	476	215	4899	1514	913	1646	185	9157	19	62	3543	6	60	52	13

Corps on command at different Posts.

Irvine's.....(at Crown Point)...-125568-111112814297974068-502422138-4111  
Pt. V. Schack's.....(at Fort George)...-1-36552-11111-231018345251728812165-27--  
Pt. V. Dyck's.....(at Fort George)...-1-3631-1111-1049323-26-14224162--  
Pt. Swift's.....(at Skenesborough)111774111112716355459324445512138--  
Pt. Mott's.....(at Skenesborough)1-16434-11112011245303-28211176--5  
Pt. Wynkoop's.....(at Skenesborough)11-2333-1111113783512164145-89-1422  
Pt. V. Dyck's.....(at Skenesborough)-1-222-1111-71551067-78-182--  
Artificers.....(at Skenesborough)-1-9-1111-2-19456-2252--  
Total.....35437292922145153128591500341722041721341311102587128

N. B. The above Returns of Corps on command (except those from Fort George) are copied from the Returns of the last week, the Returns from Skenesborough and Crown-Point not having arrived this week.

HORATIO GATES, Major-General.

A Return of Provisions now on hand at SKENESBOROUGH, as given to me by the Commissary.

- 70 barrels of Pork.
- 103 barrels of Flour
- 14 barrels of Rum.
- 3 barrels of Molasses.
- 1½ box of Chocolate.
- 240 head of Cattle.

Skenesborough, August 19, 1776.

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun., Brigadier-General.  
To the Hon. Major-General Schuyler.

A Return of the number of Men who drew Provisions on the 12th and 13th August, 1776.

	Effective.	Sick.
Colonel Poor.....	405	
Colonel Winds.....	430	
Colonel Wayne.....	544	39
Colonel Porter.....	260	81
Colonel Groaton.....	292	24
Colonel St. Clair.....	343	
Colonel Bond.....	255	
Colonel James Reed.....	279	13
Colonel Burrell.....	263	
Colonel Maxwell.....	361	
Colonel Paterson.....	325	
Colonel Wait.....	188	61
Colonel De Haas.....	463	
Colonel Stark.....	313	
Captain Romans's Artillery.....	46	
Captain Ulmer, gondola.....	40	
Captain Grant, gondola.....	42	
Captain Rice, gondola.....	17	
Captain Davis, row-galley.....	8	
Artillery.....	110	
Artificers.....	284	
Colonel Wigglesworth's Militia.....	547	
Colonel Wyman's Militia.....	606	
Colonel Wingate's Militia.....	629	
Colonel Jonathan Reed's Militia.....	152	
	7,202	218

ELISHA AVERY, Deputy Commissary.

Provisions, &c., in the Magazine at TYONDEROGA, August 13, 1776.

650 barrels Pork.	50 barrels Flour.
20 barrels Sugar.	400 pounds Coffee.
35 bushels Wheat.	300 pounds Loaf Sugar.
3 tierces Peas.	900 pounds Coffee.
32 barrels and 2 hogsheds Molasses.	7 boxes mould Candles.
80 barrels Rum.	5 boxes common Candles.
55 barrels Spirits, of different kinds.	400 pounds Soap.
	100 bushels Salt.

ELISHA AVERY, Deputy-Commissary.

Since the above, have received 300 barrels Flour; at Tyonderoga about 150 head of Cattle; at Skenesborough about 150 head of Cattle.

List of Continental Armed Vessels on LAKE CHAMPLAIN, August 18, 1776.

NAMES OF VESSELS AND COMMANDERS.	No. of Guns.	Size of Guns.	No. of Soulds.	No. of Men.
Sloop Enterprise.....Dickson....	12	4-lbs. ....	10	50
Schooner Royal Savage....Wynkoop..	12	4 6-lbs. 8 4-lbs.	10	50
Schooner Revenge.....Seaman....	8	4 4-lbs. 4 2-lbs.	10	35
Schooner Liberty.....Premier....	8	2 4-lbs. 6 2-lbs.	8	35
Gondola New-Haven.....Mansfield..	3	112-lb. 2 9-lbs.	8	45
Gondola Providence.....Simmons...	3	Ditto.	8	45
Gondola Boston.....Sumner....	3	Ditto.	8	45
Gondola Spitfire.....Ulmer.....	3	Ditto.	8	45
Gondola Philadelphia.....Rice.....	3	Ditto.	8	45
Gondola Connecticut.....Grant.....	3	Ditto.	8	45
Gondola.....Graham....	3	Ditto.	8	45
Row-Galley Lee, Spanish construction } Davis.....	6	112, 1 9, 4 4-lbs.	8	45
Total.....	67		94	485

\* Not entirely rigged.

HORATIO GATES.

N. B. The first nine are fit for action, and now under the command of Brigadier-General Arnold, at Crown-Point. The last three will sail in a few days, and the row-galleys and one more gondola will be down from Skenesborough in a week.

A Return of the number of Men who drew Provisions on 24th August, 1776, at TICONDEROGA, agreeable to the several Provision Returns.

	Well.	Sick.
Colonel Winds's Regiment.....	404	
Colonel De Haas's Regiment.....	494	
Colonel Wayne's Regiment.....	560	
Colonel Woodbridge's Militia.....	637	
Colonel St. Clair's.....	371	
Colonel Paterson's.....	294	46
Colonel Wheelock's Militia.....	583	
Colonel Porter's.....	207	104
Colonel Bond's.....	268	
Colonel Wingate's Militia.....	596	
Colonel Stark's.....	353	
Colonel Wigglesworth's Militia.....	430	
Colonel Maxwell's.....	368	
Colonel Burrell's.....	270	
Colonel Poor's.....	463	
Colonel James Reed's.....	307	
Colonel Groaton's.....	259	
Colonel Jonathan Reed's Militia.....	729	
Colonel Wyman's Militia.....	582	
Cartridge makers.....	36	
Captain Davis, gondola Lee.....	47	
Artificers.....	321	
Artillery.....	166	
Gondola Jersey.....	20	
	8,765	150
Total.....	8,915	

Colonel Hartley's Regiment at Crown-Point about 500.  
On board armed vessels down the Lake, who are supplied with three weeks' provisions, 475.  
At Skenesborough, as per return of Mr. Taylor, between 1,000 and 1,500.

ELISHA AVERY, Deputy Commissary.

Provisions on hand in the Magazine at TICONDEROGA, August 23, 1776.

565 barrels Pork.	300 pounds Coffee.
30 barrels Sugar.	800 pounds Chocolate.
6 tierces Peas.	300 pounds Loaf Sugar.
46 barrels Molasses.	7 boxes mould Candles.
60 barrels Rum.	50 bushels Salt.
10 hogsheds Rum.	5 tierces Indian Meal.
50 barrels Spirits, of different kinds.	4 barrels soft Soap.
509 barrels Flour.	1 barrel Pearlsh, and a pot-ash Kettle, cracked.

Cattle don't come in quite so fast as they are wanted from day to day. One-and-a-half pound of beef is issued per man per day six days in a week, and one pound of flour per man per day.

ELISHA AVERY, Deputy Commissary.

Instructions for Lieutenant WHITCOMB, going on a party of Observation into CANADA.

From the verbal instructions which you have received you know, sir, the design of the enterprise on which you are sent. It is to gain intelligence of the present situation and intended future movements of the enemy in Canada. This is the important errand on which you are sent. To effect this, you will immediately proceed, with the party committed to your care, to the posts occupied by the troops of the British King in that country. You will view with the utmost attention the posts which you may approach; and if it can be effected, you will take some prisoner, an officer if possible, and if of rank, the more valuable.

You are not restricted as to the particular posts which you may visit. As far as your courage will lead, as far as your conduct and prudence will permit you to follow, so far you may advance into the enemy's country—always keeping in view the design with which you are sent, and avoiding any conduct by which you may be exposed to be discovered by the outposts, the parties, or sentries of the camps which you may think proper to reconnoitre.

You are positively forbid to fire upon, to kill, to wound, to scalp, or in any way to injure the life or person of any one engaged in the service of the enemy, except in your own defence, and where the preservation of your own person or party may require it. 'Tis not by sacrificing a few unhappy victims who may fall into our hands that the important controversy between Great Britain and this country is to be settled. Regard particularly this part of your orders, and of all things avoid a conduct which can be of no service to us, and will only put us on a level with our enemies, who have not been content with permitting, but have even encouraged, this practice, so repugnant to humanity and sound



policy. In this only you are restricted. For the rest, an entire confidence is reposed on your prudence and experience.

I expect that when you have accomplished the design on which you are sent, you will return as speedily as may be to Head-Quarters, and report the success of your enterprise. The Commissary has my orders to supply you with everything necessary for you on your expedition.

Wishing you success in your enterprise, and a safe return, and recommending you to the care of Heaven, I am your affectionate, &c.

HORATIO GATES, Major-General.

Tyonderoga, August 19, 1776.

*Extract of a Letter from the Hon. Major-General SCHUYLER to the Hon. Brigadier-General WATERBURY, dated ALBANY, August 17, 1776.*

Yesterday Mr. Trumbull informed me that he was advised, from good authority, that some of the Militia had caused themselves to be inoculated on their march to *Skenesborough*, as had also a number of *Rhode-Island* carpenters. A conduct so wicked, and so evidently destructive to the Army, merits the severest animadversions, and the utmost exertions to prevent the dangerous consequences. You will therefore please to despatch three or four trusty officers to the different roads which the Militia take in their way to *Skenesborough*, with positive orders to remove all officers and soldiers infected with the small-pox to a distance from the roads; no excuse is to be taken; no plea of danger to the infected is to be attended to. The life of individuals is not to be put into competition with that of the States. If any of the inhabitants are infected, the officers now may, and are to apply to the Committees or Selectmen of the town to have them removed to such places that the troops may not be endangered in their march. Those officers are also to take the name of every officer and soldier that has been inoculated on the march to or at *Skenesborough*, specifying to what corps they belong. They are also strictly to forbid any officer or soldier, or any other person whatsoever, that has lately had the small-pox, from joining the Army, unless such person can produce a certificate from some surgeon or physician, countersigned by the Committee or Magistracy of the town in which such surgeon or physician resides, and sworn to by the party himself, that there is no danger of communicating the infection.

This is a matter of so much importance, that if I was not indisposed I would hasten to the Eastern country and try to put away this worst of evils.

A true copy, per

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL HARTLEY.

Tyonderoga, August 28, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour by the bearer. I apprehend, by the extreme bad weather and contrary wind, that General *Arnold* has not got far from *Crown-Point*. I did not apprehend he would think it necessary to take any of your men with him down the Lake, as the vessels had all their full complement of men from hence. As he has done it, I suppose he will acquaint me by the first boat with his intention in so doing. In the mean time, if you think you are in want of a reinforcement, I will, as soon as the Continental regiments arrive, send a detachment from them. They are expected in a day or two. I recommend it to you to be exceedingly vigilant and alert during the absence of the fleet, and that you will constantly send an express boat with intelligence of every extraordinary circumstance that comes to your knowledge.

There is no news from *New-York* since I wrote to you last.

I am, dear sir, your affectionate humble servant,

HOR. GATES.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley*.

P. S. A sloop and a gondola will be with you this evening or to-morrow morning.

COLONEL MAXWELL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 6, 1776.]

Ticonderoga, August 28, 1776.

SIR: The honourable station you fill at present gives me reason to believe you have ever been a lover of justice; and,

if it is possible, I make no doubt you will now be more so. I therefore thought proper to enclose you the within Memorial, and beg you will present it to your honourable House for their perusal; and you will much oblige, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WM. MAXWELL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress: the Memorial of Colonel WILLIAM MAXWELL humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist, in *October* last, was, by the unanimous vote of the Provincial Congress, chosen and recommended to your honourable House to be a Colonel in the Continental service, which you were pleased to approve of. He has, since that time, served his country to the utmost of his power, and hopes with some good effect, which he can make appear if requisite; notwithstanding, he finds himself much aggrieved by having a younger officer, viz: Colonel *St. Clair*, promoted over him. He presumes that Colonel *St. Clair's* friends will not pretend to say he has served his country with more zeal than your memorialist has done. But what will the Continent think, where a younger officer is preferred, but that the older is not fit for it? Your memorialist has served under five Generals this campaign in *Canada*, viz: *Arnold*, *Wooster*, *Thomas*, *Thompson*, and *Sullivan*, and hopes to their satisfaction; and does not doubt but he might have had, or could have still, as good recommendations as any officer there, but did not think he needed it, as he could not suspect a younger officer would be put over him without some fault; and he thought he had a tolerable right to be acquainted with his duty, from a constant service in the Army of fifteen years since the spring of 1758.

Gentlemen, he assures you he would have quitted the service immediately, but that the present alarming state of his country requires his presence in the field; therefore he takes this method to inform you wherein he thinks himself aggrieved, that your honourable House may redress it if you find his complaint well founded.

He is, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
THE MEMORIALIST.

COLONEL PHINNEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Rutland, August 28, 1776.

SIR: I this minute received yours, and shall make the best of my way to *Ticonderoga* the way you have directed. I was stopped in consequence of orders from General *Schuyler*, three miles this side the river, but took such steps to forward my regiment, without disobedience of orders, as I imagine you will approve of when I acquaint you with them, having my orders from *Number Four* in writing.

From your Honour's humble servant,

EM. PHINNEY.

To Major-General *Gates*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, August 28, 1776.

SIR: Your agreeable favour of the 20th instant came duly to hand, and is before me. Your assiduous attention to the great concerns of the publick at this important period is, in the minds of the considerate, a most undissembled declaration of your hearty attachment to the interest of the *United States of America*. Whatever reports may have been spread by the disaffected, or opinions had by the mistaken or ill-informed, I hope neither your character nor the cause of our country will eventually suffer thereby. Your painful industry and substantial services to the publick, cannot fail to remove all jealousy from the well-affected. As to Tories, no very good offices to one in your place can be expected from them. I flatter myself that no misrepresentations of theirs will have credit enough in this State greatly to wound your character or prevent your usefulness. It requires the wisdom of a *Solomon* and the patience of a *Job* to endure traduction, or regard a slander with the contempt it deserves. I heartily wish the injury may not give too much anxiety to a mind possessed of a conscious rectitude of intention.

Your account of *Indian* affairs affords some pleasing hopes that the frontiers will remain without depredations from them, though little dependance ought to be had on *Indian* faith.

I have ordered Mr. *Brown* to find the place on his road from whence the most direct conveyance may be had to *Albany*, and from thence to send some trusty person to carry the letters directed there and return with the answers. The cash for axes, &c., as well as what was advanced to the troops, will be very acceptable. A suitable person will wait on the Paymaster with the accounts in order for the balance.

About ten thousand of the enemy's troops were landed on the west end of *Long-Island* on *Thursday* and *Friday* last. Several skirmishes have happened between parties from the different armies, and the event hitherto in our favour, but no general engagement had come on before *Saturday*, when the last intelligence came from thence. May the exertion of these injured States, under the apparent smiles and protection of Heaven, be sufficient to retort the blow on the heads of those who give it, and the justice of a Divine Providence be magnified in the sight of all nations.

I have great confidence that the utmost care will be taken to prevent the spreading of the small-pox; that the imprudence of such as have promoted inoculation will be duly noticed.

I am, with sentiments of esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

New-Haven, August 28, 1776.

Last *Monday* passed our harbour, standing to the westward, two frigates—the *Niger*, of thirty-two guns, Captain *Talbot*, the other is said to carry twenty-eight guns; also a large brig of sixteen or eighteen guns, who had in company two small vessels supposed to be prizes. They left the *English* fleet near *New-York* last *Friday* sevensnight, and it is probable will remain in the Sound to interrupt our communication with the Army at *New-York*.

COL. STICKNEY TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Concord, August 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Pursuant to orders received from Major-General *Folsom*, dated the 3d of *July* last, requiring me forthwith to raise and equip one hundred and sixteen men out of the regiment under my command, in order to reinforce the Army under General *Sullivan*, supposed to be at *Crown-Point*, and to make return of my doings thereon to you, I immediately issued my orders to the several Captains in my regiment to forthwith raise their respective quotas. And by the returns they have made me of their doings therein, it appears that the whole number of said men are raised, equipped, and marched to the place of their destination.

I am your most humble servant,

THOMAS STICKNEY,  
Colonel of the 13th Regiment of the  
Colony of New-Hampshire.

To the Hon. the Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-Hampshire.

MAJOR DANIEL ILSLEY'S COMPLAINT AGAINST COL. MITCHELL.

Falmouth, August 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am sorry to trouble you with an account of the disagreeable situation of our troops under the command of Colonel *Mitchell*. The Colonel has all along shown himself more unlike a soldier or a gentleman than anything else. The task is disagreeable to show to the publick the deserts of a superior. I am sensible of the disadvantage I am under when speaking of such. If it was only the personal ill treatment received myself, knowing my obligation to my superior, I might have borne with such usage. When the Colonel took the command, it was my greatest ambition (knowing him utterly unacquainted with the business he had engaged in) to inform him, as far as my small abilities would admit of. It was by the Colonel's desire I kept the Orderly Book in the same manner as whilst I commanded. He never, in the least, controlled me. All he had to do with the matter was, to sign his name to the orders. Yet I was often abused in other matters. As to his giving any instructions concerning the lines, forts, batteries, or preparing tools, timber, plank, wood, or iron, for gun-carriages, he did not choose to con-

cern himself with. The reason, I suppose, is, there was a possibility of marking the latter, provided the General Court should disapprove such proceedings. By this time the new arrangement came to *Falmouth* for ranking the Captains; at which time I requested the Colonel to give general orders to the regiment in his own name, that they might know their alarm-post and their duty in case of an alarm, and the duty of guards, and to establish the rank of Captains. The Colonel refused giving any orders of the kind to anybody, except Captains *Morton* and *Lowell*; which the Colonel asked me to write. I declined, telling him I could not think it proper to give orders to two Captains only, when the whole regiment was neglected. I then desired the Colonel to call the regiment together, and let them know their ranks. The Colonel replied, he should not meddle with the matter. I told him I was informed the Council had ranked the regiment. He said it was the first he had heard of it. I told him I was well informed there was an order of Council in *Falmouth* for ranking the Captains. He replied, it was the first he had heard of it; the matter was entirely new to him. I replied the third time in these words: Colonel, I am well informed that an order of Council has been delivered into your hand for that purpose, and I am surprised to hear you say you never heard of it. The Colonel, in passion, said, if the Council had done any such thing, it was the most astonishing proceeding he ever heard of; the Council had taken that upon them that did not belong to them; that he did not believe the Council concerned with it, for he had no letters with it; and talked with Colonel *Powell*, and Colonel *Powell* said he had never heard a word of it, and did not believe the Council ever concerned with ranking the Captains; and if he (Colonel *Mitchell*) executed that order, Captains *Hooper* and *Lithgow* would leave the service; that the rank was only the *Falmouth* Representatives, without his desire; that he only asked them to get Captain *Morton* ranked. I told the Colonel that was not the case, for I was present; that he would be glad to have them ranked, and made no dissensions who should be put on last in rank; and the Colonel well knew that the regiment was at that time without rank, from the day that he first mentioned them, which was on the 19th of *May*. As to the two companies leaving the service, I am sorry such things should be mentioned. We have six companies: five of them are agreed to a man, if I am not deceived. I am sorry it should be said by the Colonel that Captain *Lithgow* would leave for such reasons. It is far from it. He is a gentleman well attached to the cause of his country, studies for the peace of the regiment, and is willing to continue in *Falmouth*, or march into any part of *America*, if called upon. Colonel *Mitchell* has not reviewed the regiment since the 19th of *May*, or ordered them together since the 29th. I have often plead with the Colonel, and urged the necessity of the regiment being well disciplined. I have attempted to call the regiment together for exercise and review, and the Colonel has forbade any such thing more than once or twice to myself; and he has forbade Captains *Lithgow*, *Lord*, and *Lowell*, of meeting together at the parade, or exercising together, and told them it was contrary to his orders for any regimental parade whatever, and he would allow of no such thing. If he would permit as many companies as have a desire of exercising together, they should take it as a favour. But the Colonel refused them, as they informed me, saying it might be considered as a regimental parade, which he did not allow of. The four Captains have been reprimanded for marching to the Meeting-House with four companies together on the Sabbath, though agreeable to his own orders of *August* 11th and 18th; yet so contrary to his mind, that he sent a new order for all the Captains to march separate, dated at twelve o'clock. The enclosed is a copy. Is it possible for officers and soldiers, who are well attached to the cause of their country, to bear this from a man who has not the least idea of a soldier or his duty? Neither will he be advised by his officers, but compels his regiment to live in the neglect of their duty. I see no part of his conduct as a soldier but what is arbitrary, and depending entirely upon his own will. That man who will be compelled to live in the neglect of his duty, is unworthy the name of a soldier. You will find by the Colonel's orders of *August* 11th and 18th, that I am ordered to see them complied with; that the regiment go to meeting in order; the drums give the time of day as they march. I know of

no order but the drums and companies going together. The Colonel was so displeased to see four companies march agreeable to his own orders, though not to his mind, that he sent out the new order, dated *August 18*, twelve o'clock, which you have enclosed. The officers were surprised; some of whom appealed to me to know my mind concerning the orders. I told them it was the Sabbath; I was loth to advise; but as I had the Colonel's order for the duty of the day, I should be on the parade at the usual times; if the companies were there, I should lead them to the Meeting-House, which was accordingly done. The Colonel, it seems, was very angry to see that the regiment were like to be united. The officers were reprimanded for disobeying orders. The Colonel will not talk with me, on the subject, but a great deal about me. It is true the soldiers have done a great deal of work in fortifying, and with cheerfulness, which is not common amongst soldiers; and could we be permitted to qualify ourselves for their defence, it might be the means, under God, of saving part of the country from the ravages of our enemies. I would not be understood that I am clear of all blame. Neither do I contend on my own account. It cost me many a wearisome hour, when I might be at rest, could I be content to live in the neglect of my duty. The post we hold is of the greatest importance to this State; and should the enemy attack us, whilst Colonel *Mitchell* will not suffer the regiment to be reviewed, regulated, or exercised, or give any orders for that purpose, the consequence must be shocking. The Militia that would probably come to our assistance, might expect to see us in some order. I wish it might prove so.

I shall take it as a favour if you will lay my letter before the honourable Court, or before the honourable Council for this State, as soon as it conveniently can be done. I think it is a duty which has too long been neglected.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your dutiful servant at command,

DANIEL ILSLEY.

To the Gentlemen Representatives for the Town of *Falmouth*.

We, the subscribers, commissioned officers of five companies stationed at *Falmouth*, do hereby certify to all whom it may concern, that Major *Daniel Ilsley*, second in command at this place, has invariably discovered a disposition to support the order and promote the discipline of the corps in this regiment, a laudable zeal in planning and forwarding the fortifications carrying on here, and we believe always aimed at preserving union and establishing harmony among the troops, and it is our opinion deserves the approbation of the officers as a gentleman and a soldier.

WILLIAM CROCKER,	GEORGE WHITE,
WILLIAM LITHGOW, Jun.	JOHN GOODWIN,
TOBIAS LORD,	ISAAC BATTLE,
BRIANT MORTEN,	NATHL. COUSONS,
ABNER LOWELL,	JOSIAH DAVIS,
RICHD. HARNDEN,	JOHN SKILLIN,
EBENEZER MOTT,	AMOS ANDREWS.

Falmouth, October 4, 1776.

#### DANIEL ILSLEY'S PETITION.

To the Honourable Council for the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY: the Petition of DANIEL ILSLEY humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner being appointed by your Honours' commission second in command at *Falmouth*, which office he has endeavoured to honour by a faithful discharge of the obligation I was under for the honour done me in my appointment; but being prevented by Colonel *Mitchell*, my superior in command, whose conduct, as an officer, has been laid before your Honours by a letter or petition from the Committees of the several towns for the County of *Cumberland*, who must be better acquainted with the Colonel's proceedings as a soldier than others who are only acquainted with the Colonel's character as a private gentleman. The principal officers in the regiment being present at the time the Colonel was with the County Committee, their proceedings must be impartial, and their account of the Colonel's neglect is undoubtedly true. But the Colonel, on his return from *Watertown*, shew myself and the Captains an order from your Honours, laying aside all regimental parade, and rank of the regiment unknown; which has alarmed

the officers of the companies with a suspicion that we have been represented to your Honours as being disloyal—that our meeting together for exercise was attended with evils such as endangered the State. Your petitioner is of opinion, that should the enemy attack the sea-coast men whilst in such an unsettled state, many good soldiers must fall a sacrifice, or abandon their post with shame. Therefore pray your Honours would appoint a Committee from the honourable Board to examine the papers which have come to your Honours' knowledge concerning the neglect of Colonel *Jonathan Mitchell*.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

DANIEL ILSLEY.

Watertown, October 11, 1776.

In Council, October 11, 1776.

Read, and committed to *John Whitcomb*, Esq., to take the said Petition into consideration, and report.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

FRANCIS SHAW, JUN., TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Machias, August 28, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: After removing many difficulties started by the crew of the *Diligent*, and laying wind-bound several days, we sailed from *Piscataqua* the 14th instant, and arrived here the 25th, after being confined in *Gouldsbrough* six days by the *Viper* man-of-war, who took sloops from this place within about five miles of us, as we run into *Gouldsbrough*, and lay off and on that harbour most of the time. As we had not more than half our complement of men, and them but very indifferent, Captain *Lambert* thought proper to let the ship remove before we should proceed. By persons that have been taken and released, we find that she has but ten carriage-guns, eighteen swivels, and about one hundred men—one half of them disaffected, and only want an opportunity of being properly engaged to rise on their officers. Her present station is between *Grand Menan* and *Seguin*. Should she fall in with two of your Honours' sloops-of-war, I dare say they would clear this coast of the greatest scourge they have had since the commencement of the present war. Should I succeed in getting a number of *Indians*, it would be impossible to get them to the westward unless the *Viper* is removed from her station; add to that the distress this country must be in, as they get no provision from the westward past her, and the advantage our enemy has by supplying the *British West-India Islands* with lumber and fish they take. I would further add, that one or more ships are loading at *Annapolis*; that the inhabitants of *Nova-Scotia* come to *Passamaquoddy* for lumber for them; and as several of them have been taken and afterwards cleared by your Honours, our armed vessels are entirely discouraged from taking them; and unless some stop is put to that trade, and the *Viper* removed, the acts of the honourable Continental Congress against the *English Islands* being supplied will be frustrated, and the country ruined.

Captain *Smith* informs me that the *Indians* that have been in lately are very desirous of going to *Cumberland*; that some have offered to bring the Field-Officers of that regiment away; and from letters lately received from there, the gentlemen agree in opinion that the conquest of that Fort may be easily effected by our friends there and a few *Indians*. However, as your Honours would not give me liberty to go there, I shall not presume to do it, unless the prospect be so clear that I should think it a neglect of duty not to attempt it.

August 30th. Since I wrote you the foregoing, Mr. *Gardner* and several others taken in the sloops from this place, have arrived here. As Mr. *Gardner* takes passage in the *Diligent*, he can inform you that they have received accounts of my coming down, and both ships being sent to *St. John's* after us. Concluding it would not be prudent for the *Diligent* to proceed to *St. John's*, we have thought best for her to return to your Honours.

I shall just mention that the schooner's people complained of not being paid for past services, and were afraid it might be the same for this trip; therefore I was obliged to promise them that this muster roll would be paid them immediately on their return; and they now expect that your Honours will make my promise good.

Several bales of goods broke open on board the schooner,

and one piece of linen and several small articles are missing; no doubt the Captain is accountable, for I often cautioned him against leaving the cabin door open when absent.

If the *Diligent* should be sold, the Captain has expressed a desire to serve your Honours in any other vessel that may be sent this way. As I can't pretend to be a suitable judge of the qualifications necessary for a commander, I shan't pretend to say than that he has brought us thus far safe, and I suppose would have gone farther if I had thought it prudent.

I met Mr. *Preble* at *Piscataqua*, and engaged him as Interpreter, which was very lucky, as the person I expected to get here is absent.

The reason I did not let the *Diligent* lay here, it was so uncertain when I should return, and the expense would have been much greater than proceeding in two boats with our provisions.

I have been two days waiting a fair wind; I shall embrace the first, and make all possible despatch, informing you of my proceedings by every favourable opportunity.

I remain, with much esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

FRAS. SHAW, JUN.

To the Honourable the Council and the Honourable House of Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

P. S. If I don't meet any vessel to take the *Indians*, I shall be moving westward in boats and canoes as far as *Gouldsborough*; there and at this place they may hear from me.

Halifax, August 28, 1776.

To secure us from any attacks that might be made by the Provincials, ten block-houses have been built, which mount sixteen guns each, and the troops in garrison here amount to about fifteen hundred; they consist of Marines, part of the Fourteenth Regiment, the Royal Emigrants, *Nova-Scotia* Volunteers, and *Goreham's* corps; we have also our Militia, and that of the dock-yard.

Some time since the dock-yard was set on fire, but happily extinguished without much damage; a like accident has since happened, and the Governour offered a reward of five hundred *Spanish* dollars to find out the persons concerned in setting fire to the same, as it was supposed to be wilfully done. 'Tis believed that the Provincials, by their spies, were at the bottom of it; some suspected persons were taken up, but discharged after examination, as no proof could be produced.

We hear that the Rebels have forbid, on pain of death, any person or persons holding correspondence or trading with the people of this Colony.

The troops that went from hence under convoy of the *Tamar* sloop-of-war, up the Bay of *Fundy*, were landed at *Fort St. John's*, where they are to do duty in case of any attack on that side.

#### MEMORIAL OF THE CHEVALIER SAURALLE.

[Read August 29, 1776.]

To the Honourable the Delegates of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA in Congress assembled:

The Memorial of the Chevalier SAURALLE humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist is a young officer, who, after serving two years as a volunteer in the Artillery at *St. Domingo*, obtained the rank of Lieutenant of that corps; to which he has preferred offering his services to the honourable Congress, as a letter from Mr. *De la Valletiere*, Governour of *St. Nicholas Mole*, shows; which letter, intended for the honourable Congress or General *Washington*, is without a direction, owing to the Governour's being unacquainted with the proper form of address; which is humbly submitted to the honourable Congress.

LE CHEV. SAURALLE.

August 29, 1776.

MONSIEUR: Un jeune homme bien né, dont le frere est Officier Major dans ma Dépendance, désire de préférence a une place d'officier dans le quartier d'aller servir sous vos ordres. Son activité et son intelligence me font présumer que vous l'emploirez avec plaisir. J'espère que vous en serez satisfait. Je m'intéresse a ce qu'il réussisse.

Je suis, avec un respectueuse attachement, votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

JACS. ALTIERE.

Mole ce 12 Juillet, 1776.

#### ORDINANCE PROPOSED FOR CONSIDERATION, BY THE CONVENTION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

*A proposed Ordinance of the State of PENNSYLVANIA, declaring what shall be Treason, and for punishing the same and other crimes and practices against the State.*

Whereas it ought at all times to be the particular care of Government to take the most effectual measures for the safety and security of the State, *Be it therefore Ordained and Declared, and it is hereby Ordained and Declared by the Representatives of the Freemen of the State of PENNSYLVANIA in General Convention met*, That all and every person and persons (except prisoners of war) now inhabiting or residing within the limits of the State of *Pennsylvania*, or that shall voluntarily come into the same hereafter to inhabit or sojourn, do, and shall, owe and pay allegiance to the State of *Pennsylvania*.

*And be it further Ordained, by the authority aforesaid*, That all and every such person and persons so owing allegiance to the State of *Pennsylvania*, who, from and after the publication hereof, shall levy war against this State, or be adherent to the King of *Great Britain*, or others the enemies of this State, or to the enemies of the *United States of America*, by giving him or them aid or assistance within the limits of this State, or elsewhere, and shall be thereof duly convicted in any Court of Oyer and Terminer hereafter to be erected, according to law, shall be judged guilty of high treason, and suffer death, and forfeit one moiety or half part of his lands, tenements, goods, and chattels, to the use of the State.

*And be it further Ordained and Declared by the authority aforesaid*, That any person or persons (except as before excepted) residing, inhabiting, or sojourning in this State, who shall hereafter know of such treason and conceal the same, or that shall receive or assist such traitor, knowing him to be such, and shall be thereof duly convicted as aforesaid, shall be adjudged guilty of misprision of treason, and suffer the forfeiture of two-thirds of his goods, lands, chattels, and tenements, to the use of the State, and be imprisoned any term not exceeding one year.

Published by order of Convention:

JOHN MORRIS, JUN., Secretary.

#### WILLIAM LIVINGSTON TO WILLIAM HOOPER.

Camp at Elizabethtown Point, August 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received yours of yesterday's date just after I had got into my new habitation, which is a markee tent in our encampment here. You would really be astonished to see how grand I look, while at the same time I can assure you I was never more sensible (to use a *New-England* phrase) of my own nothingness in military affairs. I removed my quarters from the town hither, to be with the men, and to enure them to discipline, which, by my distance from the camp before, considering what scurvy subaltern officers we are like ever to have while they are in the appointment of the mobility, I found it impossible to introduce. And the worst men (was there a degree above the superlative) would be still peyorated, by having been fellow soldiers with that discipline-hating, good-living loving, "to eternal fame damned," coxcombical crew we lately had here from *Philadelphia*.

My ancient corporeal fabrick is almost tottering under the fatigue I have lately undergone: constantly rising at two o'clock in the morning to examine our lines, which are and very extensive, till daybreak, and from that time perpetually till eleven in giving orders, sending despatches, and doing the proper business of Quartermasters, Colonels, Commissaries, and I know not what.

I have not been able to learn the particulars of Colonel *Zedtwitz's* crime. The report here is, that he was bribed by Governour *Tryon* to poison the well in the fortress he commanded, and that the letters were intercepted, and the poison was actually found in his chest; but it is folly to depend upon reports. When I can learn the particulars in a manner authentick, I shall be happy in finding an excuse for troubling my friend with another letter from your most humble servant,

WIL. LIVINGSTON.

To William Hooper, in Congress.



## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 30, 1776.]

Long-Island, August 29, 1776, half-after-four }  
o'clock, A. M. }

SIR: I was last night honoured with your favour of the 27th, accompanied by sundry resolutions of Congress. Those respecting the officers, &c., that may be wounded in the service of the States, are founded much in justice, and I should hope may be productive of many salutary consequences; as to the encouragement to the *Hessian* officers, I wish it may have the desired effect. Perhaps it might have been better had the offer been sooner made.

Before this, you will probably have received a letter from Mr. *Harrison*, of the 27th, advising of the engagement between a detachment of our men and the enemy on that day. I am sorry to inform Congress that I have not yet heard either of General *Sullivan* or Lord *Stirling*, who, they would observe, were amongst the missing after the engagement; nor can I ascertain our loss. I am hopeful part of our men will yet get in: several did yesterday morning. That of the enemy is also uncertain: the accounts are various. I incline to think they suffered a good deal; some deserters say five hundred men were killed and wounded. There was some skirmishing the greatest part of yesterday between parties from the enemy and our people. In the evening it was pretty smart. The event I have not yet learned.

The weather of late has been extremely wet. Yesterday it rained severely the whole afternoon, which distressed our people much, not having a sufficiency of tents to cover them; and what we have, not got over yet. I am in hopes they will all be got to-day, and that they will be more comfortably provided, though the great scarcity of these articles distresses us beyond measure, not having anything like a sufficient number to protect our people from the inclemency of the weather, and which has occasioned much sickness, and the men to be almost broke down.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

## GENERAL MIFFLIN TO GENERAL HEATH.

Long-Island, August 29, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: We have many battalions from *New-Jersey*, which are coming over this evening to relieve others here. You will please, therefore, to order every flat-bottomed boat and other craft, at your ports, fit for transporting troops, down to *New-York* as soon as possible. They must be manned by some of Colonel *Hutchinson's* men, and sent without the least delay. I write by order of the General.

I am affectionately yours,

T. MIFFLIN.

To Major-General *Heath*.

## COLONEL JOSIAH SMITH TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Camp at Brookland, August 29, 1776.

I just now received orders from the General to march my regiment over to *New-York*, and there to receive orders from the Convention of *New-York*, which I desire you to send me by the bearer, Colonel *Phineas Fanning*.

JOSIAH SMITH, Colonel.

To the President of the Convention.

## GENERAL ERSKINE TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK.

Head-Quarters, in Queen's County, August 29, 1776.

His Excellency General *Howe* having appointed me commanding officer for the eastern part of this Island, I do hereby strictly order and enjoin all persons whatsoever in your County of *Suffolk*, upon their peril, to use their utmost efforts to preserve the peace of said County; that all Committee-men, and others acting under the authority of the Rebels, immediately to cease and remain at their respective homes; that every man in arms lay them down forthwith, and surrender themselves, on pain of being treated as Rebels. And I hereby exhort all persons to be aiding and assisting his Majesty's forces, by furnishing them with whatever lays in their power; in particular, that they bring in their cattle (excepting milch cows and calves) for their supply, and

their wagons and horses for transporting their baggage, &c., for all which they shall be fully paid, his Majesty having sent his Army not for the oppression, but for the protection of the inhabitants. But I must also signify, that unless they show a dutiful submission in all respects, and an immediate compliance with these orders respecting the cattle and wagons, I shall be under the necessity of marching the forces under my command without delay into the country, and laying waste the property of the disobedient, as persons unworthy his Majesty's clemency.

WILLIAM ERSKINE, Brigadier-General.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN COLONEL ATLEE'S BATTALION, DATED NEW-YORK, AUGUST 29, 1776.

I have just now come over to this place about some business, and embrace the opportunity of letting you know that I wrote you on the 27th instant, giving you some particulars of our engagement. I now have to acquaint you that the enemy, endeavouring to force our lines, met with a warmer reception than they thought of; for the batteries began to play, and mowed them down like grass, when they retreated, and our Army cried out, the day is our own; but am sorry to inform you that Generals *Sullivan* and *Stirling* are taken prisoners, and that we have missing (which I apprehend are also taken) Colonel *Atlee*, Captain *Howell*, Captain *Herbert*, Captain *Murray*, and Captain *Nice*, Lieutenant *Finney*, Ensign *Hustin*, and Dr. *Davis*, with eighty privates; so you may judge what a miserable battalion we must have. There is also missing from the Rifle battalion Colonel *Miles* and Colonel *Piper*, with several other officers, whose names I have not as yet heard, and a number of privates. The enemy, by accounts which we have received, have lost (killed, wounded, and taken prisoners) about eight hundred men, among whom is General *Grant* killed. We expect every hour a second engagement, which I pray God may be more prosperous on our side than the last; for besides what I have mentioned, the *Delaware* and *Maryland* battalions suffered much.

New-York, Thursday, August 29, 1776.

On *Monday*, by express, and by several other messengers since, we hear an armed brig of the enemy, with two sloops and some smaller vessels, are in the *Sound*, near *White-Stone*, a little above *Hell-Gate*.

*Wednesday*, in the afternoon, a great hail and rain storm came on, attended with thunder and lightning; at which time the Ministerial Army attacked our lines on *Long-Island*, at three different places, with their utmost force; but the intrepidity of the soldiers of the *United States*, joined with that vigour becoming a free people, repulsed them; that they were obliged immediately to retreat precipitately, with great loss, the particulars of which we have not as yet been able to learn. At the same time, some of the *British* men-of-war made an attempt to come up to the city, as they also did the day before, but the wind at both times entirely obstructed them; all their attempts we hope Heaven will still continue to render abortive.

The great, the important day, big with the fate of *America* and liberty, seems to draw near. The *British* troops began to land on *Long-Island* last *Thursday*, nearly their whole force, supposed to be more than twenty thousand *British* and foreign troops. They marched through the small town of *New-Utrecht*, in their way to *Flatbush*, another town about five miles from this city, near which they encamped, but were much harassed by our Riflemen. Scouting parties were sent from our Army to the adjoining woods, but were rather scanty in their numbers, considering the extent of ground they had to guard. The *British* forces, in three divisions, taking three different roads, and the advantage of the night, almost surrounded the whole of our out-parties, who, though encircled with more than treble their number, bravely fought their way through the enemy, killing great numbers of them, and brought off some prisoners. The *New-York* First Battalion behaved with great bravery. Lord *Stirling's* brigade sustained the hottest of the enemy's fire; it consisted of Colonel *Miles's* two battalions, Colonel *Atlee's*, Colonel *Smallwood's*, and Colonel *Hatch's* regiments; they were all surrounded by the enemy, and had to fight their way through the blaze of their fire. They fought and fell like *Romans*. Lieutenant-Colonel *Parry*, of the *Pennsylvania* Musketry,

was shot through the head as he was giving orders to and animating his men. The major part of Colonel *Atlee's* and Colonel *Piper's* regiments are missing. Dr. *Davis* and his Mate were both taken prisoners as they were dressing a wounded person in the woods. Colonel *Miles* is missing, (a truly amiable character,) and supposed to be slain. Generals *Stirling* and *Sullivan* are thought to be killed. General *Parsons*, with seven men, came in yesterday morning, much fatigued, being for ten hours in the utmost danger of falling into the enemy's hands. Our killed, wounded, and missing, are imagined to be about one thousand; but, for our encouragement, the missing are hourly coming in. General *Grant*, of the *British* troops, from good intelligence, is among the killed; his hat, with his name on it, was found lying near the dead body; the bullet had gone through the hat, and carried some of his grey hairs with it. Thus fell the hero who boasted in the *British* House of Commons he would march through *America* with five thousand men, having only marched five miles on *Long-Island*, with an Army of more than four times the number. Our out-guards have retreated to the main body of the Army within the lines. The *British* Army have two encampments about a mile from our lines; and, by their manœuvres, 'tis plain they mean to attack us by surprise, and storm our intrenchments. Our men show the greatest bravery, and wish them to come to action. The firing continued yesterday all the day.

On *Tuesday* twenty-two prisoners of the Regulars, among whom is a Captain, a Lieutenant, and an Ensign, were brought over; yesterday another, and the same day thirty-seven prisoners more were taken by one of our detached parties. On *Tuesday* five or six ships stood almost within reach of our grand battery, but came to an anchor, and yesterday morning dropped down again to the fleet.

The alarm was so great last *Tuesday*, (occasioned by the attack of the *British* troops,) the day appointed for fasting, humiliation, and prayer, in this State, for imploring Divine assistance in forming the new Government, that the churches were not opened, nor publick worship performed.

New-York, August 29, 1776.

On *Tuesday*, August 20, a number of ships, with troops on board, sailed from the *British* fleet at *Staten-Island*, through the *Narrows*, and next day were followed by many more. Next morning, (the 22d,) a number of troops, supposed to be about ten thousand men, landed between *New-Utrecht* and *Gravesend*, on *Long-Island*. On *Friday*, an advanced party took possession of *Flatbush*, where our people, having possession of the surrounding heights, kept a continual, though irregular, fire upon them, but at too great a distance to do much execution; however, some were killed and wounded on both sides; the enemy keeping up an almost constant fire upon our people from their mortars and field-pieces, loaded with grape-shot, &c. On *Sunday*, some of their men-of-war and transports got under sail, and it was supposed, were coming up; but it soon appeared they only went to cover the landing of more of their men on *Long-Island*, when great numbers of our men went over to strengthen our posts, and oppose the enemy. On *Monday*, it was observed that a large body of them, supposed to be near four thousand, were marching from their main body to their advanced posts. That night our people began to throw up intrenchments on the highest hill near *Flatbush*, which would have commanded the town; but the enemy having the same night formed a design to gain possession of the hill, it is said, both parties met, and a smart engagement between them began about four in the morning, and continued, together with severe skirmishes between many detached parties, all *Tuesday* and *Wednesday*, during which many were killed, wounded, and taken prisoners on both sides, and several are missing. Who kept possession of the hill at *Flatbush*, where the flag is still flying, we have not heard, nor which party has upon the whole the advantage. Many of our wounded people have been brought over. On *Tuesday*, twenty-two prisoners of the Regulars, among whom is a Captain, a Lieutenant, and an Ensign, were brought over; yesterday another, and the same day fifty-seven prisoners more were taken by one of our detached parties. The enemy attempted several times to force our lines, but were always repulsed with considerable slaughter, notwithstanding their superiority in point of discipline, and an extended front. On *Tuesday*, five or six ships stood

almost within reach of our grand battery, but came to an anchor, and yesterday morning dropped down again to the fleet.

From the best accounts, we learn that the force of the Ministerial Army at *Staten* and *Long Islands* is about twenty-three thousand five hundred men; marines unknown. The fleet consists of the following: Ships *Asia* and *Eagle*, of sixty-four guns, the *Roebuck* and *Phoenix*, of forty-four, one bomb, and about twenty frigates and sloop-of-war. They have also about three hundred sail of transports, store-ships, and prizes.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED NEW-YORK, AUGUST 29, 1776,  
FIVE O'CLOCK, P. M.

I am told the Court-Martial divided about *Zedtwitz*, and have sentenced him to be broke, and rendered forever incapable of holding any military office; but I do not learn that the sentence has been confirmed by the General. It is a hard matter to get general intelligence from *Long-Island*. Every man's attention seems confined solely to his own regiment. I have a line from Head-Quarters this morning, informing me that nothing of moment has turned up. There was a constant firing all yesterday afternoon, and till I went to bed last night; it appeared to be platoon firing, and now and then a field-piece.

EBENEZER HAZARD TO ROBERT LIVINGSTON.

New-York, August 29, 1776.

SIR: If it is possible, do keep a *corps de reserve* of the Congress's order for us. Mr. *Samuel Broome* is to go to *Connecticut* this week for the purpose of procuring saltpetre; but if none can be had, we shall want your friendly assistance. Perhaps a letter from you to Congress mentioning the state of the case, would procure an order for the twelve hundred weight of powder, which would answer the same end. Nothing new this morning. Mr. *Schenck* carried a letter for you to *Harlem*.

In haste, your very humble servant,

EBEN. HAZARD.

To Robert Livingston, Esq., at Harlem.

COMFORT SANDS TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-Rochelle, August 29, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Mr. *Daniel Redfield*, was taken last *Monday* morning in the *Sound* by the ships of war, and has been detained on board till yesterday. He has just come to my house, and has given me such information as I thought proper for you to know. I have immediately despatched him to you, that you might take the information from his own mouth. As he wants much to get home, I beg you will take his examination as soon as possible, and discharge him. What information he gives you may be depended on, as I have known him a number of years, and know him to be a very honest man. You will please also to give him a permit, so that he can pass the bridge without being detained.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

COMFORT SANDS.

To Abraham Yates, Esq., President of the Convention of New-York, at Harlem.

JOSEPH DRAKE TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-Rochelle, August 29, 1776.

SIR: The bearer hereof, Mr. *Redfield*, of *Killingsworth*, in the State of *Connecticut*, having, on the 26th instant, had the misfortune to fall into the hands of our cruel enemies, who burnt his sloop and made him prisoner, with one *Stevens*, his partner, until yesterday, when he was discharged and sent on shore by himself; the Committee for the district of *New-Rochelle*, where he came on shore, has had him in examination, who thought he might give some little information of the enemy's intercourse with the people in *Queen's* County, has sent him to you for his further examination. He is a man of good character.

By order of the Committee:

JOSEPH DRAKE, Chairman.

To the President of the Committee of Safety for the State of New-York.

In Committee of Safety for the State of New-York, }  
August 29, 1776. }

*Daniel Redfield*, of *Killingsworth*, in *Connecticut*, being duly examined, says: That about four o'clock on *Monday* morning last, he was taken in a sloop going from *New-York*, by the brig *Halifax*, belonging to the King of *Great Britain*, mounting ten four-pounders, *Quarme* commander. That about twelve o'clock the same day they burnt the hull of his vessel, after having secured the rigging, cable, anchors, &c. That there were two frigates in company, viz: *Le Brun* and the *Niger*, both of thirty-six guns. That the pilot's name was *Reed*, a man who formerly lived at *New-York*, a notorious Tory. That from this man's conversation he understood that these vessels were to anchor in *Flushing Bay*, and that the enemy's design was to land part of their forces from *Long-Island*, and that some ships of war, &c., were to run up the *North River*, and to land another body of men at or near *King's Bridge*. That they intended to make a junction of their forces, and did not doubt by these means to cut off all communication with our Army both by land and water, and oblige them to surrender for want of provisions. That the said *Reed* said "he wished all the damn'd Rebels on the Continent were there, for that they would be taken in a net." And the said *Redfield* further says, that he understood they did not intend to make an attack upon the city. That those vessels had plundered *Hart* and *City-Island*, in the *Sound*, from whence he thinks they procured about twelve or fourteen head of cattle, besides sheep, &c. That whilst he was on board several persons came on board from *Queen's County*, *Long-Island*, who, as he understood, brought intelligence from *General Howe's Army*. That on *Tuesday* a man came on board who said that we had lost thirteen hundred men in an engagement, and that the *English Army* had gained the ground. That his partner, *Stephens*, they detained aboard as a hostage, but that they released him, being an old man, and that he might inquire for the mate of the *Niger*, who had been taken on board a prize by the sloop *Beverly*, and sent into *Amboy*. That they promised to exchange his partner for this man, whose name they gave him in writing. He says he was not used ill on board, but that the ship's crew were very inveterate against us.

The said *Daniel Redfield* produced to the Committee of Safety undoubted testimonials of his veracity and good character.

The above examination taken in the Committee of Safety, and transmitted by order.

WM. DUER.

GENERAL HEATH TO FAIRFIELD (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

King's Bridge, August 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I send to your care and safe keeping the following prisoners of war, taken on *Long-Island* on the 27th instant, viz: Lieutenant *John Ragg*, of the Marines, Sergeant *David Wallace*, Corporal *Thomas Pike*, and *Edward Gibbon*, *William Smith*, *Isaac Hughes*, *Thomas Haraman*, *John Woodard*, *Edward Cavil*, *William Williams*, *William Coortney*, *Stephen Weber*, *John Smith*, *Samuel Morral*, *Thomas Sarral*, *Joseph Distant*, *Benjamin Jones*, *William Jones*, *William Pearce*, *John Hopkins*, *Henry Weston*, *Evan Evans*, and *John Morten*, Privates.

You will please to secure them in such manner as to prevent their escape, observing the order of Congress in this respect.

I am, gentlemen, with esteem, your humble servant,  
W. HEATH, Major-General.

To the Committee of the Town of *Fairfield*.

GENERAL HEATH TO LIEUTENANT UMSTEAD.

King's Bridge, August 29, 1776.

SIR: With the detachment under your command, taking into your custody and safe keeping the following prisoners of war, viz: Lieutenant *John Ragg*, of the Marines, Sergeant *David Wallace*, Corporal *Thomas Pike*, and *Edward Gibbon*, *William Smith*, *Isaac Hughes*, *Thomas Haraman*, *John Woodard*, *Edward Cavil*, *William Williams*, *Wm. Coortney*, *Stephen Weber*, *John Smith*, *Samuel Morral*, *Thomas Sarral*, *Joseph Distant*, *Benjamin Jones*, *William Jones*, *William Pearce*, *John Hopkins*, *Henry Weston*, *Evan Evans*, and

*John Mortan*, Privates,—you are to escort them with all possible expedition to *Fairfield*, in the Colony of *Connecticut*, where you are to deliver them to the Committee of that place, and then without delay return to this post.

I am, sir, yours, &c., W. HEATH, Major-General.

To Lieutenant *Nathan Umstead*.

We, the subscribers, of the Committee of Inspection for the town of *Fairfield*, hereby certify that Lieutenant *Nathan Umstead* hath delivered to us the within named prisoners.

THAD. BURR, }  
J. STURGES, } Committee.

Fairfield, September 1, 1776.

COLONEL GRAHAM TO GENERAL HEATH.

August 29, 1776.

SIR: This comes by a gentleman who has fled from *Long-Island*, where, he says, *General Howe's Light-Horse* are pillaging the inhabitants. He thinks that about one hundred men would be sufficient to repulse them.

My regiment has full employ, as the enemy's ships are this instant mooring the brig moved down to *Hunt's Point* about two hours ago; the rest are now under sail. If it should be thought expedient that any of my regiment should go on to *Long-Island*, I would think it highly necessary that some other force should be sent here; as there are many points to guard that we are now hardly able to defend without distributing our men too much. However, we are ready to obey.

I am, your very humble servant,

MORRIS GRAHAM, Colonel.

To Major-General *Heath*, at *King's Bridge*.

COUNCIL OF WAR.

King's Bridge, August 29, 1776.

Information being brought that the enemy's *Light-Horse*, to the number of about one hundred, are pillaging at *Flushing*, on *Long-Island*, and that there is a great probability that if one hundred men should be sent over this night, they may be surprised and taken: Upon which, Council being called: Present: Major-General *Heath*, Brigadier-General *Clinton*, Colonel *Pawling*, and Colonel *Thomas*:

The question being put, Whether the measure be advisable? Colonel *Thomas*, yea; Colonel *Pawling*, yea; General *Clinton*, yea.

ISRAEL KEITH, A. D. C.

GENERAL HEATH TO COLONEL GRAHAM.

King's Bridge, August 29, 1776.

SIR: Information has just been given that a number of the enemy's *Light-Horse* are pillaging at *Flushing*, and that a party of about one hundred men would disperse them. If, therefore, upon receipt hereof, and conference with Messrs. *Eagle* and *Penfold*, two of the Committee of that place, you should be satisfied that the number of the enemy are not more than one hundred, and that you can convey that number of men over this night, and get them back by tomorrow morning, I would have you make the attempt, and surprise the enemy, if possible. You are strictly to forbid the party pursuing Tories, except in arms, or in any case to burn any buildings. I am, sir, yours, &c.,

W. HEATH, M. G.

To Colonel *Morris Graham*.

ABRAHAM KING TO PETER LIVINGSTON.

The Manor of Cortlandt, August 29, 1776.

I beg the favour of you, sir, that you will be so good as to send me an order to *James Clinton*, Brigadier-General at the *Fort Montgomery* for my ferry-boat belonging to me; want of this, a great damage to the country. A great calling for the ferry-boat; without this, great damage to our troops. We are detained very much for the want of the ferry-boat for to go across the ferry. There will be no fear; there is guard kept at my house.

ABRAHAM KING.

To Mr. *Peter Livingston*, President.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 6, 1776. November 6, 1776, referred to the Board of Treasury.]

Albany, August 29, 1776.

SIR: I had the honour to have your letter of the 16th instant, enclosing the resolutions of Congress of the 10th, delivered to me this morning by Mr. Price. The resolutions mention, "to pay all the specie General Gates or I may have in hands belonging to the American States." I have construed this to mean any specie that the Paymaster in this department might have in the military chest, and have accordingly given my warrant in favour of Mr. Price for twenty-four thousand dollars, leaving the remainder for exigencies here. Congress will see, by the enclosed account from Mr. Trumbull, that I have drawn seven thousand five hundred dollars in specie, which was to replace what I had borrowed and transmitted to Canada last fall and winter. There are about two thousand dollars which are still due to me on that account, but as paper money equally serves my purpose, I shall draw for no more specie. I believe there are about six thousand dollars more with the Army.

Captain Wynkoop, who has been sent down to me by General Gates, has this morning delivered me the enclosed memorial, with a request that I should transmit it to Congress. As I cannot refuse complying with his request, I have thought it incumbent on me to let it be accompanied with General Gates's and General Arnold's letters on the subject. Although I believed Wynkoop to be brave and industrious, and equal to the command of what vessels we had when I recommended him, yet I was so far from being sufficiently acquainted whether he was equal to the command of such a number of vessels as we have now there, that I learned General Arnold's appointment with great satisfaction, and very much approved of it.

From the resolution of Congress of the 30th ultimo, allowing one and one-third dollar per man to the officers who are to enlist men for three years, I am led to believe that recruiting officers are already appointed. As it is of the utmost importance that a body of troops should be engaged before the time of those now serving is expired, I beg leave to suggest to Congress if it would not be proper to appoint recruiting officers for every regiment in the Army, to recruit immediately out of the Army in general. Many that will now engage to serve three years longer, provided any bounty Congress may have ordered is immediately paid, will not do it when their time of service is expired, or nearly so, nor even about the middle of October, for then that terrible disorder the home-sickness begins to prevail, and, increasing as the winter season advances, becomes so stubborn and unconquerable, that every consideration must yield to its superior influence. The men thus engaged might be left with the corps they now belong to until towards the end of the campaign, and then formed into different corps.

In obedience to the orders of Congress, I directed Lieutenant-Colonel Brown to lay before me an account of his extra services, copy of which I do myself the honour to enclose you. It is impossible for me to ascertain what allowance ought to be made him.

Our carpenters sicken very fast. Captain Titcomb, of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, had only ten at work on the 25th, out of fifty, and many of the other companies were also down. We are, however, so much ahead of the enemy in our naval force, that I do not apprehend they will be able to equal our strength this campaign, notwithstanding the indisposition of our carpenters. I have ordered a physician to *Skenesborough*, to examine the sick carpenters, that such might be discharged as are not likely to be of future service, the expense being very high.

If the enemy should find themselves unable to make an attempt to penetrate into the Colonies this campaign, it is more than probable that they will assiduously employ themselves in the course of next winter to procure materials for building as large vessels as the Lake will bear, in order to get a superiority next campaign; and although I am under no apprehensions that they will ever be able to penetrate into the Colonies from the northward, as there is such a variety of difficulties to be surmounted before they can reach any part where they can be subsisted, yet, if they should obtain a superiority on the Lake, they might in another campaign possess themselves of *Ticonderoga*, and thus complete part of their plan by surrounding us with a chain of forts, and

greatly harass our frontiers; would it not, therefore, be prudent to provide every material this fall and winter for the construction of as large vessels as any that can be borne on the Lake?

Mr. Taylor, whom I have employed to purchase clothing for the Army, has collected near if not quite to the value of fifty thousand dollars; very little of which has been expended, (except what was fit for shirts and what was given to the Indians,) the remainder, especially the woollens, I have ordered to be kept in this place, that we may have something for the winter service. Would it not be well to try to get them made up?

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient and most humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

From General GATES to Major-General SCHUYLER.

Ticonderoga, August 18, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Thursday Gen. Arnold went to *Crown-Point* to take the command of the fleet collected there. Enclosed is a copy of my orders to him, which he read and much approved before his departure from hence. Late last night I received the within letter from the General, with an extract of what passed between him and Mr. Wynkoop, which you will also find in the packet, together with my letter. At daylight this morning, in consequence of General Arnold's letter to me, I shall send Mr. Wynkoop to Albany immediately on his arrival here, and I dare say you will without scruple forthwith dismiss him the service. He ought upon no account to be again employed. Many officers of rank in this department say he is totally unfit to command a single vessel at this important hour of business. I would not submit this affair to a General Court-Martial here, lest they should have doubts how to decide upon it, as the Continental Articles of War make no provision for so extraordinary a circumstance. The times will not admit of trifling; decision alone must govern on these occasions.

I expect General Waterbury by Saturday night with the row-galleys. As he is an able seaman and a brave officer, I intend he shall join General Arnold with the rest of the squadron the instant they can be armed and equipped. As General Arnold and he are upon the best terms, I am satisfied no dispute about command or want of confidence in each other will retard the publick service.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,  
HORATIO GATES.

From Lieutenant-Colonel BROWN to General SCHUYLER.

Albany, August 27, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to your order, I send you a memorandum of extra service done by me during the last summer campaign in *Canada*.

Soon after my arrival at *Crown-Point*, I was despatched with Captain Cochran and a small scout, with orders to penetrate *Canada*, and, if possible, to search out the situation of that country, the disposition of the *Canadians* in case our Army should advance into that Province, the numbers of King's troops, the strength of *St. John's* and vessels then fitting out at that place, the disposition and designs of the Savages, &c. This tour was made in seventeen days, partly by water and partly land, with the loss of two men taken prisoners. I returned by land from some miles below *Chamblée*, by the Bay of *Missisque*, being pursued to that place by the Savages. I established a correspondence with Mr. Livingston, (who I found at *Chamblée* at this time,) of whom I obtained all necessary intelligence respecting the state of *Canada*. Mr. Livingston, in consequence of this, sent several messengers to our Army with further intelligence. The second scout was to the *Isle-aux-Noix*, at which time I had the command of the Lake; from thence I sent messengers to Mr. Livingston, and had return. The two next tours into *Canada* were made from the *Isle-aux-Noix*, the last of which was with one hundred men, half of which I left at *Chamblée*, and with the remainder cut off the communication between *St. John's* and the country, where I took several prisoners and a number of teams with stores, &c. The next week I surprised *La Prairie*, and took it, with a number of prisoners and a quantity of stores. Soon after I took *Chamblée*, passing by *St. John's* myself in a boat, with cannon, &c., for the purpose. I was then ordered to contract for beef and flour for the Army, which I did for a short time,



and was then ordered down the river *Sorel* to meet Colonel *McClin*, &c. Indeed there was not a day during the whole campaign but I was on fatigue, and most of the time by night as well as day.

All which is humbly submitted by your most obedient, humble servant,

J. BROWN.

*Officers' Certificate.*

This certifies, that during the last year's campaign in *Canada*, Captain *John Brown* was the most active man in the Army, being employed in the beginning of the campaign in long tedious scouts from *Ticonderoga* into *Canada*, and the latter part before the Army with a detachment. Colonel *Brown* was scarcely off duty, day or night, during the campaign.

JAMES LIVINGSTON, *Colonel*.  
GERSHOM MOTT, *Captain*.  
ROBERT COCHRAN, *Major*.  
WM. SATTERLEE, *Captain*.  
TIM. BEDEL, *Colonel*.

Albany, October 11, 1776.

In Congress, July 30, 1776.

*Resolved*, That so much of Major *Brown's* Petition as prays an allowance for extraordinary services be referred to General *Schuyler*, who is desired to certify Congress whether any and what reward may with justice be demanded by him.

That Major *Brown's* Accounts be settled by the Commissioners appointed to adjust Accounts in the Northern Department.

Extract from the Minutes:

CHAS. THOMSON, *Secretary*.

*Captain BROWN's Petition.*

[Referred to the Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada*.]

*To the Honourable Continental Congress:*

*The Petition and Memorial of JOHN BROWN, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment where SAMUEL ELMER, Esq., is Colonel, humbly sheweth:*

That whereas, by a proclamation made by General *Montgomery* at *Montreal*, at the commencement of the last winter campaign in *Canada*, it was promised and engaged that all the troops who should reëngage in service and go forward to *Quebeck*, should be entitled to one complete suit of clothes, as may fully appear by said proclamation: And whereas your petitioner, at time and place aforesaid, was appointed by General *Montgomery* to take the command of a regiment which should reëngage as aforesaid, which regiment did actually reëngage, and went forward to *Quebeck*, and then at the publick expense were clothed as well as might be agreeable to said proclamation: Your petitioner further sheweth, that long after the time for which the troops aforesaid engaged was expired, the Paymaster-General, or his Deputy for the Northern Department, being applied to for payment, informed your petitioner that he had strict orders to allow to each man engaged as aforesaid, officers excepted, the sum of four pounds, lawful money, and no more, which renders it absolutely impossible for the Captains or commanding officers of companies raised as aforesaid to settle with their men: Your petitioner therefore prays that an order may be immediately made out confirming the proclamation made as aforesaid, with such other instructions as may be thought proper, that the regiment may be immediately settled with; which your petitioner humbly conceives may greatly benefit the service. Your petitioner further sheweth, that he was appointed to take the command of the regiment aforesaid, with the rank of full Colonel, by the express order of General *Montgomery*, as he will fully demonstrate and prove from the best evidence and authority; yet after the death of General *Montgomery* he was denied his rank, and put to the necessity of serving in an inferior rank, or deserting the service at a time when nothing could justify such a measure, although the indignity was too great to be suffered by a man of spirit or an officer of the Continental Army, and that which nothing could justify in him but absolute and strict necessity, in point of keeping up the blockade at *Quebeck*. And many other abuses did your peti-

tioner then and there suffer; all which he prays may be examined into, and justice done concerning the premises. Your petitioner further begs leave to observe, that he has been intrusted with the disposition of a considerable sum of publick moneys in *Canada*, for which he stands ready to account; but that he is informed that there is no proper Board established yet for that purpose; he therefore prays that he may be directed where and to whom he is to account, as his accounts are of such a nature as 'tis impossible (in his opinion) for any man except himself to settle and properly adjust the same. Your petitioner further sheweth, that, exclusive of the duty by him done during the last summer campaign as a Major and second in command in Colonel *Easton's* regiment, he was almost constantly employed by Generals *Schuyler* and *Montgomery* in long, tedious, hazardous scouts or marches from *Ticonderoga* into *Canada*, to discover the motions and intentions of the enemy, as also to engage the *Canadians* and *Savages* in the interest of the Colonies, which was effected during the last year's campaign, by which means only the Continental Army was able to penetrate into *Canada*. The returns made to Congress by Generals *Schuyler* and *Montgomery* will fully evince the truths of these facts. Your petitioner therefore humbly conceives, that for these and other extraordinary services done in *Canada*, he ought to be considered, and prays to be heard on the subject. Your petitioner, being this minute possessed of a report of a Committee of Congress of the 26th of *April* last, on a petition before that time to Congress, prepared by Colonel *James Easton*, in which, among other things, it is observed, that Brigadier-General *Arnold*, in his letter of the 1st of *February* last, alleged that your petitioner and Colonel *James Easton* had been publicly accused of plundering the officers' baggage taken at *Sorel*, contrary to the articles of capitulation; to which your petitioner answers, that he knows no man more the author of this charge than General *Arnold* and his adherents; and that it is false, scandalous, and malicious; and your petitioner desires men and angels, as well as the informer, to prove any part of it. Your petitioner, at the time of his first hearing of said accusation at *Quebeck*, challenged General *Arnold* to prove it, and demanded, which was his right, a Court of Inquiry, to be called immediately, which was peremptorily refused by General *Arnold*. He did the same of General *Wooster*, at his arrival at *Quebeck*, who likewise refused. He did the same of the honourable Committee sent to *Canada* from the Congress, who refused. He did the same of General *Schuyler*, at *Fort George*, but the General thought it inexpedient. He now appeals to Congress for satisfaction, with the highest assurance of obtaining the same, conceiving that he has been injured in the highest manner and in the nicest point of honour.

And as in duty bound shall pray.

JNO. BROWN.

June 26, 1776.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, August 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yesterday I was honoured with your Excellency's favour of the 24th instant.

The articles mentioned in your letter to Captain *Varick*, are arrived and forwarded to *Tyonderoga*. Those sent by *Phil. Sandford*, are not yet arrived, detained I suppose by northerly winds, which have prevailed for some days.

Our carpenters at *Skenesborough* sicken very fast. Captain *Titcomb's* company from the *Massachusetts-Bay*, consisting of fifty, had only ten at work on the 25th instant, and many of the others were also incapable of duty. We have, however, got so far ahead of the enemy in our naval force, that I hope they will not be able to equal it this campaign, notwithstanding the indisposition of our carpenters.

The reasons your Excellency assigns for proceedings against the officers of Colonel *Dayton's* regiment by Court-Martial are incontrovertible.

I am happy to learn that our troops had the advantage in the skirmish on *Long-Island*. Indecisive as these little encounters are, they are, however, attended with good consequences. The express advises us that before he left *New-York*, and after he had received the letter for me, accounts arrived that we had killed and taken sixty of the enemy, with six field-pieces. I hope it may be confirmed.

Congress have ordered me to make inquiry of, and bring

to trial the persons concerned in the plunder of General *Prescott's* and Captain *Anstruther's* baggage. I am informed by Lieutenant-Colonel *Brown* that Lieutenant *Johnson*, last year of Captain *Lamb's* artillery company, and now in some corps at *New-York*, was principally concerned in taking *Anstruther's*. As the evidences are in this quarter, your Excellency will judge of the propriety of sending *Johnson* up, or ordering the witnesses down.

Most of the *Stockbridge Indians* inclined to go to *New-York*. I ordered them provisions, and I believe they are now on their passage.

The Committee of this place did not choose to send the boards Mr. *Hughes* wrote for on their risk. They informed me of this, and I did not hesitate to assure them that they would be considered as shipped on the publick account. This day they informed me that not more than ten thousand boards were as yet gone, and that they could not prevail on any more masters of sloops to carry them farther than *Peek's Kill*. Apprehensive that you would be greatly distressed for shelter for the men, I have requested them, if they cannot do otherwise, to send them to *Peek's Kill*, and to advise Colonel *Moylan* of the number that will be landed there, by this express.

I perceive that Congress has resolved on inlisting men to serve three years. I fear very few recruits will be obtained in the country at this time, and very few out of the Army, if the inlistments are not attempted until the time of those now engaged is nearly expired. Would it not be well immediately to appoint recruiting officers in every corps, to inlist those for three years who are now engaged until the fall or winter only? In the course of three months an alert officer will have it in his power, with the bounty he may be authorized to give, to engage a good number. The homesickness begins to prevail about the middle of *October*, and when that unconquerable distemper once takes place every consideration gives way to it. I shall communicate my ideas on this subject to Congress in a letter I have occasion to write them to-day.

I am, dear sir, with every affectionate wish, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant, PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c., &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, August 29, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday I was honoured with a line from General *Washington*, of the 24th instant, of which the following is an extract: "On *Wednesday* and *Thursday* morning a considerable body of the enemy, said to be eight or nine thousand, landed at *Gravesend-Bay* on *Long-Island*. They have approached within about three miles of our lines, and yesterday there was some skirmishing between a detachment from them and a party from our troops. Their detachment were obliged to give ground, and were pursued as far as where they had a post at Judge *Lefferts's*. His house and outhouses served as quarters for them, and were burnt by our people. We sustained no loss in this affair that I have heard of, except having two men slightly wounded. Our people say the enemy met with more. They found one dead body in the habit of a soldier, with a good deal of money in his pockets, and got three hangers and a fusee. Our party threw a shell from a howitz, which fell on and bursted in a house where several of them were. Whether they were injured by it, we have not learned. A firing has been heard this morning, but know nothing of the event." The express who brought me the General's letter reports, that after he had received it, intelligence was brought that in the rencounter on *Saturday* morning, our people killed and took sixty of the enemy, and six field-pieces. If so, it will be soon confirmed.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Brown*, who will deliver you this, is the officer alluded to in some of the resolutions of Congress of the 30th ultimo. He wishes for a Court of Inquiry on the charge against him of being concerned in the plundering of General *Prescott's* baggage. You will please to order one.

Captain *Wynkoop* has presented me a memorial to Congress, with a request to have it forwarded to them, copy of which I enclose. When I recommended him to the command of the vessels on *Lake Champlain*, they were few and the Army in *Canada*; and although I believe him brave, yet

I do not think him equal to the command of such a fleet as we now have there. His appointment by the *New-York* Congress you will perceive is only temporary, until another should be appointed; he could, therefore, have no reason to complain, even if an officer of inferior rank to General *Arnold* had been ordered to take the command.

General *Washington* has ordered up a few more military stores, as per enclosed list. They are not yet arrived here; shall be forwarded the moment they do, except part of the cartridge paper, which must go to *Fort Stanwix*.

The *Stockbridge Indians* inlisted in our service had it at their option, by General *Washington's* orders, to go to *New-York* or to the northward. They have chosen the former, and are gone down.

Mr. *Schuyler*, the Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General at *Skenesborough*, writes me that the carpenters sicken so fast that Captain *Titcomb* had but ten men out of fifty at work on the 25th, and that Captains *Winslow* and *Easdorp* had also a great many sick. I wish you could send a physician to report such as are not likely to be of any further service, that they may be discharged, and the expense of their wages saved to the publick.

General *Lee* was daily expected at *Philadelphia* on the 18th instant. The express from *New-York* advises that he arrived there on *Saturday*, after General *Washington's* letter to me was delivered.

Two Captains are now engaging two hundred seamen out of the Army at *New-York*, for the northern service.

I am, dear General, with every friendly wish, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

CAPTAIN FASSETT TO GENERAL GATES.

Jerico, Onion River, August 29, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: As I came here, expecting with my company to assist the inhabitants (what is left of them) in moving off; as I cannot think so small a party can be safe in guarding so remote a situation from our Army; as signs of the enemy have been frequently seen, and some of the scouting parties have seen the enemy on the river,—therefore desire that Deacon *Reede* may be assisted by your Honour with boats to carry off these families now on the river.

I have discoursed with a large number of the Committee and some of the officers of this detachment, and the whole I have discoursed with think best to make Head-Quarters about fifteen miles northeast from *Crown Point*, at a place called *Middleborough Falls*, on *Otter Creek*, under the present situation, and to keep scouting parties out to the north, as far as our strength shall permit. These from your obedient and very humble servant,

JONA. FASSETT, Captain.

To the Hon. *Horatio Gates*, Major-General.

P. S. I determine all that can be done in saving crops, shall be done. I pray your Honour to send by the bearer, Deacon *Reede*, for my company, seven guns, light and handy, if can be. I pray your Honour to send by Deacon *Reede* one barrel of flour.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Providence, August 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Naval Committee here some little time ago informed your Honours that they had appointed Mr. *John Grannis* Captain of Marines for the Continental ship *Warren*, fitting here; and as he has a commission under the authority of your State, we request that he may be dismissed from that service; also, that he may be permitted to inlist a complement of Marines out of the troops now in your pay. As we look on the sending out these ships of the greatest consequence to these *United States*, we doubt not but you will grant us the favour we ask.

I am, in behalf of the Committee, your Honours' most humble servant,

NICHs. COOKE,

Chairman of the Marine Committee, at Providence.

To the Honourable the Council of the State of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

## MESSAGES FROM THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

*Message to the House, August 29, 1776.*

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: The important period has at length arrived. The honourable Congress have declared the *United American Colonies* free and independent States. This declaration we have ordered to be made publick, agreeable to the request of Congress, through every part of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and we shall readily concur with you in expressing our approbation of the measure, and readiness to risk our lives and fortunes in defence and support of it.

Since the prorogation of the Court, the treaty of alliance with the *St. John's* and *Mickmack* Tribes of *Indians*, wherein they have engaged to take an active part in the present war against our unnatural enemies, has been duly ratified. Four of the Chiefs that were here have actually arrived at *New-York*, and the residue have sailed to the river *St. John's*, under the direction of Major *Shaw*, to procure a number of companies from those tribes to join the Continental Army under his Excellency General *Washington*, agreeable to his request; and we have reason to expect that a body of them will speedily arrive here on the service; and we are also persuaded, from their friendly professions while here, and the good temper they departed with, there will be no danger from them to our eastern settlements. We have likewise had a conference with two of the Sachems of the *Penobscot Indians*, in which they request a *French* priest to dwell among them, such a regulation of the *French* trade as to prevent its being exposed to abuses, and that a boundary line between such lands as are left for their use and other lands, may be fixed, and steps taken to prevent encroachment. We did not conceive ourselves authorized fully to adjust these matters without your aid; and we have promised to lay their requests before the General Court at this session.

General *Washington* having, by the direction of Congress, ordered the Continental Regiments in this State to join the Continental Army, which, though a necessary measure for the general service, has left the fortresses here in a manner defenceless, we have, for our common safety, given orders for every twenty-fifth man of the Alarm and Train Band Lists in the several Counties (except *Berkshire*, *Lincoln*, *Nantucket*, and *Duke's County*) to march to the Heights at *Dorchester*. This detachment, we conceive, will make between two and three regiments; and we have the assurance of Congress they are to be in the Continental pay and establishment. A great part of the men are already arrived, and do now receive rations from the Continental Commissary-General. They are to be retained in service till the first day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged. The mileage usual on such occasions, we expect, will be paid by the Continent, together with their wages.

The troops levied for the Northern and Southern Departments, it is probable, are by this time principally at their respective places of destination. Whether the regiments are so full as intended or expected, we cannot as yet determine, for want of proper returns being made, which we may soon expect, as orders for them have been given.

The moneys expended in these and other exigencies of the State, we are sorry to acquaint you, have quite or near exhausted the Treasury. You will therefore, gentlemen, take this matter early in the session into your consideration; and as we apprehend there may be upwards of £100,000 due to this State from the Continent, for services done and moneys advanced, if proper accounts thereof were forthwith transmitted to Congress, the Treasury might be supplied from thence as soon as in any other way. The complaint against the last emission of bills of credit, on account of the ungraceful appearance they make, and the danger and disgrace the Government suffers therefrom, induces the Council seriously to recommend the speedy redemption thereof; and although we are sensible it is exceeding the line of our proper department, yet we have taken some steps towards the cutting elegant copper plates, which, in case the honourable House should think proper, might be speedily executed for that purpose; or the plates might serve for a future emission, whenever the House should judge it necessary.

From a representation of the Treasurer, there will be £75,000, or thereabouts, besides the interest thereof, due from the State in *June* next, exclusive of £50,000, for

which the moneys due from the Continent before the last session were mortgaged as a fund. You will doubtless be convinced that a tax for the whole, or the greater part of this will be necessary to be assessed during this session.

One of our Members of Congress has requested a dismission from that important service, and proposes the appointing a larger number of Delegates, who may attend alternately; the expediency of which you will doubtless pay due attention unto. The several papers referred to in this Message we shall direct the Secretary to lay before you.

Gentlemen, there are several other matters which will be laid before you during the session. You may depend upon our concurrence in every measure conducive to the safety, peace, and happiness of this State.

JAMES BOWDOIN,	RICHD. DERBY, Jr.,
WALTER SPOONER,	MOSES GILL,
CALEB CUSHING,	JOHN TAYLOR,
JOHN WINTHROP,	BENJN. WHITE,
BENJ. CHADBOURN,	WM. PHILLIPS,
THOMAS CUSHING,	BENJN. AUSTIN,
JOHN WHETCOMB,	JOS. CUSHING,
BENJAMIN LINCOLN,	DAVID SEWELL,
SAML. HOLTEN,	D. HOPKINS.
JABEZ FISHER,	

Council Chamber, August 28, 1776.

*Message from the major part of the Council.*

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: The inhabitants of the town of *Hull* were, in *July*, A. D. 1775, removed by orders from General *Ward*, and a guard placed at the entrance of the beach leading to that town, to prevent the enemy being supplied and a correspondence kept up between them and the few disaffected people among us. Some of the *Connecticut* troops were on this command. The time for which they enlisted expired in *December* last, and they retired to their homes. Upon the passage way being left unguarded, and several persons seen to pass the town of *Hull*, but none observed to return, information thereof was given to Colonel *Lincoln*, who thereupon ordered a guard of the Militia to take that post, and continue on it till further orders, and immediately laid the matter before the Council, who sent a message to his Excellency General *Washington*, requesting that he would place a guard there and relieve the Militia. The General gave encouragement that he would order one; but such was the state of the Army soon after, as to put it out of his power to comply with the request of Council, of which they had notice, and advised to keep up the guard, and laid the whole matter before the honourable House, but no order was by them taken in the matter; and the Militia guard, consisting of one Subaltern, one Sergeant, one Corporal, and sixteen privates, were continued till the spring. We recommend that provision be made for their pay and billeting as the sea-coast men are paid and billeted. Their roll the Secretary will lay on your table.

Among the Continental troops lately ordered from this State by Congress were a number of the regiment of Artillery. Troops have been called in to supply the place of the battalion men, but the deficiency caused by the removal of the Train hath not been provided for. Six men to a cannon, aided by some of the battalion, are the number generally assigned. At present, we have not half that proportion; and such is the state of our fortifications that we cannot depend upon reinforcing any one of them by detachments of the Train from another. You will therefore, gentlemen, immediately take this into consideration, and adopt some measures for augmenting the regiment of Artillery in this State.

The three regiments in the pay of this State, when raised, were promised their wages at the end of *July*. Although no provision was made for this before the close of the last session, the men have been quieted, from an expectation that on the first meeting of the Court they should be relieved in that respect. This engagement to them demands your attention.

The Militia in the vicinity of *Boston* and elsewhere have, since *March* last, at different times, been called to do duty at the lines and as guards to the sea-coast. No provision hath been made for the payment of them. You will give this matter the attention it deserves.

We thought it necessary to appoint a General Officer to take the command of troops in the pay of this State doing duty at and about the Harbour of *Boston*, and to command them during the recess of the General Court. His authority is now expired. The expense attending this appointment, and the expediency of renewing it, you will determine upon.

During the recess a packet was transmitted hither by Governour *Cooke*, of *Rhode-Island*, containing a letter from Lord *Howe*, directed to *Thomas Oliver*, Esq., Lieutenant-Governour, or, in his absence, to the Chief Magistrate of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, enclosing a Declaration made by his Lordship. Governour *Cooke* also sent a copy of his letter in answer to a similar letter and declaration which he had received. These several papers the Secretary will lay before you.

JAMES BOWDOIN,	SAML. HOLTEN,
W. SPOONER,	JABEZ FISHER,
CALEB CUSHING,	MOSES GILL,
J. WINTHROP,	JOHN TAYLOR,
B. CHADBOURN,	BENJA. WHITE,
THOMAS CUSHING,	BENJA. AUSTIN,
JOHN WHETCOMB,	JOS. CUSHING,
BENJA. LINCOLN,	DAVID SEWALL.

Council-Chamber, August 29, 1776.

*Answer to the Message of the Honourable a major part of the Council.*

*The Honourable the major part of the Council of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The House of Representatives have given all due attention to the Message from your Honours of the 28th instant, and are desirous of expressing, with manly fortitude, their entire satisfaction in the Declaration of Independence made by the honourable Congress, and published by your Honours' order in this State. They with great cheerfulness congratulate the honourable Board on the very general approbation that measure has met with through all ranks of people in the *United States of America*, and are ready to pledge their fortunes, lives, and sacred honour, to support it.

This House cannot but rejoice that our brethren of the eastern frontiers have so much reason to expect security in the enjoyment of their possessions, and that the neighbouring *Indians* appear so friendly in this and all the *United States*; and the House highly approves of the treaty of alliance made with the *St. John's* and *Mickmack* Tribes. With respect to the *Penobscot Indians*, this House is very desirous of cultivating their friendship, and ready to afford all the aid in their power towards gratifying them in their reasonable requests. The House will endeavour to prevent any abuses in the truck trade, and apprehend a boundary line may be established and encroachments prevented, so as to give satisfaction to that tribe; and no steps shall be wanting on the part of the House for accomplishing those desirable purposes.

The honourable Board, we trust, will always be pleased when they find the House careful to preserve their own and their constituents' rights and liberties.

The House recognises the right of the honourable Board to raise, at their discretion, such part of the Militia as they shall judge necessary for the defence of this State, and are sensible, by the withdrawal of the Continental regiments by his Excellency General *Washington's* order, the State was left very defenceless, and some considerable force was necessary for its safety. But still, this House apprehends the draughting every twenty-fifth man of the Alarm and Train Band List, and forming them into detachments, appointing and commissioning officers for the same, separate and distinct from the common Militia of the State, is the exercise of a power in the Council without precedent, and unconstitutional. It is with regret, and merely from fidelity to their constituents, that this House have taken notice of that measure, and they assure the honourable Board that they will cheerfully establish those proceedings.

The state of the publick Treasury, and the furnishing of it at this juncture with supplies adequate to the publick exigencies, is a matter that this House is very sensible claims its earliest and most diligent attention. And the House will, to the utmost of its power, endeavour to support the

credit of the State by a sufficient and respectable currency.

It would have given this House great satisfaction to have heard that our proportion of the levies for the Northern and Southern Departments had been complete and had arrived at their respective places of destination, and the House must be very anxious for the publick safety until that matter is properly ascertained to them.

This House with regret receives the information that one of the worthy and respectable members of Congress of this State finds himself under the necessity of asking a dismission from that important service. This House will consider of his request with a proper degree of tenderness for his person. And if any other mode of delegation in Congress can be devised for the ease and benefit of those respectable persons attending that duty, consistent with the publick service, the House will very readily adopt it.

All other matters that shall by your Honours' order be laid before the House during this session shall be fully considered.

Your Honours' constant and diligent application to the publick business, your unremitted exertions for the safety and preservation of this State, since the prorogation of the General Court, merits the grateful acknowledgments of this House and all their constituents.

Boston, August 29, 1776.

Yesterday the Honourable *Samuel Adams*, one of the Delegates from this State to the Continental Congress, arrived in town from *Philadelphia*.

Last *Saturday* afternoon was chased into *Marblehead*, by the *Milford* frigate, the prize ship *Isaac*, from *Tortola*, bound to *London*, three hundred and fifty tons burden, commanded by Captain *Ashburn*, laden with five hundred hogsheads of sugar, forty-four puncheons of rum, one hundred and fifty bags of cotton, a considerable quantity of old copper, and a number of turtle. She was taken by the privateer sloop *Warren*, commanded by Captain *Phillips*; and had it not been for the fort at *Marblehead*, which fired at the *Milford* several times, she would have been inevitably retaken. And on *Sunday* the above frigate took, off *Cape Ann*, a prize brigantine coming into port, said to be one of Captain *Whit's*, of *Salem*, laden with rum, from *Grenada*; also a large sloop, which our informant could not tell where from, nor who commanded her.

The privateer sloop *Broome*, Captain *William Nott* commander, belonging to *New-Haven*, arrived at *Dartmouth* on *Monday* last, from a cruise, and has taken the four following valuable prizes, viz: On the 3d of *August*, in latitude 32° 25' and longitude 59° 46', the ship *Charming Sally*, John *Stell* commander, bound to *Europe* from *Dominica*. She had on board four hundred and sixty-five hogsheads of sugar, thirty-one tierces ditto, thirty-five barrels ditto, and twenty-five tons of fustick. On the 4th of *August*, in latitude 32° 25' and longitude 59° 46', the snow *Ann*, John *Bowes* Captain, from *Tobago*, bound to *Lancaster*, and had on board one hundred and sixty-nine hogsheads of sugar, twenty tierces ditto, twenty-six barrels ditto, forty bags of ginger, and one hundred and eighteen bales of cotton. On the 5th of *August*, in latitude 33° 37' and longitude 60° 16', the brig *Carolina Packet*, Mark *Towell* Captain, bound from *Antigua* to *London*; had on board one hundred and fifty-one hogsheads of sugar, twelve tierces ditto, ten barrels ditto, two hogsheads of rum, and fourteen tons of lignum vitæ and fustick. On the 7th of *August*, in latitude 34° 25' and longitude 60° 18', the brig *John*, Captain *Daniel McKay*, bound from *Grenada* to *Dublin*; had on board ninety hogsheads and two tierces of rum.

Yesterday the General Assembly of this State convened at *Watertown*, agreeable to adjournment.

DR. BRACKETT TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Portsmouth, August 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The ship *Prince George*, commanded by Captain *Emms*, had her trial last week. The jury brought in their verdict and condemned three-quarters of ship and cargo to the use of the Colony, the other quarter to the Matross company stationed at *Fort Washington*, to be equally divided between officers and privates; though both the re-



solves of Congress and law of the Colony say the captors shall have one-third and the Colony two. There was also a trial of the masts, &c., which were claimed by Mr. *Perry*; the jury thought the claim was not good, and condemned them to the use of the Colony likewise. I shall, in a day or two, decree according to the jury's verdict, and issue a precept to the Sheriff to sell and make distribution according to said verdicts, and should be glad you would appoint *Pierce Long*, Esq., agent for the Colony, that there may be somebody here to take care of its interest, &c.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
J. BRACKETT.

To the Hon. *Meshech Weare*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety at *Exeter*.

GENERAL LEE TO THE GOVERNOUR OF CAPE FRANÇOIS.

Savannah, August 30, 1776.

SIR: It will be necessary, in addressing a letter of this nature so abruptly to your Excellency, that I should inform you who the writer is. I have served as Lieutenant-Colonel in the *English* service, Colonel in the *Portuguese*, afterwards as Aid-de-Camp to his *Polish* Majesty, with the rank of Major-General. Having purchased a small estate in *America*, I had determined to retire for the remainder of my days to a peaceful asylum. When the tyranny of the Ministry and Court of *Great Britain* forced this Continent to arms for the preservation of their liberties, I was called by the voice of the people to the rank of second in command.

I make no doubt of this letter's being kindly received by your Excellency, both in the character of a good *Frenchman* and friend to humanity. The present conjuncture of affairs renders the interest of *France* and of this Continent one and the same thing. Every observation drawn from history must evince that it was the exclusive commerce of these Colonies which enabled *Great Britain* to cope with *France*, gave to her a decided superiority in marine, and of course enabled her, in the frequent wars betwixt the two nations, to reduce her rival to the last extremity. This was the case so peculiarly in the last war, that had the *British* Ministry persevered, Heaven knows what would have been the fate of *France*. It follows, that if *France* can obtain the monopoly, or the greater part of this commerce, her opulence, strength, and prosperity, must grow to a prodigious height; and nothing can be more certain than that if *America* is enabled to preserve the independence she has now declared, the greater part of this commerce, if not the monopoly, must fall to the share of *France*.

The imaginary plans of conquest of *Louis* the Fourteenth, had they been realized, would not have established the power of that Monarchy on so solid and permanent a basis as the simple assistance, or rather friendly intercourse, with this Continent, will inevitably give. Without injustice, or the colour of injustice, but, on the contrary, only assuming the patronage of the rights of mankind, *France* has now in her power to become not only the greatest, but the most truly glorious Monarchy which has appeared on the stage of the world. In the first place, her possessions in the Islands will be secured against all possibility of attack, the royal revenues immensely increased, her people eased of their present burdens, an eternal incitement be presented to their industry, and the means of increase, by the facility of providing sustenance for their families, multiplied. In short, there is no saying what degree of eminence, happiness, and glory, she may derive from the independence of this Continent. Some visionary writers have indeed asserted, that could this country once shake off her *European* trammels, it would soon become more formidable alone, from the virtue and energy natural to a young people, than *Great Britain* with her Colonies united in a state of dependency. But the men who have built such hypotheses must be utter strangers to the manners, genius, disposition, turn of mind, and circumstances, of the Continent. Their disposition is manifestly to agriculture and the simple life of shepherds. As long as vast tracts of land remain unoccupied, to which they can send colonies (if I may so express it) of their offspring, they will never entertain a thought of marine or manufactures. Their ideas are solely confined to labour and to planting, for those nations who can, on the cheapest terms, furnish them with the necessary utensils for labouring and planting and clothes for

their families; and till the whole vast extent of continent is fully stocked with people, they will never entertain another idea. This cannot be effected for ages, and what then may happen it is out of the line of politicians to lay any stress upon; most probably they will be employed in wars amongst themselves before they aim at foreign conquests. In short, the apprehension is too remote to rouse the jealousy of any reasonable citizen of a foreign State.

On the other hand, it is worthy your Excellency's attention to consider what will be the consequences should *Great Britain* succeed in the present contest. *America*, it is true, will be wretched and enslaved; but a number of slaves may compose a formidable army and fleet. The proximity of situation, with so great a force, entirely at the disposal of *Great Britain*, will put it in her power to take possession of your Islands on the first rupture. Without pretending to the spirit of prophecy, such, I can assert, will be the event of the next war.

Upon the whole, I must repeat, that it is for the interest as well as glory of *France*, to furnish us with every means of supporting our liberties, to effect which we only demand a constant, systematick supply of the necessaries of war. We do not require any aid of men; we have numbers, and I believe courage, sufficient to carry us triumphantly through the struggle. We require small-arms, powder, field-pieces, woollen and linen to clothe our troops; also drugs, particularly bark. In return for which, every necessary provision for your Islands may be expected, as rice, corn, lumber, &c. If, indeed, you could spare us a few able Engineers and Artillery officers, they may depend upon an honourable reception and comfortable establishment.

The *Sieur De la Plain*, one of your countrymen, now engaged in the cause of the *United States of America*, will have the honour of delivering this letter to your Excellency. I have no doubt of his being received with that politeness and kindness to be expected from a gentleman of your rank and character.

I am, with the highest respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To His Excellency the Governour of *Cape François*.

Williamsburgh, August 30, 1776.

By Mr. *William Harrison*, in nine days from *Fort Pitt*, we have advice that Captain *John Hingston*, with a number of settlers, arrived from *Licking Creek*, near the *Kentucky*, the very day he left home. Captain *Hingston* gave the following account: that one *James Cooper* and another person, a *Dutchman*, being on their way to a buffalo-lick, were fired upon by a couple of *Indians*, who shot down *Cooper*, and frightened the *Dutchman's* horse so that he flung him. His foot hanging in the stirrup, one of the *Indians* made up to him to tomahawk him; but, although in that disadvantageous situation, he found means to aim his gun so well (which he never quitted) as to shoot the Savage dead on the spot, and seeing the other *Indian* making up to him, he disengaged himself from his own horse, mounted *Cooper's*, and got clear off to the inhabitants. Upon his arrival, many of the *Kentucky* settlers immediately went about forcing themselves at *Boonsborough* and *Harwood's Town*, and numbers agreed to come into the neighbourhood of *Fort Pitt* with Captain *Hingston*.

Mr. *Harrison* likewise informs, that Mr. *Jacob Hite*, who lately removed from *Berkeley County* to the neighbourhood of the *Cherokee* country with his family and a large parcel of negroes, was murdered at his own house by those Savages, with most of his slaves, and his wife and children carried off prisoners; his son, who was in the *Cherokee* country, was likewise murdered. The *Shawanese*, *Delawares*, and *Mingoes*, had not met our Commissioners, although two expresses had been sent to them for that purpose, and returned without any answer. A third express was sent off, but had not returned.

THOMAS RODNEY TO CESAR RODNEY.

Dover, August 30, 1776.

SIR: I received your letters by last post, and the one preceding, and one mentioned in that. I am pleased with your resolution mentioned in your last, as I should be sorry to hear that the unsteady passions which govern the peo-

ple should at any time give the least shock to that virtue which hath so long and necessarily supported *American* liberty. Though the people in a popular Government often put away good men for bad ones, and though such a change could not be more dangerous at any time than the present, yet I look on the present change with us as an example which favours liberty. If the people will not continually support those men who have served them faithfully at all hazards, it cannot be supposed that they will long support those men who, in opposition to the publick weal, have pursued their own private interest only. These men, by a violent exertion of the influence of the Magistracy, and descending to assert the most base, low, and infamous falsehoods, have succeeded for once, because the people were blinded that they could not see their true interest. But be assured they that set them up will pull them down again.

After devoting ten years to the service of your country and publick business, to the great prejudice of your own private interest, you certainly deserve to enjoy the sweets of retirement, which is the happiest life in this state; and you will have this reflection, that after the time you mention, that you have accomplished the establishment of *American* liberty, and that you could not do anything that would add to the honour already acquired: but I believe the people will not let you execute this design—they will soon be tired of those whom they have now set up—and will begin to call again upon those men whose virtue hath been proved to the utmost. When the great matters which you mention are completed, I shall be content, nor shall desire to have any hand in politicks, unless at any time liberty be encroached upon. Nothing but the great cause of liberty which we have been embarked in could have induced me (who have an increasing family and so little for them) to have spent so much of my time and money in publick services.

THOMAS RODNEY.

To the Hon. *Cesar Rodney*, in Congress.

#### ADMIRALTY COURT, PHILADELPHIA.

Port of PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ss:

To all whom it may concern: Notice is hereby given, that a Court of Admiralty for taking cognizance of and trying the justice of captures of Vessels made pursuant to the resolves of the honourable Continental Congress, and brought into this Port of *Philadelphia*, will be held at the Court-House, in the City of *Philadelphia*, on *Wednesday*, the 18th day of *September* next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of the same day, then and there to try the truth of the facts alleged in the bill of *James Campbell*, commander of the schooner-of-war called the *Enterprise*, (who as well, &c.,) against the ship or vessel called *Black River*, burden about one hundred and eighty tons, with her tackle, apparel, furniture, and cargo, lately commanded by *George Corrie*: to the end and intent that the owner or owners of the said ship and her cargo, or any person concerned therein, may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be condemned according to the prayer of the said bill.

By order of the Judge:

ANDREW ROBESON, *Register*.

August 30, 1776.

#### COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE ASSOCIATORS OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

In Council of Safety for the State of Pennsylvania, }  
Philadelphia, August 30, 1776. }

Whereas some designing, ill-disposed persons have spread false reports that the number of troops now in *New-Jersey* is too great, that many are in consequence discharged by the Generals, and that there is not any occasion to forward the troops who have not yet been at camp: the Council, therefore, to frustrate the designs of such persons, and to hasten the march of the Associators to the camp in *Jersey*, make known, that there is an immediate necessity for the Associators to hasten their march to the said camp with all expedition, and pay no regard to any reports which do not come from this Council or other proper authority.

By order of the Council:

SAMUEL MORRIS, *Chairman*.

#### LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Lancaster, August 30, 1776.

SIR: Your express, with the letters directed to the officers commanding the *Virginia* battalion of Continental troops on their march on the road between *Philadelphia* and *Lancaster*, arrived here yesterday evening. As those troops were not arrived among us, nor any officer or other person from them, and the Committee had received no intelligence from them, (except some flying reports a few days past, that some troops were intended to march this way from *Virginia*,) we thought best to detain the express until the arrival of the *Yorktown* post this morning, in hopes by him to have some account of them. As we hear nothing of them by the *York* post, I have some reason to think, from expressions of gentlemen who met your express, that those troops have taken the lower road through *Baltimore*; have directed the express to return to *Philadelphia* with the letters, especially as there were no orders to him or the Committee for his proceeding farther westward. The Committee hope they have not acted improperly.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant. By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM ATLEE, *Chairman*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

#### CAPTAIN LOWE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Trent Town, August 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We understand that there are two battalions of Regulars to be raised in *Maryland* for the Continental service; and as we are now in the Flying-Camp in said service, the whole of our people as well as ourselves have a desire of standing as Regulars in the aforesaid service. We therefore beg your Honours to have said company constituted Regulars, or give us an equal chance to raise a company for that purpose; which will much oblige your obedient, humble servants,

JOHN HAWKINS LOWE,  
JOHN M. BURGESS.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

*Horatio Clagett* will thankfully accept a Lieutenant's commission, and no other.

WILLIAM DUVAL.

N. B. I should be glad Mr. *Clagett* could be continued in my company.

J. H. L.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, August 30, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of this date is just come to hand. Circumstanced as this Army was, in respect to situation, strength, &c., it was the unanimous advice of a council of General Officers to give up *Long-Island*, and not, by dividing our force, be unable to resist the enemy in any one point of attack. This reason, added to some others, particularly the fear of having our communication cut off from the main, (of which there seemed to be no small probability,) and the extreme fatigue our troops were laid under in guarding such extensive lines without proper shelter from the weather, induced the above resolution.

It is the most intricate thing in the world, sir, to know in what manner to conduct one's self with respect to the Militia: if you do not begin many days before they are wanted, to raise them, you cannot have them in time; if you do, they get tired and return, besides being under but very little order or government whilst in service. However, if the enemy have a design of serving us at this place as we apprehend they meant to do on *Long-Island*, it might not be improper to have a body in readiness to prevent or retard a landing of them, on the east of *Harlem River*, if need be.

In haste, and not a little fatigued, I remain, with great respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Abm. Yates*, Jun., Esq., President, &c.

#### COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

New-York, August 30, 1776.

SIR: The General desires you will detain the powder you have received till further orders at *King's Bridge*, except

one ton to be sent down—the remainder to be produced occasionally.

The report of the evacuation of *Long-Island* last night is true; it was a measure founded on the fullest necessity, after the surprise of our troops last *Tuesday* [27th,] by which the flower of our Army and some of our best officers were lost; add to this, that the constant rains upon troops without cover has so spoiled the ammunition and enfeebled the men, that had the enemy attempted to force our lines, they must have done it with great ease. The ships have also been trying to get up the whole week, which, if they could effect, our communication would have been cut off, and the whole Army must have surrendered at discretion. Under these circumstances the remaining General Officers were unanimously of opinion, that it was absolutely necessary to retreat, which was done so as to bring off all our ammunition and artillery, except the heavy pieces, and most of our provisions. Our situation is in all respects critical. Lord *Stirling* and General *Sullivan* are both prisoners; the latter was permitted to come out this morning on his parole with a message from Lord *Howe*. This is the substance of what has passed in this important week.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOS. REED.

To Major-General *Heath*.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.

New-York, August 30, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Though I am much fatigued, not having had my clothes off since *Monday* evening, and no sleep for two nights, I sit down cheerfully to comply with your request. On General *Greene's* being sick, *Sullivan* took the command, who was wholly unacquainted with the ground or country. Some movements being made which the General did not approve entirely, and finding a great force going to *Long-Island*, he sent over *Putnam*, who had been over occasionally; this gave some disgust, so that *Putnam* was directed to soothe and soften as much as possible. In this condition things were, and growing more critical. Lord *Stirling* went over; some regiments were also sent; they were ordered to lay in a wood near *Flatbush*, but the road from *Jamaica* having been neglected, they were surprised on *Tuesday* morning. The picket of eight hundred men, I fear, mostly ran off at the first fire, but several regiments being ordered out, and ignorant of the *Jamaica* rout, as soon as they engaged they found themselves surrounded, so that they were obliged to cut their way through. Many of them behaved well, and have suffered accordingly. Our loss I compute at seven hundred men, two General Officers, (*Sullivan* and *Stirling*;) nine Colonels and Lieutenant-Colonels, two or three Majors, and several other officers. The two first are prisoners, and well used. We had a letter from *Sullivan* yesterday. Colonels killed and missing are *Atlee*, *Miles*, *Piper*, *Parry*, (killed;) Lieutenant-Colonel *Johnson*, *Lutz*, *Kacklin*, *Clark*, Major *Burd*, and one or two I don't

The principal loss has fallen on First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, *Atlee*, *Smallwood*, *Huntington*, and *Haslett's*; all of whom behaved so as to command the admiration of all those who beheld the engagement. My Lord, who loved discipline, made a mistake, which probably affected us a great deal; he would not suffer his regiments to break, but kept them in lines and on open ground. The enemy, on the other hand, possessed themselves of the woods, fences, &c., and having the advantage of numbers, perhaps ten to one, our troops lost everything but honour. His personal bravery was very conspicuous. As this wood made a capital part of the *Long-Island* defence, and Lord *Howe* was every day attempting, with the wind ahead, to get up to town, it became a serious consideration whether we ought to risk the fate of the Army, and perhaps *America*, on defending the circle of about three miles, fortified with a few strong redoubts, but chiefly open lines. When the heavy rains came on not half of the men had tents; they lay out in the lines, their arms, ammunition, &c., all got wet; they began to sink under the fatigues and hardships. The enemy at the same time possessed themselves of a piece of ground very advantageous, and of which they had . . . We were therefore reduced to the alternative of retiring to this place, or going out with . . . to drive them off; it was unanimously agreed to retire, and measures taken to execute it, which was

done in the face of their Army, so effectually that between sunset and sunrise our men, ammunition, all our artillery, (except five pieces of heavy cannon,) the greatest part of our prisoners, were got off undiscovered and safely landed here. We shall now therefore have our whole strength collected together, and govern ourselves accordingly. We took thirty prisoners and one officer from the enemy, and have reason to think their loss also considerable. In General *Sullivan's* note, he says Lord *Stirling* will be exchanged for either of their Brigadiers, from which we suppose two are killed, as they are not in our hands. A Sergeant brought in a laced hat, shot through, and the name of Colonel *Grant* wrote in it, from which we suppose he is certainly killed, and may be General *Grant* since promoted.

I have given you the substance, and I believe it is pretty exact.

I am, with great truth and esteem, &c., your most obedient, humble servant,

JOS. REED.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A MARYLANDER, DATED NEW-YORK, AUGUST 30, 1776.

I have just time to give you a short account of our late engagement at *Long-Island*. On *Tuesday* we received intelligence that the enemy had landed their troops about five miles below our lines; in consequence of which, General *Stirling* was ordered to march to the right and General *Parsons* to the left, with the Brigades under their commands, to take possession of some rising grounds, in order to flank the enemy and retard their march, until a sufficient reinforcement should be sent from this place to man the lines.

We began our march to the right, at three o'clock in the morning, with about thirteen hundred men, and about sunrise, on our near approach to the ground, discovered the enemy making up to it, and in a few minutes our advanced parties began the attack; we immediately advanced, and took possession of the ground and formed the line of battle, when our parties retreated to the main body and formed in a line with us. In the mean time they began a warm fire with their Artillery and Light Infantry, from their left, while the main body was forming in columns to attack us in front. Our men behaved well, and maintained their ground until ten o'clock, when the enemy retreated about two hundred yards and halted, and the firing on each side ceased, at which time we heard Generals *Sullivan* and *Parsons* engaged on our left. About eleven an express came to his Lordship, on which one battalion of Riflemen was immediately despatched to their assistance, which left us with no more than nine hundred and fifty men. We soon heard the fire continue round on our left, and in a short time discovered part of the enemy in our rear, going on to our lines, in order to cut off the communication between us. Being thus surrounded, and no probability of a reinforcement, his Lordship ordered me to retreat with the remaining part of our men, and force our way through to our camp. We soon fell in with a party of the enemy, who clubbed their firelocks, and waved their hats to us, as if they meant to surrender as prisoners; but on our advancing within sixty yards, they presented their pieces and fired, which we returned with so much warmth that they soon quitted their post and retired to a large body that was lying in ambuscade. During this interval the main part of our force retreated from the left through a marsh, with twenty-three prisoners, and got in safe, with the loss of one man killed and three drowned crossing the creek. We were then left with only five companies of our battalion, when the enemy returned, and after a warm and close engagement for near ten minutes, our little line became so disordered we were under the necessity of retreating to a piece of woods on our right, where we formed and made a second attack, but being overpowered with numbers, and surrounded on all sides, by at least twenty thousand men, we were drove with much precipitation and confusion. General *Stirling* on this retreat was missing, whose brave example had encouraged and animated our young soldiers with almost invincible resolution.

The impracticability of forcing through such a formidable body of troops, rendered it the height of rashness and imprudence to risk the lives of our remaining party in a third attempt, and it became necessary for us to endeavour to effect our escape in the best manner we possibly could. A

party immediately retreated to the right through the woods, and Captain *Ford* and myself, with twenty others, to the left, through a marsh; nine only of whom got safe in. The principal loss sustained in our battalion fell on Captains *Veazey*, *Adams*, *Lucas*, *Ford*, and *Bowie's* companies. The killed, wounded, and missing amount to two hundred and fifty-nine; our whole loss that day supposed to be near one thousand, chief part of whom are prisoners, among whom are Generals *Sullivan* and *Stirling*. The above is as circumstantial an account as the hurry and want of time will admit of.

A list of the killed and missing in the *Maryland* Battalion: Captain *Veazey*, killed; Lieutenant *Butler*, said to be killed; Ensign *Fernandes*, Lieutenant *Dent*, Captain *Bowie*, missing; Lieutenant *Sterret*, *Coursey*, and *Wright*, Ensign *Ridge*, thirteen Sergeants, and two hundred and thirty-five privates.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 30, 1776.

On *Monday* we were ordered here, and next morning were sent over to *Long-Island*, where our battalion occupied the lines opposite the left of the enemy; the works we had were very weak, and but few cannon to defend them. The General Officers held a Council yesterday afternoon, and thought it necessary to abandon the Island, for fear of the men-of-war getting into the *East River*, and cutting off the communication with this place, which they would have done the first fair wind that served. Our battalion, with the other *Pennsylvania* troops and the *Maryland* Regiment, were ordered to cover the retreat of our Army, which must have consisted of ten thousand men. Our Army began to embark in boats about ten o'clock, and continued till daylight. We received orders to quit our station about two o'clock this morning, and had made our retreat almost to the ferry, when General *Washington* ordered us back to that part of the lines we were first at, which was reckoned to be the most dangerous post. We got back undiscovered by the enemy, and continued there until daylight. Providentially for us, a great fog arose, which prevented the enemy from seeing our retreat from their works, which was not more than musket-shot from us. Had we been discovered, we must have been unavoidably cut off, as we were on a neck of land which could have been taken possession of by them before we could have got out. We have got all our regiment over safe, except our sentinels, which we were obliged to leave; but gave them notice to retreat in time; therefore expect they will all get safe over. The first fair wind, it is expected the men-of-war will come up and bombard the town, and from the heights on *Long-Island* it may easily be done. It is the general opinion we cannot be able to keep it; therefore expect we shall be obliged to retreat to *Mount Washington* and *King's Bridge*. Since I have been on *Long-Island*, I have had no sleep, nor anything to eat but what I plundered; therefore travelled very light when we were obliged to scamper off this morning. By a flag received yesterday from the enemy, we are informed Lord *Stirling* and General *Sullivan* were made prisoners.

JOHN SLOSS HOBART TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Huntington, August 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: To our unspeakable mortification, we found, when we arrived in *Queen's* County, that the Militia had dispersed, and General *Woodhull* had fallen into the hands of the enemy. We then proceeded with all despatch to this town, as the only place where we could have any prospect of making an effectual stand, as the enemy were in full possession of the western parts of that County as far as *Jamaica*, and the disaffected from east were gone in to them. Tho' we were not authorized for the purpose by Convention, we have taken upon ourselves to order out the Militia of the County, to rendezvous here, and have wrote to Colonel *Mulford*, at *Easthampton*, to come up and take the command, as he is now the senior officer in the brigade.

We shall direct the Commissary to furnish the Militia with provisions. If we should succeed in collecting a considerable body of men together, money for their subsistence will be wanting. We have borrowed, on the publick credit, from the County Treasurer of *Queen's* County, £320,

which will answer for the present. We hope the Convention will order a further sum for the Commissary. We find the people determined to make a resolute stand; and should any marauders attempt to penetrate this County, we trust they will pay for their temerity.

Nothing but the necessity of the case can be urged as an excuse for the power we have assumed; and being sensible that our conduct cannot be strictly justified, we humbly submit whether it will not be proper for the Convention to send us an indemnification, and such further powers as may be sufficient to enable us to exert the whole force of this brigade to oppose the enemy. As General *Woodhull's* papers have very probably been taken by the enemy, we beg we may have copies from the minutes of such resolves as are necessary for carrying on the operations in this part. We are informed that there are one hundred stand of arms in a prize lately brought in by Captain *Rogers*. We purpose to take and distribute them among the Militia. We must urge to the Convention the necessity of sending reinforcement, or we may not perhaps be able to make an effectual stand. We beg leave to submit to Convention the propriety of appointing an officer of activity and discretion to command in the room of General *Woodhull*; and are, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servants,

JOHN SLOSS HOBART,  
JAMES TOWNSEND.

EBENEZER DAYTON'S NARRATIVE.

A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Officers and Men of part of the First Regiment in *Suffolk* County, required of *Ebenezer Dayton*, Quartermaster of the Minute Regiment, by Mr. *John Sloss Hobart*, Esq., of their Proceeding of the 30th August, 1776, at *Brookhaven* and *Smithtown*.

On the 29th August, Major *Jeffrey Smith* sent an order to *Philip Roe*, Adjutant, to order the four companies in *Brookhaven* to march immediately to *Platt Carls*, in *Huntington*, and there wait further orders. The said Adjutant gave orders to the four Captains of said companies without loss of time, and there appeared a very high spirit among the men in general, insomuch that, about the middle of the day following, (August 30,) three of those companies arrived to the house of *Epenetus Smith*, at *Smithtown*, and the other (being Captain *Nicholas Rose's* company) was coming up. It was reported at said *Smith's* that the Major was gone to *Huntington*, to see Messrs. *Hubbard* and *Townsend*, and desired these companies to wait there until his return, which was not until in the dusk of the evening, during which time there was great uneasiness among the men that they should be prevented from marching westward, and were very eager to march to *Hempstead Plains* to bring off the stock, and make a stand in the woods to the east of said Plains; but at evening Major *Jeffrey Smith* came to them from *Huntington*, and called the officers into a room, and told them that he thought it dangerous to march farther west, as their forces would not be sufficient to oppose the enemy, and that, for his part, he very much gave up the Island, and that he saw no way but that we must fall into the enemy's hands, and that it would not be good policy to incense a cruel enemy by being taken under arms, and that he supposed, if remained quiet at home, we should fare the better, and that he was so discouraged that he intended to resign his commission. He said Col. *Potter* was gone off, and left him alone, and that Major *Brush* had judged it unsafe to proceed with what forces we could raise in this County against the enemy, unless a large reinforcement should arrive very speedily, which he judged improbable; and Captain *Thompson* appeared in a panick, and was for rushing out of the room, saying he would give orders for his company to return home immediately, and would go himself also, and would not be prevailed upon to let his men stay until the morning, and also refused to be prevailed upon to conceal the motives for dismissing them. Major *Smith* said he would not give any orders, as he designed to decline his commission; but, as an individual, he would advise them to continue there until they could have orders from Messrs. *Hubbard* and *Townsend*, and did advise the officers to send off immediately to them for orders; but Captain *Thompson* rushed out of the room amongst the men, and expressed his fears, and dismissed his company, and hurried homewards; upon which the men, who before were in high spirits and eager to press forward, were in a panick



of fear, and saw that if their officers ran away, and declined their offices, and feared to command them, they thought proper also to return home, but not without a clamour against their officers, &c., &c. The men returned home accordingly. In the whole affair, Adjutant *Roe* discovered firmness, and urged the officers to exert themselves, and so did a number of subalterns. *Ebenezer Dayton* was much censured for urging a speedy march, accusing him of wanting to sacrifice the troops without a chance of doing good, or even a probability of success.

EBENEZER DAYTON.

Sworn this 31st *August*, before us:

JNO. SLOSS HOBART,  
JAMES TOWNSEND.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Sag-Harbour, August 30, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: On *Thursday* last I received an express from Captain *Davis*, stationed at *Montauk-Point*, notifying me that he had discovered three sail of the enemy making for the Point; that they had hoisted out their boats to the number of ten or twelve, he supposed with design to land and carry off stock. After giving the orders I thought necessary to Captains *Roe* and *Griffin*, I set out for the Point. On my arrival in the evening at Captain *Davis's* station, I found three vessels, which I took to be frigates from twenty to thirty guns, a brig we imagined to be a prize, and a small sloop, close in with the land. At seven o'clock in the evening, one of the frigates, the brig, and the sloop, made for the continent southwest of *New-London*, where they anchored under the shore; the other two ships bore away for *Block-Island*. On *Saturday* morning the three vessels under the eastern shore, taking advantage of the tide of flood and a fair wind, sailed up the *Sound* as far as *Huntington*, about sixty miles from hence. The tide and wind making against them, they were obliged to come to an anchor; how far they have since proceeded is uncertain, but suppose the communication by water between this and *New-York* is now cut off. The ships off *Block-Island* still continue to cruise there. We imagine by their movements that they wait the arrival of a fleet.

I have just received an account of my Colonel's promotion to the rank of Brigadier-General. As next in rank to him in the regiment, I should have transmitted your Excellency a general return of the whole; but my remote distance from the major part of the regiment, together with the uncertainty whether it is your Excellency's intention I should succeed him, has prevented me.

The enclosed is a true state of the detachment your Excellency was pleased to honour me with the command of.

My respects wait on Mrs. *Washington*. I remain, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. Any command your Excellency pleases to honour me with will be forwarded by the bearer, Lieutenant *Smith*, of Captain *Roe's* company.

My dear General, I have just received an account, by express, that the communication between us and *New-York* is cut off, and that your Excellency's attempts to dislodge the enemy have hitherto been successful. I have despatched an account of this matter to his Excellency Governour *Trumbull*, of *Connecticut*. If it meets with your Excellency's approbation, I should think, notwithstanding the ships in the *Sound*, we shall be able in a few days to get a body of men from *Connecticut*, whose attack on the back of our enemies from this way may be a means of distressing them much. They have now possession of *Jamaica* and *Hempstead Plains*, consequently this country is exposed to their ravages. The communication at *Hell-Gate* is not yet cut off. I wait with impatience for your Excellency's commands. The publick spirit of this County has reduced its Militia to nothing.

Yours, affectionately, HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, commanding in the *United States of America, New-York*.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Sag-Harbour, August 30, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have just received an account of our cruel and unnatural enemy, the *English*,

having possessed themselves of so much of *Long-Island* as to destroy the communication between this end of it and the city of *New-York*. I am honoured by General *Washington* with the command of a detachment of two hundred men, for the protection of the inhabitants, stocks, &c. This detachment I think in danger, also insufficient for the purposes mentioned; but am resolved, notwithstanding, to keep our reputations clear and unsullied, and with our feeble force to endeavour to distress our enemies all in our power.

I have prevailed upon the Rev. Mr. *Buell* to transcribe the account he received from the express relative to the communication being cut off, and to direct it to your Excellency, that, if you should think it advisable, you might order a number of men to cross the *Sound* at night, which I conceive they might do without danger from the shipping stationed there. I have endeavoured to transmit his Excellency General *Washington* an account of my having wrote to your Honour concerning this matter, and sent him my returns, a duplicate of which I transmit to your Honour, that if mine should miscarry, this should not.

I am, with all imaginable respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON, Lt. Col. and Com. Officer.

To His Excellency Governour *Trumbull*.

REV. S. BUELL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Sag-Harbour, August 30, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have this hour direct intelligence from the west end of this Island, by a post, that the Ministerial Army (supposed to be about sixteen thousand) are on this side our Army upon the Island; have lined across the Island, from the *Sound* to the south side, so that we on the east end can have no access to our Army. Upon *Tuesday* last General *Washington* came over from *New-York* upon this Island with six thousand men. There have been several engagements; four or five thousand, it is supposed, have fallen, inclusive of both armies. The armies are within half a mile of each other. A constant fire is kept up; 'tis supposed the grand battle will be tomorrow or next day. We have lost, killed and taken, as the post says, near three hundred Riflemen. The enemy have two hundred Horse; their riders were to dine the day before yesterday at *Hempstead*. They have command of the west end of the Island entirely. The post relates, that upon *Tuesday* about five thousand Regulars attempted to land a little below *York* ferry. Our people met them, and the post says killed about two thousand, and drove the residue back. We learn by the post the *Hessians* fight terribly. I am now, sir, present with Colonel *Livingston*, who advises to write, in conjunction with himself, to your Honour, as proposing and submitting of it to your Honour's wisdom to determine whether it will not be conducive to the general good and for the preservation of this end of the Island, to throw a number of troops over to our assistance at the present time.

Confiding in your Excellency's patriotick spirit and superior wisdom, in all possible haste, I am, with great esteem, your Excellency's most humble, most obedient, friend and servant,

SOL. BUELL.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

WILLIAM DUER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of Safety, Harlem, August 30, 1776.

SIR: By order of the Committee of Safety of this State, I transmit to your Excellency the examination of *Daniel Redfield*, in order that such measures may be pursued for baffling the enemy's operations as your prudence shall dictate. I have likewise to inform your Excellency, that on yesterday morning one *Lounsbery*, in *Westchester* County, who had headed a body of about fourteen Tories, was killed by an officer named *Flood*, on his refusal to surrender himself prisoner; that in his pocket-book was found a commission signed by General *Howe* to Major *Rogers*, empowering him to raise a battalion of Rangers, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel commandant; that annexed to this was a warrant to this *Lounsberry*, signed by Major *Rogers*, appointing him a Captain of one of these companies, as likewise a muster-roll of the men already enlisted. The Com-

mittee of Safety will transmit to your Excellency certified copies of all these papers as early as possible.

I am, sir, by order, your most obedient humble servant,  
WM. DUER.  
To His Excellency General *Washington*.

ABRAHAM YATES, JUN., TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.  
In Committee of Safety, at King's Bridge, }  
August 30, 1776. }

SIR: In our way to *Fishkill*, agreeable to an adjournment of the Convention, we are informed that the Army is removed from *Long-Island* to the city of *New-York*. An anxiety to know the fact, as well as to be informed whether you think any measures necessary for us to take, induces us to trouble your Excellency at this time for an answer hereto. We have ordered last night all the Militia of the Counties of *Ulster*, *Dutchess*, *Orange*, and *Westchester*, to be ready at a minute's warning, with five days' provisions.

We shall wait the return of our messenger at this place; and are, sir, your most obedient and very humble servants,  
ABM. YATES, JUN., *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

PETITION OF JONATHAN PURDY, JUN.

To the Honourable the President and Members of the Provincial Congress of *NEW-YORK*:

The Petition of JONATHAN PURDY, Jun., of *WESTCHESTER County*, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner hath been confined in this place for a considerable time merely on suspicion of being an enemy to the country, when your petitioner was inlisted into his Majesty's service, and received his bounty, upwards of six months ago, before there was any thought or even the least suspicion of an alteration of Government. And as your petitioner humbly conceives that he acted agreeable to the dictates of conscience in the affair, as he can see no reason offered that can invalidate his oath of allegiance, he humbly begs of your Honours to consider his case, and to allow him the same privileges as other prisoners of war in the service of his Majesty, by being allowed his liberty on parole to any certain boundary your Honours may think proper; and your petitioner hereby promises and engages never to interfere on one part or the other during the present unhappy troubles, but will behave himself as becomes a faithful subject and prisoner belonging to his Majesty, till such time as there may be an exchange of prisoners or that matters may be otherwise settled. Your petitioner humbly submits his case to this honourable House, and begs that they would consider your petitioner's unhappy case, and order him such relief as to this honourable House shall seem meet; and your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JONATHAN PURDY, JUN.

White Plains Jail, August 30, 1776.

GENERAL HEATH TO THE COMMISSARY OF PROVISIONS.  
King's Bridge, August 30, 1776.

SIR: Lieutenant *Umstead*, with twenty-two men besides himself, are ordered as a guard to conduct to *Fairfield*, in *Connecticut*, Lieutenant *John Ragg*, and twenty-two other prisoners of war, taken the 27th instant on *Long-Island*. You will immediately furnish the Lieutenant of the guard with provisions sufficient for the journey and return, or the value thereof in money agreeable to the establishment of the Continental rations.

I am, sir, yours, &c., WM. HEATH.  
To the Commissary of Provisions.

P. S. You will also deliver for the guard the daily allowance of rum as when fatiguing.

GENERAL HEATH TO CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD.  
King's Bridge, August 30, 1776, almost }  
ten o'clock at night. }

SIR: In consequence of orders this moment received from his Excellency General *Washington*, you are to stop all soldiers coming from the city, except such as have proper discharges; you are to post two sentries on the bridge, that none may escape.

I am, sir, yours, &c., W. HEATH, M. G.  
To the Captain of the main Guard.

JAMES W. PAYNE TO GENERAL HEATH.

Frog Point, August 30, 1776.

SIR: In obedience to your Honour's request, I herewith send you an account of the enemy's Light-Horse, who are pillaging the country in parties of eight and ten all along on the opposite shore. As it was impossible to convey the troops over last night in the rain, they have found no opposition, which may induce them to continue their route. Had there been one hundred good men on *Long-Island* last night, I am of opinion we could have taken them all. I am this instant going over; if they are yet there, I shall immediately inform your Honour of every particular.

From your Honour's most obedient humble servant,  
JAMES WM. PAYNE.

To the Hon. General *Heath*, at *King's Bridge*.

P. S. I have just heard that Major *Bowne* was seen bound in the possession of the Light-Horse.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 30, 1776.

SIR: I find there are a few carpenters in Colonel *Whitcomb's* regiment, and I thought it best to stop a few of them, in order to get off the galleys as soon as possible. I never saw so much fever and ague in my life as there is at this post. There are but very few carpenters at this place fit for duty, and it makes me very uneasy. I cannot get the galleys off according to your Honour's expectation; there is one to be launched to-morrow, and I hope the others will soon be in the water. I hope I shall soon be on the lake with the galleys, as it would be very agreeable to me. If it should not be disagreeable to your Honour my stopping the carpenters out of the above regiment, I should be glad to do it, as I may send them forward; and am, with the greatest esteem, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY.

To Major-General *Gates*.

COLONEL FRASER TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 30, 1776.

SIR: I arrived at this place last evening with Colonel *Whitcomb's* regiment from *Boston*, and expect to embark this afternoon or to-morrow morning early for *Ticonderoga*. The roads, or rather woods, that we marched through were so exceeding bad, occasioned by the vast quantity of rain that we have had lately, retarded our march much. We had rafts to build to cross the rivers with our baggage, &c., and swam across several creeks. This, with the worst ground I ever travelled over, detained us a little. I have lost not one minute of time, or staid at anything. Our baggage was a little in the rear, but will be all up to-day. Colonel *Phinney* with his regiment will be here to-morrow.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

JNO. G. FRASER.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, August 30, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I received your obliging letter of the 28th instant, and am glad to understand that it is your design rather to increase than diminish the number of troops at this post. Were the detachment under General *Arnold* returned to the regiment, I could then conduct my operations here agreeable to a plan which I have laid down to myself. I think my party would be secure against the Savages or light troops of the enemy, or perhaps I might say more; and I could always afford to have some parties in the woods, and a boat on the Lake, so that the main Army might be informed of the approach of an enemy. You will see by my return of this day, that we are but weak at present; but if you were pleased to order a subaltern and thirty eastern men to *Raymond's Mill*, as a covering party to the oar-makers there, I could perhaps make out till the return of my men who went with General *Arnold*. I propose, if you would send the covering party to the Mill to-morrow, to despatch to-morrow afternoon two boats down the Lake—one to *Gilliland's*, the other to the fleet—with some military stores that were sent here since the General sailed. At *Raymond's Mill* I would keep a corporal and four woodsmen; two of them should still be out to discover

if any *Indians* should come up on the west side of the Lake near that place.

If, from any intelligence I may receive, I should stand in need of a further reinforcement, I shall make application to you immediately. I have collected three rusty cannon from the ruins of the works near here. I have prepared a place to mount them. I would be glad of a couple of Artillerymen for a few days, to teach some of my men who have had a little experience.

I am really convinced that this is a place of the last consequence. Should the enemy, by any accident, get possession of it this fall or next spring, they could effectually destroy our navigation, or render it useless. It is too late to think of repairing the old works this fall, perhaps; but as nature seems to have intended this spot to command the pass of this country, I presume it will not be neglected in the spring, as there will be no scarcity of men. The fortifications could be much sooner repaired, I think, than is generally imagined. If the occupying all the redoubts would require many men, only such of them should be repaired as were absolutely necessary, and the rest be entirely destroyed. You will, perhaps, think it necessary to keep troops here during the winter; if so, some of the barracks in the fort might be handily repaired, if a dozen or two carpenters were set to work at any time. If I survive this campaign, it is probable I may not come into this quarter again; yet it would give me great pleasure to hear it was determined to fortify and maintain this point, even distinct from the protection of the fleet.

I have so little experience that you may consider me impertinent in these observations. I hope you will not, as they really proceed from the best of motives.

The increase of your Army effectually secures *Ticonderoga* against any attempts from our enemy; nay, even tho' the *American* arms were unsuccessful at *New-York*.

The fleet got down on *Saturday* evening, opposite *Gilliland's*. How far they afterwards proceeded, I have not learnt, but apprehend it could have been no great distance, as the storm came on so soon. The party from this regiment preceded the fleet. They must have had a hard time of it.

I shall carefully attend to your instructions, and shall always consider it as a great reward when my small services receive your approbation.

I am, honoured sir, your most obedient, humble servant,  
THOS. HARTLEY.

To Major-General *Gates*.

STEPHEN BADGER TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Natick, August 30, 1776.

SIR: When I waited upon you at *Boston* last week, I had some conversation with your Honour relating to Colonel *Jones*, of *Dedham*, who was in the list of Justices under the late establishment, but has hitherto been taken no notice of under the present. This he is at a loss rationally to account for, not being conscious of having done anything to forfeit the confidence of the publick, or to disqualify himself for any employment which his talents and abilities may be equal to. From a particular acquaintance with him, I know him to be a worthy man, of a fair character, and of good understanding, and have reason to believe he has taken as much pains and been at as much expense to inform and furnish himself, with respect to the nature and duties of a Magistrate's office, as most of those that were upon the bench with him. He is also a man of so much firmness and resolution, as well as capacity and integrity, that when difficulties have arisen in some of the remote parts of the county to which he belongs, he has divers times been called to officiate as a Justice, and has terminated matters in such a manner as derived credit to himself, dignity to his office, and at the same time produced beneficial effects to society; and, I am well informed, has been applied to for advice by some that have lately been appointed to office, who know him to be well versed in the nature and business of it. But it seems not a little hard that the result of that pains and expense he has been at, should be only made use of as a medium by others, and he be entirely excluded from improving them in an immediate way himself. As to politicks, from the beginning he has not merely disapproved of, but condemned the measures of the *British* Administration rela-

tive to these Colonies; but he has uniformly and strenuously bore testimony against mobs and riot, and been a warm and zealous friend to order and a due subordination in the community, and when in office exerted himself to promote them as occasion required, by which he incurred the censure and ill will of some of the baser sort, especially of those of them that felt the effects of his spirited but prudent decisions. Men of this cast, taking advantage of the temper and the enthusiasm of the times, and the relaxation, if not dormancy, of the laws, loaded him with insult and abuse without measure, which might draw from him some expressions that had a personal reference only, but which might look unfavourable to the cause of freedom, although they were far from being intended to injure what is properly such. He entirely concurs with the Declaration of Independency, and will exert himself in defence of it upon every proper occasion. As the temper of the people is now in a great measure subsided, I doubt not there would be a general concurrence with his appointment to office, and a universal acquiescence, especially as it is known that he has not been wanting in donations to the distressed poor of *Boston*, or in contributing more than his proportion to raising men for the Continental service, besides having a son of great hopes, who was a worthy officer in it, who was at *Charlestown*, and acquitted himself well in the engagement there, but who lately died of the small-pox in the Northern Army, to the great grief of his parents and friends, as well as to the loss of his country.

These things being considered, with others that might be mentioned, I cannot but presume the honourable Board will think it expedient and proper to enable him to be further useful to the community, and to support his rank in life, by reappointing him to that department which he but lately filled up, with reputation to himself and advantage to the publick; which is humbly submitted to your Honour, with the rest of the honourable Board, by your and their very humble servant,

STEPHEN BADGER.

To the Hon. *James Bowdoin*, Esq.

#### RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE COMMITTEE OF POPLIN, RESPECTING ZACHEUS CLOUGH.

State of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }  
August 30, 1776. }

Whereas this Committee did, on the 20th *July*, recommend to the Committee of *Poplin* to call in to their aid the Committees of two of the nearest towns or parishes to them, jointly to sit and hear all accusations against *Zacheus Clough*, Esq., of said *Poplin*, relative to a donation he was intrusted with for the poor of *Boston*, it being represented to this Committee that the Committees were not called agreeable to the said recommendation, it is now further recommended that all proceedings be stayed thereon, respecting those matters, until *Thursday*, the 5th *September* next, at which time the parties, if they see cause, may have an opportunity of being heard thereon before the General Assembly.

GUY CARLETON, *Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief of the Province of QUEBECK, Vice-Admiral of the same, General and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in the said Province, and the Frontiers, &c., &c.*

#### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas there remains on hand a great quantity of the last year's Wheat, and the crops of this year are very abundant, a considerable part of which is already got in, and it is conceived that it will not be detrimental to the Province, nor to his Majesty's troops therein, to suffer an exportation thereof, I hereby make known to all his Majesty's subjects in this Province, that I do allow a general exportation of Wheat. But inasmuch as the exportation of any Cattle or Live Stock out of the Province, or of Flour and Biscuit, elsewhere than to the Fisheries, *Nova-Scotia*, and the *West-Indies*, may at this time be greatly prejudicial to the Province and his Majesty's troops therein, I have thought proper to order, and I do hereby strictly order, that no person or persons whatsoever, at any time after the publication hereof, and before the first day of *December* next, shall, directly or indirectly, export or cause to be exported out of this Province any Cattle or Live Stock to any place whatsoever, or any

Flour or Biscuit, elsewhere than to the Fisheries, *Nova-Scotia*, or the *West-Indies*.

And I do hereby forbid all the officers of his Majesty's Customs, within this Province, to make any entries or clearances of any vessel or vessels which shall have on board any Cattle or Live Stock, or any Flour and Biscuit, other than for the Fisheries, *Nova-Scotia*, or the *West-Indies*; excepting only such and so much of the said commodities as shall be necessary to be carried for the sustenance, diet, and support of the commanders, masters, mariners, passengers, or others, in the same vessels, for their respective voyages.

Given under my hand and seal of arms, at *Montreal*, the 30th day of *August*, 1776, in the sixteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord *George* the Third, by the grace of *God* of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

GUY CARLETON.

By His Excellency's command :

E. FOY.

*God save the King.*

ADDRESS OF THE CITY OF MONTREAL TO GENERAL CARLETON.

To His Excellency GUY CARLETON, Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief of the Province of QUEBECK, and the Territories thereon depending, General and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in the said Province, and the Frontiers thereof, &c., &c.

We, his Majesty's faithful subjects of the City of *Montreal*, most respectfully congratulate your Excellency on the victory which, with a handful of his Majesty's troops and seamen, aided by the brave and loyal citizens of *Quebeck*, you have so gloriously obtained over the rebellious invaders of this Province. How pleasing to your Excellency, how happy for us, to see you thus victorious, and now at the head of an Army arduous to distinguish themselves, not less by their humanity than by their valour.

Before rebellion (the source of crimes and misery) made us feel its fatal effects, we were fully convinced that our happiness entirely depended on our deference to the authority of our King in Parliament, and we needed not the scourge of invading tyrants to persuade us that the welfare of a nation is inseparably connected with loyalty and attachment to the Sovereign.

To relate the acts of injustice and cruelty committed under the sacred name of liberty, would be changing our congratulations and joy into lamentations and complaints: happy in our deliverance, and in the prospect of again flourishing under your Excellency's Administration, we ardently pray the Divine Providence to prosper his Majesty's arms under your command, and to make you the happy instrument for restoring peace and tranquillity between *Great Britain* and her distracted Colonies.

We humbly pray your Excellency to make known to our most gracious Monarch the satisfaction we feel on being restored to peace and good Government, and to assure the best of Kings of our unshaken fidelity to his royal person, his family, and his Government.

GENERAL CARLETON'S ANSWER.

GENTLEMEN: I thank you for this very loyal Address, which shall be transmitted home in order to be laid before the Throne.

It is with the greatest satisfaction I see you delivered from the tyranny of lawless men, and again under the protection of the laws and government of your Sovereign, whose strength is the security of his subjects, his power destined to promote their happiness, and guard their rights and liberties: those who assail it, though, under the varnish of a flattering and perverted use of words, they may deceive the thoughtless multitude, are in truth the people's greatest enemies, would strip them of their sole defence upon earth, and expose them a prey to violence and wrong, perhaps to their own unbounded and unjust ambition.

It would complete my satisfaction should I be fortunate enough to assist in restoring to the same peace and tranquillity you now enjoy, the distracted Provinces in our neighbourhood, and to convince them without severity how strangely they have been led aside from their true interests. The manly conduct of the citizens of *Quebeck* will prove a last-

ing monument to their honour, and it is to be hoped, the example of their courage and resolution will inspire the unhappy sufferers in the other Colonies with similar virtue now to rescue themselves from the miseries which their credulity prevented them from guarding against at the first.

GUY CARLETON.

RALPH IZARD TO CLAUDE CRESPIGNY.

Richmond, (England,) August 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We are very happy to hear of the favourable change in Mrs. *Crespigny*.

They laugh, you say, at *St. James's* at the Declaration of Independence. I do not know that they have much cause to do so. When the Duke of *Braganza* declared *Portugal* independent of *Spain*, and himself King of it, the Count-Duke *Olivarez* affected likewise to laugh. *Philip* the Fourth was persuaded to think it a very pleasant and comical circumstance. This Minister made him believe that there would be such confiscations as would abundantly recompense him for the trouble these few factious people would give him. The King, however, was deceived, and the *Spanish* Monarchy dismembered. Perhaps some historian may find a parallel to this *Spanish* story.

I believe the history of *Europe* does not furnish so extraordinary an affair as the late defeat at *Charlestown*. Last year's *Algerine* expedition is not to be compared to it. The Ministry must have great confidence in the passive tempers of the nation to impose such an account on them as appeared in last *Saturday's Gazette*. There must certainly have been a misunderstanding between the two departments, which, however pleasing it may be to those who are enemies to the doctrine of passive obedience and unconditional submission, much behooves the supporters of the measures to inquire into.

*Clinton* has always borne the character of a brave and good officer; it is therefore the more extraordinary that he should have been landed on a sand bank, (*Long-Island* and *Sullivan's Island* are nothing else,) from the 9th to the 28th, without sounding the water, and knowing that it was too deep to walk across.

Sir *Peter Parker* tells us that he drove large parties several times out of the fort, which were replaced by others from the main. This fort was a temporary thing, built to annoy the shipping in their passage to the town. It was not expected that it would have been necessary to defend it for upwards of ten hours against a homb vessel and eight or nine men-of-war. The powder, I dare say, was very near exhausted, and the men whom Sir *Peter* supposes he had driven out night probably have been messengers for a fresh supply. The large parties might have been small ones. We know that the Provincial numbers at *Bunker's Hill* were, by the *Gazette*, multiplied at least by five. Objects seen through the medium of smoke and fire are always considerably magnified. If the fort was evacuated for an hour and a half, as he writes, why did he not take possession of it? He would, I believe, have found himself mistaken if he had attempted it. But the fort was totally silenced: very likely, and for the reason just assigned. It requires a great quantity of powder to fire cannon. While this was bringing, I cannot help thinking that my countrymen had sagacity enough to lie perdu behind the parapet—to defend themselves against the boasted *coup de main* with their small-arms.

The *Gazette* does not announce the actual departure of any of the ships from *Charlestown* harbour. The want of water will oblige them to be as expeditious as possible. They may accommodate themselves with that article at *Staten-Island*, and nowhere else with safety, that I know of, to the southward of that. If Mrs. *Crespigny* will lend you her plan, you will see that they must pass within the reach of two batteries, which may give them a pretty warm salute at taking leave.

Very important news may be expected every day from *New-York*. The Ministry, I hear, are fully persuaded that Mr. *Howe* will winter in *Philadelphia*. This is possible, but I have not the least idea that it will happen.

You know my opinion on the probable event of this cruel and unfortunate business. I have had no reason to change it since I saw you.

Pray give my compliments to Mr. *Townshend* and Mr. *Ley*.



## VIRGINIA COUNCIL TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

Williamsburgh, August 31, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We received your letter, requiring a return of the prisoners of war in this Commonwealth and a list of the officers on the Continental establishment, so late that it is not in our power to be so accurate as we could wish. At present we can only transmit a list of the prisoners, and shall send an accurate list of the officers by the next post; referring you in the mean time, however, to a list which we very lately sent to the *Virginia* Delegates at Congress.

By order of Council:

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN PAGE, *President*.To *Richard Peters*, Esquire, Secretary to the War Office, *Philadelphia*.

## GENERAL LEWIS TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 16, 1776.]

Williamsburgh, August 31, 1776.

SIR: I take the liberty of enclosing you a letter to me directed by *John Rickman*, Esq., Director-General of the Hospital. The different articles mentioned in his list are much wanted, and not to be had in this State. The number of sick are great, as will appear by a general return made to the War Office.

I have heard nothing from General *Lee* since the 3d of this month. The letter from Congress to him I sent off with all possible despatch.

By a resolve of Congress, I observe that the Continental troops who enlist to serve three years, are to receive ten dollars each. The most of the troops raised in this State are to serve two years, commencing last *April*. I wish for the particular direction of Congress in this case, that I may know with certainty whether they would have their enlistment to serve three years after the expiration of their present enlistment, or whether the reenlistment of them is to be deferred until the time for which they were engaged is nearly expired. By another resolve of Congress, I observe that a Paymaster is allowed to each regiment: by whom, and in what manner, are those Paymasters to be appointed?

I am, with great respect, honourable sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ANDREW LEWIS, *Brigadier-General*.To *John Hancock*, Esq.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, DATED AUGUST 31, 1776, SATURDAY, TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

You will no doubt be very anxious to receive a particular account of the late engagement between our troops and the enemy on *Long-Island*. I wish our information enabled me to relieve you, but at present we are in the most painful state of suspense, the post not having yet arrived, by which we expect full intelligence. From the letters we have received, with what I can collect of others sent to inhabitants of this city, it appears that the enemy, having landed a number of troops on the night of the 26th, and posted them advantageously, without being discovered by our people, and having also posted a part of their Army in a wood, some distance from the main body, proceeded in a heavy column towards our intrenchments. Early on the morning of the 27th, a firing began between our advanced guard and theirs; the enemy, with their middle column, made a feint at our works, and having received a fire, retreated. A brigade of our troops, consisting of the First *New-York* Battalion, two *Pennsylvania*, one *Delaware*, and the *Maryland* Battalion, under the command of Generals *Sullivan* and *Stirling*, followed the enemy. A very hot fire was kept up. When the enemy had retreated, our troops advanced upon them some distance. The troops of the enemy, posted for that purpose, surrounded our friends, and a most savage engagement ensued; no relief could be given from the fort to our troops, without hazarding the post at *Long-Island*. Thus surrounded with thrice their numbers, galled on one side by Light-Horse, and torn with artillery in front, they bravely fought for several hours; however, after having given the most convincing proofs of their bravery and skill, and having sustained considerable loss, they were obliged to yield to superior numbers; they were broken, and retreated as well as they could. Many fell by the bayonet, which was pushed with equal obstinacy by the two adverse parties. Our loss is not ascertained—some say

five hundred, some say three. By deserters, the enemy had killed and wounded five hundred. Generals *Stirling* and *Sullivan* were both missing when we last heard from General *Washington*. Thursday morning, four o'clock, Colonels *Miles* and *Ailee* were also missing, when our last intelligence was sent. A Colonel *Grant*, of the enemy, was killed; who else of distinction, we have not heard. The enemy, upon the retreat of our brigade, took possession of a very advantageous wood, near our out intrenchment. *Smallwood's* Battalion of *Marylanders* were distinguished in the field by the most intrepid courage, the most regular use of the musket, and judicious movements of the body. All the other battalions behaved as became *Americans* and men of honour, fighting for their rights of freemen. When our party was overcome and broken, by superior numbers surrounding them on all sides, three companies of the *Maryland* broke the enemy's lines, and fought their way through; the others attempted to cross a small creek, which proved fatal to several of them. I have not heard their loss, but presume it is very heavy, they being in a situation very much exposed, facing the enemy's cannon, in the open field for a considerable time. Captain *Veazey* and Lieutenant *Butler* are among the honourable slain. I don't hear of any other officers of that battalion being killed or taken. There is a report in town that Lord *Stirling* got into the camp safe, but I fear it is not true. Since this engagement, there have been frequent skirmishes between our troops and the enemy, the result of which we have not heard. Our posts are now very near to each other, and we expect hourly to hear of a very general engagement.

SATURDAY, three o'clock, P. M.—By the post arrived just now, we are certainly informed, that our whole Army, the night before last, retreated from *Long-Island* to *New-York*, bringing away the most of their cannon, and spiking what was left. The enemy were taking measures to cut off the communication between the island and the main, and had also got possession of a post from which they could distress our camp at *Long-Island*. Lord *Stirling* and General *Sullivan* are both prisoners. The enemy it is said have lost one thousand men; two Generals of theirs are also killed; they sent a flag to exchange *Sullivan* and *Stirling* for two missing Generals of theirs, but we had them not, so that they must have fell. The *Maryland* Battalion lost two hundred men and twelve officers. Severe fate! It is said our whole loss is five or six hundred.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 2, 1776.]

New-York, August 31, 1776.

SIR: Inclination as well as duty would have induced me to give Congress the earliest information of my removal, and that of the troops, from *Long-Island* and its dependencies to this city the night before last; but the extreme fatigue which myself and family have undergone, as much from the weather since as the engagement on the 27th, rendered me and them entirely unfit to take pen in hand. Since Monday, scarce any of us have been out of the lines till our passage across the *East River* was effected yesterday morning; and for forty-eight hours preceding that, I had hardly been off my horse, and never closed my eyes, so that I was quite unfit to write or dictate till this morning.

Our retreat was made without any loss of men or ammunition, and in better order than I expected from the troops in the situation ours were. We brought off our cannon and stores, except a few heavy pieces, which, in the condition the earth was, by a long-continued rain, we found, upon trial, impracticable; the wheels of the carriages sinking up to the hubs, rendered it impossible for our whole force to drag them. We left but little provisions on the Island, except some cattle, which had been driven within our lines, and which, after many attempts to force across the water, we found impossible to effect, circumstanced as we were.

I have enclosed a copy of the Council of War, held previous to the retreat, to which I beg leave to refer Congress for the reasons, or many of them, that led to the adoption of that measure.

Yesterday evening and last night a party of our men were employed in bringing our horses, cannon, tents, &c., from *Governour's Island*, which they nearly completed. Some of the heavy cannon remain there still, but I expect will be got away to-day.

In the engagement on the 27th Generals *Sullivan* and *Stirling* were made prisoners; the former has been permitted, on his parole, to return for a little time. From my Lord *Stirling* I had a letter by General *Sullivan*, a copy of which I have the honour to transmit. That contains his information of the engagement with his brigade. It is not so full and certain as I could wish; he was hurried most probably, as his letter was unfinished. Nor have I been yet able to obtain an exact account of our loss; we suppose it from seven hundred to one thousand killed and taken.

General *Sullivan* says Lord *Howe* is extremely desirous of seeing some of the members of Congress; for which purpose he was allowed to come out, and to communicate to them what has passed between him and his Lordship. I have consented to his going to *Philadelphia*, as I did not mean, or conceive it right, to withhold or prevent him from giving such information as he possesses in this instance.

I am much hurried, and engaged in arranging and making new dispositions of our forces; the movement of the enemy requiring them to be immediately had; and therefore have only time to add, that I am, with my best regards to Congress, their and your most obedient, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

LORD STIRLING TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Eagle, August 29, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have now an opportunity of informing you of what has happened to me since I had last the pleasure of seeing you. About three o'clock in the morning of the 27th I was called up, and informed by General *Putnam* that the enemy were advancing by the road from *Flatbush* to the *Red Lion*, and ordered me to march with the two regiments nearest at hand to meet them; which happened to be *Haslet's* and *Smallwood's*, with which I accordingly marched, and was on the road to the *Narrows* just as the daylight began to appear. We proceeded to within about half a mile of the *Red Lion*, and there met Colonel *Allee* with his regiment, who informed me that the enemy were in sight; indeed I then saw their front between us and the *Red Lion*. I desired Colonel *Allee* to place his regiment on the left of the road, and to wait their coming up, while I went to form the two regiments I had brought with me, along a ridge from the road up to a piece of wood on the top of the hill; this was done instantly on very advantageous ground. Our opponents advanced, and were fired upon in the road by *Allee's*, who, after two or three rounds, retreated to the wood on my left, and there formed. By this time *Kichline's* Riflemen arrived; part of them I placed along a hedge under the front of the hill, and the rest in the front of the wood. The troops opposed to me were two brigades, of four regiments each, under the command of General *Grant*, who advanced their light troops to within one hundred and fifty yards of our right front, and took possession of an orchard there, and some hedges which extended towards our left; this brought on an exchange of fire between those troops and our Riflemen, which continued for about two hours, and then ceased by those light troops retiring to their main body. In the mean time Captain *Carpenter* brought up two field-pieces, which were placed on the side of the hill so as to command the road, and the only approach for some hundred yards. On the part of General *Grant* there were two field-pieces; one howitz advanced to within three hundred yards of the front of our right, and a like detachment of artillery to the front of our left, on a rising ground, at about six hundred yards distance. One of their brigades formed in two lines opposite to our right, and the others extended in one line to top of the hills in the front of our left; in this position we stood cannonading each other till near eleven o'clock, when I found that General *Howe*, with the main body of the Army, was between me and our lines, and saw that the only chance of escaping being all made prisoners was to pass the creek near the *Yellow Mills*; and, in order to render this the more practicable, I found it absolutely necessary to attack a body of troops commanded by Lord *Cornwallis*, posted at the house near the *Upper Mills*; this I instantly did, with about half of *Smallwood's*, first ordering all the other troops to make the best of their way through the creek. We continued the attack a considerable time, the men having been rallied and the attack renewed five or six several times, and were on the point of driving Lord *Cornwallis* from his station, but large succours arriving rendered it impossible to

do more than to provide for safety. I endeavoured to get in between that house and *Fort Box*, but on attempting it I found a considerable body of troops in my front, and several in pursuit of me on the right and left, and a constant firing on me. I immediately turned the point of a hill which covered me from their fire, and I was soon out of the reach of my pursuers. I soon found it would be in vain to attempt to make my escape, and therefore went to surrender myself to General *De Heister*, commander-in-chief of the *Hessians*.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF A COUNCIL OF GENERAL OFFICERS.

At a Council of War, held at *Long-Island*, August 29, 1776:

Present: His Excellency General *Washington*; Major-Generals: *Putnam*, *Spencer*; Brigadier-Generals: *Mifflin*, *McDougall*, *Parsons*, *Scott*, *Wadsworth*, *Fellows*.

It was submitted to the consideration of the Council, whether, under all circumstances, it would not be eligible to leave *Long-Island* and its dependencies, and remove the Army to *New-York*. Unanimously agreed in the affirmative, for the following reasons:

1st. Because our advanced party had met with a defeat, and the wood was lost where we expected to make a principal stand.

2d. The great loss sustained in the death or captivity of several valuable officers and their battalions, or a large part of them, had occasioned great confusion and discouragement among the troops.

3d. The heavy rains, which fell two days and nights with but little intermission, had injured the arms and spoiled a great part of the ammunition, and the soldiery being without cover and obliged to lay in the lines, were worn out, and, it was to be feared, would not be retained in them by any order.

4th. From the time the enemy moved from *Flatbush*, several large ships had attempted to get up, as supposed, in the *East River*, to cut off our communication, by which the whole Army would have been destroyed, but the wind being northeast could not effect it.

5th. Upon consulting with persons of knowledge of the harbour, they were of opinion that small ships might come between *Long-Island* and *Governour's Island*, where there are no obstructions, and which would cut off the communication effectually; and who were also of opinion, the hulks sunk between *Governour's Island* and the city of *New-York* were no sufficient security for obstructing that passage.

6th. Though our lines were fortified with some strong redoubts, yet a great part of them were weak, being abattied with brush, and affording no strong cover, so that there was reason to apprehend they might be forced, which would have put our troops in confusion, and having no retreat, they must have been cut to pieces or made prisoners.

7th. The divided state of the troops render our defence very precarious, and the duty of defending long and extensive lines at so many different places, without proper conveniencies and cover, so very fatiguing, that the troops had become dispirited by their incessant duty and watching.

8th. Because the enemy had sent several ships-of-war into the *Sound*, to a place called *Flushing Bay*; and from the information received that a part of their troops were moving across *Long-Island* that way, there was reason to apprehend they meant to pass over land, and form an encampment above *King's Bridge*, in order to cut off and prevent all communication between our Army and the country beyond them, to get in our rear.

#### DETERMINATION OF A COUNCIL OF GENERAL OFFICERS.

At a Council of War, held at *Long-Island*, August 29, 1776:

Present: His Excellency General *Washington*; Major-Generals: *Putnam*, *Spencer*; Brigadier-Generals: *Mifflin*, *McDougall*, *Parsons*, *Scott*, *Wadsworth*, *Fellows*.

It was submitted to the consideration of the Council, whether, under all circumstances, it is not eligible to leave *Long-Island* and its dependencies, and remove to *New-York*. Unanimously agreed in the affirmative.

ISRAEL PUTNAM,	SAML. H. PARSONS,
THOS. SPENCER,	JNO. MORIN SCOTT,
THOS. MIFFLIN,	JAMES WADSWORTH,
ALEXR. MCDUGALL,	

## GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 25, 1776.

(Parole, Marlborough.)

(Countersign, Newtown.)

A special Court-Martial to sit this day, at twelve o'clock, at Mrs. *Montagnie's*, for the trial of Lieutenant-Colonel *Zedtwitz*, charged with "carrying on a treasonable correspondence with the enemy;" to be composed of a Brigadier-General and twelve Field-Officers: General *Wadsworth* to preside.

The General Order against working on *Sunday* is revoked, the time not admitting of any delay. The same number of fatigue-men to turn out, as yesterday, this afternoon, at three o'clock, as well Militia as other troops.

Colonel *Smallwood* to command Lord *Stirling's* Brigade during his absence on *Long-Island*.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 26, 1776.

(Parole, Newcastle.)

(Countersign, Paris.)

Six hundred men, properly officered, from General *Wolcott's* Brigade, to parade to-morrow morning, at six o'clock, on the grand parade, without arms, for fatigue: four hundred to take directions from General *McDougall*, and two hundred from Lieutenant *Fish*; and the same number to be continued till the works are completed. To leave work at young flood, and go on again at the ebb.

The General is very anxious for the state of the arms and ammunition—the frequent rains giving too much reason to fear they may suffer. He therefore earnestly enjoins officers and men to be particularly attentive to it, and have them in the best order.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 27, 1776.

(Parole, .)

(Countersign, .)

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 28, 1776.

(Parole, Sullivan.)

(Countersign, Stirling.)

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 29, 1776.

(Parole, .)

(Countersign, .)

One Orderly Sergeant from each regiment in General *Wadsworth's*, General *Wolcott's*, and General *Fellows's* Brigades, and one from Colonel *Knox's* command, to attend daily at Head-Quarters until further orders.

The commanding officers of each company in the several regiments in this post are strictly required to attend to the orders that have been given by the Commander-in-Chief from time to time, to see that their respective rolls are looked over, and the orders of the day published to their whole company. And as it is the pleasure of the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Forces that all soldiers that pass from *Long-Island* here without passes should immediately be sent back, all the guards especially, and all others belonging to the Army in this post, are required to take up all soldiers coming from *Long-Island* without passes signed by a proper officer, and send them immediately back to *Long-Island*.

The Colonels, or commanding officers of each regiment, must take care that the arms and ammunition of each soldier be in good order, that they be equipped and constantly ready for action. They must be particularly attentive to see that the cartridges suit their pieces.

All the guards, and also all others belonging to the Army, are to be vigilant in taking up and confining all persons guilty of disorderly firing, or firing without leave. All the guards supplied by general detail are to be punctually on the grand parade by eight o'clock in the morning; and in case any Brigade-Major does not punctually bring on, the men he is to furnish, the Brigadier of the day is to report him immediately; and if such Brigade-Major is delayed by the negligence of an Adjutant, he is to put such Adjutant immediately under an arrest.

It is hoped that every officer and soldier in this post will exert himself for the good of the service to the utmost; and as there are many intrenchments now begun that are unfinished that necessity requires should be immediately completed, it is justly expected that every brave man will exert himself to complete every needful fortification.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 30, 1776.

(Parole, Liberty.)

(Countersign, Hancock.)

All commanding officers of regiments are to parade on their regimental parade this evening at five o'clock, examine

the state of their men's ammunition and arms, and get them in the best order. All damaged cartridges are to be returned, and in this case fresh ones drawn without further orders. The returns of the regiments are to be made as soon and as exact as possible. No arguments can be necessary, at such a time as this, to induce all officers to a strict attention to this duty.

The constant firing in the camp, notwithstanding repeated orders to the contrary, is very scandalous, and seldom a day passes but some persons are shot by their friends. Once more, therefore, the General entreats the officers to prevent it, and calls upon the soldiers to forbear this practice. Pieces that cannot be drawn are to be discharged in a volley at retreat beating, and not otherwise, and then by command of the officer.

The loss of two General Officers by the late action having occasioned a necessary change in the brigades, the Brigade-Majors are to attend at ten o'clock to-morrow, to receive a new arrangement.

As the tents are wet, and weather unfavourable, the troops are to remain in the city till further orders; those not supplied with barracks to apply to Mr. *Roorback*, Barrack-Master. Officers and men are charged to see as little damage as possible done to houses where they are quartered.

General *Wadsworth* to send two regiments from his brigade, to reinforce Colonel *Sergeant*, at *Horn's Hook*, as soon as possible.

In case of an alarm this evening, which may be expected, from the nearness of the enemy, and their expectation of taking advantage of the late rains and last night's fatigue, the following disposition is to take place, and the regiments are to parade accordingly: General *Mifflin's* to parade on the grand parade; they are then to join the regiments lately composing Lord *Stirling's* Brigade, and the whole to parade on the parade lately assigned by him to them: these are to act under General *Mifflin* as a reserve corps. The regiments of General *Nixon's* Brigade are to join General *Spencer's* division, who will assign them their alarm posts. The *Jersey* troops to join General *McDougall's* Brigade, and parade at or near said ground.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 31, 1776.

(Parole, Harlem.)

(Countersign, Flushing.)

Major *Livingston*, charged with having ordered a negro to fire on a soldier of Captain *Newcomb's* Regiment, is ordered to be confined and brought to trial. But the General is sorry to see soldiers, defending their country, in time of imminent danger, rioting and attempting to do themselves justice.

The plunderers of Lord *Stirling's* house are ordered to restore to the Quartermaster-General what they have taken; in failure whereof, they will certainly be hanged.

It is the General's orders that the remainder of *Lutz's* and *Kachlein's* Battalions be joined to *Hand's* Battalion; that Major *Hays* be also under the special command of Colonel *Hand*; that then those battalions, with *Shree's*, Colonel *Magaw's*, Colonel *Hutchinson's*, Colonel *Atlee's*, Colonel *Miles's*, and Colonel *Ward's* Regiments, be brigaded under General *Mifflin*, and those now here march as soon as possible to *King's Bridge*. The Quartermaster will supply wagons, if to be spared; if not, to apply to Lieutenant *Acholt*, on the *North River* boat station, or Ensign *Allen* on the *East*, who will supply boats. A careful officer, with a small guard, to attend them. Major *Lord* will supply, from General *Wolcott's* Brigade, an officer and six men to each boat, to bring boats back, except those that are ordered to stay.

Both officers and soldiers are informed that the retreat from *Long-Island* was made by the unanimous advice of all the General Officers, not from any doubts of the spirit of the troops, but because they found the troops very much fatigued with hard duty, and divided into many detachments, while the enemy had their main body on the Island, and capable of receiving assistance from the shipping. In these circumstances it was thought unsafe to transport the whole of an Army on an Island, or to engage them with a part, and therefore unequal numbers; whereas now one whole Army is collected together, without water intervening, while the enemy can receive little assistance from their ships. Their Army is, and must be, divided into many bodies, and fatigued

with keeping up a communication with their ships; whereas ours is connected, and can act together. They must effect a landing under so many disadvantages, that if officers and soldiers are vigilant, and alert to prevent surprise, and add spirit when they approach, there is no doubt of our success.

*Ebenezer Gray* is appointed Brigade-Major to General *Parsons*.

The following disposition is made of the several Regiments, so as to form Brigades under the commanding officers respectively mentioned:

Gen. Parsons.....	Huntington, Prescott, Ward, Durkee, Tyler.	Gen. Heard.....	Cortlandt, Johnson, Newcomb, Freeman, Martin.
Gen. McDougall.....	McDougall, Ritzema, Smallwood, Webb, Artificers.	Gen. Fellows.....	Holman, Cary, Smith.
Gen. Scott.....	Lasher, Malcolm, Drake, Humphrey. Chapman,	Com'dr. Silliman	Silliman, Thompson, Lewis, Mead, Hinman.
Gen. Wadsworth.....	Sage, Selden, Gay, Bradley. Varnum, Little,	Com'dr. Sergeant	Sergeant, Sheldon, Talcot.
Gen. Nixon.....	Hitchcock, Nixon, Bailey.	Com'dr. Douglass	Douglass, Pettibone, Cook, Talcott, Chapman.
Gen. Clinton.....	Glover, Read, Baldwin, Learned.	Com'dr. Chester..	Chester, Pitkin, Baldwin, Strong, Newbury.

They are to choose out capable, active, and spirited persons to act as Brigade-Majors, who will be allowed for their service.

The General hopes the several officers, both superior and inferior, will now exert themselves, and gloriously determine to conquer or die. From the justice of our cause, the situation of the harbour, and the bravery of her sons, *America* can only expect success. Now is the time for every man to exert himself, and make our country glorious, or it will become contemptible.

Commanding Officers of Regiments are to take care to have hard bread and pork for two days kept by them constantly. The neglect of former orders in this respect has occasioned some of the hardships the troops have lately sustained. If there is any delay at the Commissary's, good officers will compose and quiet their men, and mention it by way of letter to the General.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 31, 1776.

You are no doubt surprised to hear of our sudden retreat from *Long-Island*, but it was thought absolutely essential from our situation. We were under a necessity of marching out and attacking them upon their own ground, or suffering ourselves to have been starved into a surrender: first, because they were intrenching within five hundred yards of our lines, which were very weak, and incapable of withstanding their heavy cannon, and our men, from their situation, began to grow very uneasy; and, secondly, because their shipping might have run up the *East River*, and cut off our resources of provision and every other necessary. The retreat was conducted with the greatest secrecy, and by six o'clock in the morning we had everything embarked. There never was a man that behaved better upon the occasion than General *Washington*; he was on horseback the whole night, and never left the ferry stairs till he had seen the whole of his troops embarked.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 31, 1776.

General *Sullivan* came here yesterday upon his parole, and informs us that Lord *Stirling*, himself, Colonels *Miles* and *Atlee*, were all taken by the enemy. Immediately after the engagement, the enemy began to throw up works within musket-shot of *Fort Putnam*; and as we had no heavy cannon to prevent them, we were obliged, the night before last, to retreat, and leave the Island. In retreating, we have not lost ten men at most.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED AUGUST 31, 1776.

Captain *Veazey*, Ensign *Fernandez*, Sergeant *Sands*, killed. Captain *Bowie*, Lieutenants *Butler*, *Sterret*, *Ridgely*, *Dent*, Ensign *Coats*, missing. Mr. *Coursey* taken prisoner.

Adjutant *Brice* was taken prisoner by two officers of Light-Horse, and was delivered to a private, who told him he was his prisoner, which *Brice* denied, and immediately shot him and got clear.

#### List of the Names of such Officers of the three PENNSYLVANIA Battalions as are Prisoners and Missing the 27th of August, after the Battle on LONG-ISLAND.

##### First Battalion of Rifle Regiment.

	Serg.	Drum.	Priv.
Samuel Miles, Esq., Colonel Com-mandant, prisoner.			
James Piper, Esq., Lieut. Colonel, prisoner.			
Capt. Richard Brown.....pris.			
1st Lieut. William Gray.....do.			
1st Lieut. John Spear.....do.			
1st Lieut. John Davis.....do.			
1st Lieut. George Wert.....do.			
2d Lieut. Joseph Triesbach.....do.			
2d Lieut. Wm. McPherson...do.			
2d Lt. Joseph Jacquet...missing.			
3d Lt. Luke Broadhead ....pris.			
Doctor John Davis .....do.			
Doctor Joseph Davis.....do.			
	9	4	107

##### Second Battalion of Rifle Regiment.

	Serg.	Drum.	Priv.
Capt. Wm. Peebles.....pris.			
1st Lieut. Matthew Scott.....do.			
1st Lieut. Daniel Topham...do.			
2d Lieut. Jas. Carnagan...missing.			
2d Lieut. David Sloan.....do.			
3d Lieut. Charles Taylor..killed.			
3d Lieut. Joseph Brownlee...pris.			
	6	1	40

##### Battalion of Musketry.

	Serg.	Drum.	Priv.
Samuel J. Atlee, Esq., Colonel, prisoner.			
Caleb Parry, Esq., Lieut. Colonel, killed.			
Capt. Francis Murray.....pris.			
Capt. Thomas Herbert.....do.			
Capt. John Nice.....do.			
Capt. Joseph Howell.....do.			
Lieut. Walter Finney.....do.			
Lieut. Joseph Moore.....killed.			
Ensign W. Henderson.....pris.			
Ensign Alex. Huston.....do.			
Ensign Michael App.....missing.			
Ensign Septimus Davis.....pris.			
	1	1	75

Prisoners: 3 Colonels, 6 Captains, 11 Lieutenants, 3 Ensigns, 2 Doctors.

Killed and Missing: 1 Colonel, 5 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, 16 Sergeants, 6 Drum and Fife, 1 Volunteer, 222 Privates.

Total: 4 Colonels, 6 Captains, 16 Lieutenants, 4 Ensigns, 2 Doctors, 16 Sergeants, 6 Drum and Fife, 1 Volunteer, 222 Privates.

This account is taken from a muster of the three battalions before mentioned, and afterwards carefully compared with the accounts which came by a flag of truce from the enemy to his Excellency General *Washington*, the 5th instant, by

Lod. SPROGELL,

M. M. G. to the Pennsylvania Regulars.

Philadelphia, September 8, 1776.

A list of the Names of such Officers as are Prisoners with the Enemy, and have, by a flag of truce, sent for their Baggage and Cash.

##### PENNSYLVANIA Rifle Battalions.

Colonel Miles, Colonel Piper, Captain Brown, Captain Peebles, Lieutenant Scott, Lieutenant Gray, Lieutenant Spear, Lieutenant Drasbach, Lieutenant Macpherson, Lieutenant Lee,	Lieutenant Broadhead, Lieutenant John Davis, Lieutenant Wert, Lieutenant Topham, Doctor John Davies, Doctor Joseph Davies, Colonel Lutz, Captain Crawl, Mr. David Duncan, Mr. Young.
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##### PENNSYLVANIA Musket Battalion.

Colonel Atlee, Captain Murray, Captain Herbert, Captain Nice, Captain Howell,	Lieutenant Finney, Ensign Davis, Ensign Henderson, Ensign Huston.
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*Colonel SMALLWOOD's Battalion.*

Mr. Wright,  
Mr. Bowie,  
Lieutenant Butler,  
Lieutenant Muse,  
Lieutenant Ridgely,

Lieutenant Sterrit,  
William Cort,  
James Fernandez,  
Lieutenant Dent.

Doctor Young, Volunteer.  
John Toms, of Col. Johnson's  
Regiment.  
Mr. Callender, Cadet of Ar-  
tillery.

Mr. Kearns, Delaware Batta-  
lion.  
Major Burd,  
Captain Hurst.

*Colonel KIECHLEIN's Regiment.*

Captain Graf,  
Lieutenant Lewis,

Lieutenant Meadow,  
Lieutenant Shoemaker.

*Colonel LASHER's Battalion.*

Adjutant Hoogland,  
Lieutenant Troop,  
Lieutenant Dunscomb,

Mr. Van Wageningen, a Volun-  
teer.  
Mr. Gillilan, a Volunteer.

*Colonel HUNTINGTON's Regiment.*

Lieutenant Makepeace,  
Captain Brewster,  
Ensign Lyman,  
Ensign Chapman,  
Ensign Hinsman,  
Ensign Bradford,  
Lieutenant Orentt,  
Ensign Higgins,

Captain Bissell,  
Lieutenant Gillet,  
Lieutenant Gae,  
Adjutant Hopkins,  
Doctor Holmes,  
Colonel Clerk,  
Major Wells Wyllys.

NEW-YORK, September 5, 1776.

Philadelphia, September 11, 1776.

We hear that in the late action on *Long-Island*, Colonel *Philip Johnston*, of *New-Jersey*, behaved with remarkable intrepidity and fortitude. By the well-directed fire from his battalion the enemy were several times repulsed, and lanes were made through them, until he received a ball in his breast, which put an end to the life of as brave an officer as ever commanded a battalion. General *Sullivan*, who was close to him when he fell, says, that no man could behave with more firmness during the whole action. As he sacrificed his life in defence of the invaded rights and liberties of his country, his memory must be dear to every *American* who is not insensible to the sufferings of his injured country, and as long as the same uncorrupted spirit of liberty which led him to the field shall continue to actuate the sons of freedom in *America*.

JOURNAL OF THE TRANSACTIONS OF AUGUST 27, 1776, UPON  
LONG-ISLAND; BY COLONEL SAMUEL J. ATLEE.

August 27, 1776.

This morning, before day, the camp was alarmed by an attack made upon that part of our picket guard upon the lower road leading to the *Narrows*, commanded by Major *Burd*, of the *Pennsylvania Flying-Camp*. About daylight a part of General *Lord Stirling's* Brigade then in camp, viz: the Battalion of *Maryland*, Colonel *Smallwood*; the *Delaware*, Colonel *Haslett*; about one hundred and twenty of my battalion, *Pennsylvania* Musketry; and part of *Lutz* and *Kiechlein's* Battalions, *Pennsylvania* Militia; containing in the whole about two thousand three hundred men, under the command of Major-General *Sullivan*, and the Brigadiers *Stirling* and *Parsons*, were ordered to march out and support the picket attacked by the enemy.

About half after seven the enemy, consisting of the Fourth and Sixth Brigades of the *British* Army, composed of the Seventeenth, Fortieth, Forty-Sixth, Fifty-Fifth, Twenty-Third, Forty-Fourth, Fifty-Seventh, Sixty-Fourth, and Forty-Second Regiments, were observed advancing about two and a half miles from our lines at *Brookline* in regular order, their field artillery in front.

I then received orders from *Lord Stirling* to advance with my battalion, and oppose the enemy's passing a morass or swamp, at the foot of a fine rising ground, upon which they were first discovered, and thereby give time to our brigade to form upon the height. This order I immediately obeyed, notwithstanding we must be exposed, without any kind of cover, to the great fire of the enemy's musketry and field-pieces, charged with round and grape shot, and finely situated upon the eminence above mentioned, having the entire command of the ground I was ordered to occupy. My battalion, although new and never before having the opportunity of facing an enemy, sustained their fire until the brigade had formed; but finding we could not possibly prevent their crossing the swamp, I ordered my detachment to file off to the

left, and take post in a wood upon the left of the brigade. Here I looked upon myself advantageously situated, and might be enabled, upon the advance of the enemy, to give him a warm reception. In this affair I lost but one soldier, shot with a grape shot through his throat. I had not taken post in the above mentioned wood but a few minutes, when I received a reinforcement of two companies of the *Delawares*, under Captain *Stedman*, with orders from *Lord Stirling* to file off farther to the left, and prevent, if possible, a body of the enemy observed advancing to flank the brigade.

The enemy's troops by this time had passed the swamp, and formed in line of battle opposite ours. A heavy fire, as well from small-arms as artillery, ensued, with very little damage on our side; what the enemy sustained we could not judge. Upon filing off to the left, according to the orders I had received, I espied at the distance of about three hundred yards a hill of clear ground, which I judged to be a proper situation to oppose the troops ordered to flank us, and which I determined, if possible, to gain before them. At the foot of this hill a few of *Huntington's Connecticut* Regiment, that had been upon the picket, joined me. In order to gain and secure the hill, I ordered the troops to wheel to the right and march up the hill abreast. When within about forty yards of the summit, we very unexpectedly received a very heavy fire from the enemy taken post there before us, notwithstanding the forced march I made. The enemy's situation was so very advantageous, the back of the hill where they had taken post being formed by nature into a breastwork, that had they directed their fire properly or been marksmen, they must have cut off the greatest part of my detachment. I having, before I advanced the hill, posted a part of my small number along the skirt of a wood upon my right, and left a guard at the foot of the hill, to prevent my being surrounded, and my retreat to the brigade in case of necessity, being cut off, the enemy being vastly superior in numbers, their detachment consisting of the Twenty-Third and Forty-Fourth Regiments, and part of the Seventeenth. Upon receiving the above heavy fire, which continued very warm and they secure behind the hill, a small halt was made, and the detachment fell back a few paces. Here Captain *Stedman*, with all the *Delawares*, except the Lieutenants *Stewart* and *Harney*, with about sixteen privates, left me, and drew after them some of my own. The remainder, after recovering a little from this, their first shock, I ordered to advance, at the same time desiring them to preserve their fire and aim aright. They immediately, with the resolution of veteran soldiers, obeyed the order. The enemy, finding their opponents fast advancing, and determined to dispute the ground with them, fled with precipitation, leaving behind them twelve killed upon the spot, and a Lieutenant and four privates wounded. In this engagement I lost my worthy friend and Lieutenant-Colonel (*Parry*) shot through the head, who fell without a groan, fighting in defence of his much injured country. In the midst of the action I ordered four soldiers to carry him as speedily as possible within the lines at *Brookline*.

My brave fellows, flushed with this advantage, were for pushing forward after the flying enemy; but perceiving at about sixty yards from the hill we had gained, across a hollow way, a stone fence lined with wood, from behind which we might be greatly annoyed, and fearing an ambuscade might be there placed, I ordered not to advance farther, but to maintain the possession of the hill, where kind nature had formed a breastwork nearly semicircular. They halted, and found, by a heavy fire from the fence, it was lined as I suspected. The fire was as briskly returned; but the enemy finding it too hot, and losing a number of men, retreated to and joined the right of this wing of their Army.

After this first attack, which continued from the first fire about half an hour, we brought from the field six wounded soldiers and about twenty muskets. The wounded I placed in my rear, under the shade of some bushes; the arms I distributed to such of the soldiers as were most indifferently armed. The wounded Lieutenant I sent, with two soldiers, to *Lord Stirling*.

After placing some sentinels to observe the further movements of the enemy, if any should be made, I ordered my men, greatly fatigued, to rest themselves. In about twenty minutes the enemy was observed marching down to make a second attempt for the hill. The sentinels gave the alarm. Officers and men immediately flew to arms, and with re-

markable coolness and resolution sustained and returned their fire for about fifteen minutes, when the enemy were obliged once more to a precipitate flight, leaving behind them killed Lieutenant-Colonel *Grant*, (a person, as I afterwards understood, much valued in the *British Army*,) besides a number of privates, and some wounded. Such of the wounded as I thought might be assisted I had brought in and placed with the rest in my rear; one slightly through the leg I sent with a soldier to Lord *Stirling*. I had in this attack but one private wounded, with two balls through his body.

I now sent my Adjutant, Mr. *Mentgis*, to his Lordship, with an account of the successive advantages I had gained, and to request a reinforcement, and such further orders as his Lordship should judge necessary. Two companies of Riflemen, from *Keichlien's* Flying-Camp, soon after joined me, but were very soon ordered to rejoin their regiment, the reason for which I could not imagine, as I stood in such need of them. Very luckily, after our second engagement our ammunition cart, belonging to Colonel *Huntington's* regiment, arrived at my post, of which we stood in great need, having entirely emptied our cartridge-boxes, and had used several rounds of the enemy's ammunition, of which I stripped the dead and wounded every time we had the good fortune to beat them off the field. The officers were extremely alert, and from the ammunition so opportunely arrived, soon supplied their men with a sufficient stock to sustain another attack, if the enemy should think proper to make it.

They did not suffer us to wait long, for in about half an hour we were alarmed by our sentinels of their approach the third time. The eagerness of the officers and soldiers to receive them deserve my warmest acknowledgments. They were received as usual, and as usual fled, after another conflict of about a quarter of an hour. I then was determined to pursue; but observing a regiment making down to sustain them, which proved to be the Forty-Second, or *Royal Highlanders*, I thought best to halt and prepare to receive them, should they advance upon me; but the drubbing their friends had so repeatedly received, I believe, prevented them, and they seemed fully satisfied to have protected the fugitives, and of conducting what was left, with such of the wounded as could crawl to them, to the Army. In these three attacks Major *Burd*, who was then a prisoner at General *Grant's* quarters, informed me at *New-York* a great number, both officers and privates, were brought to the Hospital wounded.

I fully expected, as did most of my officers, that the strength of the *British Army* was advancing in this quarter to our lines. But how greatly were we deceived when intelligence was received by some scattering soldiers that the right wing and centre of the Army, amongst whom were the *Hessians*, were advancing to surround us. This we were soon convinced of by an exceeding heavy fire in our rear. No troops having been posted to oppose the march of this grand body of the enemy's Army but Colonel *Miles's* two battalions of Rifles, Colonel *Willis's* battalion of *Connecticut*, and a part of *Lutz* and *Keichlien's* battalions of the *Pennsylvania* Flying-Camp, I once more sent my Adjutant to Lord *Stirling*, to acquaint him with the last success obtained by my party, and to request his further orders; but receiving no answer, the Adjutant not returning, and waiting near three-quarters of an hour for the enemy, they not approaching in front, but those in the rear drawing near, I thought it most prudent to join the Brigade, where I might be of more advantage than in my present situation. I therefore ordered a march, leaving upon the field killed Lieutenant-Colonel *Grant* and about fifty others, and a number wounded, and ten privates wounded which I had brought at sundry times into my rear, who I suppose were soon after found by their friends. What other officers were killed or wounded here I know not, except a Captain *Kennedy*, of the Forty-Fourth, and the Lieutenant sent to Lord *Stirling*.

How great was my surprise I leave any one to judge, when, upon coming to the ground occupied by our troops, to find it evacuated and the troops gone off, without my receiving the least intelligence of the movement, or order what to do, although I had so shortly before sent my Adjutant to the General for that purpose. The General must have known, that by my continuing in my post at the hill, I must, with all my party, inevitably fall a sacrifice to the enemy. An opportunity yet afforded, with risking the lives of some of us,

of getting off. But perceiving a body of the enemy advancing, which proved to be the *English Grenadiers*, under Lieutenant-Colonel *Monckton*, to fall upon the rear of our brigade, which I could see at a distance, I ordered my party once more to advance and support a few brave fellows, endeavouring to prevent, but without success, the destruction of their countrymen. The timely assistance of a number often tried, and as often victorious, encouraged those already engaged, and obliged the enemy to quit the ground they had gained and retire to a fence lined with trees. Here we kept up a close fire, until the brigade had retreated out of our sight, when, not being able, through the weakness of my party, already greatly fatigued, and once more destitute of ammunition, to break through the enemy, and finding my retreat after the brigade cut off, I filed off to the right, to endeavour, if possible, to escape through that quarter. Lieutenant *Caldwell*, in this last attack, received a slight wound in the hand; Lieutenant-Colonel *Monckton*, of the Grenadiers, received a wound through the body.

After marching about half a mile to the right, fell in with General *Parsons* and a small number by him collected. In consultation with the General it was determined to break through the enemy, who were here within a little way of us, and endeavour to make up the Island. I then pushed off, with such of the officers and soldiers that were willing to run this hazard. What became of General *Parsons* I know not, never having seen him since. I had not gone above two hundred yards when a *Highlander* made his appearance in the edge of a wood. I instantly presented, as did some of those with me. The fellow clubbed his firelock and begged for quarter. I had hardly time to assure him of it, when I found him to be a decoy sent from a party of *Highlanders* within fifty yards of our right. I immediately jumped forward, ordering the party to follow, taking with me the *Highlander's* musket, which I had, fortunately for me, deprived him of. We received in our flight the fire of this party, and sundry others through which we were obliged to run for near two miles. What of my party, or if any, in this flight were killed, wounded, or taken, I cannot tell, as it is uncertain how many, or who they were, that followed me. I imagined that if I could cross the *Flatbush* road, I could then make my escape by *Hell-Gate*, but coming to the road found it everywhere strictly guarded. After trying the road in several places, both to the right and left, and finding no passage, we retired to an eminence about sixty perches from the road, to consult whether best to conceal ourselves in the adjacent swamps or divide into small parties, when we espied a party of *Hessians*, who had discovered and were endeavouring to surround us. The opinion we had formed of these troops determined us to run any risk rather than fall into their hands; and finding after all our struggles no prospect of escaping, we determined to throw ourselves into the mercy of a battalion of *Highlanders* posted upon an eminence near the *Flatbush* road, not far from where we had last sat. This we did about five o'clock in the afternoon to the number of twenty-three, thereby escaping the pursuit of a party of *Hessians*, who came to the *Highlanders* immediately after our surrender. We had remained with this regiment above twenty minutes, during which time the officers and men behaved very civil, when we were conducted, under a strong guard, through the right wing of the enemy's Army to the Head-Quarters of General *Howe* at *Bedford*; receiving, as we passed, the most scurrilous and abusive language, both from the officers, soldiers, and camp ladies, every one at that time turning hangman, and demanding of the guard why we were taken, why we were not put to the bayonet, and hanged, &c., &c., &c., &c.

Serenaded thus by the musical tongues of *Britons*, we arrived at *Bedford*, where, for sixteen beside myself, we were favoured with a soldier's tent, in which we had not room to lie down, and nothing allowed us for covering. To sum up the whole, we were consigned to the care of the most infamous of mankind, the Provost-Marshal, one *Cunningham*.

Thus ended this most unfortunate 27th of *August*, 1776, during which myself and my detachment underwent great fatigue, and escaped death in a variety of instances. And I am happy to reflect that during the whole of this perilous day, one and all, to the utmost of their powers and abilities, exerted themselves in performing their several duties, for which I shall ever retain a grateful sense, and do, for

and in behalf of my country, return them my sincere acknowledgments, as I flatter myself, under *God*, they were the means of twice preserving the brigade from being cut to pieces: first, in preventing the troops in which *Grant* bore a command from falling upon the left flank; and lastly, in so truly bravely attacking the Grenadiers, where *Monckton* commanded, and thereby preventing the destruction of the rear. In the first *Grant* fell, in the latter was *Monckton* wounded. What followed since the 27th, I have not now time to insert; shall leave it till I have the pleasure of seeing you.

S. J. ATLEE.

Of the Grenadiers, I hear there were, besides officers, near sixty killed and wounded.

ADMIRALTY OFFICE, October 10, 1776.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Viscount *Howe*, Vice-Admiral of the White, and Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels in *North-America*, to Mr. *Stephens*, dated on board the *Eagle*, off *Bedlow's Island*, *New-York*, the 31st of *August*, 1776.

On the 19th instant, Captain *Parker*, in the *Phoenix*, with the *Rose*, Captain *Wallace*, and *Tryal* armed schooner, Lieutenant *Brown*, taking advantage of a fresh easterly wind, returned from the *North River*, through the fire of the enemy's several batteries, and joined the fleet off *Staten-Island*, without any loss. The spirit and perseverance of this small squadron will be explained to their Lordships by Captain *Parker's* Journal.

General *Howe* giving me notice of his intention to make a descent in *Gravesend-Bay*, on *Long-Island*, on the morning of the 22d, the necessary disposition was made, and seventy-five flat-boats, with eleven batteaus and two galleys, built for the occasion, were prepared for that service. The command of the whole remained with Commodore *Hotham*. The Captains *Walker*, *Wallace*, and *Dickson*, in the *Phoenix*, *Rose*, and *Greyhound*, with the *Thunder* and *Carcass* bombs, under the direction of Colonel *James*, were appointed to cover the landing. The flat-boats, galleys, and three batteaus manned from the slips-of-war, were formed into divisions, commanded respectively by the Captains *Vandeput*, *Mason*, *Curtis*, *Caldwell*, *Phipps*, *Caulfield*, *Uppleby*, and *Duncan*, and Lieutenant *Reeve*, of the *Eagle*. The rest of the batteaus, making a tenth division, manned from the transports, were under the conduct of Lieutenant *Bristow*, an assistant agent.

Early in the morning of the 22d, the covering ships took their stations in *Gravesend-Bay*. The Light-Infantry, with the reserve, to be first landed, forming a corps together of four thousand men, entered the boats at *Staten-Island* the same time. The transports in which the several brigades composing the second debarkation (about five thousand men) had been before embarked, were moved down and suitably arranged without the covering ships by eight o'clock. The first debarkation not meeting with any opposition, the second succeeded immediately after; and the other transports, carrying the rest of the troops, following the former in proper succession. The whole force then destined for this service, consisting of about fifteen thousand men, was landed before noon. On the diligence and utility of Captain *Bourmaster*, and the other agents of the transports, on that occasion, too much commendation cannot be bestowed.

On the 25th, an additional corps of *Hessian* troops under General *Heister*, with their field artillery and baggage, were conveyed to *Gravesend-Bay*.

Being informed the next day, by General *Howe*, of his intentions to advance with the Army that night to the enemy's lines, and of his wishes that some diversion might be attempted by the ships on this side, I gave direction to Sir *Peter Parker* for proceeding higher up in the channel towards the town of *New-York* next morning, with the *Asia*, *Renown*, *Preston*, (Commodore *Hotham* embarked in the *Phoenix*, having been left to carry on the service in *Gravesend-Bay*.) *Roebuck*, and *Repulse*, and to keep those ships in readiness for being employed as occasion might require; but the wind veering to the northward soon after the break of day, the ships could not be moved up to the distance proposed; therefore, when the troops under General *Grant*, forming the left column of the Army, were seen to be engaged with the enemy in the morning, the *Roebuck*, Captain *Hammond*, leading the detached squadron, was the

only ship that could fetch high enough to the northward to exchange a few random shot with the battery on *Red-Hook*; and the ebb making strongly down the river soon after, I ordered the signal to be shown for the squadron to anchor.

It was observed, that as soon as the centre column of the Army was seen to have turned the flank of the enemy's line opposed to General *Grant*, they immediately attempted to make their retreat within their works, but that they suffered great loss both in the number killed and made prisoners.

On the night of the 29th the Rebels abandoned all their posts and works on *Long-Island*, and retired with great precipitation across the *East-River* to the town of *New-York*.

GENERAL HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

Camp at Newtown, Long-Island, September 3, 1776.

MY LORD: On the 22d of last month, in the morning, the *British*, with Colonel *Donop's* corps of Chasseurs and *Hessian* Grenadiers, disembarked near *Utrecht*, on *Long-Island*, without opposition, the whole being landed, with forty pieces of cannon, in two hours and a half, under the direction of Commodore *Hotham*—Lieutenant-General *Clinton* commanding the first division of the troops.

The enemy had only small parties on the coast, who, upon the approach of the boats, retired to the woody heights, commanding a principal pass on the road from *Flatbush* to their works at *Brooklyn*. Lord *Cornwallis* was immediately detached to *Flatbush* with the reserve, (two battalions of Light-Infantry, and Colonel *Donop's* corps, with six field-pieces,) having orders not to risk an attack upon the pass if he should find it occupied; which proving to be the case, his Lordship took post in the village, and the Army extended from the ferry at the *Narrows*, through *Utrecht* and *Gravesend*, to the village of *Flatland*.

On the 25th, Lieutenant-General *De Heister*, with two brigades of *Hessians* from *Staten-Island*, joined the Army, leaving one brigade of his troops, a detachment of the Fourteenth Regiment from *Virginia*, some convalescents and recruits, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Dalrymple*, for the security of that Island.

On the 26th, Lieutenant-General *De Heister* took post at *Flatbush*, and in the evening Lord *Cornwallis* with the *British* drew off to *Flatland*. About nine o'clock the same night, the van of the Army, commanded by Lieutenant-General *Clinton*, consisting of the Light-Dragoons and brigade of Light-Infantry, the reserve under the command of Lord *Cornwallis*, excepting the Forty-Second Regiment, which was posted to the left of the *Hessians*, the First Brigade, and the Seventy-First Regiment, with fourteen field-pieces, began to move from *Flatland* across the country through the new lots, to seize a path in the heights, extending from east to west, along the middle of the Island, and about three miles from *Bedford*, on the road to *Jamaica*, in order to turn the enemy's left posted at *Flatbush*.

August 27.—General *Clinton* being arrived within half a mile of the pass about two hours before daybreak, halted, and settled his disposition for the attack. One of his patrols falling in with a patrol of the enemy's officers, took them; and the General, learning from their information that the Rebels had not occupied the pass, detached a battalion of Light-Infantry to secure it; and advancing with his corps upon the first appearance of day, possessed himself of the heights with such a disposition as must have insured success, had he found the enemy in force to oppose him.

The main body of the Army, consisting of the Guards, Second, Third, and Fifth Brigades, with ten field-pieces, led by Lord *Percy*, marched soon after General *Clinton*, and halted an hour before day in his rear. This column (the country not admitting of two columns of march) was followed by the Forty-Ninth Regiment, with four medium twelve-pounders, and the baggage closed the rear with separate guard.

As soon as these corps had passed the heights, they halted for the soldiers to take a little refreshment, after which the march was continued, and about half an hour past eight o'clock, having got to *Bedford*, in the rear of the enemy's left, the attack was commenced by the Light-Infantry and Light-Dragoons upon large bodies of the Rebels, having can-

non, who were quitting the woody heights before mentioned to return to their lines, upon discovering the march of the Army; instead of which they were drove back, and the Army still moving on to gain the enemy's rear, the Grenadiers and Thirty-Third Regiment, being in front of the column, soon approached within musket-shot of the enemy's lines at *Brooklyn*, from whence these battalions, without regarding the fire of cannon and small-arms upon them, pursued numbers of the Rebels that were retiring from the heights so close to their principal redoubt, and with such eagerness to attack it by storm, that it required repeated orders to prevail upon them to desist from the attempt. Had they been permitted to go on, it is my opinion they would have carried the redoubt; but as it was apparent the lines must have been ours at a very cheap rate by regular approaches, I would not risk the loss that might have been sustained in the assault, and ordered them back to a hollow way in the front of the works, out of the reach of musketry.

Lieutenant-General *De Heister* began soon after daybreak to cannonade the enemy in the front, and, upon the approach of our right, ordered Colonel *Donop's* corps to advance to the attack of the hill, following himself at the head of the brigades. The Light-Infantry, about that time having been reinforced by the light company, the Grenadier company, and two other companies of the Guards, who joined them with the greatest activity and spirit, had taken three pieces of cannon, and were warmly engaged with very superior numbers in the woods, when, on the *Hessians* advancing, the enemy gave way, and was entirely routed in that quarter. On the left, Major-General *Grant*, having the Fourth and Sixth Brigades, the Forty-Second Regiment, and two companies of *New-York* Provincials, raised by Governor *Tryon* in the spring, advanced along the coast with ten pieces of cannon, to divert the enemy's attention from their left. About midnight, he fell in with their advanced parties, and at daybreak, with a large corps, having cannon, and advantageously posted, with whom there was skirmishing and a cannonade for some hours, until, by the firing at *Brooklyn*, the Rebels, suspecting their retreat would be cut off, made a movement to the right, in order to secure it across a swamp and creek that covered the right of their works; but being met in their way by a part of the Second Grenadiers, who were soon after supported by the Seventy-First Regiment, and General *Grant's* left coming up, they suffered considerably: numbers of them, however, did get into the morass, where many were suffocated or drowned.

The force of the enemy detached from the lines where General *Putnam* commanded was not less, from the best accounts I have had, than ten thousand men, who were under the orders of Major-General *Sullivan*, Brigadier-Generals *Lord Stirling* and *Udell*. Their loss is computed to be about three thousand three hundred killed, wounded, prisoners, and drowned, with five field-pieces and one howitzer taken. A return of the prisoners is enclosed.

On the part of the King's troops, five officers and fifty-six non-commissioned officers and rank and file killed; twelve officers and two hundred and forty-five non-commissioned officers and rank and file wounded; one officer and twenty Grenadiers of the Marines taken by mistaking the enemy for the *Hessians*.

The *Hessians* had two privates killed, three officers and twenty-three rank and file wounded. The wounds are in general very slight. Lieutenant-Colonel *Monckton* is shot through the body, but there are the greatest hopes of his recovery.

The behaviour of both officers and soldiers, *British* and *Hessians*, was highly to their honour. More determined courage and steadiness in troops have never been experienced, or a greater ardour to distinguish themselves, as all those who had an opportunity have amply evinced by their actions.

In the evening of the 27th, the Army encamped in front of the enemy's works. On the 28th, at night, broke ground six hundred yards distant from a redoubt upon their left, and on the 29th, at night, the Rebels evacuated their intrenchments and *Red-Hook*, with the utmost silence, and quitted *Governour's Island* the following evening, leaving their cannon and a quantity of stores in all their works. At daybreak on the 30th, their flight was discovered, the piquets of the line took possession, and those most advanced reached

the shore opposite to *New-York* as their rear guard was going over, and fired some shot among them.

The enemy is still in possession of the town and island of *New-York*, in force, and making demonstration of opposing us in their works on both sides of *King's Bridge*. The inhabitants of this Island, many of whom had been forced into rebellion, have all submitted, and are ready to take the oaths of allegiance.

This despatch will be delivered to your Lordship by Major *Cuyler*, my first Aid-de-camp, who, I trust, will be able to give your Lordship such further information as may be required.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

WILL. HOWE.

P. S. I have omitted to take notice, in its proper place, of a movement made by the King's ships towards the town on the 27th, at daybreak, with a view of drawing off the attention of the enemy from our real design, which, I believe, effectually answered the intended purpose.

### Return of the Prisoners taken on LONG-ISLAND, August 27, 1776.

#### COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Three Generals.		Forty-three Lieutenants.	
Major-General Sullivan,		Provincial Rifle Regiments...	11
Brigadier-General Lord Stirling,		Pennsylvania Musketeers...	1
Brigadier-General Udell.		Pennsylvania Militia.....	6
Three Colonels.		17th Continental Regiment...	6
Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment.	1	Delaware Battalion.....	2
Pennsylvania Musketeers....	1	1st Battalion New York Con-	
New-Jersey Militia.....	1	tinental.....	5
Four Lieutenant-Colonels.		11th Battalion Continental...	1
Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment.	1	New-Jersey Militia.....	1
Pennsylvania Militia.....	2	1st Battalion Maryland Inde-	
17th Continental Regiment...	2	pendents.....	2
Three Majors.		Long-Island Militia.....	2
Pennsylvania Militia.....	1	Train of Artillery.....	1
17th Continental Regiment...	1	Maryland Provincials.....	5
Eighteen Captains.		Eleven Ensigns.	
Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment.	2	Pennsylvania Musketeers...	4
Pennsylvania Musketeers....	4	17th Continental Regiment...	5
Pennsylvania Militia.....	5	Maryland Provincials.....	2
17th Continental Regiment...	4	Staff.	
Train of Artillery.....	1	Adjutant.....	1
Maryland Provincials.....	2	Surgeons.....	3
		Volunteers.....	2
		Privates.....	1006
		Total.....	1097

N. B. Nine Officers and fifty-eight Privates of the above wounded.

JOS. LORING, *Commis. of Prisoners.*

### Return of Brass and Iron Ordnance taken from the enemy in the engagement on the 27th of AUGUST, 1776, and found in their different Redoubts on LONG-ISLAND and GOVERNOUR'S ISLAND.

CAMP AT NEWTOWN, September 3, 1776.

Brass Ordnance taken in the engagement 27th AUGUST, 1776.

One five and half-inch howitzer, four 6-pounders, one 3-pounder. Total of Brass Ordnance, 6.

Iron Ordnance found in the different Forts on LONG-ISLAND and GOVERNOUR'S ISLAND.

Six 32-pounders, one 24-pounder, four 18-pounders, two 12-pounders, two 9-pounders, eight 6-pounders, three 3-pounders. Total of Iron Ordnance, 26.

A quantity of shot, shells, ammunition, intrenching tools, small-arms, a number of long pikes, ammunition carts, and many other articles not at present ascertained.

W. HOWE, *Commander-in-Chief.*

### Return of the Killed, Wounded, and Missing, of the following Corps, AUGUST 27, 1776.

*First Battalion of Light-Infantry.*—Four Rank and File, killed; two Sergeants, one Drummer, twenty-one Rank and File, wounded, one Rank and File, missing.

*Second Battalion of Light-Infantry.*—Four Rank and File, killed; one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Sergeant, twenty-seven Rank and File, wounded.

*Third Battalion of Light-Infantry.*—Three Rank and File, killed; six Rank and File, wounded.

*First Battalion of Grenadiers.*—One Rank and File, killed; four Rank and File, wounded.

*Second Battalion of Grenadiers.*—Two Captains, one Sergeant, nine Rank and File, killed; one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Captain, three Lieutenants, one Drummer, thirty-two Rank and File, wounded; one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, twenty Rank and File, missing.

*Third Battalion of Grenadiers.*—One Rank and File, wounded.

*Fourth Battalion of Grenadiers.*—One Rank and File, killed; one Sergeant, eleven Rank and File, wounded; one Rank and File, missing.

*33d Regiment.*—Four Rank and File, wounded.

*42d Regiment.*—One Lieutenant, nine Rank and File, wounded.

Reserve.



## FIRST BRIGADE.

4th Regiment.—None killed, wounded, or missing.  
 15th Regiment.—Two Rank and File, wounded.  
 27th Regiment.—None killed, wounded, or missing.  
 45th Regiment.—None killed, wounded, or missing.

## SECOND BRIGADE.

5th Regiment.—None killed, wounded, or missing.  
 28th ditto. ditto. ditto.  
 35th ditto. ditto. ditto.  
 49th ditto. ditto. ditto.

## THIRD BRIGADE.

10th Regiment.—None killed, wounded, or missing.  
 37th ditto. One Rank and File, wounded.  
 38th ditto. Three Rank and File, wounded.  
 52d ditto. One Rank and File, killed; seven Rank and File wounded; one Rank and File, missing.

## FOURTH BRIGADE.

17th Regiment.—One Captain, two Rank and File, killed; one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, nineteen Rank and File, wounded.  
 40th Regiment.—One Lieutenant-Colonel, one Rank and File, killed; five Rank and File, wounded.  
 46th Regiment.—Four Rank and File, wounded.  
 55th Regiment.—One Rank and File, killed; three Rank and File, wounded.

## FIFTH BRIGADE.

22d Regiment.—One Rank and File, killed; one Rank and File, wounded.  
 43d Regiment.—One Rank and File, killed.  
 54th Regiment.—None killed, wounded, or missing.  
 63d Regiment.—None killed, wounded, or missing.

## SIXTH BRIGADE.

23d Regiment.—One Sergeant, six Rank and File, killed; one Captain, one Sergeant, twenty-six Rank and File, wounded.  
 44th Regiment.—Ten Rank and File, killed; one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, seventeen Rank and File, wounded.  
 57th Regiment.—One Rank and File, killed.  
 64th Regiment.—None killed, wounded, or missing.

## SEVENTH BRIGADE.

71st Regiment.—Three Rank and File, killed; two Sergeants, nine Rank and File, wounded; six Rank and File, missing.  
*New-York Companies.*—Four Rank and File, killed; two Sergeants, one Drummer, fourteen Rank and File, wounded.

*Royal Artillery.*—One Lieutenant, one Sergeant, killed; five Rank and File, wounded.

Total: One Lieutenant-Colonel, three Captains, one Lieutenant, three Sergeants, fifty-three Rank and File, killed; one Lieutenant-Colonel, three Captains, eight Lieutenants, eleven Sergeants, three Drummers, two hundred and thirty-one Rank and File, wounded; one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, twenty-nine Rank and File, missing.

*List of Officers killed, wounded, and missing.*

*Killed.*—Captain Sir Alexander Murray.....17th Regiment.  
 " Lieutenant-Colonel Grant.....40th ditto.  
 " Captain Nelson.....52d ditto.  
 " Captain Logan.....2d Regiment Marines.  
 " Second Lieutenant Lovell.....Royal Artillery.

*Wounded.*—Lieutenant Morgan.....17th Regiment.  
 " Captain Grove.....23d ditto.  
 " Lieutenant Crammond.....42d ditto.  
 " Lieutenant Mair.....43d ditto.  
 " Lieutenant Weir.....43d ditto.  
 " Captain Brown.....44th ditto.  
 " Captain Kennedy.....44th ditto.  
 " Lieutenant Brown.....44th ditto.  
 " Lieutenant-Colonel Monckton.....45th ditto.  
 " Lieutenant Powell.....49th ditto.  
 " Lieutenant Addison.....52d ditto.  
 " Lieutenant Nugent.....1st Regiment Marines.

*Missing.*—Lieutenant Ragg, 2d Regiment Marines, prisoner.

*Hessian Troops.*—Two Rank and File, killed; twenty-three Rank and File, wounded.

Major Paoli, Captain O'Reilly, Lieutenant Donop, wounded.

W. HOWE, *Commander-in-Chief.*

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN GENERAL FRAZIER'S BATTALION, DATED SEPTEMBER 3, 1776.

Rejoice, my friend, that we have given the Rebels a d—d crush. We landed on *Long-Island* the 22d ult., without opposition. On the 27th we had a very warm action, in which the *Scots* regiments behaved with the greatest bravery, and carried the day after an obstinate resistance on the Rebel side. But we flanked and overpowered them with numbers. The *Hessians* and our brave *Highlanders* gave no quarters; and it was a fine sight to see with what alacrity they despatched the Rebels with their bayonets after we had surrounded them so that they could not resist. Multitudes were drowned and suffocated in morasses—a proper punishment for all Rebels. Our battalion outmarched all the rest, and was always first up with the Rebel fugitives. A fellow they call Lord *Stirling*, one of their Generals, with two others, is prisoner, and a great many of their officers, men, artillery, and stores. It was a glorious achievement, my friend, and will immortalize us

and crush the Rebel Colonies. Our loss was nothing. We took care to tell the *Hessians* that the Rebels had resolved to give no quarters to them in particular, which made them fight desperately, and put all to death that fell into their hands. You know all stratagems are lawful in war, especially against such vile enemies to their King and country. The Island is all ours, and we shall soon take *New-York*, for the Rebels dare not look us in the face. I expect the affair will be over this campaign, and we shall all return covered with *American* laurels, and have the cream of *American* lands allotted us for our services.

[Lest any of those persons who affect not to believe anything against the *British* soldiers, and will pretend to say that the above letter, which exactly tallies with their conduct as heretofore represented, is an *American* forgery, we would inform them that the *English* paper from whence the above is taken may be seen in the hands of the printers in *Hartford*.—*Mass. Spy*.]

## JOHN SLOSS HOBART TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Huntington, August 31, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Our express of yesterday not being able to cross the *Sound* at *Sand's Ferry*, has returned to us, which gives us an opportunity to acquaint you with the present situation of our affairs. We have this morning received a letter from Major *Smith*, declining the office of Major, in which he has "heretofore acted with faithfulness," a copy of which we have the honour to enclose, together with a copy of *Ebenezer Dayton's* narrative of the transactions yesterday at *Smith-Town*.

A number of the Militia of this town are now under arms, and we are in hopes that most of them will turn out; but a general complaint among them is, that their officers have deserted them, and if the enemy should find them in arms, they will meet with worse treatment than if they peaceably wait their fate. We have exerted ourselves to recover the people from the consternation into which they were thrown by the precipitate retreat of General *Woodhull's* party. We have in some measure succeeded; and could we assure them of being supported, and that the Island was not abandoned to the enemy, we doubt not but the people might be brought to act with vigour; but such a total depression prevailed upon our arrival, that twenty horsemen would have ravaged the whole country. A number of the *King's County* Horsemen have crossed the *Sound* from this place, leaving their horses to follow them in another boat. We have taken the liberty to stop the horses, and shall send for the men back. We purpose, after the party who were with General *Woodhull* are rallied, to form the rest into companies and appoint the officers. As to field-officers, we shall be at a loss, as Colonel *Floyd*, who commands the regiment, is at Congress; Lieutenant-Colonel *Potter* is gone off with himself, and First Major *Smith* has resigned; Second Major *Brush* is with us, and begins to be in spirits. Should we be able to rouse a considerable number of this regiment, more Field-Officers will be necessary. We wish the direction of Convention on the subject. We beg the favour of copies of the late resolves respecting officers and men who refuse to do duty in time of an invasion. You will see that we could do nothing without assuming power not given us by Convention, and hope the necessity of the case will plead our excuse. We propose, as soon as matters are regulated here, to proceed eastward, and endeavour to prevent the evils that are to be apprehended from the indiscreet conduct of Major *Smith* and Captain *Thompson*.

We have the honour to be your most obedient servants,  
 JNO. SLOSS HOBART,  
 JAMES TOWNSEND.

To the Honourable Convention of *New-York*.

## COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Southold, August 31, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have, since I wrote to you yesterday, received by express an account, which may be depended upon, that General *Woodhull* was taken a prisoner by our enemies on *Wednesday* last. Their Troop of Horse is considered by the inhabitants to the westward of *Huntington* as an insurmountable obstacle to their ever obtaining their freedom, independent of *Great Britain*. Many have been prevailed with by the disaffected to us to solicit

pardons from Lord *Howe*, and they are circulating at a great rate. Our communication is cut off from *New-York* by land, and there are three ships, a brig, and a sloop, that endeavour to intercept it by water. So many reports daily circulate here with respect to the strength and advantageous situation of our enemies, that it is very difficult to give your Excellency a distinct account. They are now possessed of *Hempstead Plains*; their Horse are continually employed in disarming the inhabitants, but do them no other injury. General *Woodhull* was taken a prisoner and treated cruelly by them. After he was taken he received a wound in his head, and much uncivil language, and finally committed close prisoner to *Jamaica* jail.

Our enemies are plentifully supplied with fresh provisions, which, together with the precarious situation I am in, has induced me to march my detachment to the westward, in order to harass their foraging parties. I have endeavoured to prevail upon the Committees of the different towns to raise their Militia, and have also sent an express to Governour *Trumbull*, requesting his aid; for if some encouragement is not given to the country people, they will be entirely passive.

I am your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *New-York*.

P. S. I expect to be at *Huntington* in about three days. We begin our march to-morrow morning. I hope for your Excellency's approbation.

SUFFOLK COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Suffolk County, Southold, August 31, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: We are sorry to acquaint you that we have received several expresses from the middle of this Island, acquainting us of the Regular troops having surrounded our lines at the west end, and stopped our communications to the Army and Provincial Congress. Their scouting party consists of about three hundred Light-Horse and four hundred Foot, together with a number of Tory recruits, and to all appearances are about penetrating into this County, as they have already marched as far as the western part of *Hempstead Plains*, where they took prisoner Brigadier-General *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of this Island. We must beg the favour of you to aid and assist us with men and ammunition, as our men are chiefly drawn off and are now in the Army, so that we are not able to raise more than seven hundred and fifty men in the whole County that are capable to bear arms. If you think proper to send us men, which we think we really need, we must beg you would send what provisions you think they will want, all but fresh, which we can make out to supply them with. By the best accounts we can learn of the strength of the Regular Army now landed on this Island, they consist of about fifteen or twenty thousand men.

At a Committee meeting, signed per order.

ROBERT HEMPSTEAD, *Chairman*.

REV. S. BUELL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Sag-Harbour, August 31, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you yesterday from this place, since which we hear per express General *Woodhull* is fallen into the hands of the King's troops; that two days since they drove fifteen hundred head of cattle from *Hempstead Plain* to their Army. The western Counties upon this Isle are already in their possession. With about three hundred Horse and a Foot company, they are about to penetrate into this County. I this hour came from our Committee, who have desired me to second their request to your Honour, that if possible you throw a number of troops upon this Island as soon as possible. We are the rather encouraged to hope for this favour, in our present extreme exigency and peril, in that your Honour sent Messrs. *Huntington* and *Ely* to us yesterday relative to the important design. We have three companies stationed here, consisting of ninety men each, together with a third part of our Militia, who are ordered to march immediately up the Island. About fifteen miles from hence our people are erecting a strong breastwork, where that part of the Island is but about fifty rods wide, which, well effected, two hundred men may oppose two thousand. As one-half of our Militia is already in the Army, we ex-

remely need some assistance. Without any hyperbole, there are ten thousand people, with all the stock in this County, which will probably fall into the hands of the King's troops, unless we have some assistance. Your Honour will take a full view of such shocking consequences, and doubtless be assured it will greatly tend to intimidate the enemy to hear there is an Army marching against them from the eastward, and much befriend your Honour's great confidant, the excellent General *Washington*. But I need not multiply words. Your Honour well knows all possible expedition is necessary in the present case.

In utmost haste, with great esteem, I am your Honour's much obliged humble friend and servant,

SOL. BUELL.

To His Excellency Governour *Trumbull*.

CORNELIUS C. ROOSEVELT TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

August 31, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The twenty-six muskets of Mr. *Noble* have received, with the contract and order; agreeable to which, I applied to four Gunsmiths, in order to view them, and advised them of the contract; upon which they examined said muskets, and gave the enclosed certificate.

I am, gentlemen, in behalf of Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius*, your most obedient and very humble servant,

CORNS. C. ROOSEVELT.

To the Hon. Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

COLONEL HOPKINS TO GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON.

Frog's Neck, August 31, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to orders this day received from Colonel *Graham*, I herewith send you, to the care of the main guard, one *John Wooly*, who was taken by Captain *Paine* on *Long-Island* shore, with his boat, for having been two or three times on board the men-of-war in the *Sound*, and supplying them with provisions. He denies supplying them, but confesses he hath been on board.

The brig of war and her tender are come back just now, and lay close to *Francis Lewis*, Esquire's, house, and the people are gone ashore and driving up the cattle, &c.

There was one *Hewlet* taken with *Wooly*, but in the hurry of affairs when the brig was going by, he hath escaped, but I know of no crime he is guilty of. The people here pray for a reinforcement, fearing the enemy will land here from the Island with a large number of troops.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

ROSWELL HOPKINS, *Lieutenant-Colonel*.

To General *Clinton*, *King's Bridge*.

GENERAL HEATH TO LIEUTENANT LANGDON.

Mount Washington, August 31, 1776.

SIR: You are immediately to proceed to the town of *Harlem*, with the detachment under your command, and take post near the landing place. You are to post sentinels in the daytime, so as to prevent the soldiers of the Army who have not proper passes going over the ferry; and, also, both day and night to be very alert in discovering any movement or advance of the enemy, of which you are to give immediate notice to the commanding officer at this post.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

W. HEATH, *Major-General*.

To Lieutenant *Langdon*.

GEN. HEATH TO OFFICER COMMANDING AT MOUNT WASHINGTON.

King's Bridge, August 31, 1776, half past seven }  
o'clock in the evening. }

DEAR SIR: I have just received information that a large party of the enemy just before sunset appeared nearly opposite to *Morisania*, or *Hunt's Point*, where they pitched their tents, and it is apprehended intended to pass. I have ordered the regiments here to lie on their arms this night. If the troops have returned from *New-York*, I would have Colonel *Nicolls* return with his detachment to his post, and some other troops held in readiness, should they be wanted—a detachment of the Artillery, with two brass three-pounders, which are to be well found with ammunition, &c.; one to be sent to this post immediately.

I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,

WM. HEATH.

To the Commanding Officer at *Mount Washington*.

A Pay-Roll of the Officers on board the Armed Galley LADY WASHINGTON, from the time of their entry to the last of AUGUST, 1776, inclusively, according to a Resolve of Congress; and as said Officers were advanced out of the Continental Army, a subduction is made of what they receive in the Company or Regiment to which they belong, viz :

OFFICERS' NAMES.	Pay per month in dollars.	Time of entry on board.	Time of service to the last of August.		Amount of wages to the first of August.			Subduction as above.			Total due after sub- duction.		
			M.	D.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Robert Cook, Captain.....	32	13th July,	1	19	20	18	1½	9	16	1½	11	2	1½
Nathan Wardell, First Lieutenant.....	20	14th July,	1	18	12	16	0	4	18	1½	7	17	10½
Abram Godwin, Second Lieutenant.....	20	14th August,	0	27	5	17	4	0	0	0	5	17	4*
Benjamin Vinal, Master.....	20	26th July,	1	6	9	12	0	3	12	0	6	0	0
Benjamin Davis, Boatswain.....	15	26th July,	1	6	7	4	0	3	4	0	4	0	0
Henry Foster, Gunner.....	15	14th July,	1	18	9	12	0	4	16	0	4	16	0
Alexander Bebee, Carpenter.....	15	26th July,	1	6	7	4	0	3	4	0	4	0	0
Thomas Perry, Boatswain's Mate.....	10½	26th July,	1	6	5	2	4½	3	4	0	1	18	4½
William Duke, Gunner's Mate.....	10½	14th July,	1	18	6	16	6½	4	16	0	2	0	6½
John Stanley, Steward.....	13½	26th July,	1	6	6	11	2½	3	4	0	3	7	2½
Kemp, Cook.....	12	26th July,	1	6	5	15	2½	3	4	0	2	11	2½
George Bernaine.....	6½	5th August,	0	25	2	4	5½	0	0	0	2	4	5½
											£55	15	0½
A Volunteer and Private.....											1	6	8
142 51-72 dollars. The footing of the right hand column, viz: £57 1s. 8½d. New-York currency.....											£57	1	8½

\* 26s. 8d. too little.

ROBERT COOK, Captain.

JOHN LAWRENCE.

Examined for William Palfrey, Paymaster-General:

To William Palfrey, Esq., Paymaster-General of the Forces of the United States of America :  
Pay to Captain Robert Cook, one hundred and forty-two dollars and fifty-one seventy-second parts of a dollar, (\$142 51-72,) being in full for the pay of the Officers on board the armed Galley Lady Washington, to the thirty-first day of August last, agreeable to the within abstract, for which this shall be your warrant.  
Given under my hand at Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, the day of October, A. D. 1776.  
By His Excellency's command.  
September 29th, A. D., 1776.—I have examined the within abstract, and can find no exceptionable error.

BENJAMIN TUPPER, Lieutenant-Colonel and Commander.

To the Honourable GEORGE CLINTON, Esq., Brigadier-General in the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:  
The Petition of Colonel MORRIS GRAHAM and the Officers of the Regiment under his command, in your Honour's Brigade, humbly sheweth:

That William Forman hath been appointed a Surgeon in this regiment without the knowledge or recommendation of the Colonel of said regiment or any of the other officers; in which appointment your petitioners think themselves much imposed upon by an unskilful Physician; neither are they willing to trust their lives in his hands or employ him in any case whatever. Your petitioners would also observe to your Honour, that even the privates will not employ him, but several of them have been at considerable expense out of their own pockets in applying to other physicians. We would beg leave to recommend Doctor Abraham Teller as a suitable person for a Surgeon, &c., to the said regiment, who would be very agreeable to it, should he be appointed as such. Therefore your petitioners most humbly pray your Honour to take our case into consideration, and order the said William Forman to be discharged from the service, and appoint the said Abraham Teller, or some other skilful Surgeon, for our regiment; and your Honour's petitioners, in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Morris Graham, Colonel.  
Roswell Hopkins, Lieut. Col.  
William Barker, Major.  
William Stewart, Captain.  
Jno. L. Hardenberg, Lieutenant.  
Reuben Hopkins, Adjutant-Lieut.  
Peter Stoutenberg, Captain.  
Ebenezer Mott, Lieutenant.  
William Dennison, Lieutenant.  
Harman J. Knykerbacker, Lieut.  
George Sharpe, Lieutenant.

John Seton, Lieutenant.  
Andrew Hearmanse, Captain.  
John Van Steenberg, Captain.  
Benjamin Bogardus, Lieutenant.  
Samuel Waters, Lieutenant.  
Stephen Edgert, Lieutenant.  
William Mead, Lieutenant.  
Elisha Barlow, Captain.  
Ezra St. John, Lieutenant.  
Ebenezer Carter, Lieutenant.  
James Teller, Captain.

RETURN OF ELKANAH DAY'S COMPANY.

A Return of the men inlisted in a Company of which I am expected to take the command:

Uriah Carpenter,  
Daniel Ranny,  
Bildad Easton,  
Abner Wright,  
John Wise,  
Joseph Willard,  
John Morse,  
Fairbank Moore,  
Lemuel Cone,  
Nathaniel Ketridge,  
Daniel Hogins,  
Nathan Robinson,  
Calvin Chaffee,  
John Sternes,  
Abraham Dickerson,  
Jonathan Fuller,

} Sergeants,  
} Aug. 8, 76.  
} Aug. 16.  
} Aug. 12.  
} Aug. 14.

James Williamson,  
John Johnson,  
Fairbank Moore, jr.,  
John Smith,  
Tim. Parker,  
Elijah Parker,  
Nehemiah Gould,  
Moses Gould,  
James Hickson,  
John French,  
John Abby,  
Saml. Averill,  
Joseph Phippan,  
James Crefford,  
Jacob Abby.

} Aug. 14.  
} August 14.  
} August 15.  
} August 17.  
} August 19.  
} August 21.

ELKANAH DAY.

N. B. One of the Lieutenants has not made return. I understand a Sergeant has inlisted six men, but not made return. We have about fifty inlisted, but in this haste can't ascertain their names for want of the return being made.  
E. DAY.

Muster-Roll of Captain JOSEPH HATCH's Company of Rangers, under the command of Major JOAB HOISINGTON.

Men's Names.	When Inlisted.	£ s. d.
Captain Joseph Hatch.....	August 13, 1776.	8 0 0
Lieutenant Simeon Stevens.....	August 13, 1776.	5 8 0
Lieutenant Amos Chamberlain.....	August 13, 1776.	5 8 0
Sergeant Elias Stevens.....	August 13, 1776.	2 8 0
Sergeant Samuel Hadley.....	August 14, 1776.	2 8 0
Sergeant Joel Chamberlain.....	August 13, 1776.	2 8 0
Corporal Stephen Percival.....	August 13, 1776.	2 4 0
Corporal Jacob Page.....	August 14, 1776.	2 4 0
John Hutchinson.....	August 13, 1776.	2 0 0
Sylvanus Owen.....	August 13, 1776.	2 0 0
Thomas Abner.....	August 13, 1776.	2 0 0
John Brown.....	August 13, 1776.	2 0 0
Elijah Waterman.....	August 13, 1776.	2 0 0
William Baxter.....	August 13, 1776.	2 0 0
Seth Biding.....	August 20, 1776.	2 0 0
Henry Barton.....	August 20, 1776.	2 0 0
Elijah Balding.....	August 26, 1776.	2 0 0
Samuel Curtiss.....	August 26, 1776.	2 0 0
Thomas Savage.....	August 2, 1776.	2 0 0
Robert Handy.....	August 21, 1776.	2 0 0
Eldad Poast, Jun.....	August 25, 1776.	2 0 0
Phineas Parkhurst.....	August 13, 1776.	2 0 0
Moses Kelley.....	August 14, 1776.	2 0 0
Otho Stevens.....	August 14, 1776.	2 0 0
Jonathan Hadley.....	August 14, 1776.	2 0 0
John Mills.....	August 14, 1776.	2 0 0
Benjamin Barnet.....	August 14, 1776.	2 0 0
Ashur Chamberlain.....	August 14, 1776.	2 0 0
Samuel Eaton.....	August 15, 1776.	2 0 0
Timothy Sergeants.....	August 15, 1776.	2 0 0
Robert Miller.....	August 20, 1776.	2 0 0
William Chapley.....	August 23, 1776.	2 0 0
Abel Davies.....	August 24, 1776.	2 0 0
Anthony Toney.....	August 27, 1776.	2 0 0
Ephraim Webster.....	August 28, 1776.	2 0 0
Nicholas White.....	August 15, 1776.	2 0 0
James McLauton.....	August 30, 1776.	2 0 0
Philip Herriman.....	August 14, 1776.	2 0 0
Moses Herriman.....	August 7, 1776.	2 0 0
Jesse Heath.....	August 12, 1776.	2 0 0
First month's wages, £94 8 0		

Test: JOSEPH HATCH, Captain.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, August 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am this moment favoured with a letter from General Gates, copy of which I do myself the honour to enclose you, together with copy of a return and sundry original letters from officers of our Army prisoners in Canada.

The musket cartridge-paper, mentioned in your Excellency's last, is not yet arrived. Everything that can be procured here, or anywhere in the country, is instantly sent.

I am so accustomed to ill usage, that I am not surprised that General *Gates* should be informed that I had ordered the regiments he mentions, to be stopped on their march. This report is only a perversion of an order of mine of the 17th instant, sent to General *Waterbury*, copy of which now enclose. The information on which it was founded is corroborated by a letter of the 22d *August*, with which Governour *Trumbull* has honoured me, and which was delivered me after I had begun this letter, in which he says: "Inoculation for the small-pox, I find, has been practised by troops on the march to join your Army. I hope a practice so pernicious in every respect will be discouraged. I have taken the liberty to suggest my fears and sentiments to General *Gates* on this subject. Indeed, sir, if it is not timely restrained, it appears to me it must prove fatal to all our operations, and may ruin the country."

I never neglect laying all letters and papers which I receive from General *Gates*, or from any other quarter, that ought to be transmitted, before your Excellency or Congress.

The two persons mentioned in General *Gates's* letter to have come from *Dartmouth College*, have not yet informed me of their business.

As I could not procure any regular returns of what provision was with the Army and on the communication, and as it was necessary that I should be informed of it, on the 20th instant I wrote to General *Gates* on the subject. Extract of my letter your Excellency will see in the enclosed to Mr. *Trumbull*, as well as what answer has been given to it by Mr. *Avery*, and my resolutions thereon, which I trust will meet with your approbation. Your Excellency will please, after perusal, to order the letter to be sealed and delivered.

In my last, I informed your Excellency that the *Stockbridge Indians* had determined to go to *New-York*. Many of them have changed their resolutions, and arrived here yesterday on their way to *Ticonderoga*.

I am, dear sir, most respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c.

#### GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, August 31, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Woodbridge* and his Major have been detained in this neighbourhood fourteen days, in consequence their having lately been inoculated and not bringing certificates that they were properly cleansed; and they grow uneasy that they are kept back; and I should be glad to know whether your Honour intends I shall let them go forward to *Ticonderoga*; if not, I should be glad to have some instructions how to act concerning them.

I am, dear General, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jun.

#### GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL HARTLEY.

Tyonderoga, August 31, 1776.

SIR: I received your letter of yesterday by Lieutenant *John Brooks*, and have only a moment to acquaint you that I shall select a party of fifty men and officers to go to-morrow morning to cover the oar-cutters, and to perform another piece of service in that neighbourhood. The officer will bring you a letter from me, and show you his orders. I must desire you will not fail to be very alert in acquainting me with even the most minute circumstance relative to the fleet that comes to your knowledge. A galley and a gondola will be with you to-day. The commanding officer has my directions to show his orders. I would not have them delay an hour at your post.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley*.

P. S. The artillery stores, &c., which you have wrote for shall be sent you immediately.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

#### DR. KENNEDY AND OTHERS TO GENERAL GATES.

Ticonderoga, August 31, 1776.

In conformity to certain orders, given by the Honourable General *Gates*, the following Surgeons met at Head-Quarters, viz: Messrs. *Barnet, Holmes, Waterman, Metcalf, Parker, Chase, Emmerson, Child, Swift, Kennedy, Wingate, Allison, Watson, Green, Holbrook*. And having taken into their most serious consideration the sundry matters given in charge, do report: That the diseases most prevalent in camp at present are bilious, remitting, and intermitting fevers, with some of the putrid kind; dysenteries, diarrhoeas, with rheumatick complaints; and, on examination, find the medical chests destitute of a number of very necessary medicines, a catalogue of which is enclosed, to which they have subjoined a list\* of the necessary comforts, &c. They also beg leave to recommend to his Honour that the commanding officers be enjoined to keep their several regiments clean; that the necessary vaults be covered twice a day; that every infectious material which tends to putrefy the air be immediately removed from camp.

Signed by order of the faculty.

SAM. KENNEDY,  
WM. BARNET,  
AMOS HOLBROOK.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

\*A catalogue of Medicines most necessary for the Army.—Acet. Com., six barrels; Alo. Hepat., lb. iij; Calomel, lb. ij; Emp. Diachyl., lb. x; Cantharid., lb. ij; Gm. Guaiac., lb. j; Gm. Opit., lb. ij; Gm. Camph., lb. iij; Myrrh., lb. j; Hord. Com., lb. 100; Merc. Precip. Rub., lb. ss.; Merc. Cor. Sublim., lb. j; Pul. Cort. Peruv., lb. xx; Pul. Ipecac., lb. iij; Pul. Jalap., lb. iij; Pul. Rhei., lb. ij; Rad. Serpent. Virg., lb. iij; Sal. Epsom, lb. xv; Sal. Nit., lb. v; Spirit. Sal. Ammo., lb. iij; Tart. Emet., lb. iij; Ung. Diath., lb. v; Elix. Asthmatic., lb. v; Elix. Vitriol., lb. x. Six gross Vials and Corks; Wrapping Paper, three reams.

A list of the necessary comforts.—Barley, Coffee, Chocolate, Ginger, Oatmeal, Rice, Sugar, Mutton, Baum, Sage, &c.

#### COLONEL GANSEVOORT TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort George, August 31, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to General *Schuyler's* orders, I apply to your Honour for a reinforcement. The following is a copy taken from an original letter of General *Schuyler*:

"Immediately on receipt of this, you are to order Captains *McCracken* and *Hicks*, with their respective companies, to march to this place with all possible expedition; and as your garrison will be too weak unless these are replaced by others, you will apply to General *Gates* for a reinforcement."

I beg, if your Honour thinks proper, that we may be reinforced as soon as possible.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

P. GANSEVOORT, Lieutenant-Colonel.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

N. B. One Captain, one Sub, and one Ensign, arrested at the garrison, who are very anxious to have their trial. I beg your Honour will send me orders that a General Court-Martial may be called for their trial.

P. G.

#### COLONEL TRUMBULL TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, August 31, 1776.

SIR: I am ordered to acquaint you that Lieutenant-Colonel *Reed*, of Colonel *Patterson's*, has left this Army without proper leave of absence. As he had appeared delirious some time before he went into the country, the General would willingly impute an action unjustifiable on any other grounds to the continuance of his disorder. You will please to cause inquiry to be made into the cause of his stay in the country, and likewise to inform Colonel *Reed* that the General expects he will either immediately return to his duty with the Army, where his character suffers daily, or resign his commission, that the service may not suffer for the want of an officer in the post which he has been pleased to desert.

I am, sir, with the highest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN TRUMBULL, Dep. Adj. Gen.

#### GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Button-Mould Bay, August 31, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The 24th instant I left *Crown-Point*; the 25th at night anchored at *Willsborough*; the same night came on a violent storm at northeast; the next day, at two P. M., was obliged to weigh anchor and return to



this place, where the whole fleet arrived the same evening, except the *Spitfire*, Captain *Ulmer*, who could not clear the shore, and was obliged to come to an anchor again, and rode out the storm, though exposed to the rake of *Cumberland Bay*, fifty miles long. The hard gale made an amazing sea, and when I expected to hear the gondola was foundered or drove on shore, she joined us, having received no damage, though a light batteau veered astern of her was sunk with the sea breaking over her. The severe weather prevented my despatching Lieutenant *Whitcomb* before yesterday morning. The first fair wind I will follow him. I should have gone this evening, but the breeze is so light night would have come on before we could have reached a safe place of anchorage.

I have had no advice from the *St. John's* or *Isle-aux-Noix*. The earliest intelligence I receive shall be communicated to you immediately. I am very anxious to hear from *New-York*, and make no doubt when you receive any material advices I shall soon be acquainted with it.

Enclosed is a return of the strength of the fleet, by which you will observe that seventy-four men are wanting to complete the numbers proposed for the vessels, which are barely sufficient when complete. I should be extremely glad they were sent to us soon. If you think proper to send them, the bearer, Lieutenant *Caldierwood*, will take charge of them.

Mr. *Gilliland* has the only good draught I know of *Lake Champlain*, which, he says, was delivered Captain *Bush* for you. It will be of great service to me, as I have no draught of the Lake.

If a good officer can be procured to act as Captain of the *Royal Savage*, I think he might be of service in case any accident should happen to me. The present Master is not fit for the command in chief, though a good man in his present station.

I suppose by this time General *Schuyler* has paid you a visit. Please to make my respectful compliments to him if arrived, and let him know I will write him very particularly as soon as I arrive at the other end of the Lake.

I am, with real affection and esteem, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

Willsborough, September 2, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I intended sending the foregoing from *Button-Mould Bay*, but waited for a boat that I had sent to this place for a barrel of fresh salmon, which I had designed for you. The late freshets have broke the dam so that none can be caught till it is mended. Mr. *Gilliland* sent you a few salted ones, very indifferent, which we have eat, expecting to send you some fresh ones.

Yesterday at noon we left *Button-Mould Bay*, and arrived here last night. Before we passed the *Split-Rock* we saw two sail astern, which we supposed were the *Lee* and a gondola. They have not yet joined us. We are now under way with a fresh southerly breeze, and expect to be at the *Isle Têtes* before night. I hope soon to have it in my power to send you a very full account of the strength of the enemy, by sea and land. I hope no time will be lost in forwarding the three galleys. When they have joined us, I am very confident the enemy will not dare attempt crossing the Lake.

I beg my congratulatory compliments to General *St. Clair* on his promotion. When the enemy drive us back to *Ticonderoga*, I have some thoughts of going to Congress and begging leave to resign. Do you think they will make me a Major-General?

*Entre nous*, I have received a letter from *Samuel Chase*, Esq., in which he mentions your letter to *John Adams*, Esq., and desires an explanation. I will send it you when I have time to answer it.

I am, with every friendly wish, very respectfully, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

GENERAL GATES TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 16, 1776.]

Ticonderoga, September 2, 1776.

SIR: As I conclude my letter to Major-General *Schuyler* of the 27th, and that to his Excellency General *Washington* of the 28th of last month, have been transmitted to the most honourable Congress, I shall not repeat any of the contents of those letters to your Excellency.

General *Arnold* sailed *Saturday*, the 24th of *August*, with ten sail of the fleet of the *United States* under his command. Two gondolas, one of which is fitted as a galley, sailed from here yesterday to join the General. An exact return of the whole is enclosed. One row-galley was launched *Saturday* at *Skenesborough*, and the two others will, I am told, be launched this week. The excessive sickness of that place has greatly retarded the finishing of the galleys. Very few of the ship-carpenters your Excellency sent thither by order of Congress are able to work. The constant rain in that district has raised the waters of the *Wood Creek* so much, and so deluged the surrounding country, that the fever and ague rages there with unremitted violence.

Your Excellency will find in the packet my reasons for removing Captain *Wynkoop* from the command he assumed over all the armed vessels employed upon this Lake. A little of the dictatorial power was exerted, but perhaps it never was more necessary than on that occasion. My letters to Generals *Schuyler* and *Arnold*, with that of Captain *Wynkoop*, will, upon perusal, convince your Excellency of the propriety thereof.

By this conveyance your Excellency will receive a large packet, containing the proceedings of a General Court-Martial held by my order, upon Colonel *Hazen*, on a complaint exhibited by Brig. General *Arnold*. The warmth of General *Arnold's* temper might possibly lead him a little farther than is marked by the precise line of decorum to be observed before and towards a Court-Martial. Seeing and knowing all circumstances, I am convinced, if there was a fault on one side, there was too much acrimony on the other. Here again I was obliged to act dictatorially, and dissolve the Court-Martial the instant they demanded General *Arnold* to be put in arrest. The *United States* must not be deprived of that excellent officer's service at this important moment. I wish your Excellency would represent this affair in the most favourable light to Congress. Upon such occasions there is a way to satisfy complainants without publicly disgracing those complained of, especially when a General Officer of acknowledged merit is a party concerned.

Enclosed is a general return of the Army of the most honourable the *United States of America* immediately under my command. General *Schuyler* will, I take for granted, transmit to your Excellency a return of the corps on the *Mohawk River*, and the posts and communication in that district, as likewise those immediately under his own eye. Thank Heaven, the small-pox is totally eradicated from amongst us, not, I can assure you, without much vigilance and authority being previously exerted.

I did not receive the resolve of Congress relative to Colonel *Hazen's* behaviour to the Captains *Cuillet*, *De la Rosse*, and *De la Fontaine*, until a fortnight after I had sent him, with his *Canadians*, to *Albany*. I suppose General *Schuyler* will see them obeyed. Mr. *Bedel* had also left the camp when I received, in the same resolve, what related to General *Prescott's* baggage.

Colonel *William Bond*, of the Twenty-Fifth Regiment, in the service of the *United States*, died the day before yesterday of a putrid fever. Brigadier-General *James Reed* remains so very ill at *Fort George* that he will not, I imagine, be again fit for service this campaign.

As I have received only one short letter from your Excellency since I left *New-York*, I am anxious to know whether my endeavours to serve the *United States* merit the approbation or blame of Congress. Your Excellency may believe me when I assure you, sir, that their applause will ever be esteemed by me as the highest honour I can possibly receive in this world.

With every sentiment of esteem and respect, I am, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To His Excellency *John Hancock*, Esq.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, August 23, 1776.

(Parole, Hartley.)

(Countersign, Adams.)

The Regiments to be very exact in sending in their returns at Orderly time to-morrow. The Adjutants will take care that there are no more returned sick present than are really sick. 'Tis suspected that many lazy, idle fellows, feign themselves sick with design to avoid duty. Blank

returns will be delivered. The Adjutants will rule those which are delivered incomplete.

*After Orders.*—The Commanding Officer of each Regiment is to send a subaltern officer to-morrow morning, at sunrise, to *Fort George*, to bring the arms of their dead and discharged of their respective Regiments to this place. These officers will give receipts to the Director of the Hospital at *Fort George* for the arms they receive, and on their arrival at this place deliver them to the commanding officer of their respective corps.

The Court-Martial in the Second Brigade, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *Gilman* was President, is dissolved.

A General Court-Martial, taken from the two Brigades commanded by General *Bricket* and Colonel *St. Clair*, composed of a Field-Officer, (President,) four Captains, and eight Subalterns, to sit to-morrow morning, at the President's tent, at nine o'clock, for the trial of such prisoners as may be brought before them.

Four hundred and eighty-nine shirts have been received in store. The General orders them to be delivered to-morrow, in proportion to the number of men fit for duty in each Regiment, except the late arrived recruits.

Head-Quarters, August 24, 1776.

(Parole, *Gordon*.)

(Countersign, *Harrington*.)

The Chief Engineer, with Colonel *St. Clair* and Colonel *Wayne*, will, to-morrow morning at ten o'clock, take a review of the ground near the Saw-Mill, fix upon the proper spot for the encampment of two Continental Regiments, and the best situation for throwing up a redoubt to command the pass. The Deputy-Adjutant and Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General will also attend Colonel *Baldwin*.

*Nicholas Nock*, of Colonel *Reed's* Regiment, tried by the late General Court-Martial for desertion and inlisting into another Regiment, and receiving £9 18s. bounty. The prisoner plead guilty. The Court sentence him to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back for the first offence, and thirty-nine for the second, then to return to his duty in Colonel *Reed's* Regiment. The money to be stopped out of his wages and repaid to the Committee.

*Jonathan Wright*, of Captain *Sullivan's* Company, in Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for desertion. The prisoner pleading guilty, is sentenced by the Court to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back, and then to return to his duty.

Ensign *Lee*, of Captain *Spalding's* Company, in Colonel *Reed's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial, for buying a gun belonging to Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiment, and defacing the name, *New-Jersey*, and the number which was marked on her, plead guilty. The Court sentence him to return the gun to Colonel *Maxwell*, and to be reprimanded by the commanding officer of his Regiment, at the head of his Regiment.

*Richard Roach*, of Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial, for refusing his duty and striking his officer. The Court find him guilty, and sentence him to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back for each several crime.

*Jonathan Small*, of Colonel *Reed's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial, for breach of orders, in selling spirituous liquors, when repeatedly forbid by the commanding officer of the Regiment, is found guilty, and sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back, and return to his duty.

*James Carney*, of Captain *Osgood's* Company, in the Regiment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Wait*, tried by the same General Court-Martial, for desertion; plead guilty, and is sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back, and to wear a wither round his neck for fourteen days, as a mark of ignominy, and if he is found without it he is to receive one hundred lashes. He is to return to his duty in his Battalion.

The General approves all the above sentences, and orders the execution of them to-morrow morning, at guard mounting, at the head of the Regiments to which the prisoners severally belong.

Mr. *Samuel Shute* is appointed an Ensign in Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiment, in place of an Ensign preferred.

Head-Quarters, August 25, 1776.

(Parole, *Lisbon*.)

(Countersign, *Cádiz*.)

The honourable the Continental Congress have been pleased to appoint Colonel *James Reed* and Colonel *Arthur*

*St. Clair* to the rank of Brigadier-Generals in the Army of the *United States of America*. They are to be considered and obeyed as such.

Colonel *Morgan Lewis* is appointed Deputy Quartermaster-General of the Northern Army, and is to be obeyed as such.

Head-Quarters, August 26, 1776.

(Countersign, *Spain*.)

(Parole, *Madrid*.)  
*Benjamin Willy*, of Captain *Tilton's* Company, Colonel *Poor's* Regiment; *Josiah Burnham*, of Captain *Adams's* Company; *William Adams*, of the same Company; *William Crown*, of the same; *John Powell*, of the same; *James Morton*, of Captain *Tilton's* Company, and all of Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, and all tried by a General Court-Martial of the Third Brigade, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *McDuffie* is President, for desertion, plead guilty, and are sentenced to be whipped, each thirty-nine lashes on the bare back.

*David Rand*, from Captain *Adams's* Company, Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, for deserting from said Company, then inlisting with the Militia, and afterwards deserting again. Plead guilty, and is sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes.

*Benjamin Holt*, of late Captain *Wentworth's* Company, Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial, for desertion, plead guilty. The Court, on account of several circumstances which appeared in his favour, sentence him only to be stripped at the post, as if to be whipped, and then severely reprimanded by the Colonel of the Regiment.

*Josiah Henderson*, Corporal in Captain *Bill's* Company, Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, tried for neglect of duty when Corporal of a guard, in suffering the prisoners confined in his guard to go at large, and permitting one *Samuel Rowell*, confined for desertion, to make his escape. The Court, having examined the evidences, find him guilty, and sentence him to be severely reprimanded by his Colonel, at the head of the Regiment, and reduced to a private.

*John Kelly*, of Captain *Walker's* Company, Colonel *Stark's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for mutinous conduct and threatening to shoot Captain *Richards*, pleads guilty. The Court sentence him to receive thirty-nine lashes, and be reprimanded by the Colonel at the head of the Regiment.

*Daniel Coss*, of Captain *Reed's* Company, Colonel *Stark's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial, for leaving his post, when placed as sentinel, before he was relieved, is found guilty; but, from many circumstances which appear in his favour, the Court only sentence him to be severely reprimanded by the Colonel at the head of the Regiment.

As the weather is so very wet, the Commissary is directed to deliver an half gill of rum to every non-commissioned officer and soldier now fit for duty in camp.

*After Orders.*—All the sentences of the Court inserted in the Orders of this day are approved by the General, and are to be put in execution at such time and place as the commanding officers of the respective Regiments shall direct.

Head-Quarters, August 27, 1776.

(Parole, *Philadelphia*.)

(Countersign, *York*.)

The weather continuing extremely cold and stormy, the General orders the Commissary to issue one half gill of rum to every non-commissioned officer and soldier now in camp.

The Commissary has received four hundred pairs of leather breeches. They are ready to be delivered to the different established Regiments, according to their number returned for duty.

The General is determined not to grant discharges or furloughs, unless the commanding officers of Regiments send their desire in writing, setting forth the reasons why such furlough or discharge is requested.

Head-Quarters, August 28, 1776.

(Parole, *Annapolis*.)

(Countersign, *Baltimore*.)

The bad weather still continuing, the Commissary to issue one-half gill of rum to each non-commissioned officer and soldier, as before.

During this recess from work, occasioned by the rain, the Chief Engineer will order as many axes to be ground as possible. As soon as the weather clears up, the commanding officer of each Regiment may receive from Colonel

*Baldwin* twenty-four axes, giving his receipt for the same. These axes are to be distributed to three of the most expert axe-men in each company, who are to keep them constantly in good order, and to be ready to turn out when called upon.

One Captain, two Subalterns, two Sergeants, two Drummers, and fifty rank and file, from General *Bricket's* Brigade, to parade as soon as possible, to take twelve batteaus to *Skenesborough*. The Captain to wait on the Adjutant-General for orders before he sets out. The Batteau-Master will provide the batteaus immediately.

Lieutenant *Nahum Powers*, of Colonel *Woodbridge's* Regiment, tried by a General Court-Martial, of which Lieut. Colonel *Irvine* is President, for stealing a blanket, is found not guilty; therefore acquitted. The General approves the sentence, and orders Lieutenant *Powers* to be released from his arrest.

The Batteau-Master is ordered to take a fatigue party, and proceed immediately to collect all the oars from the different encampments and places where they are scattered.

Head-Quarters, August 29, 1776.

(Parole, *Frédéric.*)

(Countersign, *Berkeley.*)

The Field Officers who command the guard upon the isthmus of *Mount Independence*, and the Captains who command the guard upon the redoubt above the lines, are to see that those under them are vigilant in finishing the two guard-rooms directed by former orders to be built by those guards.

The Chief Engineer will order the broken handbarrows to be repaired, and as many new ones made as are immediately wanted.

The Commanding Officers of the Old Corps will, at Orderly time, next *Saturday*, give in to the Deputy Adjutant-General, a signed return of the names, rank, and dates of commissions, of the Field, Commissioned, and Staff Officers, in their respective corps. The Majors of Brigade will receive the form in which these returns are to be made.

As the weather promises to be fair, the fatigue parties are to make an early dinner, and parade at one o'clock for work.

Head-Quarters, August 30, 1776.

(Parole, *Weathersfield.*)

(Countersign, *Springfield.*)

*Zerah Beach*, Quartermaster of Colonel *Burrell's* Regiment, is appointed an Ensign in the same Regiment, in place of Ensign *Wright*, discharged.

The Majors of Brigade will be particularly careful that the weekly returns are correct and complete this week, as they are to be sent to Congress. The absencies and vacancies, &c., are to be carefully noted. Every officer in camp, whether sick or well, is to be returned present. This would not be ordered, but that some Regiments are particularly fond of making mistakes of this kind.

Ensign *Frothingham*, of Colonel *Wheelock's* Regiment, is appointed Adjutant of the same Regiment, in place of Adjutant *Allen*, promoted.

*After Orders.*—The Surgeons of the different Regiments of this Army are to meet at Head-Quarters to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Head-Quarters, August 31, 1776.

(Parole, *America.*)

(Countersign, *Liberty.*)

The officers and soldiers may be satisfied that the General has left no means in his power unattempted to procure medicine and every comfort for the sick.

The Director of the General Hospital in this department, Doctor *Stringer*, was sent to *New-York* three and thirty days ago, with positive orders to return the instant he had provided the drugs and medicines so much wanted. Since then, repeated letters have been wrote to *New-York* and *Philadelphia*, setting forth, in the strongest terms, the pressing necessity of an immediate supply of these articles.

The General is credibly informed that a Principal Surgeon from the General Hospital at *New-York*, has been despatched from thence above a fortnight ago, with a supply of medicines, and apprehends that the badness of the weather and roads has alone prevented his arrival.

It is the soldier's duty to maintain the post he is ordered to defend. The same climate and season that affects us affects our enemies; and the favour of the Almighty, to whom

we have appealed, will, if we trust in Him, preserve us from slavery and death.

The General recommends it to the Surgeons of the different Regiments to communicate to each other the state of the sick in their respective corps, the various diseases, the remedies principally wanted, and the comforts most in request; for he will leave nothing unattempted in his power to provide whatever he can command for their recovery.

The General also desires the Medical Gentlemen will consult upon and adopt the most proper measures for obtaining those salutary purposes.

Head-Quarters, September 1, 1776.

(Countersign, *Georgia.*)

(Parole, *Pensacola.*)

A General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow morning at ten o'clock, at the President's tent, upon *Mount Independence*, for the trial of Colonel *Wyman* and such prisoners as shall be brought before them; all evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

When there is no beef, the Commissary is to issue one-half pound of pork and one pound and a half of flour per day to each man, until further orders.

*Philip Morrell*, of Captain *Stow's* Company, Colonel *Wheelock's* Regiment, tried at a General Court-Martial, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *Irvine* is President, for refusing to do duty, and threatening the life of a Sergeant, plead guilty, and is sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back for refusing his duty, and thirty-nine lashes for threatening the life of the Sergeant.

*Allen Kissaday*, of Captain *Moore's* Company, in the Second *Pennsylvania* Regiment, and *John Purdy*, of Captain *Harman's* Company, of the First *Pennsylvania* Regiment, tried for getting drunk on their post, plead guilty. The Court sentence them to receive each twenty lashes on his bare back.

*Benjamin Butterbee*, of Captain *Polhemus's* Company, in Colonel *Winds's* Regiment, tried for desertion, and inlisting into another Regiment, plead guilty. Is sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes for desertion, and thirty-nine lashes for inlisting into another Regiment, to forfeit his pay due in each Regiment to be appropriated to the payment of the bounty received at his inlisting, to be drummed out of the Army with a halter round his neck, and sent over Lake *George*.

The General approves all the above sentences, except that part of the last of *B. Butterbee's* relating to his being drummed out of the Army, and orders the execution of them at such time and place as the respective commanding officers shall think proper.

The General Court-Martial, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *Irvine* was President, is dissolved.

Head-Quarters, September 2, 1776.

(Parole, *Flathush.*)

(Countersign, *Hand.*)

The Commissary will deliver one sheep to the order of the commanding officer of each Brigade, to make broth for the sick.

Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment to encamp as soon as possible in the vacant space in the *Pennsylvania* Brigade that was left for the Sixth Battalion, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley*.

The General Court-Martial in the Third Brigade, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *McDuffee* was President, is dissolved.

All the spades, pickaxes, and bill-hooks now in possession of the respective Regiments, except four spades and four pickaxes to each Regiment, are to be immediately brought in to the Chief Engineer: those on *Mount Independence* to be brought to the Landing; those on the west side to be brought to Head-Quarters.

Enclosed in General *Gates's* Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

#### General *ARNOLD's* Protest.

As the Court have refused accepting my principal evidence, Major *Scott*, after my having declared to them, on honour, that he had punctually obeyed my orders respecting the goods he had in charge from *Montreal* to *Chamblée*, and of course is not in the least interested in the event of Colonel *Hazen's* trial, I do solemnly protest against their proceedings and refusal as unprecedented, and I think unjust.

B. *ARNOLD*, Brig. Gen.

*Minute of the Court.*

General *Arnold* having offered a Protest to the Court, for the entry of it on their Minutes, which appears to them illegal, illiberal, and ungentlemanlike, for these reasons they have objected to its entry and refuse the same.

The Court likewise directed the President to demand satisfaction of the General; which he accordingly did, in the following words:

"SIR: As you have evidently called in question, not only the honour, but the justice likewise, of this Court, by the illiberal Protest you exhibited, the Court have directed me, and as President of this Court I esteem it my duty, to inform you that you have drawn upon yourself their just resentment, and that nothing but an open acknowledgment of your error will be conceived as satisfactory."

To which General *Arnold* returned the following Letter:

"Ticonderoga, August 1, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The very extraordinary vote of the Court, and directions given to the President, and his still more extraordinary demand, are, in my opinion, ungentle and indecent reflections on a superior officer, which the nature and words of my protest will by no means justify; nor was it designed as you have construed it. I am not very conversant with Courts-Martial, but this I may venture to say, they are composed of men not infallible. Even you may have erred. Congress will judge between us; to whom I will desire the General to transmit the proceedings of this Court. This I can assure you, I shall ever, in publick or private, be ready to support the character of a man of honour; and, as your very nice and delicate honour, in your apprehension, is injured, you may depend, as soon as this disagreeable service is at an end, (which *God* grant may soon be the case,) I will by no means withhold from any gentleman of the Court the satisfaction his nice honour may require.

"Your demand I shall not comply with.

"B. ARNOLD.

"To the Court-Martial."

Enclosed in General *GATES*'s Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Ticonderoga, August 6, 1776.

SIR: The Court-Martial, ever desirous of rendering their proceedings clear and intelligible, have thought proper to mention to your Honour the principles on which their determination was grounded, in regard to the testimony of Major *Scott*, which, if your Honour should esteem necessary, may be transmitted to Congress.

From Major *Scott*'s overstrained zeal to serve as Judge Advocate during the course of the trial; from his own acknowledgment in the face of the Court that he had never furnished Colonel *Hazen* with any written orders from General *Arnold*; from his appearing extremely solicitous to give evidence in the cause; from his application to the Court to cross-examine a witness; and lastly, from the purport of the testimony of divers witnesses, proving that the goods were delivered to Major *Scott*, and, while under his care, conducted in such a disorderly manner that part of them must unavoidably have been damaged or lost previous to their arrival at *Chamblée*; that Colonel *Hazen* never had the possession of the goods, and that he could not possibly have taken them, (granting he had been authorized so to do,) not having sufficient store room; from these concurring circumstances, we beg leave to assure your Honour that we were constrained to believe Major *Scott* so far interested in the event of Colonel *Hazen*'s trial, as to render his testimony inadmissible.

We are your Honour's most obedient humble servants.

By order of Court:

ENOCH POOR, President.

To Major-General *Gates*.

Enclosed in General *GATES*'s Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

August 6, 1776.

SIR: We do not make a doubt of your having heard that this Court has taken umbrage at some part of General *Arnold*'s behaviour in the course of his prosecution of Colonel *Hazen*. We are sensible men of rank should be treated with delicacy. We are also sensible that it is our duty to maintain the dignity and authority of the Court-Martial, and that an attempt to lessen the one, or render the other con-

temptible, is proportionably a greater offence, as the person who makes the attempt is in a station more elevated; and that the passing over such attempts must have the worst effects in the discipline of the Army. We know we have power to compel parties before us to decent behaviour, and to punish insults offered to us. 'Tis a power incident to Courts, and without which they would be ridiculous and nugatory. 'Tis a power, however, we wish not to exercise in the case of General *Arnold* especially; a power, however, we must use in his case unless he gives this Court the satisfaction they have demanded; justice to the Army and to our country requires it of us.

The case is shortly this: A witness was offered to the Court to support the charge brought by General *Arnold* against Colonel *Hazen*, to whom exception was taken, that he was interested in the event of the trial, and therefore not admissible. The Court, after hearing the allegations of both parties, adjudged that he was interested, and rejected him. Other witnesses were called, and the trial went on. After some time General *Arnold* again pressed for the admission of the above witness, at the same time observing to the Court, that he would enter a protest on their Minutes unless his request should be granted. He was refused; he then offered his protest against our proceedings, couched, as we think, in indecent terms, and directly impeaching the justice of the Court. If he thought by his protest to stop the proceedings, he certainly has not considered how far that practice would lead. If either party has a right to stop the proceedings by protest, both parties must have the right, and then there needs nothing more to screen every offender from punishment; and, on the other hand, it would expose a person who might have the misfortune to be obnoxious to his superior officer to perpetual persecution; however conscious of his innocence, in vain would he expect redress from a General Court-Martial, for in the very moment when he has a well-grounded expectation of an honourable acquittal, a protest appears and blasts it all, and sends him back to his room a melancholy prisoner. But, on the contrary, if his design was no more than, by an entry of his protest upon our Minutes, to operate against the justice and equity of our proceedings, we must and do consider ourselves as an improper conveyance to our superiors of that protest which was so replete with crimination and abuse. We would add, that the illiberal sentiments of the protest was not the only injury offered us; the whole of the General's conduct during the course of the trial was marked with contempt and disrespect towards the Court, and by his extraordinary answer he has added insult to injury.

We mention these things that you may know what were our motives in this matter; and our principal design in this is, that through you General *Arnold* may know the light in which we have seen the matter, which, we flatter ourselves, you will readily see the propriety of; and, from the regard you have for the honour, the discipline, and the subordination of the Army, you will not, by a sudden dissolution, put it out of our power to obtain that satisfaction we are entitled to.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

Enclosed in General *GATES*'s Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Ticonderoga, August 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have now before me Colonel *Poor*'s letter of the 6th instant, signed by order, and as President of the Court-Martial, couched in the most artful terms, to deceive and gloss over their private resentment, under an appearance of the greatest concern to keep up discipline, &c. In regard to the power of the Court-Martial, I know of none they have to vilify and abuse any officer, as a Court, much less as private men, under the idea of being a Court, which in fact has been the case. And I appeal to every private gentleman present at the Court, whether there was not the grossest abuse offered me by Colonel *Hazen*, who claimed the protection of the Court, and was by them countenanced. The gentlemen say that the illiberal sentiments of the protest was not the only injury offered, for that my whole conduct during the course of the trial was marked with contempt and disrespect toward the Court. Had that been the case, those gentlemen, who are so very quick of apprehension, would have pointed out at least one instance of it, which they have not done, and I defy them to do it. I



wish not to have the Court dissolved, but that they may have every satisfaction they are entitled to as a Court or gentlemen. I beg the whole proceedings may be laid before Congress. Their decision will ever be a law to me.

I am, with the greatest respect and esteem, dear sir, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. Enclosed is Major *Scott's* evidence, which I beg may be transmitted with the other papers.

From General ARNOLD to General GATES.—Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Crown-Point, August 17, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: About two o'clock this afternoon, Colonel *Hartley* acquainted me that a party of his men, who were posted seven miles down the Lake, as a covering party to the oar-makers, had made a large fire as a signal that the enemy were approaching. I sent Colonel *Hartley* with one hundred men in batteaus to secure the retreat of the party, if attacked, and ordered the two light schooners down the Lake to cover them. They were no soon under way than Commodore *Wynkoop* fired a shot and brought them to, and soon after sent me a note, (copy of which I enclose, with my order to the Captains of the schooners, and answer to the Commodore's note.) I waited some time expecting the vessels to sail, but finding they did not, I went on board the Commodore, when he ordered them under sail. He refuses to be commanded by any one, and imagines his appointment, which is by General *Schuyler*, cannot be superseded. I have shown him such parts of your instructions as I thought necessary, which has brought him so far to reason. He says if you think proper to turn him out, he will quit the vessel. I have given him to understand that I shall at all events pursue your orders, and that if he did not incline to remain in the service, he would not be compelled to it. Colonel *Hartley* is not yet returned.

I am, with sentiments of respect and esteem, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

Saturday night, eight o'clock.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

Sunday noon.—I am this moment acquainted by a messenger from *Crown-Point* that the oar-makers made a false alarm.

H. GATES.

Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Crown-Point, August 17, 1776.

SIR: You will immediately get your vessels under sail, and proceed down the Lake seven or eight miles. If you make any discovery of the enemy, you will immediately give me notice; if none, return as soon as possible.

B. ARNOLD, *Brig. General*.

To Captains *Seaman* and *Premier*.

Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

On board the *Royal Savage*, August 17, 1776.

SIR: I find, by an order you have given out, that the schooners are to go down the Lake. I know no orders but what shall be given out by me, except sailing orders from the Commander-in-Chief. If an enemy is approaching, I am to be acquainted with it, and know how to act in my station.

I am, sir, yours,

JACOBUS WYNKOOP,  
*Commander of Lake Champlain.*

To B. Arnold, Brigadier-General.

Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

SIR: I am surprised you should pretend to contradict my orders to the Captains of the schooners, at this time, when we are alarmed by a signal of the approach of the enemy; and much more so, as I acquainted you some time since that the Commander-in-Chief had appointed me to take command of the Navy on the Lake. Had I not received this appointment, from my rank in the Army, and as Commander-in-Chief of this post, it is your duty to obey my orders, which you have received and executed for some time past. You surely must be out of your senses to say no orders shall be obeyed but yours. Do you imagine that Congress have given

you a superior command over the Commander-in-Chief, or that you are not to be under his direction? If you do, give me leave to say you are much mistaken; and if you do not suffer my orders to be immediately complied with, by sending to the Captains of the schooners to obey them, I shall be under the disagreeable necessity of convincing you of your error by immediately arresting you.

B. ARNOLD,

*Brigadier-General and Commander-in-Chief  
of the Fleet on Lake Champlain.*

To Commodore *J. Wynkoop*.

Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Crown-Point, August 17, 1776.

SIR: I have understood that General *Arnold* is to have the command of the Navy; and if that be so, he ought to have shown me his power to it; but instead of that, he sent an order for two of the schooners to get under way and go down the Lake, upon some information, he says, he had of the approach of the enemy. Was it not his duty to have communicated it to me, and my orders to have been given to the vessels? I have contradicted them till he acquainted me with some accounts of the enemy, and then I immediately issued out my orders for them to go down. Sir, if that be the case, I would be glad of my dismissal from the service, for I accepted of this command upon these conditions. Major-General *Schuyler* has a letter, which I brought up to him from Congress, that no man was to take the command from me; and when he had read the letter, he told me that I need not to fear, that no one should have it but me; and the Congress of *New-York* promised me that if any one should arrive here authorized to take the command by the honourable Continental Congress, I was to be dismissed the service, and have the command of one of the frigates building up the *North River*; for I am resolved to go under command of no man. I will receive general orders to sail, and how far, and will obey the Commander-in-Chief's orders; but if I have the command, I expect to give the orders to the Captains of the fleet, when I receive them from the Commander-in-Chief. I refer your Honour to a copy of my warrant, a copy of Major-General *Schuyler's* letter, and his orders, here enclosed. Sir, if you find my grievance well founded, I hope your Honour will be pleased to redress it.

I am, sir, with all due respect your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

JACOBUS WYNKOOP, *Comd.*

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*, *Ticonderoga*.

Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 13, 1776.

Ordered, That Captain *Jacobus Wynkoop* do enlist the number of Mariners desired by Major-General *Schuyler* for the service of the Lakes, with all possible despatch. That Captain *Wynkoop* proceed to *Albany* with said Mariners to General *Schuyler*, and take his directions as to the vessels on the Lakes, until the honourable the Continental Congress shall have appointed him to that command, or some other gentleman shall arrive at the Lakes authorized to take the command.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary*.

Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Albany, March 8, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with yours of the 4th instant. The Continental Congress have resolved that Captain *Wynkoop* should be employed upon the Lakes under Commodore *Douglass*. Whether the latter gentleman means to engage in that service, I do not know. Of this Congress can very speedily inform itself, as he resides near *New-York*. Should he not engage, there is no person I would more willingly have to command the vessels than Captain *Wynkoop*. At any rate, I wish you to send him up the soonest possible, with a sufficient number of sailors for the two schooners and sloop.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., &c., &c.

Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Fort George, May 7, 1776.

SIR: You are immediately to repair to *Ticonderoga*, and take the command of all the vessels on *Lake Champlain*, which you will, with the greatest expedition, put into the best condition possible for immediate service.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Captain *Wynkoop*.

Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Ticonderoga, August 18, 1776.

SIR: I have this moment received your letter from *Crown-Point*, of yesterday evening. It is my orders you instantly put Commodore *Wynkoop* in arrest, and send him prisoner to Head-Quarters, at *Ticonderoga*. You will, at the same time, acquaint the officers of the fleet that such of them as do not pay an implicit obedience to your commands are instantly to be confined and sent to me for trial.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Brigadier-General *Arnold*.

Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Crown-Point, August 19, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received yours of yesterday, and have ordered Commodore *Wynkoop* to Head-Quarters. No other person in the fleet has disputed my orders. I believe the Commodore was really of opinion that neither of us had authority to command him. He now seems convinced to the contrary, and sorry for his disobedience of orders. If it can be done with propriety, I wish he may be permitted to return home without being cashiered.

I am, very respectfully, &c., &c.,

B. ARNOLD.

To Major-General *Gates*.

Extract of a Letter from Major-General GATES to Major-General SCHUYLER, dated AUGUST 20, 1776, at TICONDEROGA. Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Captain *Wynkoop*'s letter to me of the 17th instant you will find in the packet. I am happy in having discovered so early, and upon so unimportant an occasion, the refractory disposition of Mr. *Wynkoop*. It might have operated, in some serious moment, to the entire ruin of our maritime affairs. As General *Arnold* has requested I would not send him off in arrest, he has my pass to go at liberty to *Albany*; but he must, on no account, be sent back here.

Another extract from Major-General SCHUYLER to Major-General GATES, dated at ALBANY, AUGUST 25, 1776. Enclosed in General GATES's Letter of SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Your favour of the 20th instant was yesterday delivered me by Captain *Wynkoop*. He is to remain at this place. The want of subordination and discipline in an army cannot be too much lamented. It is the source whence all disorder and misfortune arise.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, August 31, 1776.

SIR: Adjutant-General *Reed*'s letter of the 24th instant came to hand *Tuesday* morning, the 27th; yours of the same date, yesterday. On receiving the former, I advised with my Council. We concluded to send *Benjamin Huntington*, Esq., one of my Council, with direction to take with him Major *Ely*, at *New-London*, or officer there well acquainted with the people on *Long-Island*, to proceed there, and to consult and agree with some of the sure friends of our cause, with secrecy as far as the circumstances would admit, for a number of their men, assured friends and well acquainted on the Island, to join with a body from this State, if possible to accomplish your wishes, to cause a diversion to the enemy, to harass them on their rear, and to prevent their excursions in pursuit of the provisions the Island affords. I hear they sailed for the Island yesterday. His return is expected the beginning of next week. If he succeeds according to our hopes, no exertions of this State, I trust, will be wanting at this critical conjuncture to harass

and to keep the enemy at bay, to gain time and every advantage the case may admit.

Shall give the earliest intelligence of our proceedings, that you may coöperate with our designs. The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong. It is nothing with *God* to help, whether many, or with those that have no power. He hath so ordered things, in the administration of the affairs of this world, as to encourage the use of means, and yet so as to keep men in continual dependance upon him for the efficacy and success of them; to make Kings and all men to know the reins of the world are not in their hands, but that there is One above who sways and governs all things here below.

I am closing. A post comes in, and brings the letters, copies of which are enclosed. Now expect Mr. *Huntington*'s speedy return. Have sent for my Council. My own thoughts, and such as come to me, are, to send forward four or five of the companies now stationed at *New-London*, with four field-pieces, I hope six pieces, to join those men which may be ready for the service on *Long-Island*; four or five companies to follow from *New-London* as soon as they can be marched down; and also to order on other companies to take the places of such as are removed from thence.

I am inclined to think we shall fall upon some measure similar to what is mentioned. No delay can be admitted at this critical moment. Please to give me the earliest intelligence how we may best serve agreeable to your desires. Shall send in the morning this intelligence to Governour *Cooke*, of *Providence*, and ask his assistance in the best way he shall think the circumstances of that State will admit.

September 1st.—Enclosed is copy of another letter, dated yesterday, from *Southold*, that you may observe the contents. I hope to pursue our measures so as to stop the enemy getting into *Suffolk County*.

I am, with esteem and regard, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Sag Harbour, August 30, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have just received an account of our cruel and unnatural enemy, the *English*, having possessed themselves of so much of *Long-Island* as to destroy the communication between this end of it and the city of *New-York*.

I am honoured by General *Washington* with the command of a detachment of two hundred men, for the protection of the inhabitants, stock, &c. This detachment I think is in danger; also insufficient for the purposes mentioned; but am resolved, notwithstanding, to keep our reputations clear and unsullied, and, with our feeble force, to endeavour to distress our enemies all in our power.

I have prevailed upon the Rev. Mr. *Buell* to transcribe the account he received from the express relative to the communications being cut off, and to direct it to your Excellency, that, if you should think it advisable, you might order a number of men to cross the *Sound* at night, which I conceive they might do without danger from the shipping stationed there.

I have endeavoured to transmit his Excellency General *Washington* an account of my having wrote to your Honour concerning this matter, and sent him my returns, a duplicate of which I transmit to your Honour, that if mine should miscarry, this not.

I am, with all imaginable respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON,

Lieut. Col. and Commanding Officer.

To His Excellency Governour *Trumbull*.

Sag Harbour, August 30, A. D. 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—SIR: I have this hour direct intelligence from the west end of this Island per a post, that the Ministerial Army (supposed to be about sixteen thousand) are on this side our Army upon the Island; have lined across the Island from the *Sound* to the south side, so that we on the east end can have no access to our Army. Upon *Tuesday* last General *Washington* came over from *New-York*, upon this Island, with six thousand men.

There have been several engagements. Four or five thousand 'tis supposed have fallen, inclusive of both armies. The armies are within half a mile of each other. A constant fire is kept up. It's supposed the grand battle will be upon the morrow or next day. We have lost, killed and taken, (as the post says,) near three hundred Riflemen; the enemy have two hundred Horse. Their riders were to dine the day before yesterday at *Hempstead*. They have the command of the west end of the Island entirely.

The post relates, that upon *Tuesday* about five thousand Regulars attempted to land a little below *York Ferry*; our people met them, and the post says killed about two thousand, and drove the residue back. We learn by the post the *Hessians* fight terribly.

I am now, sir, present with Colonel *Livingston*, who advises to write, in conjunction with himself, to your Honour, as proposing and submitting of it to your Honour's wisdom to determine whether it will not be conducive to the general good, and for the preservation of this end of the Island, to throw a number of troops over to our assistance at the present time.

Confiding in your Excellency's patriotick spirit and superior wisdom, in all possible haste, I am, with great esteem, your Excellency's most humble, most obedient friend and servant,

SOL. BUELL.

Suffolk County, Southold, August 31, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: We are sorry to acquaint you that we have received several expresses from the middle of this Island, acquainting us of the Regular troops having surrounded our lines at the west end, and stopped our communication to the Army and Provincial Congress. Their scouting party consists of about three hundred Light-Horse and four hundred Foot, together with a number of Tory recruits, and to all appearance are about penetrating into this County, as they have already marched as far as the western post, or *Hempstead Plains*, where they took prisoner Brigadier-General *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of this Island. We must beg the favour of you to aid and assist us with men and ammunition, as our men are chiefly drawn off, and are now in the Army, so that we are not able to raise more than seven hundred and fifty men in the whole County that are capable to bear arms. If you think proper to send us men, which we think we really need, we must beg you would send what provisions you think they will want, all but fresh, which we can make out to supply them with. By the best account we can learn of the strength of the regular Army now landed on this Island, they consist of about fifteen thousand or twenty thousand men.

At a Committee meeting:

Signed per order:

ROBERT HAMPSTEAD, *Chairman*.

Original come to hand *September 1st*, nine o'clock, P. M.

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

#### GUILFORD (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

In Committee Meeting of Inspection, }  
Guilford, August 31, 1776. }

This meeting being called on account of a letter received from the Congress of *New-York*, dated *Harlem*, August 28, 1776, desiring the Committee of *Guilford* would assist in removing the stock from *Long-Island*, and also the people that were desirous of removing; whereupon it is considered and voted, that this Committee will comply with the above request, and that *Nathaniel Ruggles*, Esq., *Samuel Brown*, Esq., *Solomon Leek*, *Nathaniel Stone*, and *Samuel Lee*, Jun., be a Committee to carry the same into execution.

A true copy of record. Test:

SAML. BROWN,

Clerk of Committee of Inspection for said *Guilford*.

MALTBY GELSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Bridgehampton, August 31, 1776.

SIR: Having received intelligence by *Benjamin Huntington*, Esq., and Major *Ely*, that your Honour has proposed sending a number of troops to our assistance on the east end of *Long-Island*; pursuant thereto the Joint Committee of *South*

and *East-Hampton* request that your Honour will immediately put your purpose in execution, as our danger is extremely great, having just received information that a large number of Horse and Foot of the Ministerial Army are probably marching into this County, and are now in possession of the two western Counties on this Island. Sir, should your Honour comply with the above request, it is probable we can save the inhabitants and stock from falling into the hands of our enemies; and unless we have some speedy relief, we must fall a sacrifice to our cruel enemies. With regard to provision for your troops, we can supply them with plenty of fresh meat. For further intelligence, the express will inform your Honour.

Signed by order of the Committee:

MALTBY GELSTON, *Chairman*.

To His Excellency *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

#### COLONEL REED TO COLONEL SEYMOUR.

Camp at Cambridge, August 31, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by his Excellency General *Washington* to inform you that he has given orders that Major *French*, and some other prisoners at *Philadelphia*, should remain at *Hartford*, instead of proceeding to this camp, as was proposed. Should there be any doubt of their parole of honour given at *Philadelphia* being vacated by this change of their destination, you will require them to renew it before they are allowed the same indulgences with the other gentlemen now under the care of the Committee over which you preside. Should they have advanced beyond *Hartford* before this letter reaches you, his Excellency requests you will immediately despatch an express for their return, as their coming to this place will be attended with many inconveniences both to the service and themselves.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOS. REED.

To Col. *Seymour*, Chairman of the Committee, *Hartford*.

Boston, September 26, 1776.

On the 31st of *August* last was taken by the schooner *Hannah and Molly* and the *Dolphin* privateers, and carried into *Frenchman's Bay*, the brigantine *Royal George*, commanded by *Dennis Doyle*, having on board the following articles, viz: two hundred tierces of pork, two hundred and thirty-one barrels of beef, two hundred and seventy firkins of butter, one hundred and sixty-nine barrels of oatmeal, eleven tierces of beef, one crock of butter, twenty-five sacks of split peas, twenty-five boxes of candles, thirty boxes of soap, twenty barrels of pork. She was bound from *Waterford*, in *Ireland*, to *Halifax*; out ten weeks; brings no news, excepting that they had an account in *Ireland* that the *British* troops had taken possession of the greatest part of *Philadelphia*, and had taken the Continental Congress prisoners.

Yesterday Captain *Odiorne*, in the *Washington* privateer, carried into *Newburyport* a barque from *New-York* bound to *St. Vincent's*, with provisions for one hundred and twenty men for six months. She sailed in company with five or six transports, under convoy of the *Solebay* frigate, in order to fetch troops from thence.

A *French* schooner, which sailed from *Newburyport* about a month ago, was taken by one of the Ministerial pirates, retaken by the *Washington* privateer from hence, and is now safe arrived there.

A letter from *Providence* of 23d instant, says: "The *Columbus* vessel of war has sent a prize brig into *Newport*, loaded with lumber, bound for *Europe*."

#### JAMES LYON TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Machias, August 28, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I have often troubled the Court with my scribbling, and once with my presence, but neither known nor regarded, because I did not approach in a parliamentary way, though supported, or rather sent, by the most respectable men in this place. Do your Honours expect all the formalities of a Court from loggers and mill-men? I once more beg leave to approach, with due respect, and to speak with freedom, without offence. My subject is

the country which lies between *Penobscot* and *Nova-Scotia*; and should I appear to express myself with too much energy and pathos, I hope it will be imputed to my exquisite sensibility of my subject; I feel what I say, and mean, if possible, that your Honours should feel it likewise.

It has often been asserted, if we may credit human testimony, by members of this honourable Court, that the eastern country is a moth; that it has cost more than it is worth; and that it would be wisdom in the Government to neglect it utterly, and suffer it to sink. I suppose that part of the country east of the *Penobscot* is meant, for the other part is in some measure represented, better known, and surely worth saving. I shall, therefore, take it for granted that the part only where I live is the moth to Government. I readily grant that your Honours are competent judges of the qualifications of your own members; but since you never yet pretended to infallibility, it is not impossible that ignorant and illiterate men have, by some means or other, crept in among you. But whenever this happens, I blame not this honourable Court, but those who sent them. Were I permitted even to name what I think the necessary qualifications in a good statesman, I should say, he ought to be a gentleman of enlarged mind, well furnished with historical facts, and an extensive acquaintance with men and things, and the Constitution of his own country in particular, and with every part of his dominions; he ought also to be a gentleman of established integrity and extensive benevolence, who esteems the happiness of every part of the State his own highest happiness and glory. Such a person will do honour to a public station, and diffuse peace and joy through the State; while the person destitute of these qualifications is really a nuisance and a curse to the public in any exalted sphere. Have these gentlemen, therefore, who speak and think so lightly of this eastern country, all these necessary qualifications? Have they any of them? Not to mention their profound acquaintance with history, ancient and modern, and the grand and interesting occasions of the rise and fall of the States, Kingdoms, and Empires, do they know any more of a valuable part of their own dominions than they know of the extent of country and the nature of the soil in the moon? And are not their integrity and benevolence strongly to be suspected, when they openly oppose everything that is motioned for the benefit of this infant country, if attended with a trifling expense, and publicly declare their willingness that thousands of wholesome inhabitants, and as brave a people as any on the face of the earth, should perish in all the horrors of famine and war? But they are my superiors. Our situation is far more deplorable than the situation of the *Boston* people ever was, till the town was shut up; and perhaps we are as useful members of the State. Yet donations were generously heaped upon them from almost every quarter. But did we ever ask for charity? Some of the principal inhabitants of this place, it is true, petitioned for a scanty pittance for their Minister; and the ostensible reason assigned for not granting it was, the petition does not come before us in a parliamentary way. The sums asked for, with this single exception, have always been requested as a loan, which we think we shall be able to pay, with interest, when the times are settled. I suspect, however, that this honourable Court, in general, have too contemptible an opinion of this part of the eastern country. I beg leave, therefore, to speak a few words in its commendation. I have travelled over a great part of *Pennsylvania*, *New-Jersey*, *New-York*, *Connecticut*, *Rhode-Island*, *Boston* Government, and *Nova-Scotia*, and been an inhabitant of all these States, except *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*, and call myself something of a judge of lands; and I must say, that this eastern country, in my opinion, is equal to any I ever saw. The climate, if not so pleasant as some others, is more healthy, and the natural increase of inhabitants greater; the soil is exceedingly natural to grass, and when properly subdued, will produce quantities of beef, butter, cheese, &c. It produces excellent wheat, rye, barley, oats, peas, beans, hemp, flax, and some *Indian* corn in the internal parts, and almost all kinds of roots. The proportion of barren lands is probably less than in most other countries. To these things I must add the fishing on the coasts, which will in time support an incredible number of people, and furnish our navy with able seamen. However meanly, therefore, people may think of this eastern and extensive portion of the Continent, I assert, without claiming the spirit of prophecy, that it will

one day vie with the other States of *America* in greatness and glory, if not give them laws. Your settlements here are promising children in their minority, who must be tenderly nursed, and when grown to manhood will become the support and consolation of their aged parents. Should your Honours, notwithstanding, think them a moth, and not worth keeping, I beg you dispose of the country, together with the right of dominion, and give us, the inhabitants, the offer. We will engage to procure purchasers, who will give you fifteen times as much as it has cost you. We shall then soon become a free and independent State ourselves. And I assure you we shall think *Nova-Scotia* worth annexing to our dominions. But if your Honours think us worth keeping, I beseech you, by all the tender emotions of the human heart, and by everything sacred, to take some care of us. The coast would be worthy of a guard were there not an inhabitant upon it; but the inhabitants amount to thousands, who are a hardy, brave people, and acquainted with the climate and the nature of the soil, and therefore are better than twice the number that could be sent here, for such would have everything to learn. But—pardon my freedom—instead of encouraging and supporting us hitherto, as we ought to have been, this honourable Court has neglected us, and taken our privateers, our principal strength, which cost us our blood, from us. And in consequence of this, a number of industrious fishermen, and all on which we depended for present subsistence, have been taken by *British* robbers, and a number of our respectable people—men, women, and children—carried into captivity. If any of our people have represented these two privateers as useless while here, they certainly mistook our true interest. They were a terror to our enemies, and, under *God*, if I mistake not, our salvation last summer. Now they are gone our enemy's barges infest our harbours and take our vessels. Should your Honours now ask what I mean by all this, I reply, I earnestly request you to send one of your frigates, or two or three of your ablest privateers, to take the ship that infests our coast, and clear the way for fishermen and coasters; and then, perhaps, some generous persons may be disposed to send us bread, and take some of our lumber. I ask for a small army, to subdue *Nova-Scotia*, or at least that some person or persons may have leave to raise men, and to go against that Province at their own risk. I believe men enough might be found in this country who would cheerfully undertake it without any assistance from Government. The people this way are so very anxious about this matter, that they would go in whale-boats rather than not go, provided they might call what they take their own, in common with the good people of that Province. I confess I am so avaricious, that I would go with the utmost cheerfulness. I hope, however, I should have some noble views, for I think it our duty to relieve our distressed brethren, and bestow upon them the same glorious privileges which we enjoy, if possible, and to deprive our enemies, especially those on this Continent, of their power to hurt us.

With these views, the Committee of this place once petitioned for leave to go against that Province. And had our request been granted, in all probability that country had now been entirely ours, and vast quantities of provision would have been cut off from our enemies. Messrs. *Shaw*, *Foster*, and *Smith*, would now do the business. But were our General Court, at their own expense, to take *Nova-Scotia*, the other States of *America* would have no pretensions to any part of it; and the acquisition would be unspeakably great. That Province is invaluable, and would make ample amends for the expense, and we must have it, or our fishing is lost. Now it is nearly defenceless, and nearly nine-tenths of its inhabitants would bid us a hearty welcome; and now it may be taken without much loss of blood, if any, but hereafter it may cost us very dear.

I highly approve of the noble spirit and resolution of Captain *Eddy*, and heartily wish him success, and all the honour of reducing *Nova-Scotia*, provided our General Court do not see fit that any of their own subjects should share it with him. The reduction of that Province is a matter of the utmost consequence to this place, and would relieve us of many of our distresses.

Should it be thought that I meddle with matters which do not belong to me, and that the Committee of *Machias* ought to have written, I acknowledge that their writing would have been the parliamentary way; but at present,



this is almost impracticable, for they are much distressed and broken to pieces: two of them are taken by the enemy, and one at the westward. Indeed, we are all in a poor, broken situation. If, therefore, the Committee cannot write, why may not I—especially when I write nearly the sense of all the members of the Committee whom I have seen, and the sense of almost every inhabitant? The meanest subject of a free State may complain, when aggrieved, to the highest Court, and draw near to the supreme authority with filial confidence and freedom. I mean to do no more. This is my birthright; and should feel, if I neglect to improve it when confidence and the distresses of all around me command, your Honours yourselves would blame me. But I forget myself, and intrude too far.

I am, with great deference and respect, your Honours' most faithful but distressed servant and subject,

JAS. LYON.

To the Honourable the Council and House of Commons of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

P. S. I am heartily sorry that the officer I recommended to this honourable Court has not acted with all that dignity and honour that could be wished. When I wrote in his favour, I had no knowledge of his inclinations to impose on the publick.

The vessels lately taken going out of this place were a brig from *St. Croix*, *John Coulson* master, the sloop *Unity*, formerly belonging to Captain *Iehabod Jones*, and a sloop belonging to Mr. *Jonathan Pierson*, of *Newbury*.

RESOLVE OF THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY,  
AUGUST 31, 1776.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of suitable persons be appointed immediately to repair to the State of *New-Hampshire*, and apply to the Government there, and, if practicable, with the loan of as many Cannon as can be spared from this State, to effect the fixing out the Continental Ship now under the direction of Mr. *Langdon*; and to take immediate measures that such number of Cannon and other necessities, as without distressing the State may be lent to the Continent, may be safely and expeditiously transported to *Portsmouth*. This Ship to be fixed out for the purpose of attacking the *Milford*, or other ships of war distressing our coasts.

And in case said Ship can within any reasonable time be equipped for the sea,

*Resolved*, That two or more Colony armed Vessels be directed to act in concert with her; and that the Committee be, and hereby are, empowered to engage as many sea-coast Soldiers east of *Boston* as may incline to enter for said service, and in general to do everything necessary for effecting the aforesaid purpose; and that the pay of the sea-coast men continue, in addition to emoluments of the sea service. The said Cannon and other articles, that may be lent as aforesaid, to be returned as soon as the cruise shall be over, or as soon as they shall be called for by this Government.

In Council, September 2, 1776.

Whereas *Benjamin Greenleaf* and *Oliver Wendell*, Esqs., and Captain *George Williams*, are appointed a Committee to repair to *Portsmouth*, in the State of *New-Hampshire*, to procure the Continental Frigate to cruise after the *Milford* and other Frigates of the enemy, that are infesting the sea-coast of these *United States*:

*Resolved*, That the said Committee be directed to represent to the Legislative authority of the State of *New-Hampshire* the expediency of forthwith passing an act to prohibit the exportation of Lumber, for a limited time, similar to that passed by this State for that purpose.

Sent down for concurrence.

JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Secretary*.

In the House of Representatives, September 2, 1776.

Read and concurred.

J. WARREN, *Speaker*.

A true copy. Attest: JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Secretary*.

AMERICAN PRISONERS IN HALIFAX.

The following Prisoners are still confined in one room, at *Halifax*, among felons, thieves, robbers, negroes, soldiers,

&c., which we here publish for the satisfaction of their anxious friends:

*James Lovell* and *Richard Carpenter*, of *Boston*.

*Consider Howland*, Master, and *Jacob Taylor*, Mate, of the privateer brig *Washington*.

*Bigelow*, *Kemp*, *Peak*, and *Sessions*, *Bunker-Hill*.

Corporal *Cruise*, and *Cornelius Turner*, Riflemen.

*David Wells*, *Dorchester-Neck*.

Captain *Francis Proctor*, of *Philadelphia*.

Corporal *Jeremiah Low*, of *Fredericksburg*.

Colonel *Ethan Allen*, of *Bennington*.

*John Gray*, *Arlington*.

*Barnabas Castle*, *Saratoga*.

*Preston Denton*, *Stillwater*.

Belonging to the State of CONNECTICUT.

Sergeant *Levi Munson*, *Wallingford*.

Sergeant *Zachariah Brinsmade*, *Woodbury*.

Corporal *Charles Steward*, *Stamford*.

Corporal *Roger Moore*, *Salisbury*.

Corporal *Samuel Lewis*, *William Gray*, *David Goss*, and

*Adonijah Maxum*, of *Sharon*.

*Ebenezer Mac* and *Levi Barnum*, of *Norfolk*.

*Flowers*, *New-Hartford*.

In the Hospital.

*Amos Green*, *Norwich*.

*Jonathan Matthews*, *Goshen*.

*William Drinkwater*, *New-Milford*.

In the King's Yard.

*John James Burkie*, (a Swiss,) *New-York*.

Twelve *Canadians*.

Not one of Colonel *Allen*'s men died until after their return from *England*; then *Anthony Belisle*, a *Canadian*, died off *Cape Fear*.

All in the Jail, but *Sessions*, are well and in good spirits, but wishing greatly for an exchange.

LETTER I.—TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

GENTLEMEN: Conscious of an upright design to promote and perpetuate the liberties of the State, and that I have given you no just occasion to suspect my patriotism while I have had the happiness of residing among you, I promise myself that you will hear with candour what I have now to offer.

The peculiarity of the times hath made it necessary to alter the forms of Government in almost every Colony upon the Continent, and hath afforded an opportunity of moulding them so as to favour the original rights of human nature. In some these rights are more fully and better secured than in others; this we may ascribe to the different manners and usages of the inhabitants which must be consulted, that so confusion may be prevented, and invincible prejudices be gratified; though it is your felicity to have enjoyed from the beginning a form of Government that contained the leading principles of liberty, so that you want not, in this important crisis of *America*, to establish a form absolutely and entirely new, but to have the present corrected and improved, in order to its being perfect. Your Legislature always consisted of more than one branch; and it is of the highest consequence that it should continue to do so. A gentleman, (to whom you are under great obligations, and whose name, was I to mention it, would meet with universal respect,) in a letter to his friend, containing *Thoughts on Government*, printed at *Philadelphia*, thus expresses himself from page the 10th to the 14th:

"A representation of the people in one Assembly being obtained, a question arises, whether all the powers of Government, legislative, executive, and judicial, shall be left in this body? I think a people cannot be long free, nor ever happy, whose Government is in one Assembly. My reasons for this opinion are as follow:

"1. A single Assembly is liable to all the vices, follies, and frailties of an individual; subject to fits of humour, starts of passion, flights of enthusiasm, partialities of prejudice, and consequently productive of hasty results and absurd judgments; and all these errors ought to be corrected and defects supplied by some controlling power.

"2. A single Assembly is apt to be avaricious, and in time will not scruple to exempt itself from burdens which it will lay without compunction on its constituents.

"3. A single Assembly is apt to grow ambitious, and after a time will not hesitate to vote itself perpetual. This was one fault of the Long Parliament; but more particularly of *Holland*, whose Assembly first voted themselves from annual to septennial, then for life, and after a course of years, that all vacancies happening by death or otherwise should be filled by themselves, without any application to constituents at all.

"4. A Representative Assembly, although extremely well qualified, and absolutely necessary as a branch of the Legislature, is unfit to exercise the Executive power, for want of two essential properties, secrecy and despatch.

"5. A Representative Assembly is still less qualified for the Judicial power, because it is too numerous, too slow, and too little skilled in the laws.

"6. Because a single Assembly, possessed of all the powers of Government, would make arbitrary laws for their own interest, execute all laws arbitrarily for their own interest, and adjudge all controversies in their own favour.

"But shall the whole power of legislation rest in one Assembly? Most of the foregoing reasons apply equally to prove that the Legislative power ought to be more complex; to which we may add, that if the Legislative power is wholly in one Assembly, and the Executive in another, or in a single person, these two powers will oppose and encroach upon each other, until the contest shall end in war, and the whole power, Legislative and Executive, be usurped by the strongest."

The wisdom of the Continent, so far as it can be collected from the forms that have been already established, hath given it in favour of a complex Legislature, against its consisting of one branch only. From his Excellency *Archibald Bulloch's* speech to the Provincial Congress of *Georgia*, it seems that the whole Legislature rested in that one representative body; but no publication, that I have been able to get the sight of, has informed us whether the *Georgians* have yet agreed upon and fixed their form of Government. It may be only the original temporary expedient continued. *South-Carolina* was the first that resolved upon a fixed plan, and concluded that the Legislative authority should be vested in the President and Commander-in-Chief, the General Assembly, and Legislative Council. I do not object to the Legislature's consisting of more than two branches, though these, well modelled, might suffice, but to a single person's making the third branch. The author of that celebrated pamphlet *Common Sense*, judiciously observed, in that or one of his letters signed *Forester*, that it was too much for any one man whatsoever to be intrusted with the power of negating the acts of two large legislating bodies. I have not his words, and can only give you his meaning, which is so level to the understanding of every mortal, that when once mentioned it is a wonder that it is not universally assented to. The abilities and good qualities of a *Rutledge* may prevent the *South-Carolinians* finding a speedy disadvantage from their having invested the President with so great a power; but while men are fallible, changeable, and mortal, the rights of a people should not depend upon the abilities and good qualities of a President; no, not for a year.

The *Virginians*, in their plan of Government, declare: "The Legislative department shall be formed of two distinct branches, who, together, shall be a complete Legislature. They shall meet once, or oftener, every year, and shall be called the General Assembly of *Virginia*. One of these shall be called the House of Delegates; the other shall be called the Senate."

*New-Jersey* have agreed that the Government of that Province should be vested in a Governour, Legislative Council, and General Assembly; but legislation is confined to the Council and Assembly unitedly, and the Governour has no further concern therein other than as constant President of the Council, and having a casting vote in their proceedings.

The rest of the Colonies that had their forms of Government to settle, have not yet agreed upon, or published the same. However, it is extremely probable that they will in general determine upon having more than a single branch for the Legislature. Could I suppose that this Colony would consent to set aside the Council, and to intrust an Assembly

with the sole power of legislating, I should dread the consequences—not for myself as an individual, for having been already transplanted, I am not strongly rooted to a particular spot, and can easily remove to a free soil wherever to be met with. I should dread the consequences on account of the publick; for such Assembly would soon give us as great a cause for complaining as ever the *British* Legislature has done, would be full as arbitrary and tyrannical, and far more dangerous, from their being in the midst of us, instead of three thousand miles distant. We are fighting against a tyranny without us; let us guard against a tyranny within us; or the only difference in our case will be, that instead of being devoured by aliens, we shall be devoured one of another. Gentlemen, let us retain a Council as an essential branch of the Legislature, that so our laws, by being subject to the revisal of that Board, may be the more matured for publick service, and that so, should the Assembly fall into the vices, follies, and frailties of individuals, they may have the assistance of the Council to recover them before they have rendered themselves ridiculous, or have thrown the State into a convulsion. But while I am arguing for the continuance of a Council as one branch of the Legislature, I would not be thought to approve of its continuing upon the usual footing. It should upon no account whatsoever have a vote in its own election, and I am glad to find that that absurdity is more attended to than formerly. It should also be so independent of the House, as that its members may be in nowise under any undue influence from that. The Council hath only the name of a separate branch of the Legislature, unless they are entirely free to act their own judgments. Wherein one branch sways the other to go against its own opinion, it therein engrosses the whole power. It is upon this principle that the King of *Great Britain* is absolute; for though he doth not act without the Parliament, by places, pensions, honours, and promises, he obtains the sanction of the Parliament for doing as he pleases. The ancient form is preserved, but the spirit of the Constitution is evaporated. Whether it would be best that the choice of the Council should remain with the House, or be taken up by the publick, who are the fountain of all civil power, and may resume the exercise of it as oft as they judge necessary or expedient, I am at a loss to determine. But however chosen, the Board should certainly be considered as much the Representatives of the people as the House. In *South-Carolina*, the General Assembly choose the Legislative Council. In *Virginia*, the electors at large choose the Senate, (or Council,) voting for them at the same time that they vote for the House of Delegates. 'Tis after the same manner in the *Jerseys*. The Senate or Council of *Virginia* consists of twenty-four members, which are changed by rotation, six new ones being chosen annually in the room of six that go out, till the whole are changed. And it is so settled that the same individuals cannot be rechosen till they have been out of the Senate four years; but then, after the first rotation, each set will continue in as long. When Councillors are chosen by the people annually, and can be displaced, or rather passed by, at pleasure, it seems unnecessary to insist upon a change; but it may be prudent for the electors to make it once in a while, that so the legislative power may not continue almost invariably among a certain set. Should the Council be chosen by the House, then, I apprehend, a settled change by rotation becomes requisite, and it might be effected after some such manner as the following: Let us suppose the number of the Council thirty. Let it be agreed that none of these shall serve more than three years successively, while they depend solely upon the annual election of the House for serving longer than the first, and that ten of them shall be dropped every year to make room for the admission of new ones. After the Council hath been chosen, let the House immediately determine upon the ten who shall not be eligible on the following election. By this means the people, if they approve of it, will have the opportunity of concluding upon returning them the next year to the House, and of enjoying their assistance among the Representatives, and they themselves will be under no temptation to deviate from their own sentiments, or to alter their own opinion, that they may secure an election the ensuing year. Let no one that is thus declared ineligible, and so left out, be eligible again till he has been out of the Council as long as he was successively in it. This mode of rotation is nearly the same

with what was proposed by a writer in the *New-York* paper some months since, and I have used his expressions wherein they would serve. The said writer, in support of his plan, observes: "These kinds of rotation would be an hinderance to individuals conspiring to engross the management of publick affairs into their own hands, to the exclusion of others equally deserving; would excite a laudable ambition in the rising generation to qualify themselves for the first posts of honour and importance in the State, while the door of admittance was kept open by the Constitution, and not secured by a party; would disconcert the plans of any dark, deep, designing knave (such there will be in *America* as well as in the rest of the world) that might mean to exalt himself into a degree of power dangerous to the publick, while he was making himself popular, and deceiving the generality, by bawling out and stunning every one near him with the cry of liberty, and would increase the number of persons qualified for business in any of the upper departments of the State." I shall beg the liberty of troubling you further in some following letters, with more of my thoughts on a plan of Government. Before I close the present, would repeat the fifth article in the Declaration of Rights made by

the Representatives of the good people of *Virginia*, assembled in full and free Convention, wherein it is asserted "that the Legislative and Executive powers of the State should be distinct from the Judicative; and that the members of the two first may be restrained from oppression by feeling and participating the burdens of the people, they should, at fixed periods, be reduced to a private station, return into that body from which they were originally taken, and the vacancies be supplied by frequent, certain, and regular elections." The same arguments that weigh for their being *reduced* to a private station, weigh also for their being *kept* for a time in that private station. The reasons, gentlemen, why I shall sign my real name, are, an apprehension that you ought to know every man that proposes a plan of Government, that, so from their characters you may judge whether they have interested views and are biassed, and that I may be at liberty to pass by unnoticed any writers I please, to avoid altercation about what I advance, for it is not disputation or victory, but the good of the State, that is proposed by your very humble servant,

WILLIAM GORDON.

Roxbury, August 31, 1776.

#### PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 5, 1776.

Present: *George Clymer*, Chairman, *Joseph Parker*, *James Biddle*, *George Gray*, *John Cadwalader*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Nixon*, *David Rittenhouse*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *James Dunlap* be employed as Surgeon of the Naval Armament (the ship excepted) and Artillery and superintendence of the Hospital, and that he be allowed 10s. per day and three rations.

The *Fly* armed vessel having arrived at *New-York* with six Cannon for the use of this Province, being a part of the twenty ordered by Congress,

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *Levi Hollingsworth* and *Thomas Richardson* be requested to go to *New-York*, and endeavour to convey the said Cannon to this city in the most expeditious manner; that they be authorized to hire carriages for that purpose, either in this city or any other place, as they may judge most proper.

Upon application of Congress for a quantity of Flints for the use of the Army under General *Washington*, by order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver thirty thousand of them; and in order to their being conveyed to *New-York* with the greatest expedition, four chaises were employed for that purpose, two of which set off yesterday evening, and the other two four o'clock this morning, with a request to the different Committees to aid and assist with fresh horses, if found necessary.

Adjourned to five o'clock; when the following Members met: *George Clymer*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *John Nixon*, *Joseph Parker*, *David Rittenhouse*, *John Cadwalader*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, in favour of Colonel *Samuel Miles*, for £1,000, for the use of the Battalion under his command.

Captain *Joseph Moulder* having exhibited a list of necessities to equip his military Company for service,

*Resolved*, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, supply such articles of said list as he has in store.

That Captain *Moulder* procure such articles as the Commissary can't furnish, on the most reasonable terms, and bring in a bill for cost, for payment.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Palmer* and Mr. *Nicholson* be requested to examine and value the Arms collected from the Non-Associators in this city, and make report of such valuation to this Board, and that they be paid a reasonable allowance for their trouble.

Captain *Alexander* was desired to deliver *Robert Towers*, Commissary, all the Powder and Arms taken out of the Brig *Nancy* near *Cape May*.

As the Militia of this Province is immediately to be called into service, it will be necessary to collect a considerable quantity of old Linen for Bandages and Lint; the Committee therefore most earnestly requests the good women of this City to furnish as much as they can spare. The bearer,

, is empowered to receive the same, and such

charitable ladies as will take the trouble to make Lint and furnish it will merit particular thanks from the publick.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Eastbourne* and be employed to collect the old Linen, &c., as mentioned in the above address.

*Resolved*, That Dr. *Thomas Bond*, jun., be requested to procure all the Rags in the Commissary's store to be made into Bandages and Lint, and this Committee will defray the expense.

It being reported to this Committee that there is at present scarcity of suitable Linen for making Tents to accommodate the Associators who are about to march to the assistance of our brethren of the Colony of *New-Jersey*, and that there is a number of Awnings in this city suitable for that purpose,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Inspection and Observation be requested to apply to all such persons who are possessed of the same, to spare them to the publick upon this pressing emergency, allowing them a reasonable price for the same; and it is hoped that no persons will be so lost to all regard to the publick welfare to refuse to spare the same. If any such there be, they are to return their names to this Committee, that a proper estimate may be made of their attachment to their country.

In Committee of Safety, July 6, 1776.

Present: *George Clymer*, Chairman, *Joseph Parker*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Biddle*, *Samuel Morris, Jun.*, *Thomas Wharton, Jun.*, *George Gray*, *Samuel Miles*, *Owen Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*.

By order of the Board, *Thomas Palmer* was directed to deliver to *Robert Towers*, Commissary, the whole number of Rifles made by him by order of this Board.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to Colonel *Timothy Matluck*, for the use of his Battalion, forty Rifles, made by Mr. *Palmer*, taking a receipt to be accountable for the same.

*Resolved*, That Dr. *Dunlap* be authorized to employ a Surgeon's Mate, whose pay shall be \$18 per month, and two rations per day.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the following Officers employed on board the armed Boats in the service of this Province be as follows, and to commence the 1st day of *June* last:

Boatswain.....	£3 10 per month.
Carpenter.....	4 0 do.
Gunner.....	4 0 do.

That the offices of Steward and Clerk be held by one person, whose pay shall be £4 10s. per month.

That the pay of the following Officers employed on board the Provincial Ship and Floating-Battery be as follows, and to commence the 1st day of *June* last, viz:

Boatswain's Mate.....	£3 10 0 per month.
Gunner's Mate.....	3 10 0 do.
Quartermasters.....	3 7 6 do.
Quarter-Gunners.....	3 7 6 do.
Steward.....	4 0 0 do.
Steward's Mate.....	3 5 0 do.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon, Esq.*, and others, the Committee of Accounts, for

£1,400, in favour of Captain *Joseph Cowperthwaite* and Mr. *Clement Biddle*, being for account of Continental Powder-Mill.

Congress having requested this Board to recommend four gentlemen as suitable persons as Captains to four Companies of *Germans* to be raised in this Province for the Continental service,

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be recommended to Congress as proper persons to be appointed Captains to the four Companies aforesaid, viz: *Daniel Burkhard, Geo. Hubley, Jacob Bunner, Benjamin Weiser*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, in favour of *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Paymaster to the Provincial Forces, for £5,000.

The President of the Congress this day sent the following Resolve of Congress, which is directed to be entered on the Minutes, to this Board:

"In Congress, July 5, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That copies of the Declaration be sent to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils of Safety, and to the several Commanding Officers of the Continental Troops, that it be proclaimed in each of the *United States*, and at the head of the Army.

"By order of Congress:

"*JOHN HANCOCK, President.*"

In consequence of the above Resolve, Letters were wrote to the Counties of *Bucks, Chester, Northumberland, Lancaster*, and *Berks*, enclosing a copy of the said Declaration, requesting the same to be published on *Monday* next at the places where the election of Delegates are to be held.

Adjourned to five o'clock; when the following Members met: *George Clymer*, Chairman, *Samuel Howell, Owen Biddle, James Biddle, John Nixon, John Cadwalader, Joseph Parker, Thomas Wharton, Jun.*

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Maurice Rogers*, Cashier and Clerk of Accounts to the Committee of Accounts of this Board, be allowed for his services £110 per year.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas, Esquire*, in favour of Colonel *Samuel Miles*, for £1,000, being for the use of the Troops under his command.

*Ordered*, That the Sheriff of *Philadelphia* read, or cause to be read and proclaimed at the State-House in the City of *Philadelphia*, on *Monday*, the 8th day of *July* instant, at twelve o'clock at noon of the same day, the Declaration of the Representatives of the *United Colonies of America*, and that he cause all his Officers and the Constables of the said city to attend the reading thereof.

*Resolved*, That every Member of this Committee in or near the city be ordered to meet at the Committee Chamber before twelve o'clock on *Monday*, to proceed to the State-House, where the Declaration of Independence is to be proclaimed.

The Committee of Inspection of this City and Liberties were requested to attend the proclamation of Independency at the State-House on *Monday* next, at twelve o'clock.

In Committee of Safety, July 8, 1776.

Present: *George Clymer*, Chairman, *Joseph Parker, John Nixon, Owen Biddle, Michael Hillegas, George Gray, James Biddle, David Rittenhouse, Thomas Wharton, Jun., John Cadwalader, Samuel Morris, James Mease, Samuel Howell*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, Treasurer, for £10,000, in favour of *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, deliver out as much Powder to each Battalion of Associators as will make eight rounds, to be used in training them; and it is recommended to the Officers to have the Cartridges for that purpose made up at the rate of eighty to the pound, which Mr. *Towers* will acquaint them of.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Dunlap* print three hundred copies of the Rules and Regulations for the government of the Continental Army, for the use of the Associators going into the Continental service.

*Resolved*, That the Iron-Masters employed in casting Cannon or Shot for the publick service in the Counties of *Chester, Lancaster*, and *Berks*, be permitted to employ any

of the Soldiers, prisoners of war at *Lancaster* and *Reading*, as labourers in the said business, giving an account to the Committees of *Lancaster* and *Reading* of the times of such Soldiers as they shall employ.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Boyce* be requested to give leave of absence for one week to *Thomas Prudden*, now belonging to this Board, to assist Captain *Delaney* in preparing necessaries for the Battalions.

*Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Colonel *Samuel Miles* as many Knapsacks and Canteens as he may have occasion for, for the use of the Provincial Battalions under his command.

*Resolved*, That Doctor *Adam Kuhn* be appointed Physician and Director-General of the Hospital for the Provincial Troops, under orders for *New-Jersey*.

*Resolved*, That Doctor *Kuhn* be requested to adjust a plan for the establishment of said Hospital.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that no persons employed by, or by order of this Committee, in making Guns, Gunlocks, Chevaux-de-Frise, Piers, or any other work for the account of the publick, should quit their employments to march with the Militia now to be drawn out, without special leave of this Board.

Adjourned to five o'clock; when the following Members met: *Owen Biddle*, Chairman, *Samuel Howell, Joseph Parker, David Rittenhouse, George Gray, Thomas Wharton, Jun., James Biddle, Samuel Miles*.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Colonel *Samuel Miles*, or his order, two hundred weight of Lead, for the use of the Troops under his command.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Assembly for superintending the printing the emission of Eighty-Five Thousand Pounds, by the Resolve of Assembly, be authorized to employ those persons appointed by Assembly to sign said money that will best expedite the signing of the same.

*Resolved*, That Doctor *Charles Bensel, Joseph Ferree*, and *Leonard Stoneburner*, be appointed to collect all the Leaden Window Weights, and other Lead, in *Germantown* and its neighbourhood, for which the liberal price of six pence per pound will be allowed; and they are authorized to draw on this Board for the same.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 9, 1776.

Present: *James Mease*, Chairman, *David Rittenhouse, Joseph Parker, George Gray, Samuel Morris, John Cadwalader, George Clymer, Thomas Wharton, Jun.*

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to Colonel *John Cadwalader*, nine Provincial Firelocks, for the use of the Associators of his Battalion.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to Colonel *Hames*, for the use of an Artillery Company of *New-Jersey*, two hundred pounds of Lead, receiving six pence per pound for the same.

*Resolved*, That Doctor *Dunlap* be empowered to purchase all such Drugs, Medicines, Chirurgical Instruments, and necessaries for the use of the Hospital under his care, as shall be requisite for that service, upon the best terms he is able, and send in the accounts to this Board for payment.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, in favour of Colonel *Samuel Miles*, for £500, for the use of the Troops under his command.

Upon application to Congress by this Board, for the loan of a sum of Money for the service of this Board, the following Order was sent to this Committee by *Robert Morris, Esq.*, viz:

"In Congress, June 28, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That the Treasurers be empowered to advance to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, a sum not exceeding \$100,000, the Colony of *Pennsylvania* to be accountable.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"*CHAS. THOMSON, Secretary.*"

*Resolved*, That the above Order of Congress for \$100,000 be put into the hands of *John Nixon, Esq.*, and others, the Committee of Accounts of this Board.



*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committee of Inspection of the County of *Bucks*, immediately to appoint some fit and trusty person to cause all the Fire-Arms collected from the Associators to be repaired and made fit for service, with all despatch, and the accounts of such repairs, certified by such person, and countersigned by the Chairman of the said Committee, with the reasonable charge of such person so employed, shall be paid by this Board.

*Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to furnish Colonel *Miles* with samples of Powder, that he may make choice of that that will best suit the Rifles, and five hundred Flints.

*Resolved*, That Doctor *John Davis*, of the Rifle Battalion, in the service of this Province, be authorized to purchase a case of Surgeon's pocket Instruments.

*Resolved*, That such Prisoners from *North-Carolina* as choose, may be permitted to write to their friends there; such Letters to be inspected by this Committee; and the Jailer is to take care that all the paper delivered in to the Prisoners, be used in such Letters, or returned him.

\* The Memorial of *Ludwick Kargher*, agent, Victualler for the three Battalions in the pay of this Province, being read and considered, this Committee recommended him to the Delegates of this Province in Congress, to apply to the honourable Congress for redress.

Adjourned to five o'clock; when the following Members met: *James Mease*, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *John Nixon*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *George Gray*, *Joseph Parker*, *David Rittenhouse*, *James Biddle*.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver *Clement Biddle*, Esq., Deputy Quartermaster-General, the following articles, for the use of the Continent, taking a receipt for the same, viz: fifty Picks, fifty Spades, one hundred Shovels, fifty Handbarrows, thirty Wheelbarrows, fifty Hatchets, fifty Pitching-Axes.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to Colonel *Thomas McKean*, of the Fourth Battalion, the following articles: twelve hundred Flints, one quarter cask of Powder, (to be made into small cartridges for training,) sixty Pikes, Powder and Lead to supply sixty Riflemen.

The honourable Congress sent the following Resolve to this Board, which is directed to be entered on the Minutes:

"*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be directed to take the parole of *Allan McDonald*, of *Kingsborough*, who is now confined in the Jail of this city, and upon his signing his parole, that they assign him his place of residence, and treat him agreeable to resolutions of Congress.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHAS. THOMSON, *Secretary*."

Agreeable to the above Resolve of Congress, the said *Allan McDonald* gave his parole and word of honour to go to *Reading*, in *Berks County*, and other matters, as will appear by his parole.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 10, 1776.

Present: *Owen Biddle*, Chairman, *Joseph Parker*, *John Nixon*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Biddle*, *George Gray*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

*Resolved*; That Doctor *Dunlap* be desired to receive the Bandages and Rags that Doctor *Bond* received, and had made by order of this Board.

Yesterday ten of the men confined in Jail, that were taken with Captain *Campbell*, some time past, were discharged, they having been qualified to proceed to *Yorktown*, and reside there, or within such distance as the Committee of Inspection of that town shall limit.

*Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Captain *Cowperthwaite* four Fire-locks, with the Accoutrements, for the use of his Light-Infantry Company.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Joseph Moulder*, for £25, to be charged to his account for purchasing Tin for the use of the Province.

*Resolved*, That this Committee will pay £50 to any person or persons who shall apprehend Major *Rogers* and deliver him to this Board.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Captain *Francis Wade*, for £70, which is directed to be charged to his account.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Towers* be directed to deliver to General *Roberdeau's* order, all the Provincial Arms in his possession, that a just distribution be made of them amongst the four Musket Battalions of Associators in this city.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *George Spangler*, for £10, for the defraying the expenses of Captain *Campbell's* men discharged from confinement and ordered to *Yorktown*, which is directed to be charged to his account.

*Resolved*, That *George Spangler* conduct the Prisoners of War from this city to *Yorktown*, there to be stationed under the care of the Committee of that town.

In Committee of Safety, July 11, 1776.

Present: *Alexander Wilcocks*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *James Mease*, *Samuel Howell*, *Joseph Parker*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Miles*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *David Rittenhouse*, *John Nixon*, *George Gray*.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Mr. *Clement Biddle*, Quartermaster-General, the following articles, taking a receipt for the same: three hundred and fifty Knapsacks, nine hundred Cartouch-Boxes, nine hundred Bayonet Belts, one thousand Brushes and Wires, six hampers Tent Pins, twelve Awnings, Intrenching Tools to make up one half of the whole quantity in store.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *John Pollard*, for £23 12s. 6d., the amount of five Rifles purchased by Colonel *Timothy Matlack*, for the use of his Battalion.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Messrs. *B. Smith*, *William Ball*, and *B. Harbison*, for £25, for purchasing Awnings for making Tents.

Captain *Loxley* and Mr. *Daniel King* are hereby ordered to take immediate possession of *Morgan Bustead's* Air Furnace, for the publick use, and this Committee will be answerable to the said *Bustead*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Robert Smith*, Sailmaker, be requested to attend Messrs. *Smith*, *Ball*, and *Harbison*, to inspect and value such Awnings as they may show him, for which they are to pay the several owners agreeable to the valuation, and which he is desired to make up with all possible speed into Tents.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, for £250, in favour of Mr. *Abraham Mason*, for the purchase of Canvass for Tents.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Kimble* and *John Young*, Jun., be desired immediately to deliver Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, such Fire-Arms as are in their possession; and such as are fit for use, or may conveniently be made so, be valued by him, and this Committee will pay for them.

The Board understanding that Captain *Loxley* and Mr. *King* are about to erect a Boring Mill near the city, it is recommended to them to complete the work without loss of time, as it may be immediately employed greatly to the publick service.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Owen Biddle* procure, for the use of this Province, double the quantity of Intrenching Tools already provided.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 12, 1776.

Present: *Samuel Howell*, Chairman, *Michael Hillegas*, *Owen Biddle*, *Joseph Parker*, *James Biddle*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Miles*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jr., *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *George Clymer*, *John Nixon*, *John Cadwalader*.

This Committee some time past freighted and hired the Brigantine *Nancy*, Captain *Montgomery*, on a voyage for procuring Arms and Ammunition on account of this Province; and having engaged to secure the value of the said vessel to the owners in case of loss; and whereas the said Brigantine

*Nancy*, on her return from *St. Thomas's* with Powder and other goods, was run on shore near *Cape-May* and lost; in consequence thereof the owners of said vessel exhibited an account against this Committee for the value of the said brigantine, and other matters therein mentioned:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Robert Morris*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., and *Robert Whyte*, Esquires, the Committee for importing Powder, Arms, &c., be authorized to settle the above-mentioned Account, and make report to this Board.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *George Gray*, *James Biddle*, *George Clymer*, and *Owen Biddle*, be a Committee to draw up a plan for the support of the families of the poor Associators that are gone and now going upon the present expedition into the *Jerseys*, and make report of their proceedings to-morrow.

The Powder Committee report, that they have examined the Accounts exhibited by *Joseph Shallcross & Co.*, respecting the loss of the Brigantine *Nancy*, amounting to £1,457 10s., and find it reasonable and just. In consequence thereof an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esquire, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of said *Joseph Shallcross & Co.*, for the said sum of £1,457 10s.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esquire, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Henry McKeever*, for £4 15s., being the price of a Rifle sold Colonel *Mutlack* for the use of his Battalion.

Upon application of General *Roberdeau* for the following articles, for the use of the armed Brigantine *Venus*, going on a voyage for Arms and Ammunition, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, is directed to deliver them; and are as follows: half a hundred of Gunpowder; sixty pounds of Musket Shot, sixty Swivel Shot, twelve two-pound Shot.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the Artillery Company of this Province, under the command of Captain *Proctor*, be increased to Continental pay.

A Letter was this day received from *James Potts*, Esq., enclosing his Commission as Major in the Musket Battalion in the service of this Province, desiring leave to resign his appointment.

*Resolved*, That Major *James Potts* have leave to resign his Commission.

Adjourned to three o'clock; when the following Members met: *Samuel Howell*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Junior, *George Groy*, *Samuel Miles*.

Lieutenant *Webb*, of the armed boat *Bull Dog*, having been suspended from duty by a Court-Martial during the pleasure of the Commodore, who has resigned his appointment as commander of the fleet,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Lieutenant *John Webb* be restored to his command as Lieutenant.

The honourable Congress having requested this Board to recommend proper persons as Lieutenants and Ensigns to the four Companies of *Germans* to be raised in this Province for the Continental service,

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be recommended to Congress as proper persons to be appointed as aforesaid:

As First Lieutenants: *Frederick Rowhagon*, *Peter Boyer*, *William Rice*, *Jacob Bower*.

As Second Lieutenants: *George Hawbecker*, *John Laudenberg*, *George Schaeffer*, *Frederick Yeiser*.

As Ensigns: *John Weidman*, *Christian Helm*, *Jacob Cramer*, *Christian Godfried Swartz*.

The following Representation was this day drawn up, approved, and copies directed to be sent to the Committees of Inspection and Observation of the different Counties of this State:

Whereas the Assembly, in one of their late Sessions, did authorize and direct the Committees of Inspection and Observation to collect all the Arms from Non-Associators within the Province, which, there is great reason to believe, has not in many places been executed with sufficient care and diligence: And as there is a pressing and immediate necessity of arming all the Associators in the Province, our lives, our fortunes, and liberties depending: probably on the efforts made this campaign; the respective Committees of Inspection and Observation are reminded of this important part of their duty; and the Committee of Safety must ear-

nestly recommend to them a vigorous exertion of all their power to accomplish the views and intentions of the Assembly in this respect.

In Committee of Safety, July 13, 1776.

Present: *George Clymer*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Owen Biddle*, *Joseph Parker*, *Samuel Morris*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esquire, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *John Cobourne*, for £250, which is directed to be charged to his Account.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 15, 1776.

Present: *James Mease*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, *Samuel Howell*, *Joseph Parker*, *John Nixon*, *George Ross*.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to Colonel *George Ross* fifteen Rifles, for the use of his Battalion of Associators, taking receipts for the same.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esquire, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Doctor *Harris*, for £100, to be charged to his Account, for manufacturing Gunpowder.

At a Board held yesterday evening at the Coffee-House, the following Resolve was entered into:

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Towers* be directed to put up in boxes one hundred thousand Musket Cartridges, to be sent to *Jersey*, agreeably to a requisition of Congress, to be replaced immediately by the Marine Committee.

*Resolved*, That no person at present employed in any branch of the manufactory of Small Arms should be suffered to leave that necessary business, and every officer of the Militia is requested to pay proper attention to this resolve.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esquire, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Messrs. *Wilcocks*, *De Haven*, and *Peters*, for £500, to be charged to their Account.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esquire, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Samuel Morris*, Esq., for £650, towards the payment of Timber for Chevaux-de-Frise at *Billingsport*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esquire, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Robert Smith*, for £500, to be charged to his account, for building Chevaux-de-Frise, &c., at *Billingsport*.

*Abraham Marshall* having applied to this Board for leave to resign his commission as Captain of a Company in the Musket Battalion in the service of this Province,

*Resolved*, That the said *Abraham Marshall* have leave to resign.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Joseph McClellan*, at present a Lieutenant in the Battalion of Musketry, be, and he is hereby, appointed a Captain in said Battalion, in the room of Captain *Marshall*, resigned.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *James Lang*, at present an Ensign in the Musket Battalion, be, and he is hereby, appointed a Lieutenant in said Battalion, in the room of *Joseph McClellan*, promoted.

This Board being informed that Mr. *John Baker*, of *Norington*, has a number of Provincial Fire-Arms in his possession, by order of the Board he was directed to deliver them to Colonel *Hill*, taking a receipt for the same.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary inquire into the value of the Musket lost by *Jasper Carpenter*, in the service, and supply him with one of equal value out of the publick store.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esquire, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Benjamin Wetherby*, for £50, being for the payment of a House purchased of him, on the Land purchased for account of Congress for erecting Fortifications at *Billingsport*, which sum is directed to be charged to account of Congress.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esquire, and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Captain *James Sterling*, for \$100, being towards

the payment of the expenses of thirteen Men, applied for as an escort to the Prisoners from *Burlington*, going, by order of Congress, to *Yorktown*, in this Province.

*Resolved*, That, agreeable to the request of General *Roberdeau*, the thirteen Men that go as a Guard with the party under the command of Captain *Sterling*, with the Prisoners from *Burlington*, be allowed Horses at the expense of the Continent.

By order of the Board, *Reuben Hains* was directed to furnish *Jacob Miers* with ten shilling Beer, as he may want it.

In pursuance of a requisition from Congress to this Committee, to order all the *British* Officers prisoners in this city, immediately to the respective places of their destination,

*Resolved*, That the said Officers be required to leave this city within twenty-four hours, and repair straightway to the places where they are ordered to reside; and that a copy of this resolve be served on each of them, to the end it may be strictly complied with.

Whereas the Assembly of this Province did, in a former Session, resolve "That if any Associator called into actual service shall have a family not of ability to maintain themselves in his absence, the Overseers of the Poor, with the concurrence of one Justice of the Peace of the City or County where such Associator did reside, shall immediately make provision, by way of out-pension, for the maintenance of such family; and a true and proper account being kept thereof, shall be returned to the Assembly, in order that the same may be made a Provincial expense, and paid accordingly;" and as it is the opinion of this Committee that the funds of the said Overseers will prove greatly insufficient whenever any considerable number of Associators shall be drawn into actual service, and that the administering to the wants of such families by the hands of the Overseers will not be satisfactory to the Associators, or be likely to answer the good ends proposed,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That this Committee will, out of the funds of which they have the disposition, make such provision as shall be thought necessary to answer the said purposes, and that it be recommended to the Committees of Inspection and Observation of the City of *Philadelphia* and the several Counties in the Province, to nominate and appoint a proper number of judicious persons, residing in the said City and Counties respectively, to distribute to such distressed families the allowance they shall judge reasonable; and that the said Committees be empowered to draw, as they shall see occasion, on this Board, for the necessary sums of money, to be by them lodged in the hands of the persons so nominated and appointed, to be applied as is above directed; the said Committees to return accounts to this Board of the expenditure of the same.

*Resolved*, That the above be published in the different Newspapers of this City.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 16, 1776.

Present: *Owen Biddle*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Howell*, *Robert Morris*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Biddle*, *Alex. Wilcocks*, *James Mease*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Adam Zantzinger*, for £163 15s., which, with one other order on *Robert Towers* to deliver two hundred pounds Gunpowder, is in full for eight hundred and fifty-five pounds of Saltpetre manufactured at *Lancaster*, and received by the Commissary for account of this Board.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *John Morton*, for £310, being the balance of the Brig *Dolphin's* freight, a bill having been drawn for said sum by *Stephen Ceronia* on this Committee, in favour of said *Morton*, which bill has not yet appeared, and this is in full discharge of it.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Robert Ritchie*, for £48 5s. 6d., for an old Snow for a Hulk, an Anchor, Caboose, &c.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of Colonel *Samuel Miles*, for £500, for the use of the Troops under his command.

In consequence of the following Resolve of Congress, Mr. *McDonald* was discharged from his confinement, and his parole taken:

"In Congress, July 15, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That *Alexander McDonald*, son of Captain *Allan McDonald*, be liberated on his parole and allowed to reside with his father.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"*CHAS. THOMSON*, Secretary."

By order of the Board, and in consequence of the request of the Marine Committee of Congress, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Captain *James Sterling*, for £252 10s., which, with the Order drawn yesterday in his favour, is £300, the amount of the Requisition of the said Committee.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Joshua Tomlinson*, for £200, being so much advanced him towards Gun-barrel making.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Thomas Penrose* and Mr. *Arthur Donaldson* be requested, and they are hereby authorized, to fix the two piers at their proper stations in the line of the upper Chevaux-de-Frise, near *Fort Island*, and also to fasten the Boom thereto.

The Committee taking into consideration the extraordinary trouble of Captain *Whyte* in attending and directing the building and sinking Chevaux-de-Frise, and other publick services out of doors, are of opinion he is entitled to receive £150 for such services, and an order is drawn in his favour on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, for that sum.

The honourable Continental Congress having desired this Board to settle an allowance for the maintenance of Mrs. *Conolly*, and the Board taking the same into consideration, do resolve, That Mrs. *Conolly* be allowed 30s. per week for the time she has been detained by Congress, and that in future she be allowed 25s. per week, until otherwise directed by Congress.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 17, 1776.

Present: *James Biddle*, Chairman, *Joseph Parker*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *George Gray*, *Michael Hillegas*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Thomas Nevill*, for £200, and charge the same to the account of *Nevill*, *Roe*, *Derry*, & *Kinsley*, for purchasing Lead for the use of the Province.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *William McHenry*, for £24, being the amount of eight Muskets purchased by Colonel *Thomas McKean* for the use of the Associators of his Battalion.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Mr. *Allan McDonald*, for £7 10s., being so much allowed for taking him and his son to *Reading*, which is directed to be charged to account of Congress, they being two of the *North-Carolina* prisoners released from confinement by order of Congress.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of Colonel *Samuel Atlee*, for the use of the Battalion under his command, for £600.

The families who have Leaden Window or Clock Weights are earnestly requested to give them up immediately to the persons appointed to collect them. Such families may be assured that they will be supplied as soon as possible with Weights of Iron, and it is hoped the trifling inconvenience of being for a few days without them will not be put in competition with the danger that may arise to this country from the want of a sufficient quantity of Lead for our defence.

It being recommended to this Committee by the Convention to take the necessary steps respecting the Guard directed by Congress to be kept in this City:

*Resolved*, That the four Companies of Militia in this City and Liberties detained by General *Roberdeau* as Guards for this City, viz: Captain *Smyther's* of the First Battalion, Captain *Peters's* of the Second, Captain *Wharton's* of the

Third, and the Company late commanded by Captain *Burkhard* of the Fourth, be required to attend their duty regularly and punctually under the orders and command of Captain *Peters*. And the Commanding Officers of the said Companies are required to enroll into the same all such Associators as, from particular circumstances, cannot march with the Militia now called into service for the Flying-Camp. And all such Associators are earnestly exhorted to enroll themselves in some one of the said Companies for this necessary and important service, in which they are to continue during the absence of the Companies to which they respectively belong.

*Resolved*, That the baggage taken on board the Transport, and now in the care of Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, be valued by some indifferent person, and such part of it as is needful for the publick service be delivered to *Clement Biddle*, Deputy Quartermaster-General, on his order or application for that purpose.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 18, 1776.

Present: *James Biddle*, Chairman, *Michael Hillegas*, *James Mease*, *Samuel Howell*, *George Gray*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *James Parker*.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to *Clement Biddle*, Deputy Quartermaster-General, half a ton of Buck and Swan Shot for the use of the Flying-Camp in the *Jerseys*, to be charged to Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Marines on board the Ship and Floating Battery be allowed 50s. per month, to commence the 1st day of *June* last.

The Committee agree with *John Kerlin* for fifty Muskets and Bayonets, to be made according to pattern, at 85s. each.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Hockley* be requested to prove such Guns as shall be made by *John Kerlin* for the use of this Committee.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 19, 1776.

Present: *Alexander Wilcocks*, Chairman, *John Nixon*, *Samuel Howell*, *Joseph Parker*, *George Gray*, *Michael Hillegas*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to *Peter De Haven* one hundred pounds of Copper for mounting of Firelocks for the use of this Province.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, for £46 11s. 3d., being in favour of Mr. *Peter De Haven* for one hundred and eighty-six pounds four ounces of Saltpetre manufactured at the Provincial Works.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *James Carter* be appointed one of the Committee for superintending the making of Firelocks, and the Gun-lock Manufactory, for the use of this Province.

The Committee, taking into consideration the extraordinary trouble of Mr. *Samuel Morris*, Jun., in attending and directing the building of Chevaux-de-Frise, procuring logs, and other publick services out of doors, are of opinion he is entitled to receive £150.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, for the above sum of £150, in favour of Mr. *Morris*, for the purpose aforesaid.

The order of this Board placing the Guard to be kept in this City, under the command of Captain *Peters*, being made under the apprehension that Captain *Peters* was the officer of highest rank now in Town, the said Order is now altered, and the Guard will receive the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Nixon*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Mr. *Thomas Savadge*, for £400, to be charged to his account, for the Salt Works to be erected at the charge of this Province.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Howell*, Mr. *Hillegas*, and Mr. *Gray*, be a Committee to settle all the Accounts of Mr. *Arthur Donaldson*, and pass them for payment.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, be autho-

rized to exchange the thin plate Copper that he has belonging to this Province for other good Copper to any tradesman that may apply for the same.

WM. GOVETT, Secretary.

In Committee of Safety, July 20, 1776.

Present: *Alexander Wilcocks*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *John Nixon*, *Michael Hillegas*, *Owen Biddle*, *Joseph Parker*, *Samuel Howell*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *John Mitchell*, Commissary of Provisions, for £1500; which is directed to be charged to his Account.

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *McKinley* have permission to purchase in *Lancaster* fifty Rifles.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Parker* be a Committee for settling the Account of *George Kitts*, for furnishing the Troops under the command of Colonel *Atlee* with Provisions, and that the said Committee be authorized to draw on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, for the balance.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Mitchell* be requested to settle the Account of Provisions furnished the Boats under the command of Commodore *Caldwell* by sundry persons at *Wilmington*, at the time they were going down the Bay where the *Roebuck* was on shore on the *Brandywine*.

*Resolved*, That the Directors of the Provincial Lock Manufactory be requested to direct to be repaired at said Works the Arms belonging to the Associators of Colonel *Lewis's* Battalion.

WM. GOVETT, Secretary.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 22, 1776.

Present: *Samuel Howell*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Morris*, *George Gray*, *Joseph Parker*, *Michael Hillegas*, *John Nixon*.

Agreeable to a Resolve of the 20th, Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Parker*, a Committee to settle the Accounts of *George Kitts*, report that they have settled the same and find a balance of £418 15s. 8½d. due him, for which they have drawn an Order in his favour on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, for £600, in favour of *Michael Bright*; which is directed to be charged to the Commissioners and Assessors of *Berks* County, for the payment of Firelocks made in that County for the use of this Province.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Maurice Rogers*, for £73 6s. 8d., being his salary for eight months as Clerk to the Committee of Accounts.

The Convention this day sent the following Resolve to this Board, viz:

"In Convention of the State of Pennsylvania, }  
Monday, July 22, 1776, A. M. }

"*Moved and Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety for this State lay their Accounts and Proceedings before this Convention.

"*Ordered*, That Mr. *Clymer* communicate this Resolve to the said Committee.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"*JOHN MORRIS*, Secretary."

*Resolved*, That the Minutes of this Board be laid before the Convention, and that this Committee furnish the state of their Accounts relative to the expenditure of all moneys for the service of this Colony.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Parker* and Mr. *Samuel Morris* be a Committee to examine and settle the Accounts of Captain *Richardson*, Captain *Falconer*, and Captain *Simmons*, and when adjusted be authorized to pass the same.

WM. GOVETT, Secretary.

Council of Safety Chamber, July 24, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Cannon*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Frederick Kuhl*, Colonel *John Bull*, and *Timothy Matlack*, a quorum of gentlemen appointed by the Convention of the State of *Pennsylvania*, and *George Ross*, Esq., Vice-President of Convention.



The following Resolution of Convention was read:

"In Convention for the State of Pennsylvania,  
July 24, 1776, A. M. }

"Resolved, That the Members of the Council of Safety, before they enter upon the execution of their office, shall take and subscribe the following Oath or Affirmation, viz:

"I, , do declare that I do not hold myself bound to bear allegiance to *George the Third, King of Great Britain*, and that I will, steadily and firmly, at all times, promote the most effectual means, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, to oppose the tyrannical proceedings of the King and Parliament of *Great Britain* against the *American States*, and that I will, according to the best of my judgment, execute with fidelity the trust reposed in me as a Member of the Council of Safety."

"And that the Vice-President of this Convention administer the said oath or affirmation to such a number of the said Council of Safety as may be sufficient to make a quorum, and then that the President of the said Board for the time being qualify the rest."

"*JOHN MORRIS, Secretary.*"

Thereupon the said Declaration was taken and subscribed accordingly, and Mr. *Ross* withdrew.

Mr. *Rittenhouse* was requested to take the Chair for the day.

*Samuel Morris*, Sen., Esq., appeared and took the qualification directed by the Convention.

Dr. *Thomas Young*, of *Philadelphia* Rifle Battalion, laid an Account before the Board for necessities supplied by him for the said Battalion, amounting to £12 19s. 5d., and certified by *William Shippen*, Jun., Surgeon-General and Director of the Hospital.

Ordered, That *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., be requested to pay the said Account, and charge it to Congress.

It being represented to this Board that a number of Colonel *Miles's* men were sick in the Barracks, and stood in need of better accommodations and necessities for their recovery,

Resolved, That Dr. *Thomas Parke* be directed to attend them, and have the necessary provision for their accommodation made.

Resolved, That Captain *Peters* be authorized to have the stage in the State-House yard fitted up for the accommodation of the Guard, and that he provide a sufficient number of Camp-Kettles for their use.

On motion, Agreed, That an order be issued to *Thomas Palmer* to deliver Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary of Stores, the seventeen Rifles, and to Mr. *Balwin* to deliver Mr. *Towers* eight Rifles, and that Mr. *Towers* deliver them to Captain *John Douglass*.

Agreed, That *Sacheverell Wood* be appointed Door-Keeper.

An order was drawn in favour of *John Willis* for £4, for a Rifle delivered Colonel *Matlack*; and that the same be charged to him.

Resolved, That Colonel *Bull* be empowered to procure sixty Pikes and a sufficient number of Tomahawks for the use of the Battalion, and that the arms of his Battalion be repaired at the Provincial Factory.

In Council of Safety, July 24, 1776, P. M.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Cannon*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Edward Bartholomew*, *Timothy Matlack*, *John Bull*.

A Letter from the Committee of *Berks* County was laid before the Board; and the same being considered, and it being therein represented to the Board that some misrepresentation of the intention of Congress has arisen among the Associators of this State and the Officers who were appointed to form the Flying-Camp, with respect to the march and arrangement of the Associators and Militia who were to compose the said Camp; and in order that it may be better understood, it is

Resolved, That all the Militia who may be furnished and equipped agreeable to the Resolve of Congress, do march to such place as they have been respectively ordered by Congress; and that the persons who have been appointed Captains in the Flying-Camp and have not enlisted twenty-five men for the service, do return them to their respective corps

of Associators to which they formerly belonged, and continue with them; the appointment of the Officers for the Flying-Camp still to continue, and the men already enlisted to be considered as bound by their enlistment, and to be continued in service when the Militia may be permitted to return, and subject to the further orders of the Convention or of this Board. And it is further recommended that those Companies which have been raised to form the Flying-Camp, which already consist of twenty-five Privates and upwards, do immediately proceed to *Trenton* or *Brunswick*, as heretofore directed.

Resolved, That this Board will allow the Officers who were appointed to command the Flying-Camp all such reasonable expenses as have accrued in the recruiting service.

The following Letter was wrote to the Committee of *Berks* County, and signed by the Chairman:

"GENTLEMEN: Your Letter of the 22d instant to the Hon. *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq., President of the Convention, was referred by the honourable Convention to the Council of Safety. They must acknowledge the laudable zeal with which your Committee has at all times carried into execution the recommendation of such powers acted under the people, but particularly your ready and cheerful obedience to the ordinance of Convention for disarming of Non-Associators. The embarrassments you labour under in consequence of resolves of Congress, and others, which, from the confused state of the times, appeared somewhat contradictory, appear to be excusable. In order to render the intention of Congress more plain and comprehensive, and to answer their expectations, the Council of Safety have enclosed you their Resolution upon that matter, requesting that you will take such measures to publish it through your district as will be most effectual and expeditious, and that you would encourage the Associators to turn out upon this very important emergency."

"By order of the Council of Safety."

In Council of Safety, July 25, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Chairman, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *James Cannon*, *B. Bartholomew*, *John Moore*.

Mr. *Bartholomew* and Mr. *Moore* took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

Moved and Agreed, That *Jacob S. Howell* be appointed Secretary to this Board until further order be taken herein.

*Henry Keppile* appeared, and took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

A Resolve of Convention was read, which is as follows:

"In Convention for the State of Pennsylvania,  
July 24, 1776, A. M. }

On motion, Resolved, That the two Companies of fifty men each now raising by the Committee of *Westmoreland*, for the defence of the frontiers, be considered as Militia in actual service from the time of their enlistment to the 5th day of *August* next; and also, that it be referred to the Council of Safety to consider whether they will keep the same in pay until the 15th day of *September* next, provided the officers or any of them should not be sooner appointed in, or any of the men before that time enter into the Continental Battalion now to be raised in *Bedford* and *Westmoreland* Counties.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"*JOHN MORRIS, Secretary.*"

The above being considered,

Resolved, That the said two Companies be continued in pay until the 15th of *September* next, and that application be made to Congress to defray the expense thereof.

Mr. *Wharton* appeared, and took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

In Council of Safety, July 26, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Chairman, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Frederick Kuhl*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Joseph Blewer*, *James Cannon*, *Henry Keppely*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*.

Mr. *Rittenhouse* and Mr. *Morris* were appointed to wait on Mr. *Samuel Howell* and Mr. *Samuel Morris*, Jun., to

know whether they will serve in this Council; who report, that they both decline serving for the present.

A Petition was presented from *Charles Lawrence, William Watkins*, and *Robert Tatnall*, Captains of Guard Boats stationed at *Darby Creek*, setting forth the inconvenience of taking their Provisions from the Fort, and praying that *Mr. Sketchly Morton* may be appointed to supply them in future.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Sketchly Morton* do supply the said Boats with Provisions until further orders.

Two Orders were drawn on *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, in favour of *Benjamin Davis*—one for £79 15s. for Colours, Drums, &c., supplied Colonel *Miles's* Battalion; the other for £60 11s. 9d., for Colours and Drums supplied Colonel *Atlee's* Battalion.

An Order was drawn on *M. Hillegas, Esq.*, in favour of *John Messersmith* for £12 10s.

On a Petition from *John Peal*, Boatswain of the *Ranger*, setting forth that he was in confinement, and prays to be released and removed to another boat,

*Ordered*, That a Court-Martial be held on the said *Peal*, and a Court of Inquiry on the officer who confined him, as soon as possible, and report the sentence to this Board.

By order of the Board, *Mr. Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Robert Lewis* fifty Muskets and Bayonets.

In consequence of an application made by *Daniel King* to have Captain *Loxley* returned to this city, the following Letter was wrote to General *Roberdeau*, signed by the Chairman:

"SIR: As you are not unacquainted with the resolutions of the late Committee of Safety to have a number of brass field-pieces cast, and the necessity which gave rise to it, it will be needless to enlarge thereon; but as the Board have not had the success they wish in their attempt to cast iron cannon, it becomes more necessary for this Board to promote and forward the said intention to the utmost of their power; but the absence of Captain *Loxley* with his artillery company, who has the chief management and superintendence of the foundry, has occasioned almost the entire stoppage of that important business. The Council of Safety have therefore to request you to return Captain *Loxley* to the cannon foundry, as he will be likely to serve his country more effectually in that station than any other. A day's delay in this business may be attended with the most serious consequences; we do therefore hope it will be done as soon as possible."

In Council of Safety, July 27, 1776.

Present: *Samuel Morris*, Chairman, *David Rittenhouse*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Thomas Wharton, Jun.*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Henry Kepple*, *James Cannon*, Colonel *John Bull*.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers* was ordered to deliver to Colonel *Porter* seven Muskets, taking his receipt.

*Resolved*, That *John Maxwell Nesbitt, Esq.*, be appointed Treasurer to this Board, and that he enter into bond with two respectable Freeholders for £5,000, for the faithful discharge of his office.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer, in favour of *Marshall Edwards* for £2 5s.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer, in favour of *Edward Bartholomew*, for £500, towards Haversacks, &c., purchased for the use of the Militia, and directed the same to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers* was ordered to deliver Colonel *Clement Biddle*, Deputy Quartermaster-General, or his Assistants here, two tons of Lead and two tons of Powder, made into Cartridges, for the use of the Army under General *Mercer*; to be charged to Congress.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer, in favour of Colonel *George Ross*, for £63 16s., being for Arms purchased for the use of his Battalion; to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers* was ordered to deliver *Peter Dehaven & Co.*, one hundred weight of Brass, for the use of the Gun Factory.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer, in favour of *Peter Dehaven & Co.*, for £500, for the use of the Gun Factory.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, Treasurer of the Province, in favour of *John M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer to this Board, for £10,000, to be charged to *Mr. Nesbitt's* Account.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers* was ordered to deliver Colonel *Thomas Smith* and the other Members of Convention, for *Bedford County*, five hundred weight of Powder and half a ton of Lead, for the use of the Associators, to be delivered to the Committee of Inspection for said County, and by them distributed.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers* was ordered to deliver Major *Swoop* forty Muskets for the use of the First Battalion of *York County*, and eight for the use of the Third Battalion of said County.

*Mr. Wharton*, *Mr. Morris*, and *Mr. Kepple*, being a Committee to examine the Accounts of *Jos. Fox, Esq.*, do report that they have inspected said Accounts and vouchers, and find the same right.

In Council of Safety, July 29, 1776, P. M.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Chairman, *Thomas Wharton, Jun.*, *James Cannon*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Samuel Morris, Sen.*, *H. Kepple, Jun.*, *John Moore*, *Owen Biddle*, *Timothy Matlack*, *John Weitzel*.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Major *Bell* twenty stand of Arms for the use of Colonel *Montgomery's* Battalion.

*Mr. John Weitzel* appeared, and took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Resolve of the 15th instant, *July*, of the late Committee of Safety, recommending to the Committee of Inspection and Observation of this City and the several County Committees of this Province, to nominate and appoint a proper number of judicious persons residing in the said City and Counties, respectively, to distribute to distressed families, whose husbands are now in actual service, the allowance they may think reasonable; and that the said Committees be empowered to draw, as they shall see occasion, on the Board for the necessary sums of money, to be by them lodged in the hands of the persons so nominated, to be applied as above directed, the said Committee to return accounts to this Board of the expenditure of the same, be and hereby is agreed to and confirmed.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *Peter Dehaven & Co.* do in future superintend the contract made by *Joseph Fox, Esq.*, with *John Nicholson*, for Arms.

By order of the Board, Captain *William Richards* was directed to deliver *Mr. John Colburn* two new Cables and as much small rigging as he may want for sinking the pier for fixing a Boom at *Fort Island*.

By order of the Board, *Mr. Robert Towers*, Commissary of Stores, was directed to deliver *Mr. Thomas Hazlewood* two hundred pounds Brimstone for the use of the Fire-Rafts.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Morris*, *Mr. Wharton*, and *Mr. Kepple*, be a Committee to inspect and pass Accounts relative to the Flying-Camp and Militia.

By order of the Board, *Mr. Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *James Moore*, of *Chester County*, fifty Muskets, for the use of his Battalion.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Rittenhouse*, *Mr. Kuhl*, and *Mr. Biddle*, be a Committee to superintend the work at *Fort Island*, and to audit and settle the Accounts respecting the same.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer, in favour of Captain *John Hazlewood*, or his son, for £20, to be charged to Captain *Hazlewood's* Account.

By order of the Board, *Mr. R. Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Rankin*, of *York County*, eight Muskets for the use of his Battalion.

In Council of Safety, July 29, 1776, P. M.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *James Cannon*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Thomas Wharton*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Rankin* thirty stand of Arms, or as many as may be fit for service, not exceeding that number.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Bridges* was directed to deliver Colonel *Clement Biddle*, Deputy Quartermaster-General, all the Tents in his possession belonging to the late Committee of Safety.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Jonathan Paschall* sixty stand of Arms for the use of his Battalion.

On motion, *Resolved*, That an application be made to Convention to determine the matter respecting the command of the Fleet of this State.

In Council of Safety, July 30, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *S. Morris*, Sen., *Timothy Matlack*, *James Cannon*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun.

Captain *Joseph Blewer* was directed to purchase a quantity of Powder from Mr. *Joseph Carson*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, be desired to make a return to this Board of all the Military Stores under his care immediately.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Biddle* and Colonel *Matlack* be a Committee to inquire of the Board of War whether steps have been taken by that honourable Board to erect a Redoubt at *Billingsport*; and if they have not, to inquire whether Congress expect the direction of the erecting of that Fortification to be in the present Council of Safety of this State.

*Ordered*, That Captain *William Richards* be desired to make a Return to this Board of all the Stores under his care immediately.

In Council of Safety, July 31, 1776, A. M.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Chairman, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel Morris*, *John Moore*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *Frederick Kuhl*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Weitzel*, *James Cannon*, *John Bull*, *Owen Biddle*.

*Ordered*, That *George Fetterman* and *James M. Daniel* be detained from proceeding with the Associators to *New-Jersey*, and that they be desired to use the utmost diligence in procuring Timber for making Gun Carriages.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Joseph Ferrce* was desired to deliver Mr. *John Mitchel*, Commissary for victualling the Navy, twenty-five bushels of Salt out of the stores at *Ger-mantown*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *Jesse Roe*, for £50, towards Lead purchased for this State; to be charged to his Account.

A Letter from the honourable President of the Congress was read, requesting this Board immediately to send to General *Mercer*, for the service of the Flying-Camp, ten six-pounders and an equal number of four-pounders, out of the stores of this State.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Joseph Blewer* procure and forward the Guns to General *Mercer*.

By order of the Board, Captain *Hazelwood* was directed to deliver Mr. *James Mease* fifty barrels of Combustibles, to be charged to Congress.

Information being lodged, upon oath, with this Board by *John Walker*, that *John Hale* and *Martha Ash*, *Arthur Thomas* and his two sons, *John* and *Arthur*, were concerned in or privy to the escape of Colonel *Kirkland* out of the Prison of this State, the following Warrants were issued:

"In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, July 31, 1776.

"To Captain *RICHARD PETERS*, or the Officer of Guard:

"SIR: You are directed forthwith to seize the persons of *John Hale* and *Martha Ash*, as persons charged upon oath with a conspiracy against the State, and confine them, one in the Jail and the other in the Workhouse of this City,

and take proper care that they do not converse with each other.

"By order of the Council of Safety:

"*DAVID RITTENHOUSE*, Chairman."

"In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, July 31, 1776.

"State of PENNSYLVANIA, ss.

"You are authorized and required to seize the bodies of *Arthur Thomas*, his two sons, *Arthur Thomas* and *John Thomas*, or either of them, and to secure their papers, they standing suspected, by evidence taken on oath, of having conspired against the State; and in so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant.

"By order of the Council of Safety:

"*DAVID RITTENHOUSE*, Chairman.

"To *Joseph M. Lane*, present."

In Council of Safety, July 31, 1776, P. M.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Chairman, *Timothy Matlack*, *James Cannon*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Weitzel*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was desired to deliver to Mr. *Robert Martin* and others, Delegates in Convention for *Northumberland County*, seven hundred and fifty weight of Powder, and fifteen hundred weight of Lead, to be delivered to the Committee of Inspection for that County, and by them distributed to the Militia in such quantities as they may stand in need of for the defence of said County.

On motion, *Resolved*, That all such workmen as are necessary to be employed at the Iron Works in casting of Cannon or Shot for the publick, be ordered not to leave their respective works, nor to march with the Militia, unless by special direction of the Convention or this Board.

By order of the Board, Mr. *R. Towers* was directed to deliver Captain *Joseph Blewer* a sufficient quantity of Ammunition to prove ten six-pound and ten four-pound Cannon.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Towers* was desired to deliver Captain *James Hindman*, of the *Maryland* Independent Company, twenty-three rounds of Ammunition for each man in his Company, and twenty Hatchets; to be charged to Congress.

On motion, *Resolved*, That all such workmen as are necessary to be employed at the Iron Works in casting of Cannon or Shot for the publick, be ordered not to leave their respective works nor to march with the Militia of this State, unless by special direction of the Convention or this Board.

*Deposition of JOHN WALKER.*

"On the 31st day of July, 1776, before the Council of Safety of the State of *Pennsylvania*, came *John Walker*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, and being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, did depose and say, that about six or eight days after the time of Colonel *Kirkland's* escape from the Jail, *John Hale* ordered this deponent to fill a pair of new saddle-bags with oats, and *John Hale* himself put into the saddle-bags a bottle; (which this deponent apprehended to be a bottle of brandy or other spirits,) and put a cloth over it; that the saddle-bags, thus filled, were put on a horse belonging to *John Hale*, and the horse delivered to a son of *Arthur Thomas*, and the horse was in the evening, about four or five o'clock, taken away by Mr. *Thomas's* oldest apprentice; that some time afterwards, the deponent heard *Arthur Thomas, Jr.*, say, that he had assisted Colonel *Kirkland* in his escape; and also that the deponent did hear the said *Arthur Thomas, Jr.*, say to *John Hale*, that Colonel *Kirkland* rode the first night after his escape forty miles to the house of a man in *New-Jersey*, who, Mr. *Thomas* said, had been taken up the day before for having entertained a soldier at his house; that Mr. *Kirkland* made his escape, through some surprise, out of a window; that Mr. *Kirkland* was lost for several days, and when he was found he did not know the person who found him, and drew his knife, charging him to keep off, but that on his giving the watchword, *Kirkland* went with him; that Colonel *Kirkland* had attempted to go on board the man-of-war by means of a boat, but that the man-of-war was gone too far off, and the boat was obliged to return; that he also heard the said *Arthur Thomas* tell Mr. *Hale* that Captain *Bauger*

refused to break his word of honour, which he had pledged for the liberty he enjoyed; that the said *Thomas* damned him for talking of honour to or among thieves and rogues; and that the said *Arthur Thomas* said to Mr. *Hale*, that it was not the thing for him (meaning Captain *Bauser*) not to go off after the trouble they had taken to send him a horse; that Mrs. *Ash* told this deponent that she had heard one of the *Thomas*es say to Mr. *Hale* that he (Mr. *Thomas*) had furnished Colonel *Kirkland* with a rope for the purpose of making his escape from jail; that this deponent understood the horse above-mentioned was intended for the use of Colonel *Kirkland* to facilitate his escape; and further this deponent saith not.

"JOHN WALKER, his X mark."

*Martha Ash* was brought before the Board by order, and being examined, made and subscribed the following Deposition:

"In Council of Safety for the State of Pennsylvania.

"PENNSYLVANIA, ss:

"On the 31st day of *July*, 1776, appeared personally before the Council of Safety for the said State *Martha Ash*, who, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, did depose and say, that some time after the escape of Colonel *Kirkland* she heard one of *Arthur Thomas's* sons inform *John Hale* that he had assisted Colonel *Kirkland* with a ladder of rope to make his escape from the Jail, but which of the said *Thomas's* sons it was she cannot recollect; and she doth further depose and say, that some time after the escape a boy returned a horse to the said *Hale*, which had been obtained from him, with a pair of saddlebags that contained some oats and biscuit, and that this deponent believed that the said *Kirkland* made his escape with the same horse; that this deponent mentioned such her suspicion to the said *Hale*, who replied, that he believed he had.

MARTHA ASH.

In Council of Safety, August 1, 1776.

Present: *Samuel Morris*, Chairman, *David Rittenhouse*, *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *Fred. Kuhl*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Cannon*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Moore*, *John Bull*, *Thos. Wharton*, Sen.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was desired to deliver to Mr. *Henry Wynkoop*, of Bucks County, a quarter cask of Powder, to be by him delivered to the Associators as he shall see convenient.

Moved, That *Jacob Barge* be requested to attend this Board to-morrow morning at seven o'clock; otherwise *Mary Hutton* may remove her goods to such place as she may think proper within the city, &c., subject to the claims of rent as if the same were not removed.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Council of Safety that the Rules and Regulations of the late House of Assembly respecting the Associators ought to be complied with, and that no Company or Companies ought to be permitted to leave a Battalion so as to leave less than six Companies in a Battalion, nor be permitted to leave their respective Battalions until at least six Companies of Supernumeraries can agree to form a new Battalion.

By order of the Board, *John Muxwell Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay an Order drawn on this Board by *James Pollock* and *Samuel Laird*, Commissioners of Cumberland County, in favour of *John Pollock*, for £600, towards purchasing Muskets; to be charged to their Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *R. Towers*, Commissary, was desired to deliver to *Daniel King* one of the old Cannon in the State-House yard to bore.

By order of the Board, Commodore *Davison* was desired to deliver to Colonel *Matlack* twelve Rifles from on board the ship *Montgomery*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Clement Biddle*, Deputy Quartermaster-General, or his Assistants here, one ton of Grape Shot and one ton of Buck Shot, to be forwarded to the camp in *Jersey*, to be charged to Congress.

Colonel *James Moore*, of Chester County, made application for fifty Bayonets or Tomahawks, thirty Hatchets, one hundred Screws, and one hundred Worms, for the use of the Battalion. Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was desired

to supply Colonel *Moore* with the above articles, taking his receipt.

By order of the Board, *Joseph Ferree*, Esq., of *German-town*, was desired to deliver to Mr. *Carpenter Wharton* twenty bushels of the Salt stored under his direction, on Mr. *Wharton's* producing *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq.'s, certificate of his having accounted with him for the same, at 7s. 6d. per bushel for the Salt, and 6d. per bushel for carriage and storage.

By order of the Board, *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was desired to pay to Colonel *Kirkbride*, £138 15s. 6d., for seventy-two Arms purchased for the use of his Battalion.

Resolved, That an application be made to Congress for eleven hundred stand of Arms for the service of the Flying-Camp.

A Letter was received from Captain *John Hamilton*, of the Congress, and Captain *James Montgomery*, of the *Chatham*, armed-boats, resigning their commissions in the service of this State, as they expected to serve in a larger sphere of action, whereby they may have an opportunity of rendering their country some more essential service than they have any prospect of here.

Therefore, Resolved, That their resignations be accepted; and they are hereby discharged from the service of this State.

The Board then adjourned till three o'clock, afternoon, when the following Members met:

*Samuel Morris*, Sen., Chairman, *James Cannon*, *David Rittenhouse*, *John Moore*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Timothy Matlack*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *John Bull*.

Ordered, That Colonel *Matlack* be desired to make the necessary inquiry of Congress respecting the authority this Board has over the State Prison, &c.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *Jacob Miers*, for £24 13s. 2½d., for men's wages, for work done at *Fort Island*, for which he is to be accountable to the workmen, and the sum charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, *Joseph Ferree*, Esq., of *German-town*, was desired to deliver to *Henry Huber*, one ton of Saltpetre out of the stores in *German-town* under his direction.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was desired to deliver *Henry Huber* three hundred weight of Sulphur; to be charged to Congress.

In Council of Safety, August 2, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Junior, Chairman, *James Cannon*, *Timothy Matlack*, *John Weitzel*, *Owen Biddle*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Moore*, *John Bull*, *H. Keppeler*, Jun., *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *David Rittenhouse*.

The following Accounts were passed, and *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, desired to pay them:

One Account of <i>Bartram Gabreath</i> for.....	£4 11 3
One Account do. do. ....	17 13 10
<i>Robert Towers's</i> Account.....	60 9 4½
<i>Benjamin Wallace's</i> Account.....	9 3 0
<i>Andrew Boyd's</i> Account.....	7 4 0
<i>Sketchly Morton's</i> Account.....	3 14 7
<i>John Kirk's</i> Account.....	5 0 0
Do. do. ....	4 15 0
<i>Peter Henderson's</i> Account.....	30 0 0
<i>Daniel Evans's</i> Account.....	3 15 0
<i>Andrew Gyer's</i> Account.....	9 17 6

By order of the Board, the following Warrant was issued for apprehending *John Thomas* and *Arthur Thomas*, Jun.:

"In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, August 2, 1776.

"SIR: You are hereby authorized, empowered, and required, to go in search of, and seize, the persons of *John Thomas* and *Arthur Thomas*, Jun., or either of them, and to deliver them to the keeper of the State Prison of the city of *Philadelphia*; and make return to this Council; and for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant.

"By order of the Council:

"THOS. WHARTON, Jun., Chairman.

"To Mr. *Mains*."

A Warrant was issued for apprehending *John Hatton*, Sen., and *John Hatton*, Jun., in form following:



"In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, August 2, 1776.

"SIR: You are hereby directed to go to the Committee of Inspection of *Salem County*, in the State of *New-Jersey*, and to apply to them for proper powers and assistance to go in search of, and take, the persons of *John Hatton*, Sen., and *John Hatton*, Jun., and bring them before the Council, unless the Committee of Inspection should object to their being brought out of that State; in such case you are to leave them in the custody of the said Committee, they being charged with treasonable practices against the States of *America*. And you are further desired to use your best endeavours to seize Colonel *Kirkland*, whom this Board has reason to suspect is still in *Jersey*; and in so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant.

"By order of the Council:

"THOS. WHARTON, Jun., *Chairman*.

"To Mr. *James Read*."

"N. B. The more secrecy you observe, the more likely to effect your purpose."

With the above Warrant the following Letter was sent to the Committee of Inspection of *Salem County*:

"GENTLEMEN: In the course of our inquiry into the case of *Kirkland's* escape from the jail of the city, evidence appears against *John Hatton*, of your County, and his son, sufficient to induce us to request you will exert your utmost endeavours to secure them. We have sent you an officer in whom we can confide, who will assist in taking him, and also bring him to this city, if you shall think it proper to send him here.

"We apprehend that Colonel *Kirkland* is still in your County, somewhere about *Morris's River*, as it appears probable, from circumstances given in evidence before us, that he failed in his attempt to get on board of the men-of-war. We make no doubt but that you will use every means in your power to secure a man so dangerous to the liberty of this country. The reward which is offered for taking him is considerable, and perhaps may excite some, who would not from other motives, to endeavour by all means to secure him. From your attachment to the cause of liberty, we expect exertions of a more extended kind, and on more generous principles, and firmly hope your endeavours will meet with success in securing two men who are enemies to our country and dangerous spies upon our actions.

"By order of the Council:

"THOS. WHARTON, Jun., *Chairman*."

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, for £10, in favour of *Henry Huber*, Powder-Maker; to be charged to his Account.

In Council of Safety, August 5, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Chairman, *Samuel Morris*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Weitzel*, *James Cannon*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *Fred. Kuhl*, *Thos. Wharton*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*.

By order of the Board, the following Accounts were passed, and *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, desired to pay them:

John Bruse's Account, amounting to.....	£12	10	0
Daniel Evans's do.....do.....	5	3	8
Jeremiah Baker's do.....do.....	19	3	2
Henry Litman's do.....do.....	12	11	0
William Perkins, one Account.....	5	17	6
Do. do.....do.....	9	11	10
George Hoofnagle, one Account.....	0	12	0
Do. do.....do.....	26	6	8
John Burke's Account.....	1	2	6
Jer. Smith's do.....do.....	25	0	0
William Dewces's do.....do.....	3	0	0
John Winter's do.....do.....	5	9	3
William Ball's do.....do.....	0	18	10
Wm. Waltman's do.....do.....	3	3	6
William Rush, one Account.....	33	15	6½
Do. do.....do.....	9	16	6
Do. do.....do.....	128	1	0½
Henry Smith.....	3	10	0
Mary Hunter.....	3	10	0
Benjamin Wallace.....	1	17	6
John Shupert.....	4	5	0
Stacy Hepburn.....	143	3	4½

By order of the Board, *Abm. Mason* was directed to deliver to *Thomas Hazelwood* as much old Sail-cloth as he may want to cover Fire-rafts.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *Peter Dehaven & Co.*, for £500; to be charged to their Account.

By order of the Board, *John Hanton* was directed to

deliver Colonel *Paschal*, of *Philadelphia County*, seventeen Rifles, which Mr. *Dehaven* was desired to repair.

Mr. *John Hubly* appeared, took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

Resolved, That an Order be drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *Lodowick Lowman*, for £200, to be delivered to the Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Lancaster County*, and by them distributed to the Wives and Families of poor Associators, who are now in actual service; and an Order was drawn accordingly.

A Letter was received from *John McKinley*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Newcastle County*, dated August 2, 1776, from Colonel *Bedford*, informing this Board that they had sent a certain *Alexander Morris* to this city, under Colonel *Bedford's* care, he being a person strongly suspected of practices inimical to the States of *America*. Whereupon the Board ordered the said *Maurice* to be committed to the State Prison.

The following Order was sent to Colonel *Bedford* for that purpose:

"In Council of Safety, August 5, 1776.

"SIR: You are hereby required and empowered to send the body of *Alexander Maurice*, in your custody, to the State Jail in the city, he being inimical to the *American States*, for which he is to answer; and for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant. And the said Jailer is hereby required to receive the body of the said *Alexander Maurice*, and keep him in safe custody until properly discharged.

"By order of the Council:

"DAVID RITTENHOUSE, *Chairman*.

"To Colonel *Bedford*, at the Barracks."

The following Letter was sent to the Delegates of this State in Congress:

"In Council of Safety, August 5, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The Militia of this State having been all ordered out by the honourable Congress, this Board finds it impossible to supply them with arms as fast as they come in, and they seem uneasy at being detained. You will oblige this Board by applying to Congress on behalf of this Board for as many of the arms lately brought in as they possibly can spare, to be returned when the Militia is discharged, or as fast as they can be made by the workmen employed by this Board.

"By order of the Council:

"DAVID RITTENHOUSE, *Chairman*.

"To the Delegates in Congress for the State of *Pennsylvania*."

The Board adjourned till five o'clock, afternoon.

When the following Members met: *David Rittenhouse*, Chairman, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *John Hubly*, *John Bull*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Frederick Kuhl*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Moore*, *James Cannon*.

In consequence of a Warrant issued by this Board, Lieutenant *James Read* brought *John Hatton*; whereupon, the Board committed said *Hatton* to the State Prison, for examination.

"In Council of Safety.

"Whereupon, *John Hatton*, Sen., stands charged before the Council of Safety aforesaid, of practices inimical to the States of *America*; you are therefore hereby required and enjoined to receive into your custody the body of the said *John Hatton*, and him safely keep, until he be duly discharged by the said Council, or by order of Congress; and for your so doing, this shall be your warrant. Given under my hand this fifth day of August, 1776.

"By order of the Council:

"D. RITTENHOUSE, *Chairman*.

"To Mr. *Robert Jewell*, Keeper of the State Prison."

By order of the Board, Mr. *R. Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Major *Fullerton* twenty-five stand of Arms for the use of Colonel *James Crawford's* Battalion, of *Lancaster County*, taking his receipt for the same.

Major *Aaron Leverin's* Account, amounting to £26 6s. 6d., for nine Muskets, was passed by the Board, and *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, desired to pay it.

By order of the Board, Mr. *R. Towers* was desired to deliver Major *Aaron Leverin* the nine Muskets above mentioned, for the use of Colonel *Hill's* Battalion.

The following Accounts were passed by the Board, and directed to *John M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer, in order for payment:

*James Pennel's* Account for £4 6s. 3d., for Wood delivered at *Chester*, for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Musketry.

*Roland Harris's* Account for £5 15s. 7d., for Provisions supplied a Company of Continental Troops; to be charged to Congress.

—  
In Council of Safety, August 6, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Chairman, *John Moore*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton, Jun.*, *Samuel Morris*, *John Bull*, *James Cannon*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Hubly*, *Joseph Blewer*.

By order of the Board, the following Accounts were passed, and *John Maxwell Nesbitt, Esq.*, directed to pay them, to wit:

*James McClelland's* Account, amounting to £2 12s.; to be charged to Congress.

*Robert Thomson's* Account, amounting to £2 6s. 8d.; to be charged to Congress.

Colonel *James Moore's* Account, amounting to £41 13s. 8d., for necessaries for his Battalion.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary of Stores, was directed to deliver Colonel *John Bull* thirty-five stand of Arms, for the use of his Battalion, taking his receipt.

In consequence of a request of this Board to the Committees of Inspection and Observation of the different Counties to appoint suitable persons to hear the complaints of the Families of those Associators that have gone to Camp, and to supply them with such necessaries as they may stand in need of, the Committee of this City and Liberties have recommended the following gentlemen for that purpose, viz:

For the First Battalion: *Isaac Coats*, *William Moulder*, *Jacob Schriner*.

For the Second Battalion: *Moses Bartram*, *Gasper Guyer*, *Ephraim Bonham*.

For the Third Battalion: *George Meade*, *Richard De-mois*, *Robert Baily*.

For the Fourth Battalion: *George Greene*, *Frederick Dushon*, *Peter Knight*.

For the Fifth Battalion: *John Hart*, *John Tittermary*, *William Drewry*.

Resolved, therefore, That they be, and are hereby appointed accordingly.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *James Smith*, of *York* County, twenty-four stand of Arms, for the use of Captain *McDonald's* Company, in his Battalion, taking his receipt.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Richard Thomas*, of *Chester* County, one hundred stand of Arms, for the use of his Battalion, taking his receipt.

The Board proceeded to the choice of a President and Vice-President, by ballot; when Mr. *Thomas Wharton, Jun.*, was chosen President, and Mr. *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President; and Mr. *Wharton* took the chair accordingly.

Resolved, That the Town of *Lancaster* shall be supplied with sixty stand of Arms, as soon as it is in the power of this Council.

Resolved, That twenty-three bundles of Blankets, which Colonel *Miles* left at *Chester*, in the Publick Stores, under the care of Mr. *Nicholas Fairlamb*, be delivered to *Clement Biddle*, D. Q. M. G. of the Flying-Camp, for the use of the *Pennsylvanians* in *New-Jersey*, to be forwarded to him by his Assistant immediately.

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In Council of Safety, August 7, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton, Jun.*, President, *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *Samuel Morris*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *James Cannon*, *Henry Wynkoop*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Hubly*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Bull*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Colonel *Matthew Dill*, of *York* County, twenty-three stand of Arms, for the use of his Battalion, taking his receipt. Signed by Mr. *S. Morris*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *R. Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *James Moore*, of *Chester* County, thirty stand of Arms, for the use of his Battalion, taking his receipt.

By order of the Board, an order was drawn on *J. M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer, in favour of Colonel *Thomas Smith*, for £13 7s. 6d., for carriage of Ammunition to *Bedford* County.

By order of the Board, Mr. *R. Towers* was directed to deliver Major *Fullerton* twenty stand of Arms, for the use of Colonel *Crawford's* Battalion, of *Lancaster* County, taking his receipt.

Resolved, That the Mustermaster do pass Colonel *Richard Thomas's* Battalion of *Chester* County, with the present number of Officers and Men.

By order of the Board, an order was drawn on Mr. *J. M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer, in favour of Mr. *John Britton*, for £662 10s., being for fifty thousand feet of three-inch Plank, purchased by order of the late Committee of Safety, per resolve of the 21st June last, for the Fortification at *Billingsport*; to charge to Congress.

An application from Colonel *Richard Thomas*, of *Chester* County, for Accoutrements, was laid before the Board.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was ordered to supply him, if in his possession; if not, Colonel *Thomas* was desired to purchase them, and bring his Account to this Board.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver sixty stand of Arms for the use of his Battalion.

Resolved, That so many Workmen, employed by Colonel *William Dewees*, as will keep one fire at work in the making Gun-Scalps for the publick service, be detained from marching to Camp in *New-Jersey*.

Resolved, That the Deputy Quartermaster General's Assistants be authorized to quarter Troops in the several places of worship in this city, in turn, provided they cannot procure suitable Quarters elsewhere.

Ordered, That the said Assistants furnish the Wardens or Elders of the several places of worship with a copy of the above Resolve.

Resolved, That Colonel *Matlack* lay before the Convention the necessity of raising the Flying-Camp, and to request them to take the most effectual measures to encourage the same by allowing what may be esteemed a sufficient bounty.

As any delay to the marching of the Associators of the State now in the city will be attended with great inconveniences to the publick service, be it therefore

Resolved, That Colonel *John Bull* be requested to examine into the state of all the Companies of the said Associators, and that all such as are sufficiently provided are hereby ordered to proceed forward to the Camp without delay.

By order of the Board, Captain *William Richards* was directed to deliver Mr. *John Coburn* what Rope he may have occasion for on account of the State.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Wert* was ordered to assist Mr. *John Coburn* with the Sloop under his command in any matters he may be required for the advantage of this State.

Resolved, That Mr. *Owen Biddle* be desired to procure the necessary Clothing for Colonel *Atlee's* Battalion, and forward them to him with all despatch.

By order of the Board, Captain *William Richards* was directed to deliver Mr. *Wade*, a Rigger, such Tackle, Ropes, Blocks, and Anchors, as he may apply for, for the use of the Fortifications at *Billingsport*, and charge the same to Congress.

A Letter was received from *John Kirk*, resigning his Commission as an Ensign in the Battalion of Musketry in the pay of this State; which resignation was accepted by the Board.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *J. M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer, in favour of Mr. *William Hays*, for £500, for the use of *Mark Bird, Esq.*; to be charged to Mr. *Bird's* Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Bartram Galbraith*, of *Lancaster* County, fifty stand of Arms, for the use of his Battalion.

Mr. *Henry Wynkoop* appeared, took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

By an order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., was desired to pay *Peter Hewes* £3 6s., and *John Traxler* £3 13s. 11d., and charge the same to Congress.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *John Nixon*, *James Mease*, and *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., the Committee of Accounts of the late Committee of Safety, in favour of *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer to the Board, for £29 5s. 6d., being the balance in their hands belonging to the late Committee.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Messrs. *John Nixon* and others, Committee of Accounts for the late Committee of Safety, in favour of *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer to this Board, for £3 2s. 8½d., being the balance of Money put into their hands by the late Committee of Safety by the honourable Congress for the purpose of purchasing Arms.

By order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was desired to pay the following Accounts, viz:

*Samuel Pugh's* Account, amounting to £11 19s. 3d.; to be charged to Congress.

*Peter Mather's* Account, amounting to £4 11s. 6d.; to be charged to Congress.

*John Wager* twenty shillings, for going express to *Williamington*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *Owen Biddle*, for £250, towards purchasing Clothing for Colonel *Atlee's* Battalion; to be charged to Mr. *Biddle's* Account.

*John Conner* was brought before the Board, and charged with stealing a Jacket from *John Mackey*. He was committed to the Workhouse; and the following Warrant signed by the President:

"You are hereby required to receive the body of *John Conner*, and keep him in custody until he is discharged by this Board, or a due course of law, he being charged with theft; and in so doing, this shall be your Warrant.

"To Mr. *Thomas Apty*, Keeper of the Workhouse."

In Council of Safety, August 8, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, President, *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Bull*, *John Hubley*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Moore*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Henry Wynkoop*, *James Cannon*, *John Weitzel*.

Resolved, That the Mustermaster do pass Colonel *John Bull's* Battalion, of *Philadelphia* County, with the present number of Officers and Men.

By order of the Board, *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., was desired to pay the following Accounts:

*Josiah Wood & Son's* Account, amounting to £19 5s., for Hatchets.

*Stephen Sutton's* Account, amounting to £9 7s. 6d., for two Rifles.

*Alexander Rutherford's* Account, amounting to £77 1s., for Cartouch-Boxes.

*James Webb's* Account, amounting to £6 0s. 9d., for stocking Rifles, &c.

Resolved, That the Deputy Quartermaster General, or his Assistants, do forward the marching of such parts of Companies now in this city as are completely armed and accounted to the Camp in *New-Jersey*, and that such men as are not yet armed be permitted to remain, under such Officer as the Commanding Officer shall direct, until they can be properly equipped.

Colonel *Bull* requested to see the above Resolve put into execution.

By order of the Board, Mr. *R. Towers* was directed to deliver Lieutenant-Colonel *Brian* a quarter cask of Powder, for the use of Colonel *Keichlin's* Battalion, of *Bucks* County.

Resolved, That the Wagons employed by Colonel *Bull* for the carriage of the Baggage of his Battalion to Camp be permitted to go, unless the persons to whom they belong are willing to return.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of Messrs. *Isaac Coats*, *William Moulder*, and *Jacob Schriener*, for £50, towards

supplying the families of such poor Associators of the First Battalion of this City and Liberties as are now in actual service.

Resolved, That the Mustermaster do pass Captain *Thomas Heslip's* Company of the First Battalion of *Chester* County, commanded by Colonel *James Moore*, with the present number of Officers and Men.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of Colonel *Kirkbride*, for £86 3s. 9d.; to be charged to his Account. Also an Order in favour of *Francis Clarke* for £37 10s.

Resolved, That *Henry Bingham* be discharged from the Militia now marching to the Camp in *New-Jersey*, he being employed in making Gun-Barrels for this State.

A Letter was received from the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, acquainting this Board that they had sent to this City *William Sutton*, to be confined here as a person inimical to the liberties of *America*. He was therefore committed to the State Prison, and the following is a copy of his Mitimus:

"In Council of Safety for the State of Pennsylvania.

"Whereas *William Sutton* being sent by the Convention of the State of *New-York* to this Council, to be confined in the Jail of this City, upon a charge of being an enemy to the rights and liberties of *America*, you are, therefore, hereby required and enjoined to receive into your custody the body of the said *William Sutton*, and him safely keep, at his own expense, until he be duly discharged by this Board or by order of Congress; and for your so doing this shall be your warrant.

"Given under my hand this 8th day of *August*, 1776.

"By order of the Council:

(Signed by the President.)

"To *Robert Jewell*, Keeper of the State Prison."

By an order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *Arthur Donaldson*, for £200, to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Captain *James McConnell* four Rifles, taking his receipt.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, for £250, in favour of Mr. *Henry Wynkoop*, to be by him paid to the gentlemen appointed by the Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Bucks* County, to be distributed amongst the families of poor Associators of that County who are now in actual service.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, for £250, in favour of Mr. *Henry Wynkoop*, for the purpose of equipping the Militia of *Bucks* County.

By an order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., in favour of *Jane Taplin*; to be charged to Congress.

A Letter was received from the Committee of Inspection of *Chester* County, informing this Board that a certain *James McConaughy*, with several others, had greatly abused and insulted several persons and their families, whereby many of the Militia were discouraged from marching, and therefore had ordered said *McConaughy* to be apprehended and sent to the city; and he being brought before the Board, and several witnesses appearing, who, upon oath, charged him with committing violent breaches of the peace, he was therefore ordered to be confined in the common Jail of this city, and the following Mitimus granted:

"In Council of Safety for the State of Pennsylvania.

"Whereas *James McConaughy* stands charged before this Council of breaking open the house of *Paul McKnight* in the dead of the night, committing violent breaches of the peace, and appears to be a very dangerous person: You are therefore hereby required and enjoined to receive into your custody the body of the said *James McConaughy*, and him safely keep until he be discharged by the authority of this State; and for your so doing this shall be your Warrant.

"Given under my hand this 8th day of *August*, 1776.

"By order of the Council:

"*THOS. WHARTON*, Jun., President.

"To Mr. *Thos. Dewees*, Keeper of the Jail of *Philadelphia*."

The Council then adjourned to four o'clock afternoon, when the following Members met: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *George Gray*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Moore*, *John Hubly*, *Henry Wynkoop*.

*Resolved*, That the Deputy Quartermaster-General, or his Assistants here, be empowered to quarter the Militia now on their march towards the Camp in *New-Jersey* in such private houses as are empty, and this Board will make a reasonable allowance to the owners. The Commanding Officers are strictly enjoined to prevent injury being done to such houses.

Mr. *George Gray* appeared, and took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esquire, Treasurer, in favour of Messrs. *Ephraim Boneham*, *Moses Bartram*, and *Jasper Guyer*, for £50, for the purpose of supplying the families of poor Associators of the Second Battalion of this city, who are now in actual service.

*Resolved*, That the Mustermaster do pass Colonel *Jonathan Paschall's* Battalion, of *Philadelphia* County, with the present number of Officers and Men.

By order of the Board, *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay *James Robinson* £425, for one hundred stand of Arms, bought by Mr. *Robert Towers* for this State.

Council of Safety, August 9, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, President, *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *Samuel Morris*, *James Cannon*, *John Hubly*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Bull*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Timothy Matlack*, *John Moore*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Henry Wynkoop*.

*Resolved*, That the President, Mr. *Morris*, and Mr. *Keppeler*, be appointed a Committee to examine and settle Accounts.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Biddle*, and Mr. *Kuhl*, be appointed a Committee for carrying on the Salt Works, erected by the late Committee of Safety in *New-Jersey*, under the care of Mr. *Savage*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of Captain *John Hazlewood*, or his son, for £20; to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Mr. *Abraham Mason* twelve pieces of Duck, for sails for one of the Armed Boats.

The following Commissions were filled up, agreeable to recommendation of Colonel *Samuel Miles*, in his Battalion: *John Carpenter*, First Lieutenant; *David Sloan*, Second Lieutenant; *Thomas Boyd*, Second Lieutenant; *Septimus Davis*, Ensign—Commissions dated August 9, 1776. *James Holmes*, Third Lieutenant; *Joseph Brown Lee*, Third Lieutenant—Commissions dated April 15, 1776.

*Ordered*, That Adjutant *Francis Mentges*, of Colonel *Atlee's* Battalion of Musketry, have a Lieutenantcy, in consequence of General *Mercer's* recommendation, and of Mr. *Mentges's* merit.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *John McGowen* have a Commission as Third Lieutenant in Colonel *Miles's* Battalion.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Mr. *Biddle*, Colonel *Matlack*, Captain *Blewer*, and *George Clymer*, Esquire, be appointed a Committee to fix upon a plan for the Fortification at *Billingsport*, and to employ suitable Engineers and workmen to carry the same into execution.

By order of the Board, *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

Captain <i>Peters's</i> Account, amounting to £235s. 3d.—£170s. 10d. charged to this State; and £64s. 5d. charged to Congress.	
Captain <i>Peterman's</i> Account, amounting to.....	£5 14 9
Captain <i>Weintz's</i> Account, amounting to.....	3 10 0
Captain <i>Joseph McClean's</i> Account, amounting to.....	3 10 3
Captain <i>Henry Pauling's</i> Account, amounting to.....	3 9 9
Captain <i>John Edwards's</i> Account, amounting to.....	4 16 0
Captain <i>Stoink's</i> Account, amounting to.....	1 19 6
Captain <i>Thomas Heslip's</i> Account, amounting to.....	3 2 3
Captain <i>John Read's</i> Account, amounting to.....	12 7 9
Captain <i>Green's</i> Account, amounting to.....	7 13 3
<i>Valentine Winhalt's</i> Account, amounting to.....	6 18 4

*Richard Reily's* Account, amounting to £13 3s. 5d., for Provision for supplying sick soldiers.

*John Willis's* Account, amounting to £4 5s., for a Rifle.

Colonel *Hugh Lloyd's* Account, amounting to £53 9s. 11d., for maintenance of his Battalion during engagements with the *Roebuck*.

*Samuel Rain's* Account, amounting to £1 3s. 6d.  
Captain *Israel Wheaton's* Account, for Arms, &c., purchased, amounting to £47 16s. 10d.—£3 13s. 4d. charged to Congress; £44 3s. 6d. charged to this State.  
Colonel *Hugh Lloyd's* Account for Arms purchased of Non-Associators, amounting to £102 7s. 6d.

The honourable Congress having requested this Board to recommend two proper persons for Lieutenants to a fifth Company of *Germans* to be raised in the State for the Continental service,

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be recommended to Congress as proper persons to be appointed as aforesaid: as First Lieutenant, *Lewis Van Lindensdorf*; as Second Lieutenant, *Philip Schrawder*.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., in favour of Captain *James McConnell*, for £50, for the use of a Company of Militia for the Flying-Camp under his command, to be charged to his Account; and an Order in favour of Captain *William Hustin* for £50, for like purpose, to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *John Woolsey*, a *Canadian* prisoner, appeared, and produced his permission to come to this city from *Reading*, and signed a parole not to go more than eight miles from hence.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Mr. *Gray*, and Mr. *Michael Hillegas*, be appointed a Committee to examine and pass the Accounts of Mr. *Kercher*, Commissary.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Thomas Hockley* be requested to get the Arms of his Battalion repaired in the best and most expeditious manner.

*Resolved*, That *Henry Tredor* be appointed Pilot of the Ship *Montgomery*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *David Rittenhouse* be requested to have the new Cannon proved, annealing them first, if he Shall think proper.

*Resolved*, That two pieces of heavy Cannon, with Carriages, Furniture, Shot, and Cartridge-Paper, be sent to Camp in *New-Jersey*, agreeable to a requisition made in behalf of General *Mercer*.

The honourable Congress having resolved that the Paper-Makers in *Pennsylvania* be detained from proceeding with the Associators to *New-Jersey*, all officers of the State are required to pay a strict regard to the same.

In Council of Safety, August 10, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Fred. Kuhl*, *Henry Keppeler*, *John Hubly*, *James Cannon*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Moore*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Bull*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay the following Accounts:

<i>Wm. Morris's</i> Account, amounting to.....	£11 12 2	} To be charged to Congress.
<i>Rachael Ingram</i> .....	1 0 3	
<i>Jacob Wyley</i> .....	0 15 0	
<i>George Wright</i> .....	2 15 6	
<i>Rachael Davis</i> .....	1 0 0	
<i>Christian Dull</i> .....	21 8 6	
<i>Captain Lawrence</i> .....	37 19 0	
<i>Doctor James Dunlop</i> .....	19 19 6	

*Ordered*, That the case of the Deserters from the Continental Army, which are in the custody of Colonel *Haslett*, be referred to the Board of War.

By order of the Board, *Peter Dehaven & Co.* were directed to deliver to Colonel *Bull*, of *Philadelphia* County, twenty stand of Arms for the use of his Battalion.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Board that the present dissatisfaction which prevails in the Naval Department of this State, arising from a disputed command, will greatly weaken the defence provided for the River *Delaware*, and that a hearing of the Officers before Convention, and a speedy determination of that matter, would be conducive to the security of this State.

By order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *Joseph Mather*, Treasurer to the Committee of Inspection of *Philadelphia* County, for £200, to be applied to the relief of families of poor Associators, of *Philadelphia* County, now in actual service; Mr. *Mather* being empowered by the Committee of *Philadelphia* County for that purpose, per their Minutes of the 1st August, instant.



In Council of Safety, August 12, 1776.

Present: *Thos. Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *John Hubly*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Jos. Blewer*, *Henry Keppeler*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *John Moore*, *John Weitzel*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Dill*, of *York County*, ten stand of Arms and thirty-four Tomahawks, for the use of his Battalion.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Jewell*, Keeper of the State Prison, was directed to take under his care *Thomas Story*, a sick Soldier, belonging to the Continental Army, and provide a Physician to attend him.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Lieutenant-Colonel *Francis Holton*, of *York County*, four Muskets, taking his receipt.

A Letter was wrote to *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., the President of the Convention of *New-York*, acquainting him that *William Sutton* is now confined in the State Prison of this city.

By order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay *Elias Batner's* Account, amounting to £9 15s., for Budge Barrels for Ship *Montgomery*, &c.

By order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., was directed to pay *John Mear's* Account of £9, for three Guns delivered to Colonel *Henry Haller*, of *Berks County* Militia.

By order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., was directed to pay Mr. *Benjamin Flower*, £15 10s. 9d., for Sash Weights sold *Thomas Nevell*.

By an order of the Board, Mr. *R. Towers* was directed to deliver Captain *Henderson* eight pounds of Powder, he paying for the same, or giving a receipt to return the quantity.

By an order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *Richard Thomas* £11 3s. 4d., for diet of men of his Battalion on their march, to be charged to Congress; and £6 16s. 6d., for Priming-Wires and Brushes; to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay Colonel *Richard Thomas*, of *Chester County*, £196 3s., for eighty-one Firelocks, bought of Non-Associators; to be charged to Colonel *Thomas's* Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Major *Boyd*, of Colonel *John Ferree's* Battalion, of *Lancaster County*, six Rifles, taking his receipt.

By order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay Captain *Robert Craig* £12 3s. 6d.—£2 5s. 6d. to be charged to Congress, and £9 18 to be charged to Colonel *Bartram Galbreath*.

In Council of Safety, August 13, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Hubly*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Cannon*, *John Weitzel*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Moore*, *Henry Keppeler*.

By an order of the Board, an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *John Colburn*, for £250, towards sinking Piers, &c.; to be charged with his Account.

By an order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay to Captain *William Scott*, for Arms purchased for, £53; to be charged to Colonel *Thomas Hockley's* Account.

By an order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay to *Thomas Davis* £250, towards Piers built for the service of this State; to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay to Captain *Thomas Fisher*, £46, for Arms purchased, to be charged to Colonel *Richard McAllister*, of *York County*; and £33 10s. for Mileage; to be charged to Congress.

By order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay *Schetchly Morton* £8 7s. 8½d., for Provision supplied the Guard-Boats stationed at *Darby Creek*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary of Stores, was directed to deliver Colonel *Bartram Galbreath* twenty stand of Arms, for the use of his Battalion.

The Mustermaster was directed to pass Captain *Jacob Lush's* Company, of Colonel *Lewis's* Battalion, with the present number of Officers and Men.

By order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay Mr. *Nicholas Hicks* £500, to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Lieutenant *William Rowan*, of Colonel *Francis Holton's* Battalion, of *York County*, twenty-four stand of Arms, taking his receipt.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Matthew Delany's* Order, in favour of *Peter Delany*, for £14, being for four months' service as Express Rider, to the 14th July last.

By order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to change such *Maryland* Money as may be offered to him, by any of the Troops now on their march to the Camp; and if any loss happens thereon the Board will bear it.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Captain *Ross*, of Colonel *Porter's* Battalion, of *Lancaster County*, eight stand of Arms, taking his receipt.

By order of the Board, *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esquire, Treasurer, was directed to pay to *Robert Towers* £97 19s. 7½d., for his Accounts to 10th August. Also to pay *Jacob Hiltzheimer* £1 10s., for carrying sixty stand of Arms to *Chester*.

By an order of the Board, *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay an Order drawn by the honourable Convention, and signed by *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq., President, for £10,000, on account of publick service of this State.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Mr. *Nicholas Hicks* twenty-five Wheelbarrows, four Pickaxes, and two Woodaxes, for the service of carrying on Fortifications at *Billingsport*.

By an order of the Board, *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esq., was directed to pay Major *John Andrews*, of Colonel *McAllister's* Battalion, of *York County*, £6, for Mileage for twelve men one hundred and twenty miles; to be charged to Congress.

By an order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Daniel Daney* £4 15s., for a Rifle; to be charged to Colonel *Timothy Matlack*.

In Council of Safety, August 14, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *John Hubly*, *Henry Keppeler*, *James Cannon*, *John Moore*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Weitzel*, *John Bull*, *George Gray*.

By order of the Board, *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay to Captain *Joseph Blewer* £81 1s. 6d., for eighteen Muskets, bought of him by the directions of this Board.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to Captain *John Paxton* £5, and *Nathaniel Coulter* £6, for two Rifles, for Colonel *Miles's* Battalion.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Jean Laughey* £15 15s. 2d., and Major *James Cunningham* £10 15s., for Shot-Pouches for a Company of the Flying-Camp.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *Hockley* £43 5s., for Arms purchased; to be charged to Colonel *Hockley*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Peck* £7 3s. 6d.—£4 10s. to be charged to Congress, and £2 3s. 6d. to be charged to this State; and to pay *Townsend* and *John White* £123 15s. 4d., for one thousand and sixty pounds of Copper.

By an order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Ebenezer Lundy* £135 15s.; to be charged to the Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Bucks County*.

By an order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Lieutenant-Colonel *Holton*, of Fourth Battalion, of *York County*, twenty Muskets, for the use of said Battalion.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

<i>James Cunningham's</i> Account, amounting to £8 8	} For diet of men marched to this City; to be charged to Congress.
<i>John Jameson's</i> .....Do.....do.....do..... 4 13	
<i>William Kelly's</i> .....Do.....do.....do..... 4 13	
<i>Matthew Swan's</i> .....Do.....do.....do..... 5 8	
<i>Jacob Cook's</i> .....Do.....do.....do..... 5 2	

And Lieutenant-Colonel *Holton's* Account for £21 6s.,

for four Rifles; to be charged to Colonel *William Smith's* Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Messrs. *Bromall* and *Grigson* fifty weight of Brass, upon their producing a certificate from *J. M. Nesbitt*, Treasurer, for their having paid the prime cost of the same.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to Captain *John McElhallon* £52 12s. 3d., for dieting men on their march to this city, on their way to Camp in *New-Jersey*; to be charged to Congress.

By order of the Board, *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay Captain *John Read* £9 0s. 4d., for repairing of Arms.

By order of the Board, *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay *James Dunken* 20s. 10d., for diet for two men on their march to this city; to be charged to Congress.

By order of the Board, Mr. *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay *Alexander Rutherford* £82 5s., for Cartouch-Boxes and Bayonet-Belts—£68 5s. to be charged to Colonel *James Crawford*, of *Lancaster* County, and £14 to be charged to Colonel *Richard Thomas*, of *Chester* County.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to Captain *Joseph Blewer* £8, for Musket, Lock, &c.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *Bartram Galbreath* £83 12s. 6d., for Drums, &c.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *Joseph Mather* £150, for the purpose of supplying the Militia with Camp-Kettles, &c.; to be charged to the Committee of Inspection of *Philadelphia*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Patrick Ryan* £1 10s., for a Musket—to be charged to Colonel *Jonathan Paschall*, of *Philadelphia* County; and £2 10s., for a Gun to *Hugh Jones*—to be charged to Colonel *Jonathan Paschall*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Barbard Keats* £9 5s., for Rifle and a Gun; to be charged to Colonel *Joseph Ferree's* Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *John Davidson* £75 4s. 6d., for Cartouch-Boxes, &c.; to be charged to Colonel *James Moore's* Battalion, of *Chester* County.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Arthur Miller* £4, for a Gun; to be charged to *William McMullen*, of Colonel *McKean's* Battalion.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *Fred. Antes*, Esq., £25, it being for an experiment made on an eighteen-pounder Cannon, according to an agreement with the late Committee of Safety.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Thomas Millard* £79 12s., for Arms purchased, and to be charged to Colonel *Thomas Hockley's* Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Adolph Gillman* £7 9s. 11d., for meals of Militia on their march to this city.

*Resolved*, That the Troops under Captain *Procter's* command be augmented to two hundred men, to be formed into two Companies, to be under the direction of one Commanding Officer, with the rank of Major, and each Company to have one Captain-Lieutenant and three Lieutenants.

*Resolved*, That the said Troops be commanded by *Thomas Procter*, Esq., with the rank, pay, and allowance, of Major, and to be recruited by him for the same time, and on the same terms, as those already raised have been.

Captain *Welpert* having waited on this Board with the compliments of Mr. President *Hancock*, and to request that the Board would recommend some other gentleman as First Lieutenant of the Fifth Company of the *German* Battalion to be raised in this State for the Continental service, in the place of *Lewis Van Linkensdorf*, heretofore recommended as First Lieutenant, who has also been appointed Adjutant in the said Battalion—

The Board therefore do recommend Mr. *Bernard Hubley*, Jun., as First Lieutenant in the said Company instead of the said *Lewis Van Linkensdorf*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Robert Porter* £30 10s., for Cartouch-Boxes and for Cartouch Belts and Bayonet Belts; to be charged to Colonel *Richard Thomas*.

In Council of Safety, August 15, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *John Hubly*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *James Cannon*, *John Weitzel*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Henry Keppeler*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay *Fullerton & Moran* £282 17s. 6s., for repairing Gallies.

By order of the Board, *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay to Lieutenant-Colonel *David Thomas* £109 2s. 6d., for Arms purchased for the use of his Battalion of Riflemen, of *Philadelphia* County; to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, the Mustermaster was directed to pass Captain *Jacob Hetherling's* Company, of Colonel *Montgomery's* Battalion, of *Chester* County, with the present number of Officers and Men.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to Captain *Nathan Gibson* £12, for Shot-Pouches, &c., for the use of his Company; to be charged to Colonel *Jonathan Paschall*, of *Philadelphia* County.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to Captain *Robert Craig* £16 2s., for Blankets, purchased for the use of his Company; to be charged to Colonel *Bartram Galbreath*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *Thomas Hockley* £100; to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *R. Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Thomas Hockley* seventy Tomahawks, for the use of his Battalion.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Peter Dehaven & Co.* £500, for the use of the Gun-Factory; to be charged to their Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *Jacob Howell* £250 towards Intrenching Tools and Pikes; to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay the following Accounts:

To *Thomas Richardson* £6, for a Gun; to be charged to Colonel *John Ferree*, of *Lancaster* County.

To *Josiah Wood* £16 12s. 6d., for Pikes.

To *Solomon Matthews* £3 2s. 4d., } For work at Magazine

To *John Hay*, £3, } in Reading.

To Captain *J. Ross* £4 5s. 6d., for Shot Pouches; to be charged to Colonel *Porter*, of *Lancaster* County.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Watson* £44 4s. 1d., for repairing Arms, &c.

By order of the Board, *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay *Abraham Moore*, of *Coventry* Township, *Chester* County, £30, on account of Arms to be made for the service of this State.

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer of each Battalion or Company of Associators, belonging to this State, be required forthwith to return to the Council of Safety a list of the names of the Associators who have deserted from their respective Corps, that they may be dealt with according to their deserts.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolve be published in all the publick papers of this City.

In Council of Safety, August 16, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, *John Hubly*, *Henry Keppeler*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *George Gray*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Cannon*, *John Moore*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Bull*.

By order of the Board, *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay Captain *Thomas Twibell*, of Colonel *James Wilson's* Battalion, of *Cumberland* County, £13 13s. 4d., for mileage to this city, for eighty-two men; to be charged to Congress.

By order of the Board, Messrs. *Mease & Caldwell* were directed to pay *John Clark*, of Captain *Robert Elton's* Company, in Colonel *Moore's* Battalion, a month's advance.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay: Captain *John Paxton* for mileage for sixty men to this city, £7 10s.; to be charged to *Elton*.

Colonel *Crawford's* Account for Arms, &c., £205 14s. 9d.; to be charged to Colonel *James Crawford*.

Captain *William Scott*, for Arms bought, £22 12s. 6d.; to be charged to Colonel *Thomas Hockley*.

*Nathaniel Porter*, for Arms bought, £22 14s.; to be charged to Colonel *Hockley*.

*William Brown's* Account, amounting to £13 10s. 10½d., Boat hire.

*John Davison*, for Cartridge-Boxes, &c., £27 19s. 6d.; to be charged to Captain *William Smith*, of York County.

By order of the Board, Messrs. *Mease & Caldwell* were desired to pay a month's advance to *Morris Cunningham*, of Colonel *McPherson's* Battalion.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Thomas McKinsey* £16 12s. 6d., for Cartouch-Boxes—£8 11s. to be charged to Colonel *William Smith*, and £8 1s. 6d. to be charged to Colonel *Dill*.

By an order of the Board, Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Mr. *Thomas Mendenhall* three quarter-casks of Powder, and charge to his Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *Thomas Mendenhall* £57 3s. 9d., which, with the above Powder, is in full for three hundred and three and three-quarter pounds Saltpetre delivered *Robert Towers*.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Robert Porter* £4 5s. 6d., for Cartouch-Boxes, for the use of Colonel *William Smith's* Battalion, of York County.

Permission was given to one Officer belonging to each of the Battalions of prisoners confined at Lancaster, now on parole at Carlisle, to go to Lancaster, and continue for such space of time as is sufficient to muster the prisoners belonging to their respective Battalions, and directed to the Committee of Inspection of Cumberland.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver the Quartermaster-General's Assistant four thousand Priming-Wires and Brushes, twenty thousand Flints, two hundred Ramrods, one ton of Rifle Powder, cannon Cartridge-Paper, and a number of Musket Cartridges, leaving a sufficient number for this State; to be charged to Congress.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *James Old* £1,500, on account of Cannon and Shot, cast for the use of this State; to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *John Baker* £60, on account of repairs done to Arms of Associators going into service; to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Major *Benjamin Loxly* £100 towards the Cannon Foundry and Boring Mill erected for this State; to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *Thomas Porter* £50; to be charged to his Account.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *William Brown* £35 8s. 11d., being the balance of his Account.

Messrs. *Mease & Caldwell* were requested to advance Lieutenant-Colonel *William Clark* £150, and Lieutenant-Colonel *Frederick Watts* £10, in order to assist the Officers of their Battalion, as it will promote the service in forwarding men to camp.

Resolved, That the Committee of Inspection and Observation of Lancaster County be requested to assist Captain *Matthew Smith* in procuring one hundred and sixty Rifles, and that they direct the Gunsmith in their County to make that quantity of Rifles with all convenient despatch, so as not to hinder them from repairing the Arms of the Militia now on their march to Head-Quarters in Jersey.

By order of the Board, Mr. *Nesbitt* was requested to pay Lieutenant *Lewan* £2 19s. 9d., for repairing Arms, &c.; to be charged to Colonel *William Smith*.

The Board then adjourned to seven o'clock afternoon, when the following Members met: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *Owen Biddle*, *John Bull*, *Henry Keppele*, *John Hubly*, *James Cannon*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen.

Captain *Ayres*, of the armed boat *Camden*, was directed to pay *Hugh Whiteford* the wages due to his slave *Jacob Kelly*, and discharge said *Kelly* from the service of this State.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of Mr. *Owen Biddle*, for £250, towards clothing purchased for Colonel *Atlee's* Battalion; to be charged to his Account.

In Council of Safety, August 17, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Junior, President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Hubly*, *James Cannon*, *Owen Biddle*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Bull*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *George Gray*.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt* in favour of Mr. *Adam Zantzinger*, for £75, and an Order on Mr. *Robert Towers* for four quarter-casks Powder, being for four hundred weight Saltpetre.

The following Accounts were passed, and Mr. *Nesbitt* directed to pay them:

Captain *Nathaniel Porter's* Account, £1 2s., for repairing Arms belonging to Colonel *Hockley's* Battalion.

An Account for mileage of six Companies of Colonel *Hockley's* Battalion, viz: Captain *Whealson's* Company, £8 12s. 10d.; Captain *Ralston's* Company, £10 12s. 11d.; Captain *Hartman's* Company, £10; Captain *Scott's*, £7 6s. 8d.; Captain *Miller's*, £6 9s.; Captain *Porter's*, £6 12s.; making in the whole £49 13s. 5d.; to be charged to Congress.

Captain *Joseph Blewer's* Account for a Gun delivered *Robert Towers*, £3.

*Thomas Tuff's* Account £21, for Medicine-Chests, &c., made for Drs. *Duffield* and *Delany* for publick service; to be charged to Congress.

Major *John Boyd's* Account, for Arms purchased, £54; to be charged to Colonel *John Ferree*.

*Henry Debearer* for £1 7s., for six Bullet-Moulds; to be charged to Colonel *Timothy Matlack*.

Captain *Samuel Holstein* for Arms taken from Non-Associators, amount £39 13s.; to be charged to Colonel *Jonathan Paschall*.

Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to Major *Evans* one Musket and Cartouch-Box.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Major *John Boyd* one Rifle, to be charged to Colonel *Ferree*.

An order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease & Caldwell* for £38 0s., 6d., for Blankets purchased by Captain *Padon*; to be charged to Colonel *Bartram Galbreath*, and to be deducted out of men's wages.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Samuel Johnston* £3 0s. 9d., for breakfasts for eighty-one men of Captain *Peeble's* Company of Riflemen, and 4s. 2d. for breakfast for five men on guard.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt* in favour of *William Kennard* for £5, on account of Sails he is making for one of the Gallies; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt* in favour of *George Taylor* for £1,000 towards Shot cast by him for the service of this State; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt* in favour of Captain *Valentine Opp*, of Bucks County, for £228, to enable him to pay a bounty of £3 to each person who shall enlist himself in his Company for the Flying-Camp; to be charged to his Account. (To inform Committee.)

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to Colonel *Robert Lewis*, of Philadelphia County, £251 17s. 3d., for Arms taken from Non-Associators; to be charged to Colonel *Lewis*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Capenhav* £1 3s. 4d., for two meals of victuals for twenty-four men; to be charged to Congress.

Also, to pay *Peter Holsten* £2 7s. 3d., for Dinners for sixty-three men of Captain *Nicholas Buttinger's* Company; to be charged to Congress.

Resolved, That Captain *Valentine Opp's* Company do march to Camp in Jersey immediately on their receiving the Bounty of £3 each, with such Arms as they may have, and such as have no Arms will be furnished at Camp: they are also to march.

In Council of Safety, August 19, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *James Cannon*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel Morris*, *John Hubly*.

There not being a quorum met, it was agreed that the Vice-President should call a meeting at five o'clock, afternoon, when the following Members met: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *Joseph Blewer*, *James Cannon*, *F.*

*Kuhl, Henry Keppele, Samuel Morris, Sen., John Weitzel, John Moore.*

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Mark Bird* thirty stand of Arms, taking his receipt.

Mr. *Peter Dchaven* was directed to deliver Captain *Pauling* four Rifles, taking his receipt.

*John M. Nesbitt, Esq.,* was directed to pay *Hugh Cunningham* £14 10, for six Guns purchased for the use of Captain *James Barber's* Company, of Colonel *Bartram Galbreath's* Battalion; to be charged to Colonel *Galbreath*.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Captain *Capenhaver*, of Colonel *Timothy Green's* Battalion, three Muskets, and take his receipt.

Information being given that the Guards of this City are weakly manned, and that the duty has fallen heavy upon a few in consequence of the neglect of some Associators to enrol themselves in the Companies stationed here by order of General *Roberdeau*, agreeable to the recommendation of the late Committee of Safety, and that uneasiness has arisen amongst those who have done the duty of Guards, from a misapprehension of the proper authority to be exercised by the Commanding Officer: the Council having made inquiry into the matter, are of opinion that the Captain of the Guards has acted in the line of his duty, and has duly discharged the part of an active and prudent officer. And to prevent any future complaint arising from the causes aforesaid,

*Resolved*, That every Associator belonging to this City and Liberties, capable of doing duty, who has not marched with the Militia to the Camp in *New-Jersey*, and who neglects to enrol himself in some of the four Companies of Guards, and to attend the service in his turn, shall be deemed a Non-Associator, and be subject to all the fines and penalties of such.

That the Associators on duty as Guards in this city are actually in Continental service, entitled to the same pay and rations and subject to the same rules and regulations as the Militia of this State now in *New-Jersey*.

The following Accounts were passed, and Mr. *Nesbitt* directed to pay them, and charge the same to Congress, viz:

Captain <i>Robert McKee</i> , for mileage of two Men of his Company, belonging to Colonel <i>Ferree's</i> Battalion, <i>Lancaster</i> County, (seventy-seven miles each, at 1d.,)	£0 12 10
<i>Valentine Vankalt's</i> Accounts for Meals;	
Captain <i>John Rowland's</i> Company, of Colonel <i>Ferree's</i> Battalion, of <i>Lancaster</i> County, -	2 9 6
Captain <i>Jacob Carpenter's</i> Company, of Col. <i>Ferree's</i> Battalion, -	2 12 6
Captain <i>Bauman's</i> Company, of Col. <i>Ferree's</i> Battalion, -	3 4 6
Captain <i>Alexander Martin's</i> Company, -	2 4 3
Captain <i>Cappenhaver's</i> Company, of Colonel <i>Green's</i> Battalion, <i>Lancaster</i> County, -	4 15 0

In Council of Safety, August 20, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, President, *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *Frederick Kuhl*, *James Cannon*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Hubly*, *Henry Keppele*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Moore*, *George Gray*, *Owen Biddle*.

*John M. Nesbitt, Esq.,* was directed to pay Captain *William McMullen* £62 16s. 6d., for Arms purchased from Non-Associators, and account to Mr. *Towers*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Archibald Thomson* £18 7s., for Arms purchased for Colonel *Thomas*, of *Philadelphia* County, and *Shippen & Way* £29 16s. 3d., for work delivered to Captain *Richards*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Charles Stultz*, for work for Artillery Companies, £3 8s., and *James Davison*, for nursing a sick man belonging to the Congress galley, £1 16s.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Galbreath* fifteen Cartouch-Boxes, taking his receipt.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Lewis Trimble* £8 8s., for Wood delivered at *Chester*, for the use of Colonel *Miles's* Battalion.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Thomas Miles* 20s., for

rifling a Gun and mending a Lock belonging to Captain *Thomas Turbet's* Company, to be charged to Colonel *James Wilson*, *Cumberland* County.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Philip Shilling* £5 5s., for twenty-eight Powder-Horns delivered for the use of Col. *William Smith's* Battalion, of *York* County.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

Captain *McNary's* Account for Meals for his Company of the Fourth Battalion, of *York* County, commanded by Colonel *Smith*, amounting to £10 4s., to be charged to Congress; and £6 17s., for Drums, &c., to be charged to the Colonel. Captain *Lepper's* mileage of seven men of his Company of Third Battalion, of *Cumberland* County, £3 10s.

Agreeable to the determination of the Board yesterday, Commodore *Davison* and the Captains of Galleys were summoned to attend the Board on *Thursday* next, precisely at two o'clock, afternoon.

*James McConneaughey* was brought before the Board, and was permitted to be enlarged from his confinement, upon giving security that he would appear at the next Court of Judicature that may be held in the County of *Chester* for the trying of offences and misdemeanours; and, in the mean time, to march to the Camp in *New-Jersey*, and there remain until the return of said Army; which was done accordingly, himself bound in the sum of £1,000, and *William Graham* in £500, for the performance thereof.

The Board then adjourned to five o'clock, afternoon.

August 20, 1776, five o'clock afternoon.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Hubly*, *John Moore*, *John Weitzel*.

Information being given by *Francis Hopkinson, Esq.*, that a certain *George Crows* had fraudulently obtained large sums of money from divers persons by means of Deeds for Lands forged by him and a certain *Anthony Sypher*; whereupon the following Warrant was issued:

"In Council of Safety for the State of Pennsylvania, }  
August 20, 1776. }

"You are hereby required to cause *George Crows* to be taken and brought before the Council to answer a charge exhibited against him for forgery, by *Francis Hopkinson, Esq.*; and for your so doing this shall be your order.

"*THOMAS WHARTON, Jun., President.*

"To Captain *Richard Peters*."

A similar Order was given to cause *Anthony Sypher* to be brought before the Council.

*John Hutton*, of *New-Jersey*, was before the Council, he being suspected of facilitating the escape of Colonel *Kirkland* from his confinement in this city; and after examination, he was admitted to be enlarged from the State Prison on his entering into a recognizance of £500 for his good behaviour. At the same time *John Hales* was brought before the Council, and was admitted to bail for his good and peaceable behaviour, under a penalty of £1,000, and sufficient surety.

In Council of Safety, August 21, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *John Hubly*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *James Cannon*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Owen Biddle*, *Henry Keppele*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Moore*.

*John M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer, was directed to pay *Benjamin Gibbs* £8 11s. 1d., for an Anchor and Block delivered Captain *White*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Esther Burk* £2 3s. 6d., for nursing sick Soldiers belonging to Colonel *Miles's* Battalion.

Lieutenant *Benjamin Broomback* and Ensign *Michael Cypher* were summoned to attend the Board on *Saturday* morning next, the 24th instant, at eight o'clock in the forenoon, to answer for leaving their Colours without leave of their Commanding Officer.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to Colonel *Bartram Galbreath* £12, for Blankets for the use of his Battalion, to be



charged to Colonel *Galbreath's* Account; and £1 17s. 6d., for Bayonet-Scabbards; also, £6 17s. for Cartouch-Boxes and Powder-Horns.

A Petition from *Joseph Greenway*, Third Lieutenant of the Ship *Montgomery*, in the service of this State, was laid before the Board, praying that he may have leave to resign his commission, as he has an opportunity of serving his country in a more essential manner than he is now able to do; which request was granted, and he is discharged from the service aforesaid.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Dr. *Frederick Otto* for attending on a man wounded at *Cape May*, in the service of this State, £6 11s. 3d.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Richard Chew* £19 16s. 8d., for thirty-five barrels of Tar delivered *William Richards*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *John Paschall* 18s. 6d., for altering Colours belonging to his Battalion; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Dr. *Samuel Duffield* for attending a man wounded in working a Chevaux-de-Frise, £2 5s.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay £12 10s. for mileage for two men for Colonel *Galbreath's* Battalion; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *David Thomas*, for a meal's victuals for Captain *Pauling* and Captain *Howell's* Companies of Associators, of his Battalion of *Philadelphia* County, £6 11s. 9d.; to be charged to Congress: and £1 4s. for Shot-Pouches bought by him for the use of his Battalion; to be charged to the Colonel.

In Council of Safety, August 22, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, Mr. *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Hubly*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *James Cannon*, *Henry Keppele*, *Joseph Blewer*.

*John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esq., was directed to pay Colonel *Thomas Hockley* £191 16s. 6d., for Arms, Blankets, &c., for the use of his Battalion; to be charged to Colonel *Hockley*.

Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver *Benjamin Segur* four Grubbing-Hoes and four Falling-Axes; to be delivered by him to Mr. *Nicholas Hicks*, at *Billingsport*.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Hugh Lloyd*, of *Chester* County, eighty-three Cartouch Boxes; taking his receipt.

The Vice-President being under a necessity of attending the Convention, Mr. *Owen Biddle* was requested to take the Chair.

In consequence of an Order, granted the 20th instant, *George Craws* was brought before the Board, with his trunk, in which was found, among a number of papers, the sum of £498 0s. 8d., in four bundles, viz: One bundle £102, one bundle £46 0s. 8d., one bundle £50, two bundles of \$400 each, (£300)—£498 0s. 8d.; which was delivered to Mr. *Frederick Kuhl*, by order of the Board, and he requested to keep in his possession.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Major *Loxly* one ton of Copper and four hundred weight of Block-Tin.

An Order was drawn on *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esquire, for £200, in favour of *Robert Semple*, Esq., to be charged to the Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Cumberland* County, it being for the purpose of assisting the families of poor Associators who are now in actual service.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt* in favour of *Mark Bird*, Esq., for £107 2s. 6d., being for Arms taken from Non-Associators, for the use of his Battalion; to be charged to his Account.

Messrs. *Dehaven & Carter* were directed to deliver Captain *Alexander Martin*, of Colonel *Peter Grub's* Battalion, of *Lancaster* County, eleven stand of Arms, and twenty Cartouch Boxes.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to Mrs. *Connolly* £6 5s., for five weeks' allowance, at 25s. per week, from 16th July to 21st instant, agreeable to Resolve of the late Committee of Safety, 16th July last.

After examination of *George Crawes*, it appeared from

his own confession, and papers found in his chest, that he was guilty of forgery and fraud; he was, therefore, sent to the State Prison, and the following Warrant of commitment was granted:

"In Council of Safety for the State of Pennsylvania, }  
August 22, 1776. }

"You are hereby authorized, empowered, and required, to confine *George Craus* in a room by himself in the State Prison, without pen, ink, and paper, and feed him on bread and water, and permit no person to hold any intercourse with him, except by special order from this Board, he being guilty, by his own confession, of forgery and fraud.

"By order of the Council:

(Signed by the President.)

"To *Robert Jewell*, Esq., Keeper of the State Prison."

The Council then adjourned to two o'clock, P. M.,

When the following Members met: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *John Hubly*, *James Cannon*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Moore*, *John Weitzel*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *Joseph Blewer*.

*John Maxwell Nesbitt*, was directed to pay Captain *Reese Johns*, of Colonel *Hockley's* Battalion, of *Chester* County, £7 2s. 6d., for mileage for thirty-eight men; to be charged to Congress.

According to a Summons of the 20th instant, Commodore *Davidson* and the Captains of the Galleys appeared before the Board, and after hearing the Captains' reasons why Commodore *Davidson* should not be continued in the command, and the Commodore's answer thereto, it was agreed that the determination should be referred to a future day.

In Council of Safety, August 23, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Owen Biddle*, *John Hubly*, *Joseph Blewer*, *James Cannon*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Henry Keppele*.

Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to Captain *Conrad Sneider* four Guns and four Cartouch-Boxes, for the use of his Company, of Colonel *Joseph Armstrong's* Battalion, *Cumberland* County.

Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver *George Gerber* eighty-four pounds of Powder. An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *George Gerber*, for £63 15s., which, with the above eighty-four pounds of Powder, is in full for three hundred and thirty-nine pounds of Saltpetre.

*John Maxwell Nesbitt* was directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

• Captain *James Young's* Account for a Musket delivered Captain *James McDonald*, of the Flying-Camp, £4 16s.

Major *Caleb Davis*, for necessaries for the *Chester* County quota for the Flying-Camp, purchased under the direction of the Committee of Inspection, to be charged to his Account, £202 10s.

*Baldwin & Taylor*, for repairing Arms belonging to Colonel *Hockley's* Battalion, to be charged to the Colonel, £28 13s. 9d.

*Samuel Raine*, for two weeks' Board of a sick soldier, belonging to *Farmer's* Company, of Colonel *Miles's* Regiment, £1 10s.

Captain *James McCandle's*, for Diet of his Company, of Colonel *William Smith's* Battalion, *York* County, to be charged to Congress, £35 11s. 9d.

Captain *James's* Account for Mileage twenty-one men belonging to Colonel *Hockley's* Battalion, £3 10s., to be charged to Congress, and £2 13s., for Sundries, to be charged to Colonel *Hockley*.

Captain *John Hart*, Mileage, &c., his Company, of Colonel *Lloyd's* Battalion, *Chester* County, £5 14s. 3d.; to be charged to Congress.

Colonel *Bird*, of *Berks* County, for Rations for his Battalion, to be charged to Congress, £145 5s. 10d.

Captain *Price*, for Mileage, &c., of Colonel *Lloyd's* Battalion, *Chester* County, to be charged to Congress, £6 8s. 7d.

Major *John Jones*, for Diet of Captain *Alexander Martin's* Company, Colonel *Grub's* Battalion, £2 3s. 3d.; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Hugh Lloyd*, of *Chester County*, forty-eight Muskets and one hundred and twenty-seven Bayonets, for the use of his Battalion, taking his receipt.

Adjourned to four o'clock, P. M., when the following Members met: *Thomas Wharton*, President, *George Gray*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *Fredrick Kuhl*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun.

*John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

*George Gray*, Esq., for Arms taken from Non-Associators, &c., delivered to Colonel *Jonathan Parshall*, to be charged to the Colonel, £171 6s.

*Leonard Creamer*, for two Rifles delivered Captain *Jacob Carpenter*, for the use of his Company, of Colonel *John Ferree's* Battalion, (to be charged to the Colonel,) £7 18s.

Captain *Jacob Snyder*, for Bread and other Provisions for his Company, the Commissary refusing to serve them, £3 0s. 8d.; to be charged to Congress.

Leave was given to Mr. *Robert Jewell* to suffer *George Craws* to have the liberty of the State Prison.

An Order was given to Mr. *Owen Biddle* to deliver Mr. *James White* forty bushels of Salt out of the Stores at *Germantown*.

Resolved, That the Commanding-Officers of the several Battalions and Companies now in quarters, or that may arrive here, be directed to order proper persons to attend at the Commissary of Provisions' Office, in *Fifth Street*, near *Market Street*, with Returns, to receive their Provision, every morning, between the hours of six and nine o'clock.

In Council of Safety, August 24, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *Owen Biddle*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Moore*, *John Hubly*, *James Cannon*.

Mr. *Hubly* was directed to write to *Lancaster*, and give direction to the Committee of Inspection to allow Mr. *Brooks*, confined in Jail there, to the liberty of the Prison yard, if the Committee think Mr. *Brooks* will not thereby make his escape. Likewise, that the Committee take *Barrington's* parole of honour, and send him to his brother officers at *York* or *Cumberland County*.

Resolved, That application be made to the Board of War for sixty stand of Arms, to supply the Militia now on their way to Camp.

*John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., was directed to pay Captain *Hazlewood* £20, for the use of Fire-Rafts; to be charged to Captain *Hazlewood*.

*Peter Dehaven & Co.* £500, for the use of Gun-Lock Factory; to be charged to their Account.

Captain *Andrew Boon*, of Second Battalion, of *Chester County*, for Drums, Fifes, &c., for his Company, £6 2s. 6d.

*Robert Jewell*, for Board of *John Hatton*, £2 3s. 4d.; to be charged to Congress.

In Council of Safety, August 26, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *John Hubly*, *John Moore*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *John Weitzel*, *George Gray*, *Owen Biddle*.

*John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

*Thomas Apty*, for Fees of State Prisoners confined in the Workhouse, to be charged to Congress, £1 9s.

*Thomas Webber*, for fourteen and a half cords of Wood, delivered at *Fort-Island*, £12 16s. 6d.

Captain *Cowden*, of Colonel *Bird's* Battalion, £9 3s., for Canteens, to be charged to the Colonel; and £5 10s. for support of his men, to be charged to Congress; also £3 11s. 8d., for repairing Arms, to be charged to this State.

*George Houston*, for repairing Drums, &c., £3 17s.

*John Gamble*, for twenty-four Cartouch-Boxes for Captain *Robert Culberson's* Company, of Colonel *William Clark's* Battalion, *Cumberland County*; to be charged to the Colonel.

*William Pollard*, for expenses of himself and three others, of the Light-Horse, escorting Ammunition to Camp in *New-Jersey*; to be charged to Congress.

*Thomas M. Waters*, for Stone delivered at *Fort-Island*, for sinking the Piers.

Colonel *John Ferree*, of *Lancaster County*, for Arms, &c., purchased for his Battalion, to be charged to his Account, £79 18s. 6d.

*Jeremiah Baker*, for Wood delivered to the Barracks of this city, £62 19s. 5d.; to be charged to Congress.

Captain *Rowland*, 5s., for mending a Drum.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Robert Smith*, for £500, for the purpose of building Chevaux-de-Frise and other works at *Billingsport*; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on *J. M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *Samuel Morris*, Esq., for £500, for the purpose of purchasing Logs, &c., for building Chevaux-de-Frise at *Billingsport*; to be charged to his Account.

*Joseph Ferree*, Esq., *Germantown*, was directed to deliver Doctor *Harris* one ton of Saltpetre, out of the Store under his care.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Doctor *Harris*, for £50; to be charged to his Account.

Captain *William Richards* was directed to deliver Mr. *Robert Smith*, for the use of the Works at *Billingsport*, to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary of Stores, was directed to deliver Captain *David Howell* five Muskets, and Messrs. *Dehaven & Co.* to deliver Captain *Howell* six Rifles, for the use of his Company, of Colonel *Thomas's* Battalion, *Philadelphia County*.

In Council of Safety, August 27, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *John Moore*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Weitzel*, *John Hubly*.

*John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

Captain *Joseph Blewer*, £23 6s., for repairing a Shallop damaged in sinking the Piers at *Fort-Island*.

*John Stacy*, for Flat hire, £5 5s.

Colonel *Joseph Armstrong*, of *Cumberland County*, for repairing Arms, £6 5s. 6d.

Captain *Robert Culberson*, £1 14s., for repairing Arms belonging to his Company, of Colonel *Armstrong's* Battalion.

*George Capehart*, for seven days' Flat hire.

Colonel *Robert Peebles*, for an Order drawn by *James Pollock* and *Samuel Laird*, Esqs., Commissioners of *Cumberland County*, for £200, being in part for one hundred Muskets made by Colonel *Peebles*; to be charged to said Commissioners.

Captain *Peter Hoffnagle*, £58 10s., for Arms purchased for the use of his Company, of Colonel *George Ross's* Battalion, of *Lancaster County*, and to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. *John Stelwell*, £23 11s. 6d., being for expenses in saving Powder out of the Brig *Nancy*, paid by Captain *William Pollock*.

Captain *Thomas Bell*, £399 18s., for freight for one hundred and forty-two barrels of Powder and fifty-three tons of Lead.

*Francis Clark*, £9, for twelve Cutlasses delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

*Jacob Zoll*, for dieting Captain *Richards's* Company, of Colonel *Thomas Potts's* Battalion, £2 18s. 6d. For dieting Captain *Weaver's* Company, of Colonel *Bull's* Battalion, £1 16s. 9d. To be charged to Congress.

Resolved, That Mr. *Rittenhouse* make application to the Paper-Makers to supply the Commissary with a quantity of Musket Cartridge Paper.

A present scarcity of Cartridge Paper makes it necessary for this Board to recommend to the Printers in this State to spare a quantity of Paper to our Commissary, *Robert Towers*, Esq., for the purpose of making Cartridges.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *Thomas Savage*, for £400, towards erecting and carrying on the Salt Works on *Tom's River*, in *New-Jersey*, for the service of this State.

The Board adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.; at which time the following Members met: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice-President, *John Hubly*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Moore*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Weitzel*, *Henry Keppely*, Jun., *James Cannon*.

*John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esq., was directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

*James Bringhurst*, for Sash Weights, &c., £94 1s. 11d.

*John Elmslie*, for Shot Moulds, &c., £11 8s. 4d.

Captain *James Murry* £6 6s., for Canteens, &c., for his Company, of Colonel *Bird's* Battalion, of Lancaster County; to be charged to the Colonel.

The Council having heard the complaints made against Commodore *Samuel Davison*, with the proofs brought to support them, and taking into consideration the situation of the Naval Armaments belonging to this State, are of opinion, that most of the charges made against the said *Samuel Davison* are frivolous, and discover a dangerous spirit of licentiousness amongst the other officers, inconsistent with the duty they owe their country, and not to be justified on military principles, which exacts a due obedience at all times to the orders of superiors. But as it appears to the Council that the officers of the fleet in general have not that respect for, nor confidence in, the said *Samuel Davison* which is absolutely necessary to give vigour and efficacy to the command, and that notwithstanding the known merit of said *Davison*, yet the charge of incompetency to so important a trust is not altogether without foundation: It is therefore

*Resolved*, That the said *Samuel Davison*, Esq., be no longer continued in the command of the Naval Armament of this State, and he is accordingly dismissed from the same.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Henry Dougherty* be appointed to the command of the Galley building at Kensington by Mr. *Williams*, and that she be called the *Delaware*.

*Resolved*, That Captain *John Rice* be appointed to the command of the Galley called the *Convention*.

Agreeable to a Resolve of the honourable Congress and by direction of the Board, the following Commissions for Privateers were granted, viz:

To *John Hamilton*, of the Brig *General Mifflin*, of twelve carriage guns and ninety men, owned by *John Cox*, *John Chaloner & Co.*

To *Charles Furgeson*, commander of the Brig *General Putnam*, of twelve carriage guns and ninety men, owned by *Matthew Irwin*, *Benjamin Harbeson & Co.*

"In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, August 27, 1776.

"*Fifty Dollars Reward.*

"Whereas a dangerous riot was excited this day, at or near the barracks of this city, and at the same time a great violence and abuse offered to the family of Mr. *Lawrence Fegan*, whereby his wife was wounded, his house robbed, and his property destroyed to a great amount: In order to discourage such wicked and mischievous practices for the future, and to bring the offenders to condign punishment, the Council of Safety hereby offer a reward of fifty dollars to any person who shall apprehend and convict the ring-leaders and perpetrators of the above-mentioned riot and robbery.

"By order of the Council:

"*DAVID RITTENHOUSE, Vice President.*"

In Council of Safety, August 28, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Owen Biddle*, *John Moore*, *John Hubly*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Joseph Blewer*, *George Gray*.

*John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

*Samuel Culbertson*, £7 2s. 6d., for three Muskets delivered to Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary.

*John Kerlin*, for dieting twenty-eight Companies of Militia, on their march towards the Camp in *New-Jersey*; to be charged to Congress.

*Thomas McHenry*, £35 14s., for Cartouch-Boxes and Bayonet Belts delivered Mr. Commissary *Towers*.

Captain *Benjamin Savage*, the balance of mileage for his Company, £5 9s. 3d., he having left order for £2 13s. 6d. on the road; to be charged to Congress. Also £8 9s.

6d., for Arms for his Company, of Colonel *Smith's* Battalion; to be charged to said Colonel.

Captain *McCandess*, 14s. 1d., for mileage for two men of his Company, distance eighty-five miles; to be charged to Congress.

*John Martin*, for dieting three Companies of Militia, on their march to Camp, £7 7s. 9d.; to be charged to Congress.

*Michael Holman*, £5 4s., for repairing Arms, &c., belonging to Captain *Elijah Davis's* Company, of Colonel *David Thomas's* Battalion; to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. *Robert Jewell*, £2 12s. 6d., for support of three Prisoners in the State Prison.

*Conrad Pegeon*, £9 0s. 9d., for Repairs at the Barracks.

An Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer to the Congress, in favour of *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer to this Board, for \$70,000, being the residue of \$100,000 lent by Congress to this State.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of Mr. *Owen Biddle*, for £100; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver to Messrs. *Jos. Sherer*, *George Dollinger*, and *Casper Stoever*, Jun., for the use of the Frontiers of Lancaster County, three hundred pounds of Powder and nine hundred pounds of Lead; and to deliver to *Peter Spiker*, Esq., Messrs. *Charles Shoemaker*, and *Hieronymous Henning*, three hundred weight of Powder, and nine hundred pounds of Lead, for the use of the Frontiers of Berks County.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of Captain *Hazlewood*, or his Son, for £20, on account of the Fire-Rafts; to be charged to Captain *Hazlewood*.

Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Mr. *Gustavus Resberg*, Assistant Deputy Quartermaster General, for the Flying-Camp, one ton Rifle Powder, one ton of Cannon Powder, and Lead in proportion; to be forwarded to General *Washington*, at *New-York*.

*John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay *John Jones* £9 18s. 3d., for dieting Troops on their march towards Camp; to be charged to Congress.

Messrs. *Dehaven & Carter* were directed to deliver Col. *Bird*, of Lancaster County, twelve stand of Arms.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver to Colonel *Bird*, of Lancaster County, fifteen Cartouch-Boxes.

Directions were given to *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., to send a number of Arms and a quantity of Powder belonging to him, now at *Egg-Harbour*, by wagons, to the Camp at *Amboy*; and this Board engage to pay the amount, and expenses incurred.

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer of the Troops now in the city be directed to proceed with all their men to *Amboy*, either by land or water, to-morrow morning, without any exception, and not to wait for any Arms or Accoutrements, as care will be taken to supply them when they arrive at camp. The necessity which gives occasion to the present orders is such that nothing will detain any men that are properly attached to the cause.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *Arthur Donaldson*, for £200, towards the Floating Battery now building under his direction; to be charged to his Account.

In Council of Safety, August 29, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Owen Biddle*, *Joseph Blewer*, *James Cannon*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Hubly*, *John Weitzel*, *George Gray*.

Mr. *Benjamin Harbeson* was ordered to deliver to Colonel *Ferree*, of Lancaster County, eight Camp Kettles for the use of his Battalion, and to deliver Major *Ewen* twenty Camp Kettles for Colonel *Porter's* Battalion.

Commissions were filled up for *James Whitehead* and *George Shaffner*, Gentlemen, as Ensigns in Colonel *Samuel John Atlee's* Battalion of Musketry, and dated the 19th instant, August.

An Order was drawn on *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esq.,

Treasurer, in favour of Captain *William Richards*, for £400; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of Lieutenant *Matthew Hand*, for £30, for the purpose of inlisting men for Flying-Camp; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *Samuel High*, one of the Commissioners of Berks County, for £600, on account of Arms making in that County; to be charged to the Commissioners.

Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Major *Ewen* one hundred stand of Arms for the use of Colonel *Porter's* Battalion, of Lancaster County.

*John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

Captain *John Withers*, of Colonel *John Ferree's* Battalion, Lancaster County, for Arms purchased for the use of his Company; to be charged to the Colonel.

Captain *Andrew Bean*, £103 15s., for Arms purchased for his Company; to be charged to Colonel *Ferree*.

*Valentine Vankhold*, for dieting five Companies of Militia, on their march towards the Camp, £13 4s. 9d.; to be charged to Congress.

Major *John Jones*, for dieting three Companies of Militia, £7 15s. 3d.; to be charged to Congress.

*Michael Holman*, for a Rifle, &c., for Captain *David Howell's* Company; to be charged to Colonel *David Thomas*.

*John Britton*, for Boards, Scantling, &c., delivered to Mr. *Robert Smith*, at *Billingsport*, for building Barracks, &c., £216 19s. 2d.; to be charged to Congress.

*Woolery Meng*, for seven Cartouch-Boxes delivered to Captain *Thomas Duncan*, £3 3s.; to be charged to Colonel *Hill*.

*Sebastian Graeff*, for Arms and Accoutrements delivered to General *Roberdeau*, £19 4s. 6d.; to be charged to Colonel *Matlack*.

Lieutenant *George Moore*, for five stand of Arms left at Camp, £20; to be charged to Colonel *Matlack*.

Captain *Paul Zantzinger*, for Arms left at Camp, £74 11s.; to be charged to Colonel *Matlack*.

*Jacob Braiser*, for repairing Arms belonging to Colonel *Peter Grub's* Battalion, £1 9s. 9d.

*Samuel High*, for two Rifles delivered to Captain *Jacob Graul*, £7 2s. 6d.; to be charged to Colonel *Henry Haller*.

Captain *Samuel Patton*, for expenses procuring Provisions for his Company, £1 7s. 6d.; to be charged to Congress.

Captain *Morrison*, mileage for sixty-seven men, ninety miles, £25 2s. 6d., to be charged to Congress; and £6 10s. for a Rifle, to be charged to Colonel *Porter*.

In Council of Safety, August 30, 1776.

Present: *Samuel Morris*, Sen., Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *John Hubly*, *John Moore*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Weitzel*, *James Cannon*, *George Gray*.

*John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

*Benjamin Marshall*, for sundries for the use of the Fleet of this State £58 9s. 2d.

*Christian West & Co.*, for victualling four Companies of Colonel *Ross's* Battalion, Lancaster County, £110 3s. 9d.; to be charged to Congress.

*Benjamin Brooks*, £18 16s. 10d., and *Peter Gauber*, £1 11s.; for repairing Arms belonging to Colonel *Potts's* Battalion.

*Benjamin Broomback*, for fifty-five breakfasts for Captain *Adams's* Company, Colonel *Grub's* Battalion, £2 1s. 3d.; to be charged to Congress.

*Thomas Miles*, for two Rifles, for Captain *Elijah Davis's* Company, (to be charged to Colonel *David Thomas*), £12.

*James Brooks*, £4 12s. 3d., for stocking Guns belonging to Colonel *Potts's* Battalion.

Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, £87 5s. 2d., for Saltpetre purchased, making Cartridges, &c.

*Martha McAllen*, 20s.; to be charged to this State.

*Tobias Rudolph*, £2 10s., for Horse hire going in search of *Arthur Thomas*; to be charged to Congress.

To pay for Wagon hire £6 15s., for service of this State.

Captain *Jacob Towns*, £75, for Bounty money for his Company, who have entered the Flying Camp; to be charged to Congress.

Resolved, That the Commanding Officers of the Militia who have returned from Camp with their Troops be required to deliver into the hands of Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, all such Arms and Accoutrements belonging to this State as may be in their possession, in order that the same may be put into the hands of such Associators as are not provided and ready to march to *New-Jersey*. The expenses of such collection will be discharged by this Board.

*Thomas Haney*, a Mulatto, was brought before the Board, and charged by Captain *Charles Stuart* with theft; whereupon he was committed to the common Jail.

Agreeably to Resolve of the honourable Congress, and by direction of the Board, a Commission was granted for the privateer Brig called the *General Montgomery*, commanded by *James Montgomery*, mounting twelve carriage guns, navigated by one hundred men.

Whereas some designing, ill-disposed persons have spread false reports that the number of Troops now in *New-Jersey* is too great; that many, in consequence, have been discharged by the Generals; and that there is not any occasion to forward the Troops who have not yet been at Camp: the Council therefore, to frustrate the designs of such persons, and to hasten the march of the Associators to Camp in *Jersey*, make known, that there is an immediate necessity for the Associators to hasten their march to the said Camp with all expedition, and pay no regard to any reports which do not come from this Council or other proper authority.

Ordered, That the above be published in handbills, and distributed about this city.

In Council of Safety, August 31, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *John Moore*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Hubly*.

*John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay the following Accounts, viz:

Colonel *David Thomas*, for incidental charges in marching his men to this city on their way to Camp in *New-Jersey*, £4 0s. 9d.; to be charged to Congress.

*Jacob Bakerstee*, £103 1s. 4d., for Cartouch-Boxes, &c., delivered for the use of the Militia of Lancaster and Cumberland Counties; to be charged to the Colonels.

To pay an Account for rifling and stocking Guns, &c., £9 6s.

*Thomas Clifford & Sons*, £15 1s. 10d., for Sash Weights delivered to Mr. *Thomas Nevill*.

Mr. *John Hubly*, £82 7s. 4d., Linen bought by him; to be charged to Mr. *Owen Biddle*.

*Thomas Miles*, £12, for two Rifles for the use of Captain *Thomas Morrison's* Company; to be charged to Colonel *Porter*.

*Josiah Wood*, £30, for one hundred Pikes delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Captain *Nicholas Dean*, 25s., for mending a Drum.

Resolved, That *William Farley*, *Michael Purviance*, *Arthur Canaday*, and *Edward Reily*, belonging to our Fleet, be allowed leave of absence from the vessels they belong to for four weeks from this date, for the only purpose of working at Mr. *James Wharton's* Ropewalk, on cordage for the Continental Frigates; to be at all times subject to Mr. *Wharton's* orders; and in case of any alarm, that they do immediately repair on board of their respective boats or vessels.

Resolved, That Mr. *Wharton* and Mr. *Biddle* be appointed to employ proper persons to bring the Coal from *Virginia*, contracted for by the late Committee of Safety.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of Captain *Joseph Copperthwaite*, or his order, for £800; to be charged to his and Colonel *Clement Biddle's* Account.



## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Council of Safety for the Province of *Maryland*, at the City of *Annapolis*, on *Saturday*, the 6th day of *July*, 1776:

Were present: The Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, *Benjamin Rumsey*, and *James Tilghman*, Esquires.

The above Members were qualified before Mr. *Allen Quynn*, by taking the oath prescribed by the Convention.

Mr. *Richard Ridgely*, Assistant Clerk, was qualified before Mr. *Quynn*, by taking the oath prescribed by the Convention.

The Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., was appointed President, and the Hon. *Charles Carroll* Vice-President.

Copy of Letter No. 1 was sent to Lieutenant-Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Sunday, July 7, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *George Stricker* 45s. for the carriage of Powder from *Frederick-Town* to *Skipton* District, in *Frederick* County.

Copy of Letter No. 2 was sent to Brigadier-General *Buchanan*, and copy of No. 3 to Colonel *John Weems* and Lieutenant-Colonel *Rezin Hammond*, respectively.

The Council contracted with *John Yost* for the making of three hundred Muskets, at £4 5s. each, and one hundred Rifles, at £4 15s. each, to be delivered at the times and in the proportions expressed in his bond.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the said *John Yost* £150, common money, to enable him to comply with his contract.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Rezin Beall* £387 5s. 2d., on account of his Company.

Copy of Letter No. 4 was sent to Captain *James Hindman* and Lieutenant *William Harrison*, respectively, and copy of No. 5 to Captain *Edward Veazey*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Patrick Sim* £6 16s. 3d., for sundries furnished his Company.

Copy of Letter No. 6 was sent to Mr. *Archibald Buchanan*.

Council adjourns till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, July 8, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 7 was sent to Mr. *Matthias Hammond*.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Mr. *William Niven* two bars of Steel.

Copy of Letter No. 8 was sent to Mr. *Stephen Steward*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Dr. *Weisenthal*, for the use of *John Hart*, £72, common money, for leather Breeches for the Troops.

Copy of Letter No. 9 was sent to Colonel *Thomas Dorsey*.

Ordered, That *Michael Hart* and *Lawrence Keenan*, of Captain *John Fulford's* Company of Artillery, be discharged from the service of this Colony.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *William Thomas* £6, currency, for two Muskets.

Ordered, That half a month's pay be advanced by the Paymaster to Colonel *Smallwood's* Battalion.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Peter Adams*, £65 4s. 10d., on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *John H. Stone*, £30 2s. 11d., on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Patrick Sim* £20 9s. 5d., on account of his Company.

Ordered, That Lieutenant *Nicholas Buxton Moore* be empowered to hire any number of men, not exceeding fifty, to assist in throwing up Intrenchments for the protection of this City.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Dr. *Charles F. Weisenthal* £35, for a journey to *Virginia*, in consequence of a Resolution of Convention of *May* last.

Copy of Letter No. 10 was sent to *Thomas Smyth*, Esq.; copy of Letter No. 11 to *Charles Ridgely*, Sen., *John Weston*, and *John Skinner*, respectively; No. 12 to the Deputies in Congress, and No. 13 to Mr. *Alexander*.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores render an exact account of all the Stores, of what kind soever, now in the Magazine at *Baltimore-Town*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Oliver Whiddon* £3 15s., currency, for stocking six Muskets.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Patrick Sim* £34 1s., on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Dr. *Michael Wallace* £31 10s., on account of the Hospital.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, July 9, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Daniel Grant*, of *Baltimore-Town*, £3 for Expresses.

Ordered, That the following Advertisement be inserted in the *Maryland Gazette*:

"Wanted immediately, for the use of the Province, three thousand four hundred Canteens, Wooden Bottles, or Kegs, to hold one quart each, three thousand four hundred Knapsacks with Haversacks, and five hundred small iron Pots, or Kettles, with bales to supply the place of Camp-Kettles. Any person or persons willing to contract for supplying the same are desired to send their proposals to the Council of Safety as soon as possible.

"By order:

R. RIDGELY, Clerk."

Dr. *Richard Tootell* was appointed Surgeon to the Battalion of Militia to be stationed in the City of *Annapolis* and *Baltimore-Town*, to supply the place of Colonel *Smallwood's* Battalion; *Thomas Henry Howard* Surgeon's Mate to the said Battalion.

Commissions issued to Mr. *Robert Tyler*, appointed Colonel, *Thomas Williams* Lieutenant-Colonel, *Thomas Snowden* First Major, and *John Macgill* Second Major of the Upper Battalion of Militia in *Prince George's* County.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Henry Gaither* 29s. 4d., currency, for Thread for the publick service.

Ordered, That Colonel *Smallwood* furnish the Council of Safety with a Roll of the Troops of his Battalion which marched under a Resolve of the last session of the Convention to *Philadelphia*; also, an account of their Arms, Accoutrements, Camp Utensils, and Baggage.

That the Captains *James Hindman*, *John Allen Thomas*, and *Edward Veazey*, do the like with respect to their Companies.

That Dr. *Michael Wallace* furnish the Council, as soon as possible, with a list of the Medicine he takes with him for the use of Colonel *Smallwood's* Battalion.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Barton Lucas* £37 12s. 9d., on account of his Company.

Ordered, That *Thomas Yates* be appointed Captain of a Company of Militia to be raised in *Baltimore* County, for the Flying-Camp, in the room of Captain *Stephenson*, who resigned.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Yates* £69 15s., his First Lieutenant, *Edward Ogleby*, £46 10s., Second Lieutenant, *John Ogleby*, £46 10s., and Ensign *Joseph Lewis* £37 5s.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Charles Wallace*, Esq., Paymaster, £1,000.

Commissions issued to *John Kidd*, *John Hancock Beanes*, and *Alexander Roxburgh*, appointed First Lieutenants in Colonel *Smallwood's* Battalion of Regular Forces.

To *Hatch Dent*, *Benjamin Chambers*, *Henry Chew Gaiter*, *William Ridgely*, and *Edward Praul*, appointed Second Lieutenants.

To *Walker Muse*, appointed Third Lieutenant.

And to *Walter Brooks Coxe*, *James Furnandis*, *Peter Brown*, *John Gassaway*, and *William Courts*, appointed Ensigns of said Battalion.

Ordered, That the Resolve of Convention regulating the rank of Officers in the Flying-Camp be immediately published in the *Maryland Gazette*, and two hundred Handbills of the same printed, to be circulated through the Province.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

—  
Wednesday, July 10, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *William Sterett*, for the extra subsistence of Captain *Samuel Smith's* Company, £58 2s. 1d., common money.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *William Smallwood* £500, on account of the Continent.

Ordered, That the following Notice be given in the *Maryland Gazette*:

"Wanted, immediately, a number of Labourers. Persons applying to the Commander of the Artillery, at *Annapolis*, for that purpose, will meet with encouragement.

"By order: R. RIDGELY, Clerk Ass't."

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *John Day Scott* £10 17s. 10d., on account of his Company.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Patrick Sim* £5 13s. 11d., on account of his Company.

Copy of Letter No. 14 was sent to Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*; copy of No. 15 to *Thomas Smyth*, *Thomas Beddingfield Hands*, and *Joseph Nicholson*, Esqs.; copy of No. 16 to Brigadier-General *Buchanan*, and Colonels *Thomas Dorsey*, *Aquila Hall*, and *William Buchanan*; copy of No. 17 to *Edward Parker*, of *Cecil County*; copy of No. 18 to Mr. *Amos Garret*; copy of No. 19 to Mr. *Stephen Steward*; and copy of No. 20 to Messrs. *Archer* and *Harris*, of *Harford County*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Beriah Maybury* £5 12s. 6d., for Boat hire, to transport the Troops to the Head of *Elk*.

Copy of Letter No. 21 was sent to Mr. *Richard Dal-lam*; copy of No. 22 to Mr. *William Whetcroft*; and copy of No. 23 to Colonel *Thomas Dorsey*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *William Harrison* £200, currency, on account of Captain *Veazey's* Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Robert Reynolds*, for the use of *John Annis*, 21s. 7d., for repairing the Guard-House in *Annapolis*.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Francis Smith* £31 10s., for Leather Breeches.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

—  
Thursday, July 11, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Bennet Bussey*, - - - - - £69 15  
To First Lieutenant *Joshua Mills*, - - - - - 46 10  
To Second Lieutenant *Azel Hitchcock*, - - - - - 46 10  
To Ensign *Aquila Amos*, - - - - - 37 5  
To advance to their Recruits.

Copy of Letter No. 24 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Harford County*; copy of Letter No. 25 to Colonel *Josiah Carvell Hall*; copy of No. 26 to Captain *Edward Tillard*, and copy of No. 27 to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Cap-

tain *William Brogden* twelve pounds of Gunpowder, and Arms and Accoutrements to equip his Company.

Ordered, That Captain *James Brice* detach a Sergeant and twelve Privates of his Company to relieve the Guard at the Magazine, near Captain *James Tootell's*.

Ordered, That the Contractors for Provisions furnish Rations for such of Colonel *Josiah Carvell Hall's* Battalion of Militia as shall have passed inspection, and are at the City of *Annapolis* and *Baltimore-Town*.

Several Resolutions of the Associators of the City of *Annapolis*, of this day, were presented to the Council of Safety, by a Committee for that purpose appointed, and read.

Ordered, That the said Committee be informed that Captain *Fulford* has received orders to employ as many men for the protection of the City as can conveniently work at the Intrenchments.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

—  
Friday, July 12, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday, except Mr. *Rumsey*.

*Joseph Nicholson*, Jun., Esq., a Member of the Council, attended, and was qualified before Mr. *Jenifer*, by taking the oath prescribed by the Convention.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *Thomas Ewing* £60 on account of Captain *Daniel Bowie's* Company, £40 on account of Captain *Nathaniel Ramsey's* Company, and £10 on account of Lieutenant-Colonel *Francis Ware*.

Copy of Letter No. 28 was sent to Lieutenant-Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*, and copy of No. 29 to Mr. *Elisha Winters*, of *Chestertown*, enclosing the following Order:

"That Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth* deliver to Mr. *Elisha Winters* four hundred Bayonets, of different size sockets."

Copy of Letter No. 30 was sent to Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*, and copy of No. 31 to Mr. *Charles Ridgely*, Sen.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *Daniel Jenifer Adams* £390, to purchase Clothing for Captain *Rezin Beall's* Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *James Nicholson* £250, for the use of Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Daniel Hughes* £500, on account of his contract for Cannon.

Commission issued to *Alexander Furnival*, appointed First Lieutenant of Captain *Nathaniel Smith's* Company of Matrosses.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Nathaniel Smith* £50, on account of his Company.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Clerk £20, for Expresses, and other purposes.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Stephen Steward* £600, on account of the Row-Galleys.

Ordered, That Captain *John Kilty* and Mr. *John Ball* be requested to examine into the state and condition of any Vessels which they can learn on the *Eastern-Shore* are for sale, and report to the Committee of Safety their opinion of them respectively, their value and burden, what the owners will take for them, whether they are fast sailers, and sufficiently substantial for armed vessels.

Commission issued to *Nicholas Buxton Moore*, appointed Second Lieutenant of Captain *Nathaniel Smith's* Company of Matrosses.

Ordered, That Warrants issue, agreeable to a recommendation from the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*, to *Philip Graybill* as Captain, *John Lhora* First Lieutenant, *Christian Myers* Second Lieutenant, and *Martin Stugart* Ensign; also to *George Peter Keephart* Captain, *Samuel Gerrock* First Lieutenant, *William Ritter* Second Lieutenant, and *John Lindenberger* Ensign, of the two Companies of *Germans* to be raised in *Baltimore County*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Officers of each of the said Companies \$860, for

Bounty money, for their respective Companies, in the following proportion, to wit: To each Captain three hundred dollars, to each Lieutenant two hundred dollars, and to each Ensign one hundred and sixty dollars.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, July 13, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That copies of the Letters received from the President of the Congress, of the 8th instant, be sent to the several Committees of Observation in each County and District in this Province respectively.

*Ordered*, That Warrants issue, agreeable to the recommendation of the Committee of Observation for *Harford* County, to the following persons, to command the Rifle Company to be raised there, to wit: *Alexander Lawson Smith* Captain, *James White Hall* First Lieutenant, *William Bradford* Second Lieutenant, *Josias C. Hall* Second Lieutenant.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Smith* three hundred dollars, to the First and Second Lieutenant two hundred dollars each, and to the Ensign one hundred and sixty dollars, to be advanced as a Bounty to the said Company.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay Captain *John Allen Thomas* £50, Continental currency, to defray the expenses of his march to *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That the Paymaster advance to Captain *Thomas's* Company half a month's pay.

Copy of Letter No. 32 was sent to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Robert Tyler* march a Company out of his Battalion of Militia, to the City of *Annapolis*, by *Tuesday* evening next, and take care that they come well armed.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *Thomas Ewing* £200, on account of the lower Battalion of Militia for the Flying-Camp.

Copies of Letter No. 33, was sent to the Committees of Observation for *St. Mary's*, *Charles*, *Calvert*, and *Prince George's* Counties.

*Ordered*, That the proprietor of *Poplar-Island* immediately remove from thence the whole of the Stock, except such part thereof as are used for the purpose of tillage.

That the proprietors of *Tilghman's*, *Sharp's*, *Baron*, and *James Islands*, and also of the Islands from *Hooper's* to *Cagre's Straits*, immediately remove from them all the Stock, except such part thereof as are used for the purpose of tillage.

Adjourned till *Monday* morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, July 15, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on *Saturday*.

*John Hall*, Esq., a Member of the Council, attended, and was qualified before Mr. *Jenifer*, by taking the oath prescribed by the Convention.

Copy of Letter No. 34 was sent to Lieutenant-Colonel *Alexander Somerville*; a copy of No. 35 to Captain *Rezin Beall*; a copy of No. 36 to Brigadier-General *Dent*; and copy of No. 37 to Colonel *Richard Barnes*.

The Council contracted with *William Jacob*, of *Baltimore-Town*, for the making of double-seamed Tents at 17s. each, and single-seamed Tents at 12s. each.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to *William Jacob* all the Tenting Linen which was delivered into the Magazine by Mr. *Edward Parker*, of *Cecil County*.

Copy of Letter No. 30 was sent to Captain *John Allen Thomas*, and copy of No. 39 to Captain *James Hindman*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *John Hammond* be requested immediately to furnish three thousand feet of Plank; and that the same, if oak, be two and a half inches thick, if pine, three inches thick, for the use of the Province.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Charles Carroll*, Esq., Barrister, £6 10s., for so much

advanced to discharge *James Byn's* Account against the Province.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Oliver Whiddon* £5, for a Rifle.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Copy of Letter No. 40 was sent to Brigadier-General *Hooper*.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Elisha Riggs*, for the use of his Company, six Muskets, thirty Gun-Flints, seventy-two Cartouch-Boxes, and a quantity of Ammunition, sufficient for his Company.

That the said Commissary deliver to *Edward Timmons* six Muskets, to be repaired.

That the said Commissary deliver to *George Gordon* twelve Muskets, to be repaired.

*Ordered*, That the Contractor for Provisions furnish such of the Militia of the Flying-Camp with Rations as shall be stationed in or march to *Annapolis*.

The Council contract with Messrs. *Charles Ridgely* and *Howard* for three hundred Kettles, for the prices and on the conditions mentioned in an agreement of this day.

*Ordered*, That Captain *James Young's* Company of Militia for the Flying-Camp march immediately to *Baltimore-Town*.

*Ordered*, That the Contractor for Provisions supply the said Company with Rations.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messrs. *Selby & Howard* £3 11s. 9d., for Bayonet Sheaths furnished Captain *Sims's* Company. Also, £38 5s., for Leather Caps furnished Captain *Thomas's* Company.

*William Campbell* was appointed Second Lieutenant of Captain *Fulford's* Company of Artillery.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *William Niven* £10 of common money on account.

*Ordered*, That *James Taylor* be requested to go to *Baltimore-Town* and take the dimensions of the Carriages of the Eighteen-Pounders.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Major *Price* £17 1s. 1d.

That the said Treasurer pay to Major *Price* £48 8s. 9d., being the difference of pay directed to be paid by a Resolution of Convention on the third day of this instant.

That the Treasurer pay to *William Clayton* 12s., the amount of his Account.

That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Patrick Burk* 34s., the amount of his Account.

*Ordered*, That Major *Price* continue at *Annapolis* till the further orders of the Council.

*Ordered*, That Warrants issue, agreeable to the Recommendation of the Committee of *Frederick County*, to the following persons, to raise and command the two *German* Companies to be raised there, to wit: *William Heiser*, Captain; *Jacob Cotz*, First Lieutenant; *Adam Smith*, Second Lieutenant; *Paul Christman*, Ensign. *Henry Fisher*, Captain; *Charles Balsall*, First Lieutenant; *Michael Bayer*, Second Lieutenant; *Jacob Crummith*, Ensign.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to each of the said Captains three hundred dollars, each Lieutenant two hundred dollars, and each Ensign one hundred and sixty dollars, for Bounty money for their respective Companies.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, July 16, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *John Hurt* £4 10s. for Boat hire, in transporting Troops to the Head of *Elk*.

Copy of Letter No. 41 was sent to Captain *Nathaniel Smith*; copy of No. 42 to Colonel *James Johnson*; and copy of No. 43 to the several Committees of Observation in this Province.

The Hon. *George Plater*, Esq., Member of the Council, attended, and was qualified before Mr. *Jenifer*, by taking the oath prescribed by the Convention.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *James Brice, John Bullen, Charles Wallace, William Wilkins, Beriah Maybury, John Brice, John Campbell, Joshua Fraizer, and Allen Quynn*, or any two of them, be requested to direct from time to time, under the Commanding Officer for the time being, at the City of *Annapolis*, the labourers working on the Fortifications and Breastworks in the City of *Annapolis*, and to engage and employ such others as they shall apprehend necessary, upon such terms as they may agree.

*Ordered*, That the Contractor for Provisions furnish Captain *Yates's* Company of Militia for the Flying-Camp with Rations.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Cornelius Garretson* £4 11s., for tipping seventy-eight Bayonets.

That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Thomas Pryse* £39 12s. 10d., the amount of his Account.

*Richard Dorsey* was appointed Third Lieutenant of Captain *Nathaniel Smith's* Company of Matrosses.

*Ordered*, That the Matrosses and Militia who assist in throwing up Intrenchments in the City of *Annapolis*, be allowed an addition to their pay of 9d. per day.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to *Isaac Harris* half a faggot of Steel; also, eighty-four Muskets, to be repaired.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Copy of Letter No. 44 was sent to *Benton Harris*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Observation for *Worcester* County, and No. 45 to the several Committees of Observation on the *Eastern-Shore*.

*Ordered*, That a Warrant be made out, agreeable to a Resolution of Convention, to *Lemuel Barret*, Esquire, appointed Captain of the Rifle Company to be raised in *Frederick* County; and that Warrants be made out, agreeable to a recommendation from the Committee of Observation for *Frederick* County, to *Peter Contee Hanson*, First Lieutenant; *James Lingan*, Second Lieutenant; and *Richard Dorsey*, Third Lieutenant, of said Company.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Officers of the said Company eight hundred and sixty dollars, in the proportions herein before mentioned, for Bounty for the said Company.

That the Treasurer of the said Shore pay to *William Smyly*, for the Committee of Observation for *Worcester* County, £150, common money.

That the said Treasurer pay to *John Brice* £10 currency; the same to be deducted out of *William Nivens's* Account against the publick, for not enrolling agreeable to the Resolutions of Convention.

That the said Treasurer pay to *John Brice* £10, on account of *Thomas Wilson*.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Boone* 45s. 8d.; for a Guard out of his Company to watch the motions of the *Fowey*.

Mr. *Carroll* has leave of absence.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *James Tilghman*, Esq., £300, for the purchase of Fire-Arms, and £100 for the purchase of Blankets; the same to be lodged with the Committee of Observation for *Queen Ann's* County for those purposes.

*Ordered*, That the Company of Militia belonging to the *South-River* Battalion, now on duty in the City of *Annapolis*, be discharged.

Copies of Letter No. 46 were sent to the several Committees of Observation for the Counties on the *Western-Shore*, respectively.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, July 17, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday, except Mr. *Carroll*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Allen Quynn* £3 7s. 6d., for six and three-quarter cords of Wood for the Breastworks in the City of *Annapolis*.

That the said Treasurer pay *Daniel Coulter* 46s., on account of the Hospital.

Copy of Letter No. 47 was sent to Captain *David Craw-*

*ford*; copy of No. 48 to Brigadier-General *Dent*, or the Commanding Officer in *Saint Mary's* County; and copy of No. 49 to Mr. *Thomas Ringgold*, Mr. *Aquila Brown*, and Dr. *Ringgold*, on *Kent Island*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *George Plater*, Esq., £14 2s. 8d., for expenses attending his journey to *Somerset* County.

*Abraham Berthand* was appointed Third Lieutenant of Captain *Fulford's* Matross Company.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Observation for *Queen Ann's* County be requested immediately to provide Barracks on *Kent Island* for Captain *Dean's* Company.

That Captain *Dean's* Company of Flying-Camp Militia, as soon as they can be provided with Arms, march down to *Kent Island* for the protection thereof.

That a barrel of Gunpowder and four hundred pounds of Lead be immediately sent over to *Kent Island*, to the care of *Thomas Ringgold*, *Aquila Brown*, and Dr. *Ringgold*, for the use thereof.

That Major *Price* detach a Guard to *Kent Island* with the said Powder.

*Christopher Rabreck*, of *Baltimore-Town*, agrees with the Council to supply the Province with one thousand Priming-Wires and Brushes at 7s. 6d. per dozen, to be delivered in two weeks from this day.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Observation for *Queen Ann's* County be requested to deliver all the publick Arms in their possession to Captain *Deans*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Thomas Smyth*, Esq., £400, to defray the expenses of the carriage of warlike stores from *Chinkoteque* to *Chester-town*.

That the said Treasurer pay *Samuel Morris* £4 6s. 4d.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Samuel Messersmith* £7 1s. 9d., for mending Muskets.

Copy of Letter No. 50 was sent to *Thomas Smyth*, Esq., and No. 51 to Captains *Barnes* and *Elliot*, *Kent Island*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Henry Hall* be paid by the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* £35 14s. 8d., to discharge the pay of his Company of Militia.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, July 18, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday, except Mr. *Hall*.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores send from the Magazine near Captain *Tootell's*, to the City of *Annapolis*, four barrels of Gunpowder.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Septimus Noel* £7 10s., for Boat hire, to transport the Troops to Head of *Elk*.

*Ordered*, That three Four-Pounders, mounted on carriages, with their necessary apparatus, and a sufficient quantity of Powder and Ball, be sent down to *St. Mary's* County, and that Major *Price* be requested to provide the necessary carriages to transport the same with all convenient speed.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Hugh Hopewell* £300, for the use of the Commanding Officer in *St. Mary's* County, to supply the Militia on duty there with Provisions.

That the said Treasurer pay to Dr. *Charles Troope* £4 4s. 6d.

That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Hugh Hopewell*, for the use of Colonel *Somerville*, £50 currency.

That the said Treasurer pay to *James Taylor* £11 19s. 2d., on account of Gun-Carriages.

Copy of Letter No. 52 was sent to Colonel *Thomas Ewing*; copy of No. 53 to the Commanding Officer in *St. Mary's* County; copy of No. 54 to Lieutenant-Colonel *Somerville*; copy of No. 55 to *Charles Ridgely*, Sen.; and copy of No. 56 to Captain *Nathaniel Smith*.

*Ordered*, That the Commanding Officer in *St. Mary's* County take under his charge the Schooner lately taken from the enemy, unload her, and put her to what use he



may think best for the publick service; likewise the Sloop which is now aground, if it can be done with safety.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Josias Carvil Hall* be requested to command such of the Officers in his Battalion who have enrolled the number of men expressed in their respective Warrants, to march with their several divisions immediately to the City of *Annapolis*.

*Ordered*, That Major *Benjamin Nicholson* be requested immediately to deliver the Province Arms in his possession to the Commanding Officer of the Flying-Camp Militia at *Baltimore-Town*, or his order.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Richard Sprigg* £250, for a Schooner.

*Ordered*, That Major *Price* immediately proceed to *St. Mary's* County and take the command of the Regular Troops and Militia.

*Ordered*, That all persons between *Annapolis* and *St. Mary's* County be requested to give their aid and assistance in getting down the Cannon, Ammunition, &c., to *St. George's Island*, in the County aforesaid.

Commissions issued to *John Bullen*, appointed Captain, and *Benjamin Harwood* First Lieutenant, of an Independent Company of Militia, in *Anne-Arundel* County.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Bullen* detach a Sergeant and twelve Men of his Company to relieve the Guard at the Magazine, in the neighbourhood of Captain *James Tootell*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Samuel Price* £5 5s., for three reams of Writing Paper.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

— Friday, July 19, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday, except Mr. *Tilghman*.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Bullen* twelve Muskets and Accoutrements, with a sufficient quantity of Powder and Ball for the same.

Mr. *Hall* attended.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *William Wilkins* £300, to be applied towards defraying the expense of the Breastworks.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Philip Merony* £500, common money, to be lodged with Messrs. *John Hanson*, Jun., and *Christopher Edelen*, for the purchase of Fire-Arms.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Philip Merony* £12, for two months' services as Adjutant to Colonel *Baker Johnson's* Battalion of Militia.

Copy of Letter No. 57 was sent to Colonel *Thomas Dorsey*, and copy of No. 58 to the Honourable *John Page*, Esquire, President of the Council of the Colony of *Virginia*.

Adjourned to three o'clock, and met accordingly.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to *Edward Timmons* eighteen Muskets, to be repaired.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Edward Timmons* 22s., for repairing Arms for the Militia.

Copy of Letter No. 59 was sent to Doctor *Charles Frederick Weisenthal*; copy of No. 60 to *John West*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Observation at *Alexandria*; and copy of No. 61 to Mr. *Stephen Steward*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Thomas* immediately proceed with his Company to *St. Mary's* County, and put himself under the direction of the Commanding Officer there.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores furnish each Non-Commissioned Officer and Private of Captain *Thomas's* Company with twenty-three rounds of Cartridge with Ball.

*Ordered*, That the Contractor of Provisions furnish Captain *Thomas's* Company with two days' Rations.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to *George Gordon* twenty-four Muskets to be repaired.

*Ordered*, That the *Defence's* small tender convey Captain *Thomas's* Company to the mouth of *Patuxent*, in *St. Mary's* County.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay

to the Committee of Observation for *Charles* County £200, on account of Captain *Rezin Beall's* Company.

Copy of Letter No. 62 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Charles* County; and copy of No. 63 to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

— Saturday, July 20, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Patrick Burk* 23s. 9d., for cartage.

That the said Treasurer pay to *James Hodges* £3 15s. for expenses.

*Ordered*, That the Commissaries of Stores deliver to Captain *James Hindman* as much Osnaburgs as will make Splatterdashes for his Company; also some Cutteau Knives and Cartridges, to fill his Cartouch-Boxes.

*Ordered*, That *Isaac Harris* deliver the publick Arms in his possession to Captain *James Disney*, to be used by said *Disney's* Company during their station in *Annapolis*, or until the further order of the Council.

That *Isaac Harris* take Captain *Disney's* receipt for the same, and return it to be filed here.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *George Gordon* £5 6s. 6d., for repairing twenty-four Muskets.

That the said Treasurer pay to Mrs. *Elizabeth Man* £10, for the rent of her House for Barracks.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County deliver to the bearer thereof, *Richard Berry*, ten swivel Guns, also four brass Blunderbusses, and all the Muskets and Broadwords belonging to the publick at *Chester-town* that have been brought up *Indian River* or *Chinkoteague*; also all the Powder and Arms of every kind imported in the Brig *Friendship*, Captain *Martin* commander.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *Philemon Warfield*, £22 18s. 2d., on account of Captain *Henry Hall's* Militia Company.

*Ordered*, That £500 be lodged in the hands of Messrs. *John Hanson*, Jun., and *Christopher Edelen*, of *Frederick-Town*, for the purchasing Arms, &c., for the Flying-Camp; and that they be requested to lay out and expend the same agreeable to the instructions heretofore sent to the Committee of *Frederick* County on that subject.

Copy of Letter No. 64 was sent to Major *Henry Shryack*.

Adjourned to three o'clock, and met accordingly.

*Ordered*, That the several Militia Companies now on duty in the City of *Annapolis*, be discharged for the present.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Samuel Harris* £13, for transporting Troops to the Head of *Elk*.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Oliver Wheddon* £3 15s. for a Musket.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Elisha Riggs* £85 1s. 3d., to discharge the pay of his Militia Company.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Joshua Wilson Selby* £67 16s. 6d., to discharge the pay of his Militia Company.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Vachel Gaither* £23 0s. 8d., to discharge the pay of his Militia Company.

Adjourned till Monday morning, ten o'clock.

— Monday, July 22, 1776.

Council met. Present, the same Members as on Saturday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Clerk £30, for Expresses, and other purposes.

That the said Treasurer pay to *William Johnson* £12 2s. 6d., for making Tents.

That the said Treasurer pay to *John Denwood* £300, for the use of the Committee of Observation for *Somerset* County.

That the said Treasurer pay to *George Woolsey* £406 15s. 8d., for demurrage of the Brig *Rogers*.

Copy of Letter No. 65 was sent to Brigadier-General *Deut*; copy of No. 66 to Captain *Isaac Perkins*; and copy of No. 67 to Brigadier-General *Hooper*.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Ordered, That the Treasurer pay to Mr. *John Ball* 36s., for the use of his House for Barracks.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Jamcs West* 24s. 9d. for three hundred and ninety-six Flints.

Copy of Letter No. 68 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County, and copy of No. 69 to Mr. *Thomas Ringgold*, Mr. *Aquila Brown*, and Dr. *Ringgold*, *Kent Island*.

*Denwood Turpin* and *Solomon Ward* having been ordered up under a Guard from *Somerset* County, by the Committee of the Council of Safety, and being brought before this Board, and the Depositions taken against them having been read, and the prisoners heard in their own defence; and alleging they had offended through ignorance of the true state of publick affairs, and promising to conduct themselves better for the future, it was ordered and adjudged, that the said *Denwood Turpin* and *Solomon Ward* be conducted back again, under a Guard, to *Somerset* County, and remain in custody until they give bond in the sum of £300, currency, each, with good security, to be approved of by the Committee of Observation for said County, with condition that they do not correspond with the enemies of *American* liberty; and further, that they obey all orders of the honourable Congress and Convention; and that on giving bond, with such security, and paying all charges, they be severally discharged.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Oneas Campbell*, for the use of the Committee of Observation for the Lower District of *Frederick* County, £300, common money.

Whereas it hath been represented to the Council of Safety, by Physicians and others, that the intolerable stench arising from Slaughter-Houses, and spreading Green Hides to dry in the City of *Annapolis*, may be productive of pestilential disorders, and ill consequence to the Troops, and others residing in the said city:

Therefore, Ordered, That no Butcher, or other person, shall, after the 26th day of this instant, presume to slaughter Bullocks, Muttons, or any kind of Meat, or put up Green Hides to cure, within the limits of said city, for and during the term of three months thence next ensuing.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, July 23, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *William Niven*, for the use of Mrs. *Priscilla Pinkney*, £10 8s. 3d., for the use of her House for Barracks.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores furnish Lieutenant-Colonel *William Hyde* with what Arms and Accoutrements may be necessary to arm one Battalion of the Flying-Camp.

*Alexander McGee*, of *Baltimore* County, having been brought before this Board, in consequence of a charge exhibited against him, and a Letter written by the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County; and Mr. *William Buchanan* having been examined on oath, in support of the said charge, and fully proving the same, and the said *Alexander McGee* having been heard in his own defence, and alleging nothing material, it is ordered and adjudged, that the said *Alexander McGee* be conducted back to *Baltimore-Town* under a Guard, and there remain in custody until he give bond in the sum of £300 currency, with good security, to be approved by the Committee of Observation for said County, with condition that he do not in any manner correspond with or give intelligence to the enemies of *America*; and further, that he obey all orders of the honourable Congress and Convention; and that on giving such bond and paying all expenses of conveying him to *Annapolis* and back again, he be discharged from custody.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Copy of Letter No. 70 was sent to *John Yost*, of *Georgetown*.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores send in a Wagon to be procured for that purpose, to the Committee of Observation for *Skipton* District, in *Frederick* County, eight hundred pounds of Lead, and to the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County, eight barrels of Gunpowder.

Ordered, That Captain *James Hindman* detach a Guard with said Powder and Lead.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Doctor *Charles Alexander Warfield* £400, to enable him to carry on a Crude Nitre Manufactory.

That the said Treasurer pay Captain *Good* £500, for the purchase of Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That as soon as the enemy, which are now in *Potomack River*, leave the Colony of *Maryland*, or there appears to the Commanding Officer at *St. George's*, in *St. Mary's* County, no further occasion for detaining the Fifth Independent Company now there, that Captain *John Allen* march the said Company to the northward and join the Troops already sent from hence.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, July 24, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday. Mr. *Rumsey* attended.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *William Grayble* £100, to subsist his Company of *Germans*.

Copy of Letter No. 71 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Skipton* District.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *James Hindman* £20, to defray the expense of the carriage of eight barrels of Gunpowder and eight hundred pounds of Lead from *Annapolis* to *Frederick* County.

That the said Treasurer pay to *William Niven* £26 12s 7d., the amount of his Account.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Walter Wright* £3, for six cords of Wood.

That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Yates* £40, to be accounted for.

That said Treasurer pay to *John McFadon* £400, to enable him to carry on a Linen Manufactory.

Warrant issued to *James Howard*, appointed Second Lieutenant to Captain *Daniel Dorsey's* Company of Militia, in the room of *John Lhora*, who resigned.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, July 25, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to *Robert Lloyd Nichols*, Esq., Paymaster of the Regular Troops on the *Eastern-Shore*, £1000 currency.

Ordered, That no person whatever be permitted to embark on board any Man-of-War, Tender, or other Vessel, in order to remove out of this Colony to *Great Britain*; and that the Committees of Observation and Military Commanders see that this order be strictly executed until the meeting of the next Convention.

Ordered, That Captain *John Gunby* march with his Independent Company to *Cambridge*, in *Dorchester* County, and be stationed there according to the directions of the Committee of Observation for said County.

Also, further Ordered, That Captain *Thomas Woolford* march with his Independent Company to *Princess Ann*, in *Somerset* County, and be stationed there according to the directions of the Committee of Observation for said County.

Copy of Letter No. 72 was sent to Brigadier-General *Johnson*; copy of No. 73 to Major *Price*; copies of No. 74 to the Committees of *Dorchester* and *Somerset* Counties, respectively; copy of No. 75 to the Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq.; and copy of No. 76 to Colonel *Richard Barnes*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Samuel Barber* £12, for two months' service as Adjutant to Colonel *John Hall's* Battalion of Militia.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Mountjoy Bailey* £18 for three months' services as Adjutant to Colonel *Murdock's* Battalion.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Vincent Price* £12 for two months' services as Adjutant to Colonel *Richardson's* Battalion.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Oliver Whiddon* £3 15s. for a Musket and Bayonet.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to *William Johnson* fifteen pieces of Cruder, to be made into Tents.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Trustees, for building the new Church in the City of *Annapolis*, £42 2s. 6d., for Plank.

Ordered, That the Soldiers in this Colony who may work at the Intrenchments in the City of *Annapolis* be allowed the additional pay of 14d. per day.

Warrant issued to Mr. *Thomas Beall*, appointed Captain of the Rifle Company to be raised in *Frederick* County, in the room of *Lemuel Barrett*, who has never acted agreeable to his warrant.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

— Friday, July 26, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County £1,000 currency, for the purchase of Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That Captain *Hindman* detach one Sergeant and twelve Men to relieve the Guard at the Magazine in the neighbourhood of Captain *James Tootell*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Richard Willis* 45s.

That the said Treasurer pay to *James Royston* £4 10s. 6d.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Delahay* £3 15s.

That the Treasurer pay to Captain *James Hindman* £100, Continental money.

The Rev. *John Scott* having appeared before the Council, agreeable to his Recognizance entered into before *George Plater* and *John Hall*, Esq., in *Somerset* County,

The Memorial of *Josiah Polke*, Esq., of the County aforesaid, against the said *John Scott*, together with sundry Depositions taken at the request of each party, were read, and the allegations of both of them heard; and thereupon, the Council taking the same into consideration,

Ordered, That the Reverend *John Scott* repair to *Kent* County, on the *Eastern-Shore* of this Colony, and there remain until the next Convention, and that he have possession of the Sloop *Liberty*, purchased by him of *Peter Hubbard*, for the purpose of recovering his family and effects, if he think proper.

And further Ordered, That he appear at the next Convention to be held at the City of *Annapolis*, there to answer such matters as may be objected against him, and that he give security in the sum of £500 currency to pay due obedience to this order: And further, that he be permitted to pass through *Talbot* County to take his family from thence, and that he repair to *Chestertown* in eight days from this time.

Copy of Letter No. 78 was sent to the Deputies in Congress; copy of No. 79 to *Josias Beall*, Esq.; copy of No. 80 to *John Hanson*, Jun., Esq.; copy of No. 81 to *James Tilghman*, Esq.; and copy of No. 82 to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Colonel *William Richardson* £300 currency, to be lodged with the Committee of Observation for *Caroline* County, for the purchase of Arms and Blankets.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

— Saturday, July 27, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Dr. *Thomas Bourk* £28 6s. 8d., the amount of his Account for Medicine.

That the said Treasurer pay to *David Russell* 13s. 6d. for carting.

That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to *James Murray*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester* County, £100 currency, for the purchase of Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That the Petition of *Andrew Beall* and *William Hamilton*, of *Prince George's* County, be taken into consideration on *Monday*, the 5th of *August* next, and that a copy of the above order be sent to each party.

Copy of Letter No. 83 was sent to Mr. *Richard Dallam*; copy of No. 84 to Messrs. *Gordon* and *Patten*, of *Baltimore-Town*; and copy of No. 85 to Mr. *Gerard Hopkins*, son of *Richard*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Gerard Hopkins*, son of *Richard*, £50, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That Commissions issue to the following persons, appointed Officers of Militia Companies in *Skipton* District, in *Frederick* County, to wit: *Daniel Cresap*, Captain; *Samuel Hobbs*, First Lieutenant; *John Hench*, Second Lieutenant; *Jacob Hagle*, Ensign. *Andrew Hynes*, Captain; *Isaac Mekrakin*, First Lieutenant; *Ezekiel Cox*, Second Lieutenant; *Robert Floory*, Ensign. *Charles Clinton*, Captain; *Dickinson Simkins*, First Lieutenant; *John House*, Second Lieutenant; *John Hays*, Ensign.

And to the following persons in *Caroline* County, to wit: *John Thomas*, Captain; *John Gardiner*, First Lieutenant; *Henry Lyon*, Second Lieutenant; *Richard Estep*, Ensign, *Richard B. Mitchell*, Captain; *Peter Fernandis*, First Lieutenant; *William Barnes*, Second Lieutenant; *Charles Gardiner*, Ensign.

*Caleb Jones* appearing before this Board, in consequence of a charge exhibited against him before the Committee of Observation for *Somerset* County, and of the security there given for his appearance, and the said Committee not having transmitted the proofs on which said charge was founded,

Ordered, That said *Caleb Jones* recognize in the sum of £1,000 currency for his appearance before the Council of Safety on *Friday*, the 16th day of *August* next. Which recognizance was accordingly taken.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Bennet Bussey* £10 on account of his Company.

That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Isaac Griest* £50 for the purchase of Camp Utensils for Colonel *Josias C. Hall's* Battalion.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Mr. *Griest* ninety-two Iron Pots, seven Frying Pans, three Iron Kettles, four Skillets, and sixty Wooden Dishes.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *George Weltz* £500, to be lodged with the Committee of Observation for the Upper District of *Frederick* County, for the purchase of Arms and Blankets.

Adjourned till *Monday* morning, ten o'clock.

— Monday, July 29, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on *Saturday*, except Mr. *Plater*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay Captain *Peter Mantz* £28 15s. on account of his Company.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Henry Massey Hanson* £150, for the use of Colonel *Josias Hawkins*.

Copy of Letter No. 86 was sent to Brigadier-General *Dent*; copy of Letter No. 87 to the Deputies of this Province in Congress; copy of No. 88 to Colonel *Alexander Somerville*; copy of No. 89 to Colonel *James Kent*; and copy of No. 90 to Colonel *George Dashiell*.

Ordered, That Captain *Nathan Smith* send to the City of *Annapolis*, in the Ship *Defence*, five Eighteen-Pounders mounted on carriages, and all the Eighteen and Nineteen-Pounders not mounted.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *David Keer* £10 2s. 6d., for Vinegar for the Hospital.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *James Nicholson* £764, on account of the Ship *Defence*.

That the said Treasurer pay to Messrs. *John Hanson*, Jun., and *Christopher Edelen*, for the purchase of Arms and Blankets, £400.

That the said Treasurer pay to *William Howard* £4, for a Musket.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Walter Alexander* £500, to be lodged with the Committee of Observation for *Cecil* County, for the purchase of Arms and Blankets.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Michael Coxhenderfer*, of *Frederick County*, £300, to enable him to carry on a Stocking Manufactory.

That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to *Levi Hitch* £750, for the use of Colonel *George Dashiell*.

Ordered, That Captain *Jahn Brooke* march such of his Company as are already raised to *Drum Point*, in *Calvert County*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, July 30, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Edward Burgess* £400, for the purchase of Arms and Blankets.

That the said Treasurer pay to Messrs. *Charles Ridgely* and *Howard* £100, on account of their contract.

Ordered, That *John Yost* deliver to Captain *Edward Burgess* all the Muskets he has made for the publick.

Copy of Letter No. 91 was sent to Lieutenant-Colonel *Henry Hallingsworth*; copy of No. 92 to *Archibald Buchanan*; copy of No. 93 to Mr. *Jacob Schley*; copy of No. 94 to the Commissioners of the Gunlock Manufactory, in *Frederick-Town*; copy of No. 95 to Major *Thomas Price*; and copy of No. 96 to Brigadier-General *Chamberlaine*.

Ordered, That the Commanding Officer at the City of *Annapolis* be requested to take into his custody the body of *William Warren Clayten*, and him safely bring immediately before the Council.

Ordered, That Captain *Peter Mantz* immediately march to *Leonard-Town*, in *St. Mary's County*, and be stationed in that County, to supply the place of Captain *Jahn Allen Thomas's* Company, who are to march to the northward.

Also Ordered, That he take such station in said County as may be directed by Major *Thomas Price*, or in his absence by the Committee of Observation for said County.

And further Ordered, That the said Captain *Mantz* and his Company be furnished with Rations by the Contractor at the publick expense, and that he remain in *St. Mary's County* until the further order of this Board.

Commission issued to *Charles Greenbury Griffith*, appointed Colonel of the Battalion of Militia to be raised in *Frederick County* for the Flying-Camp, in the room of *Otho Holland Williams*, who resigned.

Commissions issued to the following persons, to command a Company for the Flying-Camp, to wit:

*Belain Pasey*, Captain, dated July 5, 1776.

*Henry Baerman*, 1st Lieutenant, dated July 16, 1776.

*Jahn Farbes*, 2d Lieutenant, dated July 17, 1776.

*Gerard Fawke*, Ensign, dated July 27, 1776.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to *Jahn Dean* thirty-one Cartouch-Boxes, sixty Gun-Slings, fourteen Iron Pots or Kettles, one bolt of *Osnaburg*, and one quire of Cartridge-Paper.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Clerk £20, for Expenses.

Copy of Letter No. 98 was sent to Mr. *Isaac Griest*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, July 31, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 99 was sent to Major *Thomas Price*; copy of No. 100 to *Thomas Jones*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Observation for *Northumberland County*, *Virginia*; and copy of No. 101 to Captain *Thomas Conway*.

Ordered, That the Commanding Officer at the City of *Annapolis* be requested to take into his custody the bodies of *William Yeldel* and a servant man at *Whitehall*, a Cooper by trade, and them safely bring before the Council.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Robert Collett* 30s., for painting Gun-Carriages.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Copy of Letter No. 102 sent to Mr. *Jashua Gilpin*, and copy of No. 103 to Mr. *Alexander McFadon*.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Peter Mantz* £50, to be accounted for.

That said Treasurer pay to *Jahn Gordon* and *Matthew Patten* £400, on account of their contract.

The Council contracted with *John Gordon* and *Matthew Patten* for the making two thousand six hundred Knapsacks and Haversacks, on the terms specified in an agreement of this day.

Ordered, That the Commanding Officer of the Schooner *Resolution* immediately proceed to *Indian Landing* with the Powder in her, and there land the same.

That Captain *James Toatell* be requested to receive at *Indian Landing*, from the Commanding Officer of the Schooner *Resolution*, fifty barrels and nine half-barrels of Gunpowder, and procure Carts at the publick expense to convey the same to the Magazine, near his house.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, August 1, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Joseph Nicholson*, Jun., Esq., £16 16s., for twenty-four days' attendance as a Member of the Council.

Commissions issued to the following Officers of Companies belonging to Colonel *James Kent's* Battalion of Militia for the Flying-Camp, to wit:

*Isaac Perkins*, Captain, dated July 5.

*Abraham Falconer*, 1st Lieutenant, dated July 5.

*Jesse Cassen*, 2d Lieutenant, dated July 4.

*James Henry*, Ensign, dated July 11, 1776.

*Greenbury Goldsborough*, Captain, dated July 19.

*Waalman Gibson*, 1st Lieutenant, dated July 27.

*John Thamas*, 2d Lieutenant, dated July 27.

*Perry Benson*, Ensign, dated July 27.

*Jashua George*, Captain, dated July 23.

*William Veazey*, third, 1st Lieutenant, dated July 16.

*Jahn Stackton*, Jun., 2d Lieutenant, dated July 20.

*Richard Bird*, Ensign, dated July 29.

Copy of Letter No. 104 was sent to Captain *George Waalsey*.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Peter Mantz* twenty-five pounds of Powder, and Lead in proportion; also three Cartouch-Boxes.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *John Hall*, Esq., £16 2s. 6d., the amount of his Account for expenses incurred in *Somerset County*, and £17 10s., for twenty-five days' attendance as a Member of the Council, to this day inclusive.

That the Treasurer aforesaid pay to *Walter Wright* £3, for guarding six men from *Cambridge* to *Annapolis*.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Sergeant *Chalmers* two barrels of Musket Powder, for the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester County*.

Council contracted with Mr. *Archibald Buchanan* for the making two Row-Galleys on the like terms of the contract with Messrs. *Galloway* and *Stewart*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, August 2, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday, except Mr. *Nicholson*.

Copy of Letter No. 105 was sent to Brigadier-General *Hooper*; copy of No. 106 to Committee of Observation for *Dorchester County*; and copy of No. 107 to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

The Council appointed *Christopher Richmond*, Esquire, Paymaster to Colonel *Smallwood's* Battalion of Regular Troops.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Benjamin Ogle*, Esq., £25 5s., for one thousand and ten pounds of Lead.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Jahn Gracc* £22 9s., for the carriage of Powder and Arms from *Philadelphia* to the Magazine near Captain *Toatell's*.

Commissions issued to the following Officers of a Company in *Kent County*, belonging to the *Eastern-Shore* Battalion of Militia, for the Flying-Camp, to wit:



*Thomas Smyth*, Jun., Captain, dated *July 9, 1776*.  
*James Williamson*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 10, 1776*.  
*Nathaniel Kinnard*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *July 20, 1776*.  
*Josiah Johnson*, Ensign, dated *July 22, 1776*.

Copy of Letter No. 108 was sent to Brigadier-General *Dent*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messrs. *Jenifer & Hooe* £500, common money.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, August 3, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 109 was sent to *Thomas Smyth* and *Thomas Ringgold*, Esqs., and copy of No. 110 to Mr. *George Scott*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Thomas Smyth* £350, for the purchase of Muskets, and £150 for the purchase of Blankets, to be expended for those purposes by the Committee of Observation for *Kent County*.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Thomas Smyth* twenty pieces of Cruder, 400 Cartouch-Boxes and Slings, 688 Bayonet-Belts, and 688 Gun-Slings.

Ordered, That Mr. *Francis Sanderson* deliver to Captain *Thomas Smyth* thirty Camp-Kettles.

*William Bartlett Townsend* was brought before the Council, and the Depositions transmitted thither by the Committee of Observation for *Worcester County*, as well as sundry Depositions produced by said *Townsend*, were read; and, after consideration of the same,

Ordered, That the said *William Bartlett Townsend* be committed to the custody of a Guard until the next Convention shall take order in the premises.

Ordered, That Captain *James Tootell* be requested to send to the City of *Annapolis* the fifty-four Muskets received from *Philadelphia* into the Magazine near his house on *Thursday*, the 1st instant.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *George Gordon* 40s., for repairing Fire-Arms.

Ordered, That *Francis Sanderson* deliver to Colonel *Thomas Ewing* thirty Camp-Kettles for the use of Captain *Posey's* and Captain *Lowe's* Companies of Militia for the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Colonel *Thomas Ewing* one hundred and seventy-two Haversacks for said Companies.

That Mr. *Isaac Griest* deliver to Colonel *Ewing* one hundred and seventy-two wooden Bottles for said Companies.

Ordered, That Colonel *Thomas Ewing* march his Battalion in detachments or Companies, as they shall be armed and accoutred, to the City of *Philadelphia*, subject to the orders of Congress.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Alexander H. Magruder* £300, for the purchase of Arms.

Ordered, That the Committee of Observation of *Baltimore County* deliver to Colonel *Ewing* eighty-four Muskets, out of those collected by them for the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to each Captain of Colonel *Ewing's* Battalion, when ready to march, ten pounds of Powder, and Ball in proportion.

*Basil Clarkson*, *Joseph Wheland*, *John Evans*, and *Robert Howrith*, were brought before the Council, in consequence of a charge exhibited against them by the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester County*, and the several Depositions transmitted by the said Committee to this Board were read, and the said prisoners heard.

Thereupon, it is Ordered, That the said *Basil Clarkson*, *Joseph Wheland*, *John Evans*, and *Robert Howrith*, be committed to the Jail of this County, under a Guard, to be appointed by Colonel *Josias Carvel Hall*, till the further order of this Board, or until the next Convention shall take order in the premises.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *John Bullen* £110, for two Horses and a Team.

That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Frederick Green* £600, for printing Bills of Credit.

Adjourned till *Monday*, 5th *August*, 1776.

Monday, August 5, 1776.

Council met. Present, the same Members as on *Saturday*.

Copy of Letter No. 111 was sent to *Jesse Hollingsworth*; copy of Letter No. 112 to Messrs. *Vanbibber & Harrison*; and copy of No. 113 to Captain *James Tootell*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *William Stone* £312, for Cannon.

That said Treasurer pay to *Hugh Hopewell* £8, for expenses.

That the said Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *George Dent*, for the Committee of Observation for *Charles County*, for the purchase of Arms, £200.

Commissions issued to the Officers of Colonel *Hall's* Battalion of Militia for the Flying-Camp, dated as follows:

*John Disney*, Captain, dated *July 13*.

*Henry Ridgely*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 13*.

*Jonathan Sellman*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *July 13*.

*Edward Spurrier*, Ensign, dated *July 13*.

*John E. Howard*, Captain, dated *July 16*.

*Thomas Lansdale*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 6*.

*William Riley*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *July 24*.

*Robert Morrow*, Ensign, dated *July 12*.

*Zachariah Maccubbin*, Captain, dated *July 20*.

*John Christie*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 24*.

*Thomas Lingan*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *August 5*.

*William Wilmot*, Ensign, dated *August 5*.

*Bennet Bussey*, Captain, dated *July 20*.

*Jos'a Mills*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 26*.

*Azel Hitchcock*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *July 24*.

*Aq. Amos*, Ensign, dated *July 19*.

*Aquila Paca*, Captain, dated *July 24*.

*J. B. Hall*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *August 5*.

*Michael Gilbert*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *August 5*.

*John Patterson*, Ensign, dated *August 5*.

*Daniel Dorsey*, Captain.

*Joseph Burgess*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 6*.

*Joseph Howard*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *August 5*.

*Michael Burgess*, Ensign, dated *July 23*.

*Edward Norwood*, Captain, dated *August 5*.

*Samuel Goodman*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 15*.

*J. W. Dorsey*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *July 18*.

*Richard Talbott*, Ensign, dated *July 12*.

*Thomas Hammond*, Captain, dated *August 5*.

*Thomas Mayo*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *August 26*.

*Jos'a Meriken*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *August 5*.

*Andrew Hammond*, Ensign, dated *August 5*.

*Thomas Yates*, Captain, dated *July 19*.

*Edward Oldham*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 20*.

*James Ogleby*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *August 5*.

*Joseph Lewis*, Ensign, dated *July 26*.

Ordered, That Captain *Yates* rank as youngest Captain of the said Battalion.

Commissions issued to *John Hawkins*, First Lieutenant, *John Nevile*, Second Lieutenant, and *Samuel Earle*, Ensign, of Captain *Dean's* Company of Militia for the Flying-Camp, dated as follows: First Lieutenant, *July 7*, Second Lieutenant, *July 18*, Ensign, *July 16*.

Also, to the following Officers of Colonel *Ewing's* Battalion:

*James Young*, Captain, dated *July 7*; *James Bond*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 12*; *John Smith*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *July 15*; *James Toole*, Ensign, dated *July 5*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, August 6, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Commissions issued to the following Officers of a Company of Militia, for the Flying-Camp, of Colonel *Charles Greenbury Griffith's* Battalion:

*Jacob Good*, Captain, dated *July 4*.

*John B. Thompson*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 15*.

*John Ghiselin*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *July 15*.

*John Smith*, Ensign, dated *July 15*.

And to the following Officers of a Company belonging to the *Eastern-Shore Battalion*:

*Walter Alexander*, Captain, dated *July 24*.

*Andrew Porter*, 1st Lieutenant.

*Harman Anhalt*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *August 3*.

*George Hamilton*, Ensign, dated *July 25*.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Mr. *Samuel Earle* one bolt of Osnaburghs, for Captain *Dean's* Company.

That the same Commissary deliver to Doctor *Richard Tootell*, a quantity of Brown Rolls sufficient to make twenty Beds for the Hospital.

Ordered, That *William Jacob*, of *Baltimore-Town*, deliver to *Samuel Dorsey* one Tent with polls, completely finished.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *James Taylor* £4 5s., for a Musket.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Robert Wood*, of *Frederick County*, £300, to enable him to erect a Slitting Mill.

Ordered, That Captain *Young*, Captain *Howard*, Captain *Bussey*, and Captain *Yates*, immediately march their Companies to *Baltimore-Town*, the three last to be stationed there as part of Colonel *Josias Carvil Hall's* Battalion, and Captain *Young* to be subject to the order of Colonel *Ewing*.

That Captain *Good's* Company proceed immediately up the Bay to the Head of *Elk*, and from thence to the City of *Philadelphia*, to join the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That Captain *Armstrong* deliver to *Henry Carey* the effects belonging to said *Carey* in his possession, that he may have an opportunity of making sale thereof, and that the Schooner, together with the boy, be retained, subject to the further order of this Board; and that the said *Carey* return thither to receive the same.

The Council contract with *Samuel Dorsey*, of *Elkridge*, for the making of Tents, double seamed, at 17s. each, and single Tents at 12s. each.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to *Samuel Dorsey* thirty pieces of Cruder and two pounds of Thread, to be made into Tents.

Copy of Letter No. 114 was sent to *Edward Parker*, and copy of No. 115 to Messrs. *Archer & Harris*.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly. Mr. *Carroll* attended.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Benjamin Rumsey*, Esq., £17 10s., for twenty-five days' attendance as a Member of the Council.

That the said Treasurer pay *Zachariah Gaither* £6, for two Muskets.

That the said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Josias Carvil Hall* £1,125, to provide necessaries for his Battalion; the same to be deducted out of their pay.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Young* £125, on account of his Company.

That the said Treasurer pay to *William Wilkins* £300, on account of the Fortifications.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Jacob Good* £75, on account of his Company.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Henry Ovelman* £15, for Wagonage.

Copy of Letter No. 116 was sent to Colonel *Ewing*, and copy of No. 117 to Mr. *Isaac Griest*.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to *Jacob Good* ten pounds of Powder, and Ball in proportion.

Ordered, That Lieutenant-Colonel *Hyde* have Arms delivered him by said Commissary, for the three Companies to be retained at *Baltimore-Town*, in proportion to what may be left for the remaining six Companies.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Lieutenant-Colonel *Hyde* £150, on account.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

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Wednesday, August 7, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday, except Mr. *Ramsey*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay

to *Charles Wallace*, Esq., Paymaster, half a month's pay, Continental currency, for Captain *John Allen Thomas's* Company.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas* £41 3s. 1d., the amount of his Account filed.

That the said Treasurer pay to Major *Thomas Price* £54 4s. 6d.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Joseph Hobbs*, Jun., £3 10s., for a Musket.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Henry Griffith* £9 10s., for fourteen Muskets.

That the said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Charles Greenbury Griffith* £600, to answer contingent expenses in marching his Battalion to *Philadelphia*.

Copy of Letter No. 118 was sent to the Deputies of this Province in Congress; copy of No. 119 to Lieutenant-Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*; copy of No. 120 to Captain *John Brook*; copy of No. 121 to the Deputies in Congress; copy of No. 122 to Captain *James Nicholson*; copy of No. 123 to Messrs. *Samuel* and *Daniel Hughes*; copy of No. 124 to Captain *Edward Tillard*; copy of No. 125 to *George Scott*, Esq.; and copy of No. 126 to Mr. *Nicols*, *Talbot County*.

The Council appointed *Henry Shryock* Lieutenant-Colonel of the *Frederick Battalion* of Militia for the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That Colonel *Charles Greenbury Griffith* march his Battalion, in detachments or companies, as they shall be armed and accoutred, to the City of *Philadelphia*, subject to the orders of Congress.

Commissions issued to the following Officers of Companies in Colonel *Griffith's* Battalion:

*John Reynolds*, Captain, dated *July 18*.

*Moses Chapline*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 24*.

*Christopher Orndorf*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *July 20*.

*Nathan Williams*, Ensign, dated *July 22*.

*Henry Hardman*, Captain, dated *July 19*.

*Daniel Shell*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 19*.

*Jonathan Morris*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *July 19*.

*John Rench*, Ensign, dated *July 19*.

*Philip Meroney*, Captain, dated

*Elisha Beall*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 27*.

*John Hellen*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *July 20*.

*William Beatty*, Jun., Ensign, dated *July 10*.

And the following Officers of a Company in the *Eastern-Shore Battalion* of Militia for the Flying-Camp:

*John Darnes*, Captain, dated *July 12*.

*Thomas Lane Emory*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July 23*.

*Samuel W. Thomas*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *July 23*.

*John Jackson*, Ensign, dated *July 23*.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Jacob Good* one Rifle.

That the said Commissary deliver to Captain *Thomas* 18 Camp-Kettles and 104 Canteens.

Ordered, That the said Commissary deliver to Colonel *Griffith* 588 Knapsacks and Haversacks, 110 Camp-Kettles, 105 Tents, 678 Priming-Wires with Brushes, 658 Canteens, 50 pounds Gunpowder and Lead in proportion, 100 Gun-Flints, and as many Cartouch-Boxes, with Slings, Bayonet-Belts, and Gun-Slings, not exceeding 588 of each, as may be necessary for his Corps.

Ordered, That *William Jacob* and *William Johnson*, of *Baltimore-Town*, or either of them, deliver to Captain *Thomas* eighteen Tents.

The Council appointed *Samuel Griffith* Quartermaster, and *Mountjoy Bailey* Adjutant, to Colonel *Griffith's* Battalion.

Commissions issued to *John Davidson* appointed First Lieutenant, *Henry Neale* Second Lieutenant, and *Robert Chesley* Third Lieutenant, of Captain *Thomas's* Independent Company of Regular Troops.

Ordered, That Lieutenant *William Campbell* deliver to Captain *Thomas* the Rifle in his possession belonging to the publick.

*William Warren Clayton* having been called before the Council and examined,

Ordered, That he recognize in the sum of £150, currency, for his good behaviour, and conforming himself to

the Resolves of the honourable the Congress and Convention.

*Ordered, also,* That he deliver to the Commissary of Stores a Musket, Bayonet, and Cartouch-Box, in his possession, belonging to the publick.

The Recognizance was accordingly taken, *James Mawe* security. Thereupon, it is

*Ordered,* That he be discharged.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, August 8, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 127 was sent to the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County.

*Ordered,* That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Major *Price* £300, to be lodged with the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County, for the purchase of Arms and Blankets.

That the said Treasurer pay to *William Lavelly* £5 11s. 1d., for one thousand and ten pounds of Bread furnished to the Hospital in *Baltimore-Town*.

That the said Treasurer pay to *John Leypold* 45s., for three days' services in examining Flour in *Baltimore-Town*.

That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Robert Cummins* £1,000.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Commissions issued to the following Officers of a Company in Colonel *Griffith's* Battalion:

*Benjamin Spyker*, Captain, dated *July* 26.

*Greenbury Gaiher*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July* 26.

*Richard Anderson*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *August* 5.

*Nicholas Seybert*, Ensign, dated *August* 5.

*Ordered,* That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., £23 2s., for thirty-three days' attendance as a Member of the Council, including this day.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, August 9, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

*Ordered,* That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *Berkit Falcon* £300, to be expended in purchasing Arms by the Committee of *Dorchester* County.

Copy of Letter No. 128 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *St. Mary's* County.

*Ordered,* That Captain *Peter Mantz* march immediately from *St. Mary's* to *Annapolis*, on his way to *Philadelphia*, and that he leave his Baggage at the mouth of *Patuxent*, where a Pilot-Boat is to be sent for the same.

*Ordered,* That Captain *Uriah Forrest* remain in *St. Mary's* County, subject to the direction of the Committee of Observation for said County, until the further orders of the Council.

*Ordered,* That Captain *Richard Berry* proceed with the Pilot-Boat under his command to the mouth of *Patuxent*, and there take on board the Baggage belonging to Captain *Peter Mantz's* Company; and that he bring with him a Nine-Pounder belonging to the publick, now at the mouth of *Patuxent River*.

Commissions issued to the following Officers of a Company of Militia for the Flying-Camp, to wit:

*Thomas Bourk*, Captain, dated *August* 2.

*Berkit Falcon*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *August* 2.

*John Lynch*, 2d Lieutenant.

*James W. Gray*, 3d Lieutenant, dated *August* 2.

Also, to *Thomas Wyn Lockerman*, 1st Lieutenant, dated *July* 17, and *Levin Handy*, 2d Lieutenant, dated *August* 2, of Captain *Potter's* Company of Militia for the Flying-Camp.

Copy of Letter No. 129 was sent to the Deputies of *Maryland* in Congress.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, August 10, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Commissions issued to *Benjamin Galloway*, appointed Captain, and *Aaron Welch*, First Lieutenant, of a Company of Militia in Colonel *John Weems's* Battalion.

*Ordered,* That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *John Yost* £50, common money, being the balance due him on his contract with the Council of Safety in *November* last.

*Ordered,* That the said Treasurer pay to said *John Yost* £400, to enable him to manufacture good substantial Muskets for the publick.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Uriah Forrest* £80, on account of his Company.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Joseph Eastman* £4 10s., for a Musket.

That the said Treasurer pay to *Christopher Rabreck* £34 19s. 2d., for ninety-three and a third dozen Priming-Wires and Brushes.

That the said Treasurer pay to *William Jacob* £14 17s. 3d., for Tent making.

Adjourned till *Monday* morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, August 12, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on *Saturday*.

*Ordered,* That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *John Parker* £3 5s., for a Musket.

That the said Treasurer pay to *John David* £13 10s., for nine days' hire of his Schooner, to transport Captain *John Allen Thomas's* Company from *St. Mary's* County to *Annapolis*.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Dean* £30, to provide subsistence for his Company; the same to be charged the Contractor.

*Ordered,* That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Colonel *Thomas Ewing*, for Captain *Young's* Company, 15 Camp-Kettles, 86 Knapsacks and Haversacks, and 86 wooden Bottles.

Copy of Letter No. 130 was sent to Colonel *Thomas Ewing*, and copy of No. 131 to Mr. *Gerrard Hopkins*, of *Baltimore-Town*.

*Ordered,* That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Edward Timmons* £3 12s. 6d., for a Musket.

That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Belain Posey* £76 6s. 6d., for Arms and Blankets, and £125 on account of his Company.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, August 13, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 132 was sent to Colonel *William Hyde*.

*Ordered,* That the Committee of Observation for *Harford* County deliver to Colonel *William Hyde* all the Muskets and Blankets in their possession belonging to the publick.

*Ordered,* That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Daniel* and *Samuel Hughes* £2,000, on account of contract, for a Cannon-Foundry.

Commission issued to *William Perry*, appointed Quartermaster to the Fourth Battalion of Militia, in the room of *Nicholas Thomas*, who resigned.

*Ordered,* That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Samuel Edmondson* £70, currency.

*Ordered,* That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Isaac Simmons* £5, for two Guns.

Captain *Campbell's* Company was commissioned.

*Ordered,* That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Henry Ridgely*, Jun., £4 10s., for a Musket and Bayonet.

*Ordered,* That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *William Waters* £175, for a Boat.

*Ordered,* That Commissary of Stores deliver to *Stephen Steward* ten Swivel-Guns, with Furniture, one-half

barrel of Cannon Powder, and six pounds Musket Powder.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, August 14, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday. Mr. Nicholson attended.

Copy of Letter No. 133 was sent to the Committee of Observation for Northumberland County, in Virginia.

Ordered, That the Western-Shore Treasurer pay to Charles Wallace £5,000, currency, on account of Salt contract.

Ordered, That Western-Shore Treasurer pay to Captain James Nicholson £100, currency, to defray the expenses of Powder imported in Virginia.

Captains Tillard, Hansan, Farrest, and Deakins's Companies, for the Flying-Camp, commissioned.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, August 15, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That Western-Shore Treasurer pay Captain John Deale £7 3s. 4d., currency, for Militia on duty on Fawey alarm.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain Abraham Simmons £7 17s. 4d., on same alarm.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain Thomas Watkins £53 17s. 6d., for his Company on duty in Annapolis.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain Richard Weems £3 11s. 4d., for his Company on duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to William Belwood £11 10s., for Boat hire.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to the Committee of Observation for Prince George's County £50, for Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That the Western-Shore Treasurer pay to Josiah Dorsey £12 5s., for Boat hire.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to George Gough £11 7s. 6d., for Boat hire.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to James Tootell £31 16s. 7d., for finding Rations for Guard at Magazine.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to William Thomas £12 5s., for Boat hire.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to David Crawford £6 1s. 8d., for carriage of Powder.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Dr. Smith Bishop £71, for Medical attendance on Captain Watkins's Company of Regular Troops.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Richard Bryan £13 18s., for amount of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain Daniel Dorsey £14 3s., for Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain James Young £75, for pay of his Company of Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel Thomas Ewing £500, on account of his Battalion.

Copy of Letter No. 134 was sent to Colonel Henry Hollingsworth.

Ordered, That Western-Shore Treasurer pay to Captain John Hammond £4 10s., for Provision, on Otter alarm.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to said Hammond 16s. 8d., balance of Account of his Company on duty, on Otter alarm.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, August 16, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That Western-Shore Treasurer pay to Captain John Gunby £4 54s. 3d., on account of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain Peter Mantz £125, currency, for advance for his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to John Brice £20, for Horse hire.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to John Pitt £16 12s. 6d., for Boat hire for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to John Pitt £73 15s., for his Look-out Boat.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain Mantz £2 4s. 7d., for balance of Account filed.

Ordered, That the Committee of Worcester County deliver to Captain John Watkins all the Muskets belonging to the publick in their possession.

Copy of Letter No. 135 was sent to Captain John Watkins; No. 136 to Tent-Makers respectively; No. 137 to Captain Dean; No. 138 to Captain Bourke.

Ordered, That Captain Darnes deliver, out of the Arms in his Company, to Captain Dean, so many as will make up the deficiency in his Company which may be occasioned by the return of Arms to those who lent them upon condition that they did not march out of the County.

Copy of Letter No. 139 sent to Committee of Dorchester County; No. 140 sent to Edward Parker; No. 141 to the Linen Manufactories; No. 142 to Jesse Hollingsworth; No. 143 to Deputies in Congress.

Ordered, That Western-Shore Treasurer pay to Major Lodowick Weltmer eight hundred dollars, on account of his German Battalion.

No. 144 to Captains Smyth and Ringgold.

Ordered, That Captain John Fulfard be empowered to purchase and provide a Scow, Boats, and Intrenching Tools, sufficient to carry on, prosecute, and complete the Fortifications at Annapolis.

No. 145 to Mr. John Gordon, of Baltimore-Town.

Ordered, That Captain John Hanson immediately march his Company to the City of Annapolis, and there apply for the further orders of the Council of Safety.

Ordered, That Captain John Brooke immediately march his Company to Drum-Point, and there take his station till further orders from the Council of Safety. And the Committee of Observation are requested to assist in borrowing Arms from the Militia, to be used by said Company whilst at that station.

Ordered, That Western-Shore Treasurer pay to Captain Robert Bowie, for use of the Committee of Prince George's County, £300, currency, for Arms and Blankets.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, August 17, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That Western-Shore Treasurer pay to Messrs. Shaw & Chisholme, £72 12s. 11d., for repairing and stocking Guns.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to James Taylor £9, for Carriage Wheels for Cannon.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel William Richardson £259 15s. 8d., for pay of Fourteenth Battalion of Militia, on duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Patrick Hanan £43 16s., for Tent Poles.

Ordered, That Western-Shore Treasurer pay to Lieutenant James Williamson, for use of Captain Thomas Smyth, £135, for pay and subsistence of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Isaac Harris £95 11s., for his services as Armourer.

Ordered, That Mr. Thomas Ringgold pay to Lieutenant James Williamson, for the use of Captain Thomas Smyth, £30, Continental currency, to defray the expenses of his march to the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That Western-Shore Treasurer pay to Colonel Hyde, for the use of—

Thomas Jones,	- - - - -	£23	9	9
Captain Rutter,	- - - - -	60	18	2
Captain Teams,	- - - - -	56	14	8
Lieutenant Parker,	- - - - -	48	15	0

for amount of their several Accounts.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel William Hyde £4 5s. 11d., currency, for expenses of Guard escorting Wagons.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Joshua Frizzy £6, for carrying Troops to Head of Elk.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain Tillard £200, on account of Arms and Blankets.



Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Simon Nicols*, for the use of Captain *Spyker*, £143 15s. 1½d., for Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Clayton* £20, for Cart hire.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Thomas*, for the use of Captain *Edward Plowden*, £53 7s. 10d., for his Company, on duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Thomas*, £39 16s. 4d., for his Company on duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Simon Nicols*, for use of Captain *Deakins*, £250, for Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Henry Sibell* £5, 4s., for boarding sick Soldiers.

Copy of Letter No. 146 was sent to Captain *Francis Deakins*.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *William Richardson* £15 8s., for his attendance as a Member of the Board of Accounts.

*John Millington*, of Captain *Hindman's* Company, permitted to go to his home, in *Talbot* County, for the recovery of his health.

Copy of Letter No. 147 was sent to Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Isaac Griest*, Quartermaster, £100, for procuring necessaries for Colonel *Hall's* Battalion.

Ordered, That the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County, be requested to deliver to Colonel *Richardson* such of the Military Stores belonging to this Province under their care, as he may require from them.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *William Richardson* £500, on account of his Battalion.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Mary Dorsey* 52s. 6d., for Wood, for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Hammond* £4 10s., for expenses in marching his Company to station.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Cornelius Mills* £37s. 6d., for three cords of Wood.

Copy of Letter No. 149 was sent to Captains *George* and *Alexander*.

Captain *Burgess's* Company commissioned.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Burgess* £125, currency, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Burgess* ten pounds Powder, and Lead equivalent, and twenty-five Gun-Flints.

Adjourned till *Monday*, ten o'clock.

Monday, August 19, 1776.

Council met. Present as on *Saturday*, except Mr. *Nicholson*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Hopkins* £10, currency.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Colonel *Hall* what Linen he may want to clothe his Battalion.

Permit granted to *John Pullen*, of Sloop *Dolphin*, to go to the *Virginia* side of the *Potomack*, and take in Tobacco or other produce, and transport the same to *Maryland*.

Commissions issued to *John Phillips*, appointed Captain, *Arthur Dashiell* First Lieutenant, *Michael Jones* Second Lieutenant, *Jonathan Huffington* Ensign, of a Company in the First Battalion of Militia. Also, to *John Dashiell*, Second Lieutenant, *William Dommick*, Ensign, of a Company in the First Battalion of Militia.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *John Dean* £37 8s. 6d., currency, for subsistence of his Company.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *John Dean* eighty-six Priming Wires and Brushes, and one hundred and fifty yards Country Linen.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *John Dean* £125, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Daniel Coulter* 40s., for attending the Hospital.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Charles Carroll*, Esq., £5 15s., for Provisions for Captain *Thomas's* Company.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *John Dean* eighty-six Gun-Slings and Bayonet Belts.

Copy of Letter No. 150 was sent to Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*; £300 for subsistence for Flying-Camp.

Copy of Letter No. 151 was sent to Committee of *Kent* County.

*James Layfield* being brought before this Board, and the Depositions taken before the Committee being read, and he being heard in his own defence:

Ordered, That he give security for his good behaviour and obeying all orders of Congress and Convention, himself in £100, and two securities in £50 each, or one good security in £100.

And not being able to give such security here,

Ordered, That the Committee of *Somerset* County be requested to take the security; and that on giving the same, he be discharged.

Ordered, That he recognize in the sum of £100, currency, for his appearance before the Committee of *Somerset* County, on or before the 10th day of *September* next.

Which was accordingly done.

Copy of Letter No. 151 was sent to Colonel *Thomas Ewing*.

Adjourned till next day.

Tuesday, August 20, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 152 was sent to Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Richard Harwood*, Jun., £3, for Militia duty, of his Company.

*Caleb Jones* having appeared before the Council of Safety, and producing several Depositions in his favour, which being read and considered:

Ordered, That he enter into recognizance, with good security, in the sum of £200, currency, each, for his good behaviour, and his paying due obedience to the orders of the honourable Continental Congress and Convention.

And the said *Caleb Jones* not having any security present,

Ordered, That he be recognized in the sum of £100, currency, for his appearance before the Committee of *Somerset* County, and that they be requested to take bond, with security and condition as above; and that on giving such bond, the said *Caleb Jones* be discharged.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Nevin & Company* £20, for advance on account hereafter.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *John Dorsey* £4 10s., for a Musket and Bayonet.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Richard Fleming* £3 5s., for a Gun.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Richard Barnes* £311 6s. 10½d., for pay of his Battalion.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, August 21, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Commanding Officer of the Fortifications in *Annapolis* get the turf necessary for the work from ground belonging to the publick, and not injure private property, if it can possibly be avoided.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Hammond* £34 2s. 3d., currency, for Muskets.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Joshua George*, for use of Committee of *Cecil* County, £500, for Arms and Blankets.

Copy of Letter No. 153 was sent to the Committee of *Kent* County; No. 154 to *Isaac Griest*; No. 155 to *John Hancock*, Esq.

Mr. *Steward* was authorized to lay out any sum not exceeding £3,000 of the money he may receive from Congress, for the purchase of Marine necessaries for the use of this State.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Joseph Brown* 50s. for a Musket.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *John Watkins* £900.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James McKenzie* £3 10s., for a Musket.

Copy of Letter No. 156 was sent to Mr. *Samuel Dorsey*.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Brigadier-General *Chamberlaine* £100 on account of Magazine.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Shireleff* 24s., for Barracks for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Ad-dison* £14 7s. 1d., for subsistence of a Company of Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Rose* £3 16s. 9d., for subsistence of part of the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Johnson* £53 11s. 4½d., for Tent-making.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, August 22, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., £7 10s., for Boat hire for part of Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Major *Ignatius Fenwick* £131 6s. 7d., for Militia on duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Johnson* £35 19s. 11½d., for amount of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Peter Rambo*, for use of *John Young*, £287 6s. 6d., for Knapsacks and Guns.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Pollard Edmondson*, for use of *Delahay* and *Robinson*, £13, for Boat hire for Flying-Camp.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, August 23, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Uriah Forrest* £64 14s. 7d., for subsistence of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Uriah Forrest*, for the use of Doctor *Reeder*, £10 9s. 6d., for attending Captain *Thomas's* Company.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Uriah Forrest*, for use of *Elias Smith*, £2 6s. 8d., for Barracks for Captain *J. A. Thomas's* Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Forrest*, for use of *Henry Sewell*, 33s., for travelling expenses for part of the Artillery Company going to *St. George's*.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Forrest*, for the use of Doctor *Robinson*, £5 6s. 6d., for attendance of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Forrest*, for use of *Francis Brooke*, 20s., for services at the Camp at *St. George's*.

Ordered, That *William Jacob* and *William Johnson*, as soon as they have a sufficient quantity of Tents for a Company, immediately send the same to *Annapolis*, and to continue to send the same in such quantities until the further orders of this Board.

Commissions issued to *Andrew Beall*, Jun., appointed Captain; *Josias Shaw*, appointed First Lieutenant; *William Ferguson*, appointed Second Lieutenant; *Joshua Wilson*, appointed Ensign, of a Company in Colonel *Tyler's* Battalion of Militia.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Belwood* £7, for Boat hire for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Jacob Kenpots* 40s., for House rent for Soldiers.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Samuel Howard*, for use of Captain *Brice*, £7 1s. 4d., for attendance at Magazine.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Thomas* £5 13s. 9d., for Boat hire for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Josiah Dorsey* £5 13s. 9d., for Boat hire for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *William Brogden* £23 2s. 8d., for his Company on duty.

Copy of Letter No. 155 was sent to Captain *Darnes*; No. 156 was sent to *Edward Parker*.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores send to Captain *Deans* eighty-six Knapsacks with Haversacks, to be returned, in case Captain *Deans* has already marched.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to the Committee of *Talbot County* £500, for the purchase of Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That a Court-Martial be held for the trial of Captain *Richard Bennett Hall*, and Lieutenants *Wright*, *Ryley*, and *Mulliken*.

That Major *Snowden* be President of said Court, and the following persons Members of the said Court: Captains *David Crawford*, *Thomas Skinner*, *R. Beall*, *Hend. Magruder*, *Josh. Selby*, *Thomas Richardson*; Lieutenants *John S. Brooke* and *Humphry Belt*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Edward Timmons* £3, for repairing Arms.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, August 24, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Mary Tiptlett* £60, for Barracks.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Benedict Edward Hall*, for use of *Amos Garrett*, £47 11s. 6d., for Bayonets and Arms.

Copy of Letter No. 156 was sent to General *Washington*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay Monsieur *Pelissier Dhugé* £7, Continental currency, for his services as a French Engineer.

Ordered, That *Elisha Winters* be requested to deliver to Captain *Darnes* forty Muskets.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Darnes* two pieces Osaburgs.

Copy of Letter No. 157 was sent to Captain *Darnes*; No. 158 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Bourke* two pieces Osaburgs.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores, at *Baltimore-Town*, deliver to Captain *Bourke* 100 Cartouch-Boxes, Gun-slings, and Bayonet-Belts, 100 Knapsacks with Haversacks, 10 pounds Powder, and Lead equivalent, 6 Camp Kettles, 18 Tents, 100 Wooden Bottles, and 25 Gun-flints.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Hammond*, Esq., £30 3s., for Plank.

Copy of Letter No. 159 was sent to Mr. *Stephen Steward*.

Ordered, That Captain *Darnes* have the Knapsacks with Haversacks sent to *Kent Island*, for the use of Captain *Dean*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Benjamin Bradford Norris*, for the use of the Committee of *Harford County*, £300, for Guns and Blankets.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Gunby* two pieces Check Linen.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *Samuel Beall* £105 2s., for amount of his Account.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Gunby* 16 Camp Kettles, 16 Tents, 90 Knapsacks with Haversacks, and 90 wooden Bottles.

*Zabdael Potter* was appointed Surgeon Assistant to Colonel *William Richardson's* Battalion for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Edward Norwood* £20 15s. 9d., for Mileage of his Company.

Copy of Letter No. 160 was sent to Commissary's Deputy at *Baltimore-Town*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Gunby* £95 16s. 2d., on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the Paymaster advance to Captain *Gunby* one month's pay, ending the 3d day of *September*, 1776.

Copy of Letter No. 161 was sent to Colonel *William Richardson*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Daniel Dorsey* 30s. 6d., for cooking for his Company.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores at *Baltimore-Town* deliver to Captain *Bracco* 40 Bayonet-Belts, 42 Cartouch-Boxes, 20 Gun-Slings, and 104 Canteens, for use of his Company. Also one bolt of Osnaburghs.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Daniel Dorsey* £5 10s., for two Guns.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Disney* £99 16s. 8d., for balance of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Gunby* £22 2s. 8d., for and on account of his Company.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *Ennalls* £365 19s. 1d., on account of Militia.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Harwood* £100, on contract for a Linen Manufactory.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Monday, August 26, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores at *Baltimore-Town* deliver to Captain *Bennett Bracco* fifteen Tents and six Camp Kettles.

Ordered, That said Commissary immediately send to *Annapolis* whatever Stores have been heretofore ordered to be sent to this place.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Major *Philip Fenwicke* £119 2s. 6d., for Militia on duty.

Ordered, That Paymaster advance to Captain *Bracco's* Company one month's pay, ending on the 3d day of September next, and half a month's pay besides.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Steward* £10, for Baggage-Wagon for the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Jacobs* £43 2s., for Tent making.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores at *Annapolis* deliver to *William Jacob* all the tenting Linen now in the Magazine, one-half whereof to be delivered to *William Johnson*.

Copy of Letter No. 162 was sent to Captain *Nicholson*; No. 163 was sent to Mr. *Samuel Dorsey*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Disney* 33s., for ten Iron Pots.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *James Disney* £9, for two Guns.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Edward Edgarly* £7 10s., for one month's pay as Adjutant.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Edward Norwood* £69 3s., for pay and account.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores at *Baltimore* deliver to Colonel *Hyde* what Hunting-Shirts he may want for his Company, and send the residue to *Annapolis*.

Ordered, That Captain *Nathaniel Smyth* be requested to deliver to Colonel *Hyde* forty Muskets.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Bracco* £61 12s. 6d., for amount of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Joshua Merriken* £5 14s., for duty of his Militia Company.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores at *Baltimore* deliver to Captain *Woolford* 98 Canteens, 98 Knapsacks with Haversacks, 18 Tents, 18 Camp-Kettles, and 98 Priming-Wires and Brushes.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Jenkins* £4 10s., for Wagon hire.

Ordered, That Paymaster advance to Captain *Woolford* one month's pay, ending the 3d September.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Woolford* half a month's pay, Continental currency.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Abel Hill* 18s., for duty in Militia.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Weems* £5 11s. 6d., for Militia on duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Lindsay* £7 10s. 6d., for Militia on duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Brigadier-General *Beall* £112 4s. 11d., for and on account of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Major *Thomas Snowden* £75 16s. 8d., for Gun-Carriages.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, August 27, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

*John Hanson Briscoe* appointed Surgeon to the seven Independent Companies.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Abraham Bonham* £21 19s., on account of subsistence of Flying-Camp.

*Daniel Jenifer* appointed Surgeon Assistant to Doctor *Briscoe*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John C. Lindsay* £14 11s. 8d., for subsistence of Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *John Watkins* £6 3s. 2d., for Militia duty.

*Daniel Jenifer Adams* was commissioned as Brigade-Major to General *Beall*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Dr. *Briscoe* £20, to purchase a set of Surgical Instruments.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Norwood* £4 12s. 6d., for Drum and Fife.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Jos. C. Hall* £77 10s., for pay of Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Colonel *Hall* twenty Tents; and the Committees of the several Counties are requested to deliver all the Blankets they have purchased for the use of the publick.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *Hyde* £45, for pay.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Park* £3 10s., for a Gun.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to General *Beall* £45 0s. 1d., for balance of Account.

Ordered, That the Board of Accounts allow and pass General *Beall's* Account.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Thomas Howard* £11 2s. 11d., for pay and subsistence as Surgeon's Assistant.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Woolford* £47 6s., currency.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores exchange with Captain *Hanson* 40 Guns, 86 Cartouch-Boxes, Belts, and Slings, Priming-Wires and Knapsacks, 16 Tents, and 16 Camp-Kettles.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Thomas Mayo* £3 18s. 6d., for Militia on duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Daniel Dorsey* £80 13s. 11d., for and on account of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Aquila Paca* £93 4s. 9d., for and on account of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *J. C. Hall* £5, for a Rifle.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Robert Bowie* £19 15s. 10d., on account of Company.

Ordered, That Colonel *Hall* be requested to march his Battalion with all convenient speed to *Philadelphia*, subject to the orders of Congress.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, August 28, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday. Mr. *Nicholson* attended.

Ordered, That *Elisha Winters* be requested to deliver to Captain *Greenbury Goldsborough* twenty Muskets.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Charles Carroll, Esq.*, for use and by order of *William Nevin*, £27, currency.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Shellman* £6 17s., for subsistence of Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Green* £6 2s. 4d., for Sponges and other things for Cannon.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Messrs. *Craik & Jenifer* £96 16s., for attendance on Captain *Beall's* Company.

Ordered, That if Mr. *Bruff* can repair and make fit for service seventy of the best Guns deposited in his hands for that purpose by the Committee of *Talbot* County, within eight days after the receipt of this order, he do the same; but in case he cannot repair and render them fit for service by that time, he deliver them immediately to Captain *Goldsborough*, who will have them expeditiously repaired by *Elisha Winters*, in *Chester-Town*.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Greenbury Goldsborough* £40, for subsistence of his Company.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Hammond* £88 4s. 9d., for Guns.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Christopher Edelin*, for the use of the Committee of Observation for *Fredrick* County, £250, for use of Prisoners.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Goldsborough*, for use of Flying-Camp Militia on the *Eastern-Shore*, two hundred and fifty Knapsacks with Haversacks.

Copy of Letter No. 164 was sent to *John Hanson*, Esq.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Major *Elijah Robinson* £8 18s. 9d., for Provisions at *Otter* alarm.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Allen Quynn* 13s. 9d., for Cartage of Wood for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Benjamin Ogle*, Esq., £35 5s., for Cartage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Parran* £3 15s., for Boat hire.

Ordered, That Messrs. *Shaw & Chisholme* deliver to *Elisha Winters* six pounds wrought Wire for Gunstocking.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Christian Librant* 50s., for Wagonage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Tuck* £3 10s., for a Gun.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to the Clerk £20, for Expresses.

*David Murrow* appointed Surgeon to Colonel *Hall's* Battalion, and *William Annin* Assistant Surgeon.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Z. Mac-cubbin* £76 14s., for amount of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Joseph Earle*, Esq., for use of Captain *Isaac Perkins*, £100, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Elenor Kirby* 15s., for attending at the Hospital.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, August 29, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Jacob Bond* £3 10s., for a Blunderbuss.

Ordered, That Captain *Maybury* and *Joseph Middleton* be requested to value the Vessels engaged to go for Coal to *Virginia*, and report to the Council of Safety an estimate of their real value.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Kilty* and *John Ball* £22 9s. 6d., for going to the *Eastern-Shore*.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Ennalls* £106 7s. 6d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Ennalls* £16 2s., for Militia on duty.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *John Deaver*, for use of Mr. *Goldsmith*, £55 5s. 6d., for Militia on duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Manyard* 18s. 6d., for Barracks for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Cornelius Mills* £7 10s., for one month's pay as Adjutant.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Behwood* £5, for Boat hire.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Zachariah Maccubbin* £7 17s., for two Muskets and Bayonets.

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Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Hanson* £119 13s. 10d., for balance of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Hugh Hopewell* £6, for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Hammond* £138 3s. 4d., for balance of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Hugh Hopewell* £6 15s., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Tilghman*, Esq., £21 14s., for thirty-one days' attendance in Council of Safety.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, August 30, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Daniel Richardson* £20, for Boatage.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Major *John Cradock* £25, for pay and subsistence.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Thomas* £4 10s., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Alexander Howard Magruder* £35 7s. 1d., for and on account of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Oliver Whiddon* £2 17s. 8d., for repairing Guns.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores at *Annapolis* deliver to Captain *Magruder* 64 Cartouch-Boxes, 62 Gun-Slings, 53 Knapsacks, with Haversacks, 8 Camp-Kettles, and 20 Hunting-Shirts.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Richard Berry* £150, Continental currency, to procure Coals from *Virginia*.

Permit was granted to Mr. *Richard Berry* to go to the Commonwealth of *Virginia* for Coal for the use of this State.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John King* £4 7s. 6d., for Expresses for Congress.

Copy of Letter No. 165 was sent to the Committee of *Charles* County; No. 166 to Mr. *Robert Berry*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Wilkins* £300, on account of the Fortifications at *Annapolis*.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Henry Dennis* £8, for being Adjutant to the Twenty-Eighth Battalion.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Messrs. *Jenifer* and *Hooe* £1,074 6s. 9d., for amount of their Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *John E. Howard* £53 19s. 5d., for balance of his Account to this day.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, August 31, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday, except Mr. *Carroll*.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Dr. *John Hindman* £3 11s. 6d., for attending Captain *Goldsborough's* Company of Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Dr. *Hindman* £12 13s. 6d., for attending Captain *Hindman's* Company.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay Captain *Alexander H. Magruder* £100, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Robert Martin* £12 7s. 6d., for Boat hire.

Ordered, That Brigadier-General *Chamberlaine* be requested, and he is hereby empowered, to hire a Sergeant and eight Men for guarding the Magazine on the *Eastern-Shore*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *Jeremiah Jordan* £353 7s. 1d., for Militia on duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Timothy Bowes* £2 13s., for amount of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Boyd* £8 2s. 6d., for Bayonets.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Darnes* £345 1s. 6d., for and on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Nicholas Har-*



wood 28s., for two days' attendance as Assistant Clerk in the Council of Safety.

*Ordered*, That said Treasurer pay to *John Johnson* £9 2s., for thirteen days' attendance in Council of Safety as Assistant Clerk.

#### NORTH-CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Monday, July 8, 1776.

Met according to adjournment on the 5th instant.

*Thomas Jones*, Esq., one of the Members for the District of *Edenton*, appeared, subscribed the Test, and took his seat accordingly.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, July 9, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That three tons of Powder be sent from the Brigades of *Edenton*, *Halifax*, and *Newbern*, to *Wilmington*, to be sent from thence to *Charlestown*; and that General *Vail* and General *Jones* see the two tons ordered from their Brigades sent off, and that the Committee of the Town of *Newbern* send the ton from that Brigade to *Wilmington*.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Wednesday, July 10, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Judges of the Courts of Justice for hearing and determining Maritime matters, at the Ports of *Edenton*, *Bath*, *Newbern*, and *Wilmington*, shall, before they enter upon the execution of their respective offices, take the following Oath, to wit:

"I, A B, do swear, upon the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, that I will, in all cases which may come before me as Judge of the Court of Justice for hearing and determining maritime matters, at the Port of \_\_\_\_\_, execute the said office with integrity, impartially, and according to the best of my skill and ability. So help me *God*."

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Thursday, July 11, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Whereas this Council have received certain information that many persons within this Province, inimical to the liberties of *America*, have offered larger sums of the Bills of Credit emitted by the Congresses held at *Hillsborough* and *Halifax*, than at the rate of eight Shillings in exchange for *Spanish* milled Dollars; and also that many persons, equally disaffected, have asked and demanded in payment for articles of merchandise, higher prices when to be paid in said Bills of Credit than they have for the same articles when to be paid for in Proclamation Money, debenture Bills, or in Gold or Silver, with a manifest intention to depreciate and undervalue the said Dollar Bills of Credit, emitted for the express purpose of securing and defending the lives, liberties, and properties of the good people of this Province:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the Committees of the several Counties and Towns in this Province do immediately call on every such person within their respective Towns and Counties, and on proper proof being made thereof, to cause such person or persons to render an inventory, on oath, of all and singular their Real and Personal Estate; and in case of neglect or refusal, they do direct the Commanding Officer of the County forthwith to cause such suspected person or persons to be apprehended and sent to this Board.

Whereas it appears that the Salt Works directed by the Congress to be established in this Province will not furnish a sufficient quantity of that necessary article for the consumption of the inhabitants thereof; and it being requisite that other Works be erected for that purpose, and Mr. *Richard Blackledge* being willing and desirous of undertaking a Salt Work, exclusive of the other Commissioners:

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Richard Blackledge* be allowed at the rate of 20s. per day for every day he shall attend the said Works himself, or by some skillful person, to commence from the time he shall begin to erect said Works.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to the said *Richard Blackledge* the sum of £500, to enable

*Ordered*, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Yates* £85 4s. 9d., for balance of his Account.

*Ordered*, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Bussey* 37s. 6d., balance of his Account.

Adjourned till Monday, ten o'clock.

him to erect and carry on said Salt Works, he first giving bond with security in the sum of £1,000 for the faithful discharge of the trust hereby reposed in him, and for the due application of the money hereby granted; and be allowed the same in their accounts with the publick.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, July 12, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That Captain *James Middleton*, Captain *James Nixon*, Captain *John Robinson*, Captain *William Evans*, and Captain *Henry Toomer*, who lately commanded Companies of Militia in the County of *New-Hanover*, do, within two months from the date hereof, return, on oath, to this Board, lists of their respective Companies, containing the number of Officers and Men under their command, together with the time each continued in service.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of *John Simpson*, Esq., for the use of the publick, £3,000, to be applied by this Board in defraying such publick contingencies as may happen during the sitting of the Council of Safety at *Halifax*; and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, July 12, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Saturday, July 13, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Sunday, July 14, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, July 15, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

It appearing to the Council that the Rev. *George Micklejohn*, of *Orange* County, has not, agreeable to the Resolve of the Provincial Congress, removed himself into the County of *Perquimans*, in that part of the said County on the south side of the river, which he ought to have done, in pursuance of the said resolve, within fourteen days after the passing thereof; for which disobedience,

It is *Resolved*, That the said *George Micklejohn* be immediately removed into the said County, at his own expense, in order to carry into execution the said resolve of Congress; and that the Commanding Officer of the Second Regiment of the County of *Orange* see this resolve carried into effect.

*Resolved*, That the following persons be appointed Commissioners, viz: Mr. *Francis Brice*, at the Town of *Wilmington*; Mr. *John Green*, at the Town of *Newbern*; *Robert Hardy*, Esq., at the Town of *Edenton*; *Thomas Respass*, Sen., Esq., at the Town of *Bath*: to purchase within their several districts Gunpowder, Lead, and Cannon Ball, Sail Duck, Osnaburghs, coarse Linens, coarse Cloths, Blankets, Shoes, and Leather, for the use of the Continental Troops stationed in this Province, and make a just return of the purchases made by them to this Council; and that each of the said Commissioners are hereby empowered to draw on either of the Treasurers for the sum of £1,000, first giving bond, with good and sufficient security, in the sum of £2,000, to the Hon. *Samuel Johnston*, Esq., President of the Congress, and his successors in office, for the faithful application of such moneys; and that they render a true and just account to the Provincial Congress; and also, that they produce to such Treasurer the bond, properly executed, before any money is advanced by him.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, July 16, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to Captain *John Forster* the sum of £500, for so much by him advanced for the use of the publick, to be accounted for in the settlement of his Accounts; and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to *Nicholas Long*, Esq., Deputy Quartermaster-General, the sum of £600, for so much by him advanced for the use of the publick, to be accounted for in the settlement of his Accounts; and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

The Council adjourned to the Town of *Halifax*, in the County of *Halifax*.

Halifax, July 21, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

It appearing to the Council that there is an absolute necessity for placing in the hands of *Matthew Lock*, Esq., a sum of money, to pay off the Militia in the *Salisbury* Brigade,

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to *Matthew Lock*, Esq., Paymaster to the *Salisbury* Brigade, the sum of £3,000, to be hereafter accounted for; and that they be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to *Matthew Lock*, Esq., Paymaster to the *Salisbury* Brigade, a further sum of £2,000, to be hereafter accounted for; and that they be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Robert Rowan* or *Mr. Peter Mallet*, or either of them, their factors, agents, or clerks, at *Cross Creek*, do deliver to the Commissaries of the *Salisbury* District, three hundred bushels of Salt, such Commissaries first producing an order from under the hand of Brigadier-General *Rutherford*, before any of the said Salt is delivered to them.

Brigadier-General *Person*, one of the Members of the Council of Safety, appeared, and took his seat.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, July 22, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Continental Congress having, on the 4th day of *July* last, declared the Thirteen *United Colonies* free and independent States:

*Resolved*, That the Committees of the respective Towns and Counties in this Colony, on receiving the said Declaration, do cause the same to be proclaimed in the most publick manner, in order that the good people of this Colony may be fully informed thereof.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, July 23, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Person* immediately furnish forth five hundred Men, properly armed and accoutred, from the *Hillsborough* Brigade, and that Colonel *Joseph Taylor* have the command of the same; and that he march with the Troops with all expedition to the Western frontiers, and join Brigadier-General *Rutherford*.

The Council being informed that *William Miller* and *Andrew Wilson*, (the former in close confinement, the latter on his parole,) in *Halifax*, are dangerous persons to the liberties of this country; and it being necessary that they should be immediately separated:

*Resolved*, That *William Miller* be sent to the County of *Johnston* on his parole, within three miles of the Court-House, and that he appear at the house of *Mr. John Smith* once every day; *Andrew Wilson* to the Town of *Hillsborough*, on his parole, within the limits of that Town; and that he appear once every day at the house of *Mr. William Courtney*; and that the Commanding Officer of the County of *Halifax* see this resolution faithfully carried into execution.

*Resolved*, That *William Clarke*, who was ordered by the Congress to remove himself to the Town of *Nixonton*, and remain on his parole within the limits of the said Town, have his parole extended to the County of *Pasquotank*, and there

to remain, unless it shall be otherwise ordered by this Council or the Congress.

The Council received from *James Pamplin*, in three wagons from *Virginia*, two tons of Gunpowder and one barrel of *Jesuits' Bark*.

*Resolved*, That twelve hundred and twenty-two weight of Gunpowder be immediately sent off from this place for the District of *Salisbury*; that two hundred and twenty-two weight of which be left at *Hillsborough*, to replace that quantity sent by Doctor *Burk* to General *Rutherford*; the remaining one thousand weight to be forwarded by General *Person* to the District of *Salisbury*; and that four hundred weight be also sent to *Hillsborough*, for the use of that District, to be disposed of as Brigadier-General *Person* may direct.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Wednesday, July 24, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Thursday, July 25, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Whereas the Representatives of the *United States of America*, in Congress assembled, at *Philadelphia*, on the 4th day of *July* last, declared the Thirteen *United Colonies* free and independent States, and that the good people thereof were absolved from all allegiance to the *British Crown*; and that the said Declaration renders the Test, as directed to be subscribed by the late Congress at *Halifax*, improper and nugatory:

*Resolved*, That a Test, as follows, be substituted in lieu thereof, and subscribed by the Members of this Board:

We, the subscribers, do solemnly profess, testify, and declare, that we do absolutely believe that neither the Parliament of *Great Britain*, nor any member or constituent branch thereof, hath a right to impose taxes upon these Colonies, to regulate the internal police thereof; and that all attempts, by fraud or force, to establish and exercise such claims and powers are violations of the peace and security of the people, and ought to be resisted to the utmost; and that the people of this Province, singly and collectively, are bound by the Acts and Resolutions of the Continental and Provincial Congresses, because in both they are freely represented by persons chosen by themselves; and we do solemnly and sincerely promise and engage, under the sanction of virtue, honour, and the sacred love of liberty and our country, to maintain and support all and every the Acts, Resolutions, and Regulations, of the said Continental and Provincial Congresses, to the utmost of our power and abilities. In testimony whereof, we have hereto set our hands, at *Halifax*, this 24th day of *July*, 1776.

CORNS. HARNETT,	JOHN SIMPSON,
WILLIE JONES,	JOS. JNO. WILLIAMS,
THOS. PERSON,	THOS. JONES,
WHITMILL HILL,	JAMES COOR.
THOMAS EATON,	

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Board be given to Brigadier-General *Ashe* and the Officers and Soldiers under his command, who so readily and spiritedly assisted in quelling the late unhappy mutiny among the Regular Troops in *Wilmington*.

*Resolved*, That *John Hunter*, Jun., be immediately sent off to the Town of *Martinborough*, there to remain on his parole within the limits of the said Town, and that the Commanding Officer of the County of *Halifax* see this Resolution carried into execution.

*Resolved*, further, That the said *Hunter* appear once every day at the house of *Mr. George Falconer*, between the hours of six and twelve o'clock, in the Town aforesaid; in default of which, (sickness excepted,) and in case he shall break the limits aforesaid, *Mr. George Falconer* is hereby required to send the said *Hunter* immediately to *Halifax* Jail.

In order to encourage the importation of common Salt, an article essentially necessary and greatly wanted in this Colony:

*Resolved*, That all known friends to the *American* Independency will, on application to this Board, be permitted to

export any kind of Staves or Heading, first entering into bond, with sufficient security, to import in return Salt, Arms, Ammunition, and other warlike stores, to the full amount of the net proceeds of such Staves and Heading.

Whereas it is absolutely necessary to prevent, as far as possible, all kinds of forestalling and imposition on the inhabitants of this Colony in the article of common Salt:

*Resolved*, That for the future no retailer of Salt shall be permitted to receive more than twenty-five per cent. on the prime cost for any Salt purchased in this Colony, and that the Committees of the respective Counties and Towns see that this Resolve be strictly observed, and send under guard to this Board every person who shall presume to take or receive a greater advance than is hereby allowed and permitted for Salt purchased in this Colony as aforesaid.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, July 26, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Whereas it is necessary that the directions of the Congress respecting Exportation, be fully and strictly observed:

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners of the different Ports do receive from the Captains of all Vessels, on oath, a Manifest of their Cargo, before they grant any clearance or permit to leave this Colony; and that the Commanders of the Armed Vessels, the Companies of Militia on the sea-coast, and of the different Forts in this Colony, are hereby empowered and required to stop and detain all Vessels, and prevent their leaving this Colony until they produce proper clearances from the Commissioners of the Ports of *Edenton*, *Bath*, *Newbern*, or *Wilmington*.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Folsome* deliver to Brigadier-General *Person* one hundred bushels of Salt from *Cross-Creek*, out of the quantity intended for *Granville* County.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Neilson*, master and owner of the Brigantine *Polly*, be permitted to export to some Port in *Spain* and *Portugal* the following articles, to wit: sixty thousand pipe Staves, four thousand five hundred hogshead Staves, three thousand weight of Beeswax, and twenty barrels of Turpentine, he having entered into bond, with security, in the sum of £5,000, to import into this Province the net proceeds of the Staves above mentioned, in Salt, Arms, Ammunition, and other warlike stores.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Saturday, July 27, 1776.

Met according to adjournment:

Whereas *Robert Neilson*, master and owner of the Brig *Polly*, in the Port of *Edenton*, hath agreed to import into this Colony a quantity of Salt, Arms, and Ammunition, and hath given bond and sufficient security to perform the same within eight months from the date hereof:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Commissioners of the Port of *Edenton* to suffer the said Brig *Polly*, with her cargo, consisting of sixty thousand pipe, and four thousand five hundred hogshead Staves, three thousand weight of Beeswax, and twenty barrels of Turpentine, to depart this Province for some of the Ports belonging to the Kingdom of *Portugal* or *Spain*, for the purposes aforesaid.

Brigadier-General *Person*, one of the Managers of the Iron Works in this Colony, produced to this Council their Report on the same; also, a Deed and Trust in behalf of the publick, and a Bond from *Wilcocks* and *England*; which were approved, and ordered to be filed.

*Ordered*, That *William Turner* be immediately committed to Jail for passing Counterfeit Money.

*Ordered*, That *Jonathan Carpenter*, *William Carpenter*, and *Benjamin Carpenter*, be committed to Jail till further orders from this Council, they being strongly suspected of passing Counterfeit Money.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Commissioners for superintending the Iron Works in this Province, to pay to Mr. *James Mills* £6 15s., for his expenses nine days in attending the Council and making report with respect to the said Works.

Whereas there appears to have been no Paymaster appointed to the Independent Companies on the sea-coast in this Colony:

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Easton*, of *Carteret* County, is hereby appointed Paymaster to the two Independent Companies commanded by Captain *James Anderson* and Captain *Enoch Ward*, in the District of *Newbern*; and that *Richard Caswell*, Esq., Treasurer for the Southern District in this Colony, do, on receiving bond and security in the sum of £5,000, payable to the Hon. *Samuel Johnston*, Esq., President, and his successors, pay into the hands of the said *John Easton*, Esq., the sum of £1,000, Proclamation Money, for the purposes aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That *Richard Caswell*, Esq., Treasurer of the Southern District, do, on receiving bond and security for faithfully accounting for the same, pay into the hands of Captain *James Anderson* the sum of £200, for the purpose of procuring good and sufficient Guns, Drums, and Colours, for the use of his Independent Company, on the sea-coast in this Colony.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Richard Cogdell* do furnish from the Magazine in *Newbern*, to Captain *James Anderson*, fifty weight of Gunpowder, and one hundred weight of Lead, for the use of his Independent Company.

*Resolved*, That Captain *James Anderson*, who commands the Independent Company stationed at *Occacock*, do, as soon as possible, send an Officer, with a sufficient number of men under his command, to *Cape Hatteras* Banks, and to remove three pieces of iron Ordnance over the said Banks to *Pamlico Sound*, and to transport the Cannon from thence to *South Key*, on *Black Water*, and there deliver the same to the *Virginia* Commissioners appointed by the Convention of that Colony to build and fit out two Gallies for the protection of the trade of *Occacock*; and that all the expense attending the hiring of carriages, &c., will be paid by this Colony.

The Continental Congress having, on the fourth day of this instant, *July*, declared the Thirteen *United Colonies* of *America* free and independent States:

*Resolved*, That *Thursday*, the first day of *August* next, be set apart for proclaiming the said Declaration, at the Court-House in the Town of *Halifax*. The Freeholders and Inhabitants of the County of *Halifax* are requested to give their attendance at the time and place aforesaid.

*Ordered*, That the Council of Safety leave this Town next *Friday* week, for some interior part of this Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Sunday, July 28, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, July 29, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Christopher Dudley* do immediately deliver, out of the Magazine in the Town of *Halifax*, to *William Sheppard*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of the County of *Surry*, one hundred and fifty pounds of Gunpowder, for the use of the said County, and take his receipt for the same; and which the said Committee must account for to the next Congress.

*Resolved*, That *Matthew Lock*, Esq., do furnish the Committee of *Surry* County with five hundred weight of Lead, out of the quantity he may receive from the Managers of *Chiswell's* Mines; to be accounted for to the publick by the said Committee.

Whereas, by a Resolution of the Continental Congress, entered into on the 24th day of *June* last, with respect to Treason, as also one other Resolution, entered into on the 26th day of the same month, giving a Bounty to non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers who may be willing to enlist into the Continental service for the term of three years, have been transmitted to this Council:

*Resolved*, That copies of the same be immediately sent to the respective Counties and Towns in this Colony, to be made publick.

*Stephen Scarborough*, of *Wake* County, being brought before this Council for passing Counterfeit Money, was examined, and committed to *Halifax* Jail.

*Stephen Scarborough* having deposed on oath that he received a quantity of Counterfeit Money, which was found

upon him, of a certain *William Harrel*, living in *Wake* County,

*Resolved*, That *John Cook*, of *Bute* County, be, and he is hereby, directed to apprehend and bring the said *William Harrel* immediately before this Board; and the said *John Cook* is hereby empowered to take with him such assistance as he may think necessary to carry this order into execution.

*Resolved*, also, That the said *John Cook* be, and he is hereby, directed to search the said *Harrel's* house, his desks, chests, &c., for Counterfeit Money.

The Council, taking into consideration the requisition of *John Page*, President of the Council of State in the Colony of *Virginia*, of three hundred Men to join the *Virginia* armament, destined against the *Overhill Cherokees*:

*Resolved*, That General *Rutherford* be, and he is hereby, directed to order three hundred Men, from the District of *Salisbury*, to march with all possible expedition to *Stal-nacker's*, on *Holstein River*, to act in concert with the *Virginia* forces against the *Overhill Cherokees*.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, July 30, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That *Benjamin Sherwood* be immediately sent for and brought before this Board, to give testimony against sundry persons to be examined respecting Counterfeit Money; and that *John Geddy* see this resolve carried into execution.

The Council being of opinion that *Shadrach Kennebrew*, on his examination respecting persons concerned in making and passing Counterfeit Money, has given testimony of the greatest importance, and with great candour and ingenuity discovered all he knew:

*Resolved*, That the said *Kennebrew*, for the reasons above mentioned, ought not to be prosecuted for the part which he has taken in passing Counterfeit Money, but that it be recommended to the Congress to admit him an evidence for the Province against other offenders.

*Resolved*, That *Lewis Williamson*, *Ananias Randle*, *Howel Edmunds*, *Michael Harris*, *Benjamin De Berry*, *Benjamin Branch*, *James Sikes*, and *Jacob Kinnebrew*, be immediately committed to the Jail of *Halifax* for further examination.

*Resolved*, That the Colonel of *Dobbs* County do take an inventory of the Estate of *Thomas Harrison*, who has been suspected of being an enemy to this Colony; and that he keep the said *Harrison* in custody until he pay the expense of bringing him to this Council, and give security in the sum of £500, payable to the President of the Congress and his successors, for his future good behaviour.

*Resolved*, That the Colonel of the County of *Dobbs* do take an inventory of the Estate of *William Taylor*, who has been an enemy to this Colony, and that he keep the said *Taylor* in custody until he pay the expense of bringing him to this Council, and give security in the sum of £150, payable to the President of the Congress and his successors, for his future good behaviour.

This Council having received information from the Committee of the County of *Surry* that *Michael Henderson*, present Ranger, has been guilty of malpractices in that office,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Snead*, Major *Joseph Winston*, and Mr. *Paul Patrick*, be appointed Rangers in the said County of *Surry*, in the room and stead of the said *Michael Henderson*.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Wednesday, July 31, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Joel Lane*, Commissioner for the County of *Wake*, be empowered to receive one hundred bushels of Salt out of that taken by the Court-Martial heretofore held at *Cross Creek*, and the Commissioners, or in their absence Colonel *Folesome*, deliver the same, and that Colonel *Lane* distribute the same in the most equitable manner amongst the Officers and Soldiers who turned out in the late expedition to *Moore's Creek*; and that *Samuel Smith*, of *Granville* County, be empowered to receive one hundred bushels, and distribute the same in like manner.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Thursday, August 1, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Gale* or *William Calvert* be appointed to the command of the Brigantine *Betsey*, now lying in *Edenton Bay*, and laden with a cargo of Tobacco on the Continental account, and bound on a voyage to *Europe*; and should they both refuse to take the command of the said Brigantine, in that case the Committee of the Town of *Edenton* be empowered to appoint some person well skilled in the art of navigation, and who is a known friend to the *American* independency, to the command of the said Brigantine *Betsey*.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Smith*, Esq., of *Edenton*, be permitted to export to any of the *French* or *Neutral* Islands in the Sloop *Betsey*, *James Ferguson*, master, the following articles, to wit: twenty thousand hogshead Staves and Heading, he having entered into bond, with security, in the sum of £1,000, to import into this Province the net proceeds of the Staves above-mentioned in Salt, Arms, Ammunition, and other warlike stores.

*Resolved*, That *Henry Montfort* be allowed an additional sum of £80, for four hundred weight of Powder imported into this Province and sold to *Samuel Johnston*, Esq., for the use of this Province; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That the Sheriff of *Halifax* County do, on receiving a certificate from Mr. *Willie Jones* or *Joseph John Williams*, that *James Lowe*, now a prisoner in the Jail of the said County, hath given bond and security in the sum of £100 for his future good behaviour, release and discharge him from the said Jail.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Collins*, now confined to *Halifax Town* on parole, be discharged therefrom, on giving security in the sum of £500 to the Council for his future good behaviour; and to this end that he have leave to go home, on condition that he appear before this Board in thirty days from this time, with his securities, or failing thereof, return again to *Halifax* on parole as before.

Whereas there appears to have been no Paymaster appointed to the Independent Companies on the sea-coast in this Colony:

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Samuel Jarvis*, of *Currituck* County, is hereby appointed Paymaster to the Independent Company commanded by Captain *Dennis Dauge*, in the District of *Edenton*, and *William Wilkinson* Paymaster to the two Independent Companies commanded by Captain *William Purviance* and Captain *Selby Harney*; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, do, on receiving bonds and security, the former in the sum of £2,500, the latter in the sum of £5,000, payable to the Hon. *Samuel Johnston*, Esq., President, and his successors, for the faithful discharge of their offices, pay into the hands of the said *Samuel Jarvis* the sum of £750, and into the hands of *William Wilkinson* the sum of £1,000, for the purposes aforesaid.

*Hezekiah Alexander*, Esq., one of the Members of this Board, appeared.

*Resolved*, That *Samuel Jarvis*, Esq., be appointed Commissioner for the Port of *Currituck*, in this Province, and that he enter into bond with security in the sum of £5,000 for the faithful discharge of his office.

*Resolved*, That *Daniel Fisher* be immediately brought before this Council to answer such complaints as may be exhibited against him, and that Mr. *Chappel Gee* be appointed to execute this Resolve.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, August 2, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the three Wagons now at *Whitfield's Ferry*, on *Neuse River*, be directed by Quartermaster-General *Long* to proceed to Captain *Stephen Cobb's*, on *Cotennea Creek*, and there to receive from said *Stephen Cobb* a full load of Bacon and Pork belonging to the publick, and proceed with the same to *Wilmington*, and deliver it to the said Quartermaster-General *Long*, or his order, and that he so dispose of the said Bacon and Pork either to the Commissaries, or to private persons, as he may judge most for the benefit of the publick.



*Resolved*, That Mr. *Charles Bonfield*, of *Edenton*, deliver out of the Publick Magazine in that Town to Captain *Dennis Dauge* twenty-five weight of Gunpowder, for the use of his Independent Company on the sea-coast in this Province.

*Resolved*, That *John Smith*, of *Halifax* County, be immediately brought before this Council for passing Counterfeit Money; that Mr. *Philip Harney* and Mr. *William Harris* be summoned to appear as witnesses at the same time; and that the Commanding Officer of said County see this resolution carried into execution.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Saturday, August 3, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Whereas it appears to the Council, by the oath of *James Williams*, of the County of *Perquimans*, that a certain *John Pitts* did, on the night of the twenty-fifth day of *July* last past, in a clandestine manner, take from this deponent, and carry out of the said County of *Perquimans*, the following Negro slaves, to wit: *Abb*, *Toby*, *Martin*, and *Sall*, as also four Horses, being part of the estate of *Joseph Williams*, deceased; and in order to do justice to the legal representatives of the said *Joseph Williams*, these are therefore to empower you, or either of you, to make diligent search within the limits of this State for the said Negro slaves and Horses, and when found, take the same into your possession, as also the body of the said *John Pitts*, and then bring before the Council; and should the said *John Pitts* make resistance, in that case you must call to your aid sufficient force in order that this order may be carried into execution.

Whereas this Board, anxious to detect all persons concerned in counterfeiting the currency of this State, and influenced by reports injurious to Mr. *William Edwards's* character, and by misinformation, ordered Mr. *Edwards* to be brought before us for examination, and he was brought and examined accordingly, we, in justice to injured innocence, and to prevent that imputation of guilt which might arise from the circumstance of apprehending Mr. *Edwards*, do, with infinite pleasure, declare, that, after the strictest scrutiny into his conduct, the charge was found totally groundless, and he was most honourably acquitted.

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Person* and Mr. *Joseph John Williams* do each of them agree with a proper person for the purpose of instructing the inhabitants of *Anson* County, and other the western parts of this Colony, in their duty to *Almighty God*, and for explaining to them the justice and necessity of the measures pursued by the *United States of America*, as the only means under *God* of supporting and maintaining our civil and religious liberties, and thereby induce the good people of this Colony firmly to unite in supporting their just rights and privileges; and that the persons who may be intrusted with the execution of this important service be by the said General *Person* and Mr. *Joseph John Williams*, supplied with the sum of £25 each, in order to defray their travelling expenses, and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay the same, and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *James Mills*, of *Bute* County, be employed immediately to proceed to the Northern States, there to contract in behalf of this State with one or more persons well skilled in the art of casting Pig Iron, Cannon, Cannon-Ball, and Hollow Ware, and that it be recommended to the Delegates in Congress for this State to give Mr. *Mills* such aid as may be necessary, by advice and a proper supply of money.

*Resolved*, That either of the Treasurers pay into the hands of Brigadier-General *Person* the sum of £1,000, for the use of the Commissary who may be appointed to furnish with Provisions the Detachment ordered from the District of *Hillsborough* to reinforce General *Rutherford*, and that he take bond and security from the said Commissary to account with the next Congress for the due application of the said sum.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Sunday, August 4, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, August 5, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That *John Webb*, of *Halifax*, be permitted to export to any of the *French* or *Dutch Islands*, in the Sloop *King-Fisher*, *James Ducaine* Master, eighteen thousand Hogshead Staves, he having entered into bond and security in the sum of £2,000 to import into this Province the net proceeds of the Staves above mentioned in Salt, Arms, Ammunition, and other warlike stores.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, August 6, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of Mr. *Walter Gibson*, Commissary to the *Newbern* and *Wilmington* Brigades of Militia at *Wilmington*, the sum of £1,000, it appearing to the Council the said *Walter Gibson* is in advance that sum to the publick, and be allowed the same in the settlement of their Accounts with the publick.

The Continental Congress, on the 4th day of *July* last, declared the Thirteen *United Colonies of America* free and independent States; and as it appears that there is no Committee in the County of *Cumberland*:

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Ebenezer Folesome* and Colonel *David Smith*, or either of them, on receiving the said Declaration, call a general meeting of the inhabitants of the said County, and that they, or either of them, cause the same to be read and proclaimed in the most publick manner, in order that the good people of this State may be informed thereof; and that at the same time the Resolve of the said Congress respecting Treason be published, and that he proclaim the same to the Regiment stationed at *Cross Creek*.

*Resolved*, That *John Crook* be allowed the sum of £16 for himself, *William Wood*, and *Edmund Dinson*, for bringing under guard to this Council a certain *William Harrard*, of *Wake* County; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Wednesday, August 7, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Captain *Hardy*, owner of the Brig *Betsey*, bound on a voyage to *Hamburg*, on Continental service, having represented to this Board that he himself risks the vessel against the danger of the seas and the barratry of the masters, and that *Gale* and *Colvert*, nominated by this Board as proper persons to take the command of her, are strangers to him, and he apprehends unacquainted with those seas to which she is bound,

*Resolved*, That the former Resolution respecting this matter, so far as it relates to *Gale* and *Colvert*, be rescinded, and that the Committee of *Edenton* do appoint any known friend of *American Independence* to the command of the said Brig.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay unto Mr. *James Davis* the sum of £125, being for the half year's Salary due him the 1st day of *June* last, agreeable to an Act of Assembly, and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Thursday, August 8, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of Captain *Thomas Bloodworth* the sum of £300, to enable him to pay off his Minute Company, and that he account for the same with the next Provincial Congress, and be allowed the same in the settlement of their Accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That *Henry Buford* be allowed the sum of £40, for six months' rent of the northeast Bridge, from the 18th *February*, 1776, to the 18th *August*, inclusive, for sundry Troops, Wagons, Horses, &c., passing and repassing the same, and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That *Austin Parrat* and *Michael Henry* be discharged from custody, they first entering into bond for their personal appearance at the next Congress, and that *Francis Roberts* be committed to Jail, there to remain until further orders.

*Ordered*, That *Benjamin Branch* and *Jacob Kennebrew* be discharged from custody, they entering into bond for their appearance at the next Congress.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, August 9, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Representatives of the *United States of America*, in General Congress assembled, at *Philadelphia*, the 4th day of *July*, 1776, having determined that the *Thirteen United Colonies* are free and independent States, and in consequence thereof have published a Declaration of Independence:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the good people of this now independent State of *North-Carolina* to pay the greatest attention to the Election, to be held on the 15th day of *October* next, of Delegates to represent them in Congress, and to have particularly in view this important consideration: that it will be the business of the Delegates then chosen not only to make laws for the good government of, but also to form a Constitution for this State; that this last, as it is the corner-stone of all law, so it ought to be fixed and permanent; and that, according as it is well or ill ordered, it must tend in the first degree to promote the happiness or misery of the State.

*Resolved*, also, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of this State to elect five Delegates, properly qualified, for each County, to sit and vote in the next Congress, as business of the last importance will come before them.

Whereas the Provincial Council, heretofore held at *John Smith's*, on *Neuse River*, did order and direct by Resolve that the Books, Papers, and Accounts belonging to *Anthony Warwick & Co.*, in the possession of *Lewis Williamson*, should be delivered to the said *Anthony Warwick & Co.*, and it now appearing to this Council that the carrying the said Order and Resolution into effect would be injurious to many of the inhabitants of this State,

*Resolved*, therefore, That the said Resolution be rescinded, and that the said *Lewis Williamson* keep in his possession the said Books and Papers till further orders.

*Richard Dunnivan*, lately belonging to the *Syren* man-of-war, a prisoner on parole in *Halifax*, came before the Council and moved that he might be naturalized and admitted to the privileges of a free citizen of this State, and to this end declared that he was willing to take an oath of allegiance to the State; which being granted, and he having taken and subscribed to an oath for that purpose,

*Resolved*, therefore, That the said *Richard Dunnivan* be discharged from his parole, and that he be henceforward considered as a member and free citizen of this State.

*William Miller*, a prisoner on parole in *Halifax*, but late of *Wilmington*, came before the Council, and moved that he might be admitted to the privileges of a free citizen; and to this end declared he was willing to take an oath of allegiance to this State; which being granted, and he having taken and subscribed to an oath for that purpose,

*Resolved*, therefore, That the said *William Miller* be discharged from his parole, and that he be henceforward considered as a member and free citizen of this State.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Saturday, August 10, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Samuel Ashe*, Esq., one of the Members of the Council of Safety for the District of *Wilmington*, appeared.

Whereas there is now on hand in the Town of *Halifax* a large quantity of Beef and Pork purchased by *John Webb* for the use of the publick, a great proportion of which, for want of due management and care, is much damaged and unfit for the use of the Army, and as there is also a considerable quantity of Provisions belonging to the publick in the Town of *Tarborough*, under the care of Colonel *Irwin*, part of which is also damaged; in order, therefore, to prevent the total loss thereof,

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Nicholas Long* be empowered and required to dispose of the said Beef and Pork in the best and most advantageous manner he may think proper, either at publick or private sale, and may, if he judge it necessary, give three months' credit to the purchasers, and make return of such sale to the Congress.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Willis Alston* do procure Wagons and Team and a guard of twelve good and trusty men, properly armed, with an Officer to command them, in order to transport a quantity of Ammunition and other articles from the Town of *Halifax* to *Wilmington*.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Sunday, August 11, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, August 12, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

This Board being informed there is in the County of *Halifax*, on a place called *Great Fishing Creek*, a Lead Mine, and some of the Ore having been produced and tried, from which it appears there is a probability of procuring Lead for the use of this State; therefore, for employing proper persons to examine and make a more full discovery of the quality and quantity of the said Ore,

*Resolved*, That either of the Treasurers pay into the hands of *Francis Ward* or *John Williams* the sum of £50, Proclamation money, and that they do account for the due application of the same to the next Congress.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Nicholas Long* deliver to *Francis Ward* and *John Williams* five pounds of Gunpowder, for the use of blowing rocks in exploring the Lead Mines on *Fishing Creek*.

*Resolved*, That *Richard Dunnivan*, lately a prisoner on parole at *Halifax*, be allowed £1 16s., for three weeks' board, and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

It appearing to this Board, by the oath of *Frances Pitts*, wife of *John Pitts*, that on or about the fourth of this instant *August*, that as the said *John Pitts* was travelling the high-road through the County of *Halifax*, he was assaulted and inhumanly beat by a certain *James Sweeny*, and by him robbed of a Horse, one Watch, nine Dollars in Bills, one Gold Ring, one Trunk, one *Dutch* Blanket, one Tobacco-Box, and one Tickler:

*Resolved*, therefore, That *Bottom Stegall* be hereby authorized and empowered to take with him such aid and assistance as he may judge necessary to apprehend the said *Sweeney*, and bring him before this Board, or a Committee of the County of *Halifax*, to answer the above charge.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *James Williams* and Mr. *Joseph Turner* do take into their possession three Negroes, now in the Town of *Halifax*, and one at the Plantation of Mr. *James Colton*, the property of the Heirs of Mr. *Joseph Williams*, of *Perquimans* County, deceased, and deliver them into the hands of Colonel *William Skinner*, to be by him secured for the use of the Orphans, agreeable to the Will of the said *Williams*, until the further order of Congress.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock

Tuesday, August 13, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

It appearing that *Nicholas Long*, Esq., Quartermaster-General of the Continental Troops, hath advanced large sums of money for Supplies for the said Troops, as also for Colonel *Muhlenberg's* *Virginia* Regiment:

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of *Nicholas Long* the sum of £1,000, to be accounted for by him at the next Provincial Congress, and that they be allowed the same in their Accounts with the publick.

It appearing that *Henry Giffard*, Commissary of the Militia stationed at *Cross Creek*, under the command of Colonel *Folesome*, hath advanced a large sum of money for Supplies for the said Militia:

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay

into the hands of the said *Henry Giffard* the sum of £400, to be accounted for by him at the next Provincial Congress, and be allowed the same in their Accounts with the publick.

*James Childs*, of *Anson County*, charged on oath with practices inimical to the cause of liberty, was brought before the Council, and being examined, declared that he was a preacher of the *New-Light Baptist* persuasion; that one of the tenets of his church was not to bear arms, either offensively or defensively, and that he had preached this doctrine not only in his particular church, but in all the churches of his communion, and that he had inculcated it by the terrors of excommunication. And the said *James Childs*, being required to take an oath of allegiance to this State, refused:

*Resolved*, That the aforesaid doctrine, especially at this crisis, has an evil tendency, and that *James Childs*, by preaching the same, and by excommunicating such of his followers as did not implicitly subscribe to this doctrine, and by refusing to take the oath of allegiance, deserves to be considered as an enemy to this State; therefore, that he be sent to the Town of *Edenton*, on his parole, within the limits of the same, not to depart therefrom without permission of this Council or the Congress.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Ebenezer Folesome* take into his possession and keep safe all the Salt which he rendered an account of to this Board; except such as has been otherwise ordered, subject to the further order of this Council.

On the application of Mr. *Wyriot*, from *Georgia*,

*Resolved*, That the Officers from that State be permitted to recruit Soldiers in this State, provided they do not enlist any Regular Soldiers or Marines, already engaged here in the Continental service or the service of this State, or indented Servants or Apprentices, without first obtaining leave from their masters. And it is recommended to the several County and Town Committees to afford them all possible assistance, as the Soldiers about to be enlisted are to be on the Continental establishment.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Erskin*, now a prisoner at *Halifax*, be removed to *Harrisburg*, in the County of *Granville*, there to remain on his parole, within one mile of the said Town, until further orders of this Council or the Provincial Congress.

"To the Jailer of *HALIFAX County*:"

"Herewith you will receive the body of *James Sweeny*, charged on the oath of *Frances Pitts*, wife of *John Pitts*, of having feloniously stolen from the said *John Pitts* one Horse, one Watch, nine Dollars in bills, one Gold Ring, one Trunk, one Dutch Blanket, one Tobacco-box, and one Tickler."

*John Campbell*, a prisoner on parole in *Halifax*, came before the Council, and moved that he might be admitted to the privileges of a free citizen, and to this end declared that he was willing to take an oath of allegiance to this State; which being granted, and he having taken and subscribed to an oath for that purpose:

*Resolved, therefore*, That the said *John Campbell* be discharged from his parole, and that he be henceforward considered as a member and free citizen of this State.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of *Willis Alston*, Esq., the sum of £50, for the purpose of employing Guards for the Town of *Halifax*, to be accounted for at the next Congress, and be allowed the same in their Accounts with the publick.

*Malcom McNiel* and *Joseph Smith*, prisoners on parole at *Halifax*, came before this Council, and being desirous to take an oath not to take up or bear Arms, on any pretence, against the inhabitants of the *United States of America*, nor carry out more than £50 of Gold and Silver, equal in value to £50 *Carolina* currency, and they having subscribed to an oath for that purpose:

*Resolved*, That the said *Malcom McNiel* and *Joseph Smith* be permitted to leave this State, and proceed to any of the *French* or *Neutral Islands* in the *West-Indies*, and that they have leave from this Board to take shipping from any Port in this State where they can obtain the same.

The Council adjourned to *Wake County*, at the house of Mr. *Joel Lane*.

*Wake County, Wednesday, August 21, 1776.*

Met according to adjournment.

The Council proceeded to make choice of a President, in the room of *Cornelius Harnett*, Esq., who has leave of absence; when *Samuel Ashe*, Esq., was unanimously chosen, and placed in the Chair accordingly.

It being represented to the Council by Captain *John Jones* that he, at the request of *Richard Blackledge*, applied to *Richard Nassau Stevens*, of *Bath-Town*, for certain Kettles to the said *Stevens* belonging, for the purpose of making Salt by boiling; that he (*John Jones*) agreed to give the price demanded by *Stevens*, but that *Stevens* refused to take it, unless paid in old Proclamation or Continental money:

*Resolved*, That the said *John Jones* be, and he is hereby, empowered to apply again to the said *Stevens* for the Kettles above-mentioned; and if he shall refuse to receive payment for the same in the Dollar Bills of this State, then, and in such case, to take them unpaid for, and refer the said *Stevens* to this Council for remedy.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Thursday, August 22, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Petition of the Committee of the Settlements of *Watauga* and *Holstein*, called by them *Washington District*, and of the inhabitants thereof, was read, setting forth the manner in which they first settled that country, and the nature of their title, showing, that from the commencement of the present dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, they have adhered to the Association and Resolutions of the Continental Congress, and promoted as far as they could the common cause of liberty; that the said Settlements are within the bounds of this State, and praying that they may be received into and considered as part thereof. The said Petition being considered,

*Resolved*, That the Council do approve of the conduct of the Committee and inhabitants of the above-mentioned Settlements in regard to the present disputes; and that it be, and is hereby, recommended to the freemen of the said Settlements to hold a free and impartial election at some convenient place in the said District, on the 15th day of *October* next, then and there to elect five Delegates to represent the said District; and that it be recommended to the Delegates so elected to attend at *Halifax-Town*, in this State, on the 10th day of *November* next, then and there to lay their case before the Congress of this State.

Whereas the *Cherokees*, unprovoked by the inhabitants of *Watauga* and *Holstein*, and instigated under the influence of *Cameron*, *Stewart*, and other emissaries of the *British* Government, by the refusal of the said inhabitants to join and coöperate with the enemies of *America*, have attacked the said inhabitants of *Watauga* and *Holstein*, murdered some of them, ravaged their country, destroyed their crops, and driven off their stocks of Cattle and Horses, and carried off other effects:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the gentlemen, Officers and Soldiers of the armaments which have marched or may march from *Virginia* and this State against the *Cherokees*, to restore to the owners, on recapture, all such Cattle, Horses, and other effects, sufficient proof being first made of the property.

*Christopher Neal*, Esq., Judge of the Court of Justice for Port *Newbern*, exhibited his Account against the Brig *William*, Captain *Drew* commander, lately condemned in the said Court, whereby it appears there is a balance due to the publick of £108 18s. 6½d:

*Resolved*, That the said *Christopher Neal* pay the said sum of £108 18s. 6½d., into the hands of the Southern Treasurer, and take his receipt for the same.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Friday, August 23, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Whereas the Council have received information that *John Cowper*, of *Beaufort County*, Merchant, has at this time by him a large quantity of common Salt, which he refuses to dispose of, pretending, as it is said, that he keeps the same for the use of two of the Independent Companies on the sea board; and whereas the numerous armaments now in the

service of this State on the frontiers are in the greatest want of Salt :

It is therefore, *Resolved*, That *James Bonner*, Esq., do immediately call on the said *John Cowper*, requiring him to deliver, upon oath, an exact account of the quantity of Salt he has now in his possession, and that the same remain in the care of the said *John Cowper* for the use of the publick, until he receives the further order of this Board; and that the said *James Bonner* immediately certify to this Board the exact quantity of said Salt.

Whereas this Board have had information that the *Cherokees* of the Lower, Middle, and Valley Settlements have abandoned their Towns, and that the force already collected under General *Rutherford*, with the three hundred men marched from *Hillsborough* District is fully adequate to the protection and security of the frontiers:

*Resolved*, That the Brigadier-General of *Hillsborough* District be directed to countermand the raising or marching of the remaining two hundred ordered from the said District, until further orders from the Council.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Ebenezer Folesome* furnish to the Commissioners appointed to manage and superintend the Iron Works, fifteen bushels of the publick Salt in his possession, for the use of the labourers at said Works.

Whereas sundry persons of the Militia in *Hillsborough* District, disregarding the Resolutions of Congress relative to the Militia, and also in contempt of an Order of this Council, lately issued, directing the raising and marching of five hundred men to the assistance of General *Rutherford*, have failed to attend the Musters in their respective Counties, and when draughted have refused or neglected to march, and by such conduct incurred the penalties by the Resolutions of Congress inflicted:

*Resolved*, That the Colonels in the respective Counties be, and they are hereby, directed to hold Courts-Martial for the trial of such delinquents; that they administer the following Oath to the Members thereof, to wit: "You shall swear well and truly to try and determine, according to the evidence in the matter now before you, between the independent State of *North-Carolina* and the prisoner to be tried;" that they inquire into facts and pass sentence, and return their proceedings to this Board, deferring execution until further orders of the Council or the Congress.

*Resolved*, That *Conner Doud* be directed to sell the Salt in his possession, being about one hundred and ten bushels, to the Whigs who bore arms in the late expedition against the Tories at *Moore's Creek*, at 10s. per bushel, not selling more than half a bushel to each man.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Archibald Simpson* be directed to sell ten bushels of his Salt to *Henry Giffard*, Commissary for the Horse under the command of Colonel *Folesome*, at 10s. per bushel.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Saturday, August 24, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Read the Petition of a number of inhabitants of *Cumberland* County, complaining of many abuses committed by Colonel *Ebenezer Folesome*; which was ordered to be filed, and that notice be given at a future day for a hearing of the parties.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Sunday, August 25, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Monday, August 26, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the Valuation and Appraisement of sundry Vessels some time since sunk to obstruct the navigation of *Cape Fear* River, be transmitted to *Nicholas Long*, Esq.; that he apply to the Committee of *Wilmington* for the Inventories therein mentioned, and take into his possession the Masts, Yards, Sails, Rigging, Cables, Anchors, and other apparel to the said Vessels belonging, and deposite them in the care of one or more trusty person or persons, there to remain subject to the further orders of the Council or Congress, and that he transmit an account of his doing herein,

and an Inventory of the various articles, and with whom lodged, to this Board.

And whereas the Council are informed that a certain *William Campbell*, late owner of the Ship *Alexander*, a vessel sunk for the purpose above-mentioned, refuses to deliver up the Sails, &c., to her belonging, detaining them until he shall be allowed for sundry materials prepared for the repair of the said Ship *Alexander*:

*Resolved*, That *Nicholas Long* call on said *William Campbell* for delivery of the Sails and other articles aforesaid, and on his refusal to deliver them, summon sufficient aid and take them by force, and proceed to take care of them as above directed.

*Resolved, also*, That the Committee of *Wilmington* be, and they are hereby, directed to appoint five indifferent persons to value and appraise the materials prepared for the repairs of the Ship *Alexander*, lately belonging to *William Campbell*, the said *Campbell* first deposing on oath that they were actually prepared for that purpose, and render an Inventory and Appraisement thereof to next Congress, that they may determine of said *Campbell's* claim for the said materials.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners or Colonel *Folesome* deliver to Mr. *James Williams* sixty bushels of Salt, out of that taken at *Cross Creek*, for the use of the County of *Chatham*, he or they complying with the Resolution of Congress respecting the same.

It appearing on examination of Major *James Moore's* Account, rendered to, and allowed by, the last Congress, that there was an error in extending the pay of fifty-two Privates in the Minute-service, for twenty-eight days, at 1s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., of £26 0s. 1d., it being carried out £112 0s. 3d., instead of £138 0s. 4d.:

*Resolved*, That the said *James Moore* be allowed the sum of £26 0s. 1d., for said error; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Tuesday, August 27, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*William Crawford* having applied to this Board for leave to depart this State for the Island of *Bermuda*:

*Resolved*, He have leave accordingly.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Wednesday, August 28, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That *Reneca Julian* and *James Walker* be sent to the Jail of *Halifax*, it appearing to this Council that they are both inimical to this State; and that Messrs. *William Bell*, *Richardson Owen*, and *Francis Harper*, Commissioners appointed by Congress to take care of the estate of Prisoners put out of this State from the County of *Guilford*, take an inventory of the Estate of the said *Reneca Julian*, and to take all the care in their power to prevent waste and embezzlement; and to make return thereof to next Congress, but at the same time pay particular attention to his wife and children, to see that they do not want the common necessities of life; and that his Estate shall remain where it was, except Arms and Ammunition, under the protection of this Council, until some future order of this Board or the Congress; and that the Colonel of *Wake* County do see the first part of this Resolve carried into execution.

*Jacob Elliot*, *Abraham Woodward*, *James Wilson*, *William Draper*, *John Underhill*, and *Reneca Julian*, being brought before this Board from *Guilford* County as persons inimical to the cause of *America*,

*Resolved*, That the aforesaid persons, by equal proportions, pay to *Thomas Jenkins*, Captain of the Guard, for himself and seven others, the sum of £20 8s. 6d., for their expense in bringing them before this Council.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Jenkins* be allowed the sum of £3 8s. 1d. for himself and Guard bringing to this Board *James Walker*, of *Guilford* County. That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

*John Hamilton* appearing before this Board in behalf of *John Hamilton & Company*, and suggesting that they had



been aggrieved by the determination of this Board relative to the Brigantine *William*, directed by the Congress held at *Halifax*, in *April* last, to be seized as *British* property, and praying an appeal from the determination of this Board to the next Congress, and that all further proceedings be stayed until the direction of Congress be had thereon :

*Resolved*, That the said *John Hamilton*, in behalf of the Company, be permitted to appeal to the next Congress ; and that the said *John Hamilton & Company*, and all other persons, the Officers of the Courts of Justice excepted, who have received any moneys arising from the sale of the said Brigantine *William*, replace the same in the hands of *Christopher Neale*, Esq., until the resolution of the next Congress.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *Francis Price* and *George Merrick* be appointed Commissioners for the Port of *Wilmington*, in this Province, and that they enter into bond, with security, in the sum of £5,000, for the faithful discharge of their office.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners appointed at the Ports of *Edenton*, *Bath*, *Newbern*, and *Wilmington*, be empowered to give permits to Vessels to load with Staves and Heading for any of the *French*, *Spanish*, *Dutch*, or *Danish* Islands, in the *West-Indies*, the owner or owners of such Vessels first giving bond, with a good and sufficient security in the sum of £2,000, which bond must be made payable to the President of the Congress of this State, and his successors, that Salt, Arms, Ammunition, and other warlike stores, shall only be imported, in return for the net proceeds of such Staves and Heading ; and that no person or persons shall be entitled to this privilege but known friends to the *American* independency.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *William Brown* be appointed Commissioner for the Port of *Bath*, and that he enter into bond, with security, in the sum of £2,000, for the faithful discharge of his office ; which bond is to be lodged with the President of the Provincial Congress.

The Council adjourned to *Salisbury*, in the County of *Rowan*.

Salisbury, September 6, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*James Hunter* and *Joseph Dobson*, both of *Guilford* County, voluntarily came before the Council, moved that they might be admitted to the privileges of free citizens, and declared that they were willing to take an oath of allegiance to this State ; which being granted, and they having taken and subscribed to an oath for that purpose,

*Resolved*, That they henceforward be considered as free citizens and members of this State.

*Jacob Williams*, of *Anson* County, being brought before this Council for having spoken some words inimical to the cause of liberty, and regardless of a solemn declaration by him signed at the Congress at *Hillsborough*,

*Resolved*, That the said *Williams* enter into bond, with security, in the sum of £300, conditioned that he appear at the next Congress to be held at *Halifax*, and not depart without leave ; otherwise to be committed to the common Jail of *Salisbury*, there to remain until further orders of this Council or Congress.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Saturday, September 7, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Troops stationed on the frontiers of *Tryon* County, by order of General *Rutherford*, for the protection of this State, be continued till further orders of this Board, General *Rutherford*, or the Congress.

*Ambrose Mills* and *John Austin*, of *Tryon* County, having been brought before this Board, for acting inimical to the cause of *American* freedom, and after examination, it was thought proper to discharge them, the first having entered into bond and taken the oath of allegiance to this State, the other having also taken the said oath of allegiance.

Adjourned till *Monday* morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, September 9, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

On the Petition of *Mary Hughs*, wife of *Joseph Hughs*,

for leave for her husband to appear before this Board, to be admitted as a free citizen of this State,

*Resolved*, That the said *Joseph Hughs* be permitted to appear before this Council, on or before the 11th of this instant, *September*, for the purpose aforesaid.

Read in Council, the Petition of *James Hepburn*, on parole to *Mecklenburgh* County, and a Certificate from *Waightstill Avery*, Esq., one of the Committee of the said County, showing that the said *James Hepburn* cannot procure a house within the limits of his said parole :

*Resolved*, That the said *James Hepburn* have leave to remove himself to the Town of *Salisbury*, there to be on parole, within the limits and bounds of the said Town, and within two miles thereof.

Read, the Petition of *Michael Holt*, late of *Orange* County, at present under confinement in the City of *Philadelphia*, praying releasement, &c. ; also a Petition from the Committee of said County, setting forth, that, in their opinion, the releasement of the said *Michael Holt* would not in anywise injure the cause of liberty in this State. This Board, taking the said Petition into consideration, and having collected all the evidence for and against the said *Holt*, with respect to his march in order to join *McDonald's* Army, find many circumstances in his favour ; inasmuch, when he was fully acquainted with the intention of the Tories, he did actually return home, and was the means of inducing a number of others to follow his example, without a junction with the *Scotch* Army :

*Resolved*, That he be recommended to the Continental Congress as an object of compassion, and that the Delegates from this State use their utmost endeavour to get him discharged from his present imprisonment, in order that he may return home to his family ; he first taking an oath to this State, a copy of which is ordered to be enclosed to the said Delegates.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, September 10, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Whereas, in *February* last, *James McCoy*, with a number of men, was employed in disarming the Tories for some time, and was allowed at Congress the sum of £102, for the payment of the men in that department ; and whereas a certain controversy has arisen among the men, concerning the distribution of the money, and application having been made to this Board concerning the same : It is the opinion of this Council that the said *James McCoy*, in order that equal justice be done, pay each man according to the time of his being in actual service.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Ebenezer Folesome*, or, in his absence, the Commissioners at *Cross Creek*, deliver thirty bushels of the publick Salt to Captain *John Hamlin*, to be by him distributed in the following proportions, to wit : eighteen bushels among the Officers and Soldiers of the Company in the late expedition, and twelve bushels among the families of the Officers and Soldiers in the present expedition against the *Indians*.

*Benjamin Booth Boote*, lately a prisoner in *South-Carolina*, from this State, permitted to return on parole, came before this Board, and took an oath of fidelity to the State :

*Resolved*, therefore, That he be discharged from such parole, and that he be henceforward considered as a friend and free citizen of this State.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Wednesday, September 11, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That *John Dunn* be paroled to the Town of *Salisbury*, there to remain until further orders of this Council or Congress, and to appear once a day at the house of Mr. *Maxwell Chambers* ; and further, that he enter into bond, with security, in the sum of £1,000, for his future good behaviour, and in case of breach of his parole, to be committed, by the Committee of the Town, to close prison.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Thursday, September 12, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*George Wolfendon, Thomas Ferguson, James Morgan, and James Gibson*, offered to the Council sundry pieces of Linen, claiming the several bounties, pursuant to a Resolve of the Congress held at *Hillsborough*, on the tenth day of *September, 1775*. The Board, examining into the premises, and finding that the said several pieces of Linen were manufactured in this State, pursuant to the said Resolve of Congress, and that they are so near in quality that a determination cannot be had with precision, but that they are entitled to the several bounties in the said Resolve:

It is *Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay unto the said *George Wolfendon, Thomas Ferguson, James Morgan, and James Gibson*, £23 15s., each, it being their equal part of the several bounties allowed by the said Resolve; and that the same shall be allowed the Treasurers in their Accounts with the publick—the parties being present, and consenting to an equal dividend of the aforesaid bounties.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, September 13, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Joseph Hughs* came before this Board according to the prayer of a Petition exhibited by his wife *Mary*. The Council taking the same into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the said *Joseph Hughs* be paroled to the limits of the Town of *Salisbury*, there to remain until further orders of this Council or Congress, and to appear once a day at the house of *Maxwell Chambers*; and in case of a breach of parole, to be committed by the Committee of the Town to close prison; and further, that he enter into bond with security in the sum of £500, for his future good behaviour.

*Resolved*, That the several Militia Officers and Captains of the Forts and Garrisons on the frontiers of *Rowan* and *Tryon* furnish Mr. *Avery* with a sufficient escort of men for a guard on his way to General *Rutherford*, and also to give the said *Avery* all the necessary aid and assistance in their power.

*Resolved*, That *Abel Armstrong*, or any other officer of the Militia of the District of *Salisbury*, furnish *Joseph Thompson* and *James Gallaspee*, Wagoners in the service of this State, on their way to and from *Chiswell's* Mines, with a guard of four men to escort them to and from the same.

*Resolved*, That *Jesse Nighton* pay unto *James Hacket*, for himself, *James Kerr*, and *Robert Grier*, the sum of £1 10s., for bringing the said *Nighton* before this Board pursuant to its order.

The Council adjourned to the Town of *Halifax*, in the County of *Halifax*.

Halifax, September, 27, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Council proceeded to make choice of a President in the room of *Samuel Ashe*, Esq., who has leave of absence; when *Willie Jones*, Esq., was unanimously chosen, and placed in the chair accordingly.

*James Walker*, who was imprisoned by order of this Board, for acting inimical to the liberties of *America*, was brought before the Council and discharged, on taking and subscribing to an oath of allegiance to the State.

Whereas it appears, from the oath of *William Alston*, that *Hance Hamilton*, of *Granville* County, is a person inimical to the liberties of *America*:

*Resolved*, therefore, That his Honour the President issue a Warrant to bring the said *Hamilton* before the Congress, to be examined concerning the premises.

It appearing that *James Walker*, who was imprisoned on suspicion of his being an enemy to the States, is a pauper,

*Resolved*, That the expenses and fees attending the conveyance and imprisonment of the said *James Walker* be paid by the publick.

*Resolved*, That the several Sheriffs and Collectors of Duties in this State do attend the next Congress, to be held at *Halifax*, on the 10th day of *November* next, then and there to settle their accounts of Taxes and Duties received,

and prepare themselves to pay at that time all sums of money which may be due from them to this State.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Officers of the Continental Forces in this State, and the Officers of the Provincials, not to suffer any Soldiers to be or appear at the ensuing election of Delegates for the various Counties and Towns in this State, such only excepted as have a right to vote upon the occasion.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Saturday, September 28, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to *Philip Perry* the sum of £3, for apprehending *Elijah King*, a deserter from Captain *Brinkley's* Company, in the Third Regiment of Continental Troops in this Province.

Adjourned till Monday morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, September 30, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to *John Daves*, Quartermaster to the Second Regiment of Continental Troops in this State, £200, to enable him to procure Forage, &c., for the Horses in the said Regiment, and be allowed in their Accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That *John Daves* be appointed Ensign in Captain *Crawford's* Company, in the Second Regiment of Continental Troops in this State.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, October 1, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That *John Plummer*, Messenger and Door-Keeper to this Board, be allowed £27 12s. 2d., for his services, and that *Richard Caswell*, Esq., Treasurer of the Southern District in this State, pay the same, and be allowed in his Accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That the Horses now in possession of sundry persons in *Bute* and *Granville* Counties, the property of *Josiah Martin*, late Governour, be brought to the next Congress in as good order as they received them of the Committee of *Bute* County.

*William Stuart*, a prisoner, who was committed on suspicion of being a confidential emissary and spy of *Josiah Martin*, was brought before this Board, and on examination the allegations not appearing true, the said *William Stuart* was discharged on taking the State oath, without payment of fees. It appearing that the said *William Stuart* is very poor:

*Resolved*, That the Prison fees due from said *Stuart* be paid by the publick.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary of Stores, or his Deputy, or Captain *Forster*, at *Wilmington*, do deliver to the Commissioners at *Edenton*, appointed to fit out the armed vessel *King Taminy*, out of the publick stores at *Wilmington*, such materials as the said Commissioners may apply for, taking a receipt for the same.

*Resolved*, That *Sylvanus Pendleton*, Esq., Commander of the armed Brig *King Taminy*, fitted out by this State, do, with all possible expedition, proceed to *Occacock Bar*, and there lie for the protection of the trade until the return of the *Pennsylvania Farmer* from her intended cruise; and then that the said *Sylvanus Pendleton* shall immediately proceed to sea on a cruise for the term of one month, against the enemies of the *United States of America*, and to take as many of the merchant ships, the property of the subjects of *Great Britain*, as may be in his power, and for that purpose to cruise between the latitudes of thirty-two and thirty-five and ten, and to keep within the distance of eighty leagues of the *American* shore; and that after the expiration of the one month's cruise, the said *Sylvanus Pendleton* shall return to *Occacock Bar*; and should he take any prizes, the same must be sent to *Occacock*, or some other convenient Port.

*Resolved*, That *Joshua Hampstead*, Esq., Commander of the armed vessel *Pennsylvania Farmer*, fitted out by this State, do immediately proceed to sea, and cruise for the term of one month, against the enemies of the *United States of*

*America*, and to take as many of the *British* ships, the property of the subjects of *Great Britain*, as may be in his power; and for that purpose to cruise between the latitudes of thirty-two and thirty-five and ten, and to keep within the distance of eighty leagues of the *American* shore; and that after the expiration of the one month's cruise, the said *Joshua Hampstead* shall return to *Occacock*, and should he take any prizes, the same must be sent to *Occacock*, or some other convenient Port.

*Samuel Andrews* and *Thomas Kersey*, who were committed to the Jail in *Halifax*, were brought before this Board, and discharged on taking the State oath, and entering into recognizance for their appearance at next Congress.

The Council adjourned to meet at this Town of *Halifax*, on the 17th of *October* instant.

— Thursday, October 17, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Friday, October 18, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Saturday, October 19, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That General *Moore* be desired to lay before this Board on *Monday* morning a state of the Continental Forces in this State.

*Resolved*, That *Ambrose Knox & Company*, *William Brown*, *John Chace*, and *Daniel Cartwright*, be permitted to send to sea the Sloop *Polly*, taken into possession by *Andrew Little* and *Robert Hardy*, in consequence of a Resolve of this Board, on the said *Ambrose Knox & Company*, *William Brown* and *John Chace's* giving bond and security to the President of the Congress of this State, and his successor, in the sum of £135, being the value of *Daniel Cartwright's* part of said Sloop, and on leaving one-third part of the debts left in the hands of *William Skinner*, subject to the payment of such demands as may be due this State from the said *Daniel Cartwright*, on account of a cargo shipped by this State on board the said Sloop commanded by the said *Daniel Cartwright*.

*Resolved*, That *Andrew Little* and *Robert Hardy* be directed to attend the execution of the above Resolve, and on the said Resolve's being complied with, to grant a certificate thereof to the Commissioner of the Port of *Edenton*.

Adjourned till *Monday* morning, eight o'clock.

— Monday, October 21, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Mr. *John Chase* made application for Letters of Marque and Reprisal for the Sloop *Polly*, belonging to *Ambrose & Company*, *William Brown*, *John Chase*, and *Daniel Cartwright*, of this State, and hath also delivered in a schedule of the number of guns, the names of the officers, the provisions and warlike stores on board, and hath given bond and security agreeable to the Resolutions of the Continental Congress:

*Resolved*, That Commissions issue for the said Sloop *Polly*, accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to *Henry Giffard*, Commissary to the detachment of Militia in service under Colonel *Folesome*, the sum of £500, to enable him to pay in part for the Provisions purchased for said Companies.

Whereas it hath been represented that the armed Brig *Pennsylvania Farmer*, ordered by this Board on a cruise, is not at this time fit to proceed to sea, and that the *Jamaica Fleet*, the object in view, may pass our latitudes before the said Brig can be in readiness, and thereby defeat the purpose of said cruise:

*Resolved*, That *Sylvanus Pendleton*, Esq., Commander of the armed vessel *King Taminy*, fitted out by this State, do immediately proceed to sea, and cruise the term of six weeks against the enemies of the *United States of America*, and to take as many of the *British* ships as may be in his power, sending the same as soon as possible into some of the ports in this State for trial and condemnation; and for

that purpose to cruise between the latitudes of thirty and thirty-six, and that after the expiration of the said term of six weeks the said *Sylvanus Pendleton* shall return with the said vessel to *Occacock*, or some other convenient Port within the limits of this State.

The armed vessels *King Taminy* and *Pennsylvania Farmer* being ordered on a cruise against the enemies of the *United States of America*,

*Resolved*, That Captain *John Forster*, Commander of the armed Brig the *General Washington*, now lying at *Wilmington*, do proceed with all possible despatch to *Occacock Bar*, and to remain within the said Bar, in order to protect the trading vessels which may be coming into or going out of that port, until one of the aforesaid armed vessels shall return there, or he shall be otherwise ordered.

Whereas it is represented by the Commissioners for establishing a Manufactory of Guns in the District of *Hillsborough* that proper iron for that purpose cannot be obtained in this State, and that our currency will not purchase it in any other:

*Resolved*, therefore, That *Samuel Johnston*, Esquire, be directed and empowered to draw on the Continental Treasury in favour of the said Commissioners, or either of them, or their order, for £100, to be considered as part of the sum of £1,000 voted by Congress for the above-mentioned purpose.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Tuesday, October 22, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Wednesday, October 23, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Whereas, by a Resolve of this Board of the 30th of *September* last, *Joshua Hampstead*, Esq., Commander of the armed Brig *Pennsylvania Farmer*, was directed to proceed to sea, and cruise for the term of one month within eight leagues of the *American* shore; and whereas the time and distance prescribed in the aforesaid Resolve may in a measure frustrate the intentions of the said voyage:

*Resolved*, That the said *Joshua Hampstead* be permitted to cruise for the term of six weeks between the latitudes of thirty and thirty-six, for the purpose aforesaid.

A Resolution of the Continental Congress of the 16th of *September* last, leaving it to the Council of State to suspend or execute a former order of Congress, dated the 3d of the said month, directing Brigadier-General *Moore* to march two *North-Carolina* Continental Battalions to *New-York*, being read and considered, and it appearing from General *Moore's* return that the Continental Battalions in this State are far from being complete, that they are sickly, and ill-provided with clothing, and by no means prepared to march to a northern climate; and further, that if two Battalions should march to *New-York*, the remainder would not be adequate to the defence of the State in case of an attack:

*Resolved*, That the execution of the said Resolution be suspended.

*Resolved*, also, That General *Moore* be required to station for the present the Continental Forces in this State in the District of *Neubern* and *Wilmington* at such places as he may think best for the recovery of their health, and to use every means in his power to have them immediately recruited to their full complement.

*Resolved*, That *Nathaniel Rochester*, Commissary of Stores, be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to General *Moore's* order as much *Osnaburgs* as may be necessary to make Tents for the Continental Battalions in this State, and Bell-Tents for securing their Arms, and one Bell-Tent to every Company, allowing thirty yards for a Tent for every eight men, and twenty yards for each Bell-Tent, thirty-five yards for a tent for the Non-Commissioned Officers of each Company, and one hundred yards for a Hospital Tent for each Battalion.

Whereas *Samuel Johnston*, Esq., on the application of Mr. *Peter Mallet*, Acting Commissary of the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Regiments, and at the instance of Mr. *Willie Jones*, paid to the said *Peter Mallet* £3,000 during the recess of the Council:

*Resolved*, That the Council do approve of the said payment, and that Mr. *Johnston* be allowed for the same in his Account against the State, in like manner as if a Warrant for the money had issued previous to the payment thereof.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to Mr. *Peter Mallet*, Commissary to the Sixth Regiment of Continental Forces in this State, the sum of £1,000, and be allowed the same in their Accounts with the publick.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Thursday, October 24, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Nathaniel Rochester*, Commissary of Stores, send to *Tarborough* for sundry Woollens purchased of Colonel *Irwin* for the publick, and convey them to *Wilmington*, and that he employ Tailors to cut out and make up the same and all other publick Cloths in his possession, such finer Cloths as are intended for Officers excepted, into short Coats and Breeches, and dispose of them to the Soldiers, taking care that no one man have more than one short Coat and one pair of Breeches.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Friday, October 25, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That *Richard Caswell*, Esq., publick Treasurer of the Southern District, pay into the hands of Colonel *James Thackston* the sum of £248, for the purpose of recruiting men in this State according to the new system, and that he debit the Paymaster for the same.

*Resolved*, further, That the said Colonel *James Thackston* account with the Paymaster for the aforesaid sum.

Whereas this Council are well informed that certain Officers in the service of the State of *South-Carolina* have inlisted sundry Regulars of this State out of the *North-Carolina* Continental Troops now in *Georgia*:

*Resolved*, That this Board do utterly disapprove of such measure; that it is unjustifiable, and has an obvious tendency to obstruct the regular service in this State, and to endanger the common defence of *North* and *South-Carolina*; and therefore that General *Howe* be, and he is hereby, directed to reclaim the Soldiers so as above-mentioned in-

listed by the *South-Carolina* Officers; and he is also further directed to remand the whole of the *North-Carolina* Troops now in *Georgia* immediately to this State.

Whereas the Council are informed that many things belonging to the State, such as tory Horses and Wagons, condemned by last Congress, and also Horses which have been purchased by the publick, and have strayed away, are now dispersed about in different parts, so that they will probably be lost if longer unattended to:

*Resolved*, therefore, That *Nicholas Long*, Esq., be, and he is hereby, directed and empowered to take into his possession all such Wagons and Horses; and for the disposition thereof he is directed to employ in the service such of the Wagons and Horses as are fit for the same, and to sell such as are not, rendering an account of his proceedings to the Council or the Congress.

*Thomas Erskine*, a prisoner on parole in *Halifax* County, having represented to the Council that his constitution is so impaired by sickness and the effects of the climate, that death must probably be the consequence unless he is allowed to remov out of this State, and that in leaving it he has no intentions adverse to the *United States*; and having also made oath that he will not, directly nor indirectly, communicate to the enemies of the free and independent States of *America* any intelligence whatever which may tend to their prejudice:

*Resolved*, That he be permitted to leave this State, and that he immediately go to *Edenton*, and depart from thence in the first vessel that sails for the *West-Indies*.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Board that the Commissioners appointed in *Cumberland* County to inventory the effects of the Tories, deliver to Mr. *Alexander Stewart's* order the Cloths of the said *Stewart* taken out of the possession of Mr. *Gilless*, upon the said *Gilless* or some persons proving that the same were lodged with him as the property of the said *Stewart*.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Dudley* be directed to deliver to the Colonel of each Battalion of Continental Forces in this State eleven sets of *Simms's* Military Guide, and two sets of the New System of Military Discipline, they giving a receipt for the same.

By order:  
J. GLASGOW, Secretary.

WILLIE JONES, President.

#### NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

At a meeting of a Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York*, at the Court-House in the Town of *White-Plains*, in the County of *Westchester*, on Tuesday, July 9, 1776:

The Deputies from a majority of the Counties appeared, and they produced their Credentials, and proceeded to the choice of the following Officers, to wit:

General NATHANIEL WOODHULL, President.

JOHN MCKESSON, and } Secretaries.  
ROBERT BENSON, }  
Doorkeeper.

The Deputies from the City and County of *New-York* not producing their Credentials, the Secretaries informed the House that soon after the late election for Deputies to represent the City and County of *New-York*, Colonel *Remsen* delivered in to Congress a certified extract of the Minutes of the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, whereby it appeared that an election was held, and twenty-one Members were chosen, pursuant and agreeable to the Resolutions of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, to represent the said City and County, and that five of them be a quorum; that the said extract is mislaid, and cannot be found at present.

*Ordered*, That the Deputies present from *New-York* take their seats, and that they take measures to procure a copy of their Credentials.

The Deputies from the City and County of *Albany* appeared, but have omitted or forgotten to procure and bring with them a copy of their Credentials.

The Deputies from the County of *Orange* produced their Credentials in due form, whereby it appeared that at an election for choosing of Delegates, conformable to the Resolutions

of the late Provincial Congress, Colonel *William Allison*, Mr. *Little*, *John Herring*, *David Pye*, and Mr. *Outwater*, were chosen, with full powers to represent said County.

*Ordered*, That the Deputies present take their seats.

The Deputies from the County of *Suffolk* produced a Certificate from the Committee of said County, dated the 27th of June, 1776, and signed by *William Smith*, Chairman, whereby it appears that General *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, *John Sloss Hobart*, *Burnet Miller*, *Thomas Dearing*, *David Gilston*, *Wm. Smith*, and *Thomas Tredwell*, Esquires, or any three of them, were duly elected to represent said County in this Congress, with powers to establish a new form of Government.

*Ordered*, That the Deputies from *Suffolk* take their seats.

The Deputies from the County of *Dutchess* produced their Credentials, by which it appears that *Zephaniah Platt*, Esq., Mr. *Sackett*, *Gilbert Livingston*, Esq., Dr. *Crane*, and *Henry Schenck*, were duly elected, and constituted with full powers to represent said County in this Congress.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That the said Deputies from *Dutchess* County take their seats.

The Deputies from *Westchester*, attending, produced their Credentials, whereby it appeared that Colonel *Lewis Graham*, Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Major *Lockwood*, *William Paulling*, *Jonathan Platt*, Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Mills*, *Gilbert Drake*, *Jonathan G. Tompkins*, General *Morris*, and *Gouverneur Morris*, were duly elected, with full powers to represent the said County in this Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Deputies present from *Westchester* County take their seats.

The Deputies from the County of *Queen's*, attending, produced a Certificate of the Committee of said County, whereby it appeared that at an election held on the 24th ult., Colonel *Jacob Blackwell*, Captain *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Waters Smith*,



*Samuel Townsend, Cornelius Van Wyck, James Townsend,* and the Rev. *Abraham Ketletas,* and *Benjamin Sands,* were elected to represent said County, until the second *Tuesday* in *May* next, with power to determine of the subject of erecting and constituting a new form of Government, to the exclusion of all foreign jurisdiction, was read and filed.

Thereupon, *Ordered,* That the said Deputies from *Queen's* County take their seats.

The Deputies from *Charlotte* County did not produce any Credentials.

The Deputies from *Cumberland* County, attending, produced a Certificate, signed by *James Clay,* Chairman of the County Committee, and dated at *Westminster,* the 28th *June* last, whereby it appears that Colonel *Joseph Marsh, Simon Stevens,* and *John Sessins,* have been duly elected to represent said County in this Congress, and invested with full powers of legislation, &c.

*Ordered,* That the Deputies from *Cumberland* County take their seats.

*Ordered,* That the Resolution empowering the General to call out the Militia be published.

*Ordered,* That the Secretary draw up the Resolutions lately passed, relative to the Stock on *Nassou* and *Staten* Islands, into form, so that they may be published.

All the new Members present, that is to say, Colonel *Van Cortlandt,* Mr. *Yates,* Mr. *Ketletas,* Mr. *Mills,* Mr. *Sacket,* Mr. *Stephens,* Mr. *Platt,* Mr. *Sessins,* Mr. *Crane,* Mr. *Jonathan Platt,* Mr. *W. Smith,* Mr. *Miller,* Mr. *Adgate,* and such of the old Members who had not been sworn, took the general oath of secrecy.

Mr. *Benjamin Smith* refused to take the oath of secrecy, and was therefore desired to withdraw and consider the matter maturely, and he accordingly withdrew.

Mr. *Jay,* seconded by Mr. *Van Wyck,* moved that, Whereas the Rev. Mr. *Ketletas,* one of the Deputies from *Queen's* County, has been solemnly devoted to the service of *God* and the care of souls, has good right to expect and claim an exemption from all such employments as would divert his attention from the affairs of that Kingdom which is not of this world:

*Resolved,* That the said Mr. *Ketletas* be at liberty to attend this House at such times only as he may think proper, and that his absence be not considered as a neglect of his duty.

Debates arose thereon, and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, that is to say:

For the Motion.	Against the Motion.
8 New-York,	3 Orange,
4 <i>Queen's,</i>	4 Suffolk,
6 Albany,	5 Dutchess,
3 Tryon,	2 Cumberland,
2 <i>Charlotte.</i>	4 Westchester.
—	—
23 votes.	18 votes.

A Letter from the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress, of the 2d *July,* instant, on the subject of Independence, and requesting Instructions from this Congress, was received and read.

A Letter from the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress, enclosing the Declaration of Independence, was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

[The Letter not inserted in the Minutes.]

The Declaration of Independence, enclosed in the above-mentioned Letter, was then read, and is in the words following, that is to say:

*"A Declaration by the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA in general Congress assembled.*

*"When, in the course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.*

*"We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created Equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed,*

*that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundations on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shown, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.*

*"He has refused his assent to Laws the most wholesome and necessary for the publick Good.*

*"He has forbidden his Governours to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.*

*"He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.*

*"He has called together Legislative Bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their publick Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.*

*"He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the People.*

*"He has refused for a long time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of Invasion from without, and Convulsions within.*

*"He has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of Lands.*

*"He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.*

*"He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone for the tenure of their Offices, and the amount and payment of their Salaries.*

*"He has erected a multitude of new Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their substance.*

*"He has kept among us, in times of Peace, Standing Armies, without the consent of our Legislatures.*

*"He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.*

*"He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:*

*"For quartering large bodies of Armed Troops among us:*

*"For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:*

*"For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the World:*

*"For imposing Taxes on us without our consent:*

*"For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:*

*"For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences:*

*"For abolishing the free system of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at*

once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:

"For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

"For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

"He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us.

"He has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People.

"He is, at this time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation.

"He has constrained our fellow-citizens taken captive on the high seas to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

"He has excited domestick Insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our Frontiers the merciless *Indian* Savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions.

"In every stage of these Oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms: our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.

"Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our *British* brethren. We have warned them, from time to time, of attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in war, in peace, Friends.

"We, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by the Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the *British* Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of *Great Britain* is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honour."

Ordered, That the said Letter and Declaration be referred to a Committee, to consist of Mr. Jay, Mr. Yates, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Brasher, and Mr. William Smith.

A Letter from Colonel Joseph Reed, Adjutant-General of the *American* Army, was received and read, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"Head-Quarters, New-York, July 5, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I am directed by the General to solicit the attention of your honourable body to the Resolve of the Continental Congress touching the prisoners-of-war. By that resolve they are put wholly in the disposition of the Legislature of the respective Colonies, who are authorized to appoint a Commissary to make provision for them, and they are to be taken to such places as shall be deemed the most secure.

"There are now a number of prisoners in the Jail, some of them of some rank; their expenses run much higher than if in the country, and in our present situation extremely dangerous. His Excellency requests no time may be lost in

removing not only those who have been taken prisoners-of-war, but those committed for practices against the State; and if some direction was taken with respect to the prisoners for debt, it would be proper, as there is too much reason to fear that, in case of an attack, if the doors were not opened by the Jailer, the whole would rise and force them open. Any assistance that may be wanted for this purpose, the General begs leave to tender. I have also in charge to mention to you the impropriety of suffering *Burrows* to continue in the care of the Jail, as from his connections, his appointment, and other circumstances, there is the utmost reason to suspect him.

"The distance to which the Congress has removed will make it very difficult to have their advice and assistance on occasions which frequently present. The General would suggest the propriety of their appointing a small Committee in the City to regulate such matters of internal concern as daily present themselves.

"The great hurry and engagements of the General prevent his writing personally; but he begs his respectful compliments may be made to your honourable body.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"JOSEPH REED, Adjutant-General."

Ordered, That the said Letter be referred to a Committee, to consist of Mr. John Van Cortlandt, Mr. Gansevoort, and Colonel L. Graham.

Ordered, That Mr. Miller, Mr. Jay, and Colonel Rensselaer, be a Committee to take into consideration and report on all the Letters received from Congress and our Delegates on the subject of the new Regiment to be raised in this Colony, and also Colonel Fleming's Letter, and the Letter of William Goforth,\* of the 6th instant, complaining of being superseded in his rank, and resigning his commission as Major.

White-Plains, P. M., July 9, 1776.

The Convention met.

Present: General Woodhull, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. Bancker, Mr. Van Cortlandt, Mr. Jay, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Rutgers.

ALBANY.—Mr. Yates, Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Rensselaer, Mr. Adgate.

SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Miller, Mr. Gelston, Mr. William Smith.

TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. W. Harper.

ORANGE.—Colonel Allison, Mr. Little.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. Stephens, Mr. Sesscins.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. Platt, Mr. Crane, Mr. Sacket.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel L. Graham, Colonel Van Cortlandt, Major Lockwood, Mr. Paulding, Captain J. Platt, Mr. Haviland, Mr. Mills, Colonel G. Drake, Mr. Tompkins, General Morris, Gouverneur Morris.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. Webster.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. S. Townsend, Mr. J. Townsend, Mr. Van Wyck, Mr. Ketletas.

A Letter from P. T. Curtenius, of the 3d instant, requesting an advance of £5,000, on account; and mentioning that

\* New-York, July 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having, in the course of the last year, been called by you from private life, without any solicitation, to the most honourable of all services, that of my country, I obeyed the call, and have, to the utmost of my poor abilities, exerted myself for the general good; and having, on my return home, found my toil amply rewarded, inasmuch as I had so far fallen under your notice as to be appointed to a Majority, which promotion I view as great as I could reasonably expect, or even have desired. Nevertheless, when I look over the arrangement which you were pleased to make the last year, and call to mind that you then determined that the First Regiment should take rank of the Second, and find that I had the rank of fourth Captain in the First, and that Lewis DuBois, Esq., had the rank of fourth Captain, and Jacobus Bruyn, Esq., that of seventh in the Third Regiment, I view my appointment as speaking two things: first, that you have found men of greater merit than myself, and men who are better qualified for the publick service, of which I am extremely glad; and, secondly, that your now appointing me to serve under two junior officers, is no more than taking the most genteel way of discharging me from the publick service as an officer. Perhaps it may be said this is no time to dispute about rank. If so, I would just beg leave to inform you that, when in *Canada* last winter, I viewed this argument to be of great force, but at present conceive myself to be in the state in which I was when I left home, and beg leave to decline the service, and with the utmost deference to subscribe myself, as in reality I am, a true friend to the free and rising States of *America*, and at the same time your most obedient and most humble servant,

WILLIAM GOFORTH.

To the Hon. the Provincial Congress of the Colony of New-York.

the *British* had landed on *Staten-Island* without opposition, and detachments had advanced towards *Bergen-Point* and *Elizabethtown*,

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That *Peter Van B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to Colonel *Peter T. Curtenius* the sum of £5,000, on account, and take his receipt for the same.

A Letter from Colonel *Malcom*, enclosing a Certificate from Doctor *John Jones*, of the qualifications of *William Adams*, as a Surgeon, and requesting the said *Adams* be appointed Surgeon to his Regiment, was read:

*Ordered*, That *William Adams* be, and he is hereby, appointed Surgeon to the Second Regiment of Militia, (raised for reinforcing the Continental Army at *New-York*;) whereof *William Malcom*, Esq., is Colonel.

*Mr. Robert Yates*, *Mr. Veeder*, *Mr. Newhurst*, *Mr. Paris*, *Mr. H. Schenck*, and *Mr. Harper*, took the general oath of secrecy.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Letter from our Delegates in Continental Congress, and the Declaration of Independence, reported the following, which was unanimously agreed to, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 9, 1776. }

"*Resolved, unanimously*, That the reasons assigned by the Continental Congress for declaring the *United Colonies* free and independent States, are cogent and conclusive; and that while we lament the cruel necessity which has rendered that measure unavoidable, we approve the same, and will, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, join with the other Colonies in supporting it.

"*Resolved*, That a copy of the said Declaration, and the foregoing Resolution, be sent to the Chairman of the Committee of the County of *Westchester*, with orders to publish the same with beat of drum, at this place, on *Thursday* next, and to give directions that it be published with all convenient speed in the several Districts within the said County, and that copies thereof be forthwith transmitted to the other County Committees within the State of *New-York*, with orders to cause the same to be published in the several Districts of their respective Counties.

"*Resolved*, That five hundred copies of the Declaration of Independence, with the two last-mentioned Resolutions of this Congress for approving and proclaiming the same, be published in handbills, and sent to all the County Committees in this State.

"*Resolved*, That the Delegates of this State in Continental Congress, be, and they are hereby, authorized to consent to and adopt all such measures as they may deem conducive to the happiness and welfare of the *United States of America*."

*Ordered*, That copies of the aforesaid Resolutions be transmitted to the Continental Congress.

General *Morris's* daughter being extremely ill, he requested and obtained leave of absence.

*Resolved*, That the Sheriffs of this State do, and they are hereby respectively authorized and directed to retain and keep in their custody all persons of whatever kind which are or may be in their custody, until the further order of this Convention; or until such of them as may be confined for debt on civil process shall be released by the plaintiffs so brought against them.

*Ordered*, That the above-mentioned Resolution be published.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Bancker*, *Mr. Brasher*, and *Mr. Paulding* be a Committee to consider of and report the proper places for the reception and means of support of the poor inhabitants of the City and County of *New-York*.

The Committee appointed this morning to take into consideration the Letter of Adjutant-General *Reed*, reported several Resolutions, which, being amended, were agreed to, and are in the words following, that is to say:

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to carry into execution certain Resolves of this Congress with respect to disaffected persons, and the Committee appointed to confer with General *Washington*, and examine into the conspiracy lately discovered, be, and they are hereby, united and made one Committee.

*Resolved*, That the following powers be, and they are hereby, given to them, in addition to those before vested in the said Committee, to wit:

A power to dispose of all Prisoners that shall be taken in, or brought to, the City of *New-York*, other than Prisoners of War.

A power to appoint a Commissary to provide for the said Prisoners.

A power to remove, if they should think necessary, all Prisoners confined in the City of *New-York*, other than Prisoners of War as aforesaid, to such place or places of safety as they shall think proper.

A power to inquire into the conduct of *Burrows*, the Jailer of the Jail in the City and County of *New-York*; and, if they should think it necessary that he should be removed from his office, to request the Sheriff to appoint a more suitable person in his stead.

And whereas this Congress, on the 30th *June* last, being then about to adjourn to this place, were under the necessity of giving General *Washington* the trouble of apprehending and securing such dangerous and disaffected persons as he should think necessary for the security of this Colony and the liberties of *America*; and whereas that business may now be conveniently executed by the above-mentioned Committee:

*Resolved*, That it would be unreasonable longer to burden the General with matters for which this Congress ought to provide; and, therefore, that the said business be, and it is hereby, referred to the said Committee, and that they be, and hereby are, authorized and directed to execute the same; and further, that they carry into execution all such resolves of the Continental Congress, and comply with all such necessary requisitions of the General, as require so much despatch as to render an application to this Congress impracticable, or attended with dangerous delay.

*Resolved*, That the following persons, to wit, *Mr. Hobart*, *Mr. Morris*, Colonel *L. Graham*, *Mr. Gansevort*, *Mr. Randall*, and Colonel *Remsen*, or any three of them, constitute the aforesaid Committee. That *Mr. Tredwell* and *Mr. Jay* be, and they are hereby, discharged from the said Committee, and that the said Committee be, and they hereby are, authorized and empowered to administer to Colonel *Remsen* an oath similar to that taken by the other Members of the said Committee on their former appointment.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the said Committee be, and they hereby are, permitted to proceed in the business unto them committed, in such manner as to them shall appear to be most agreeable to the dictates of justice and humanity, and most advancive of the publick good, the oath which they have taken notwithstanding.

White-Plains, Wednesday Morning, July 10, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Jay*, Colonel *Brasher*, *Mr. Rutgers*, *Mr. Harper*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. Abraham Yates*, *Mr. Robert Yates*, *Mr. Gansevort*, Colonel *Rensselaer*, *Mr. Adgats*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, *Mr. Hobart*, *Mr. Miller*, *Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Gelston*.

DUTCHESS.—*Mr. Platt*, *Mr. Sackett*, *Dr. Crane*, *Mr. H. Schenck*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Mr. G. Morris*, General *Morris*, Major *Lockwood*, *Mr. Mills*, Captain *Platt*, *Mr. Paulding*.

QUEEN'S.—*Mr. Keteltas*, *Mr. S. Townsend*, *Mr. J. Townsend*, *Mr. Van Wyck*.

TRYON.—*Mr. Moore*, *Mr. Harper*, *Mr. Paris*, *Mr. Newkirk*, *Mr. Hader*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Mr. Webster*.

CUMBERLAND.—*Mr. Stephens*, *Mr. Sessions*.

The Deputies from *Tryon* County delivered in the Credentials of their election, but the same not being signed by their Chairman, or attested by the Clerk, one of the said Deputies, to wit, *Mr. Benjamin Newkirk*, informed the Congress that the said Credentials were by him copied from the Minutes of the Proceedings of *Tryon* County Committee, and that he neglected to have the same signed by the Chairman and attested by the Clerk. Whereupon the said *Mr. Newkirk* was examined on oath; and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Congress that *Mr. Isaac Paris*, *John*

Moore, William Harper, Volkert Vador, and Benjamin Newkirk, were duly elected and empowered to represent the said County of Tryon in this Congress, and instructed to give their vote in favour of a new Government wholly independent of all foreign jurisdiction,

Ordered, That they take their seats.

Mr. Robert Harper, one of the Deputies from New-York, delivered in a Certificate of a Sub-Committee appointed by the General Committee for the City and County of New-York to superintend the election of Deputies, bearing date the 20th of June last, and signed by Garret Abeel, Chairman, and others, the said Sub-Committee, and attested by Joseph Winter, Secretary, whereby it appears that at an election held in and for said City and County, on the 19th day of June last, John Jay, James Duane, Philip Livingston, Robert Harper, Francis Lewis, Garret Abeel, Isaac Stoutenburgh, Daniel Dunscomb, William Deming, Abraham Brasher, Henry Remsen, John Morin Scott, James Beekman, Evert Banker, Isaac Roosevelt, John Broome, Abraham P. Lott, Peter V. Zandt, John Van Cortlandt, Anthony Rutgers, and Thomas Randall, were, by a majority of votes, elected Deputies for the City and County of New-York, until the second Tuesday of May next, unless dissolved by their own power, or a new form of Government shall render their attendance unnecessary.

Mr. Hopkins, General Morris, Mr. Dearing, and Mr. L'Hommedieu, took the general oath of secrecy.

Mr. Yates moved that one hundred and fifty men be raised and paid by this State, to guard the frontiers of the County of Albany. Thereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. Samuel Townsend, Mr. W. Smith, Mr. L. Platt, Mr. Abraham Yates, Mr. Moore, Mr. Stephens, and Mr. Webster, be a Committee to take into consideration the propriety of raising and embodying an armed force to guard and protect the frontiers of this State, and that they report with all convenient speed.

Mr. Morris delivered in a number of Depositions and Examinations (taken by the Secret Committee) relative to the conspiracy lately discovered; which were read.

The President, by order, gave the charge of secrecy to the Members on the matters contained in the said Depositions and Examinations, until further order.

Resolved and Ordered, That the style or title of this House be changed from that of "The Provincial Congress of the Colony of New-York," to that of "The Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York."

Whereupon,

White-Plains, Wednesday Afternoon, July 10, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General Woodhull, President, and the same Members as in the forenoon, except Colonel Brasher, of New-York.

Mr. Jay, from the Committee appointed to take into consideration the Letters and Resolutions received from Congress on the subject of raising another Regiment in this Colony, delivered in the Report of the said Committee; which being read, was taken into consideration, and ordered to be recommitted.

And Ordered, That Mr. Hobart and Mr. Morris be added to said Committee.

A Letter from the Committee of Kingston, in Ulster County, dated July 1, 1776, requesting that some Gunpowder may be sent to them, as their County stands much in need of that article.

A draft of an Answer to the foregoing Letter, informing them that a Member of this House is sent to Newport, in Rhode-Island, to conduct the conveying a quantity of Gunpowder belonging to this Colony from thence to Red-Hook, in Dutchess County, a part of which is intended for the use of Ulster County.

Resolved, That Mr. Keteltas, Mr. Samuel Townsend, and Colonel Broome, or any two of them, be a Committee to confer with his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Troops, concerning the preservation of the Horses, Cattle, and all other live stock, of the Counties of King's and Queen's, as well from unnecessary distress as from the hands of our enemies; and after such conference, that the said Committee be empowered to take such steps in

regard to the premises as they, in conjunction with the Commander-in-Chief, may think proper.

On motion,

Resolved, That Tuesday next, the 16th instant, be appointed to take into consideration the Resolve of the Continental Congress recommending to the several Assemblies and Conventions to form such Constitutions (where the same was not already done) for the government of their respective Colonies as the Representatives of the people shall judge most conducive to the welfare and happiness of the same, and that all the Members do attend on that day.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Rev. Mr. Lewis be requested to open the deliberations of this Convention every morning with prayer.

Ordered, That Mr. Sacket wait upon Mr. Lewis and communicate to him the foregoing Resolution.

A Letter from the Committee of East and South Hampton, relative to the stock of Cattle, was read.\*

Ordered, That Mr. William Smith and Mr. Miller prepare a draft of an Answer to the said Letter.

A draft of a Letter to Egbert Benson, Esq., Chairman of the Dutchess County Committee, relative to the Powder from Rhode-Island, was read and approved, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"White-Plains, in Convention of the State of }  
New-York, July 10, 1776. }

"SIR: By the enclosed Resolve you will see that a quantity of Gunpowder is consigned to your care for the use and in the proportions of the Counties therein mentioned. Such part of it as is intended for the Counties northward of Dutchess, (except Cumberland and Gloucester,) you will send up to the Committee of the County of Albany, together with a copy of the before-mentioned resolve. The remainder you will keep in store until the respective County Committees, who are entitled to it by the said resolve, shall send for the same. Yours, &c.

"By order.

"P. S. The Powder for Cumberland and Gloucester, Colonel Marsh takes with him via Connecticut River, for their use, and perhaps the proportion for Charlotte.

"To Egbert Benson, Esq., Chairman of Dutchess County Committee."

Thursday morning, July 11, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. Lewis.

Present: General Woodhull, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. Rutgers, Mr. Jay, Mr. Harper.

ALBANY.—Col. Renselaer, Mr. Gansevoort, Mr. R. Yates, Mr. Abraham Yates.

SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. L'Hommedieu, Mr. Dearing, Mr. Gelston, Mr. Miller, Mr. Smith.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. H. Schenck, Mr. Sacket, Dr. Crane, Mr. Hopkins.

ORANGE.—Colonel Allison, Mr. Little.

QUEEN'S.—Captain Lawrence, Mr. J. Townsend, Colonel Blackwell, Mr. Von Wyck.

TRYON.—Mr. Harper, Mr. Newkirk, Mr. Vader, Mr. Paris, Mr. Moore.

WESTCHESTER.—General Morris, Mr. Morris, Major Lockwood, Colonel Cortlandt, Colonel L. Graham, Captain Platt, Mr. Mills, Mr. Paulding, Mr. Tompkins.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. Sessions, Mr. Stephens.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. Webster.

The House took into consideration the arrangement of the Treasury of this State.

\* EAST-HAMPTON, July 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: At a meeting of the joint Committees of South and East Hampton, taking under our most serious consideration the situation of the stock now on Montock, at the east end of Long-Island, we look upon it that there is danger of said stock falling into the hands of our enemies, unless some speedy measures are taken to prevent the same. We, therefore, request that some effectual measures may be taken, which shall be thought most beneficial to the owners of said stock in particular, and America in general. We look upon it, that the stock at Montock might be of great service for the support of our armies, if they should be protected there. Gentlemen, we look upon it as a matter of great importance; therefore beg your speedy direction.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

Signed by order of the meeting:

MALTBY GELSTON, Chairman.

To the Provincial Congress of New-York.



*Resolved*, That the same be postponed, and that next *Thursday* be appointed to take the same into consideration.

Mr. *Morris*, from the Committee to whom was recommended the Report on the Letters and Resolutions of Continental Congress relative to the raising another Regiment in this State, reported the draft of a Letter to be written to the Continental Congress; which being read, was unanimously taken into consideration, and the same being again read, paragraph by paragraph, and some amendments made therein, was unanimously agreed to, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
White-Plains, Westchester County, July 11, 1776. }

"*SIR*: In pursuance of a Resolution of your honourable House, of the 17th of *June* last, we have passed a resolve to authorize the Commander-in-Chief to call out all or any part of our Militia whenever he might think it necessary; of which we enclose you a copy, marked No. 1.

"We have also taken into consideration the recommendation of the Congress relative to the providing of clothing for the troops, and passed the resolution of which we enclose you a copy, marked No. 2.

"As soon as we had received the resolution of Congress for raising a Regiment in this Colony, in order to provide for those officers who had served in *Canada*, we referred it to a Committee, expecting from them an arrangement which would preserve the rank of those officers, and thereby prevent all disgusts and just grounds of resignation, it being our opinion that inferior officers should not be raised over their superiors, unless in cases of extraordinary and distinguished merit. And although we could not forbear observing that the recommendation of Mr. *Dubois* tended in some measure to impair that liberty of nomination, without which the privilege would be ineffectual, yet, as we conceived that such instances were not frequent, we had determined to comply with the request.

"But, sir, we are much surprised and most deeply affected by the resolution of Congress of the 26th *June*, by which it appears that your honourable House had taken from us the right of nominating not only the Field-Officers, but also the Captains and Lieutenants of that Regiment—a measure so contrary to the common usage hitherto observed and practised upon in all similar cases, as to raise a discrimination highly invidious to this State; and it is our great misfortune not to perceive the force of those three reasons which your honourable House had thought fit to assign to us.

"The first, sir, is, that the Congress was furnished with a list of the officers who had served in *Canada*, and were therefore enabled to appoint without our interposition. We shall readily admit that the Congress may in this, and in other cases, have sufficient information to enable them to make such appointments; yet we submit it to their superior wisdom, whether the ability they may thence derive to perform an act, can constitute a right of doing it. And if we suppose those appointments did (by the common usages) appertain to us, then how far the mere capacity of making them, could vest the right in any other body whatsoever.

"The second reason, sir, is, that the Congress have appointed only such officers as were originally appointed and recommended by us, and that we should probably have fixed our choice on the same persons. We shall acknowledge it to be merely possible that in the course of human affairs, we might by some chance have fixed upon those persons which are agreeable to your honourable House, and it is strictly true, that the greater part of the officers were appointed and recommended by us the last year, although not to the same rank and commissions which your honourable body have thought fit to confer upon them; but it is equally true that several of them have never been recommended or appointed by us, and one of them, if not more, has never been in the service at all; and we are really at a loss to conceive that our nomination of officers in a Regiment disbanded after the term of its inlistment was expired, can, upon the raising of a new regiment, deprive us of that right of nomination, and vest it in the Congress; nor can we be of opinion that another body ought to claim the right of choosing for us, from the mere conjecture that their choice would be similar to ours, even if that conjecture should be well-founded; but we are sorry to observe, sir, that the arrangement made by your honourable House is materially different from that which we had prepared.

"The third reason for depriving us in this instance of the right of nomination is, the good of the service and the danger of delay.

"We are deeply impressed with the idea that your respectable body were actuated by the purest intentions of serving their country, and we entertain so well-founded an opinion of their wisdom and integrity, that we shall not presume to apologize for that plainness of speech which distinguishes free-men, and which can never give offence to those who, from the dignity of their private characters, impart lustre to the offices they hold. We shall observe, therefore, that although the necessity of the case has in all ages and nations been the fruitful source of extraordinary power, yet it has but too frequently sown with tares the fertile fields of liberty, and blasted the fair fruits of patriotism and publick spirit. The whole history of mankind bears testimony against the propriety of considering this principle as the parent of civil rights, and, therefore, a people jealous of their liberties must forever reprobate it. At the same time we take leave to assure you, sir, that, however we may be calumniated by individuals, whose censure we consider as praise, we shall ever continue ready, with our lives and fortunes, to support the cause and rights of *America*.

"We are extremely sorry to inform the Congress that the good of the service will not be promoted, nor the danger of delay prevented, by the measures which they have taken, as many spirited and good officers have been so disgusted that some have resigned; and we have but too much reason to apprehend that others will refuse to accept of their commissions. We beg, therefore, that your honourable House will excuse us from interfering in the further arrangement of this Regiment, and make out the few appointments which remain.

"We have received from *William Goforth*, a brave and good officer, who served the last campaign in *Canada*, a letter containing his reasons for quitting the service, of which we enclose you a copy, marked No. 3, and also the copy of a letter from Colonel *Fleming*, on the same subject, marked No. 4.

"We daily expect other resignations, and pray leave to observe, that we think the case of Lieutenant-Colonel *Cortlandt* is attended with singular hardships. He is a young gentleman of affluent circumstances, good family and extensive connections; he entered the service last year as a Lieutenant-Colonel, and served with spirit and fidelity, and has done the like this year; he is now inferior in rank to Mr. *Dubois*, who entered the service last year as a Captain. If by such neglect, many respectable inhabitants among us, with their numerous and extensive connections, be disgusted and remain inactive, we flatter ourselves that this Colony will not be censured for the ill consequences which may result from it.

"The day before yesterday we took into consideration the Declaration of your honourable House, proclaiming the *United Colonies* free and independent States, and thereupon came to a resolution, of which we enclose you a copy, marked No. 5.

"Governour *Tryon* has inlisted into the service of the King of *Great Britain* certain disaffected persons belonging to this Colony, *New-Jersey*, &c., some of whom are now in custody. We are really at a loss what to do with them, there being no laws according to which they can be tried and punished, and *ex post facto* laws are liable to many objections. We unanimously join in requesting the favour of your honourable House to advise us what would be proper to do in this case.

"We take the liberty of suggesting to your consideration also, the propriety of taking some measures for expunging from the Book of Common Prayer such parts, and discontinuing in the congregations of all other denominations all such prayers as interfere with the interest of the *American* cause. It is a subject we are afraid to meddle with, the enemies of *America* having taken great pains to insinuate into the minds of the *Episcopalians* that the Church was in danger. We would wish the Congress would pass some resolve to quiet their fears, and we are confident it would do essential service to the cause of *America*, at least in this State.

"We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servants.

"By order.

"To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress."

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the President, and, together with copies of the Letters and Resolutions therein referred to, be transmitted.

A Letter from *Samuel Tucker*, Esq., President of the *New-Jersey* Congress, enclosing a Resolution of the said Congress, dated *July 3d*, authorizing this State to apprehend any of the inhabitants thereof at present residing in *New-Jersey*, and ordering the inhabitants thereof to aid those at *New-York* in the premises; and that a Committee of Secrecy is appointed to correspond with the Committee of Secrecy of this State, was read and filed.

—  
Thursday afternoon, July 11, 1776.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

*NEW-YORK*.—Mr. *Harper*.

*ALBANY*.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *Adgate*.

*SUFFOLK*.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *L'Homme-dieu*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Dearing*.

*DUTCHESS*.—Mr. *Platt*, Mr. *Schenck*, Mr. *Sacket*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Dr. *Crane*.

*WESTCHESTER*.—Mr. *Tompkins*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Paulding*, Captain *Platt*, Mr. *Mills*, Col. *Van Cortlandt*.

*TRYON*.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Paris*, Mr. *Vader*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

*ORANGE*.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Little*.

*CUMBERLAND*.—Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

*CHARLOTTE*.—Mr. *Webster*.

*QUEEN'S*.—Mr. *J. Townsend*, Captain *Lawrence*, Colonel *Blackwell*, Mr. *Van Wyck*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the General Committee of the County of *Tryon* be, and they hereby are, authorized and requested to employ proper persons to take the Leaden Weights out of all the windows in the said County, and apply so much thereof as may be immediately necessary to the use of the Militia of the said County; that an exact account be kept of the quantity taken from each house, to the end that payment may be hereafter made for the same; and that the said Committee do transmit an account thereof to this Convention, with all convenient speed.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Major *Webster*, (one of the Deputies from *Charlotte* County,) or his order, 1,500 lbs. of Lead, for the use of the Militia of the County of *Charlotte*, and to Mr. *John Sessions*, one of the Deputies from *Cumberland* County, 3,000 lbs. for the use of the County of *Gloucester*, and 4,500 lbs. for the use of the County of *Cumberland*.

And *Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* charge the same to the said Counties respectively, to the end that the same may be paid for by the said Counties respectively, when they shall be thereunto required.

And *Ordered*, That Major *Webster* do forward, in the most safe and expeditious manner, the said 1,500 lbs. of Lead to the General Committee of *Charlotte* County; that Mr. *Sessions* forward, in the same manner, the said 3,000 lbs. of Lead to the General Committee of *Gloucester* County, and the said 4,500 lbs. to the General Committee of *Cumberland* County.

And *Ordered*, further, That the said Committees be, and they hereby are, respectively required to attend carefully to the disposition of the said Lead for the use of the Militia of the said Counties respectively.

Whereas it has been represented to this Convention that the Troop of Horse of the County of *Westchester* have refused to furnish their quota of men lately directed to be raised to reinforce the Continental Army of *New-York*:

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Harper*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Tompkins*, and Mr. *Lawrence*, be a Committee to inquire into the truth of the said representation.

A Letter from the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., enclosing the Declaration of Independence, was read and filed, and is in the words following, that is to say:

—  
Philadelphia, July 6, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Although it is not possible to foresee the consequences of human actions, yet it is nevertheless a duty we owe ourselves and posterity in all our publick councils to decide in the best manner we are able, and to trust the event to that Being who controls both causes and events so as to bring about his own determinations. Impressed with this sentiment, and at the same time fully convinced that our

affairs may take a more favourable turn, the Congress have judged it necessary to dissolve all connection between *Great Britain* and the *American* Colonies, and to declare them free and independent States, as you will perceive by the enclosed Declaration, which I am directed to transmit to you, and to request you will have it proclaimed in your Colony in the way you shall think most proper.

"The important consequences to the *American* States from this Declaration of Independence, considered as the ground and foundation of a future Government, will naturally suggest the propriety of having it proclaimed in such a manner as that the people may be universally informed of it.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

"JOHN HANCOCK, President.

"To the Honourable Convention of *New-York*."

A draft of an Answer to the same was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

—  
July 11, 1776.

"SIR: Your letter of the 6th *July* instant, enclosing a copy of the Declaration of Congress proclaiming the *United Colonies* free and independent States, and requesting us to proclaim and publish the same in this Colony, has been received.

"It gives us pleasure to inform you that, having been informed of that Declaration by our Delegates, we have anticipated the request of Congress, by our Resolutions of the 9th instant, a copy of which was enclosed in a letter we did ourselves the honour of writing you this morning.

"We have the honour to be, &c., &c. By order.

"To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq."

—  
White-Plains, July 12, 1776.

A draft of a Letter to the Committees of *East* and *South Hampton*, in answer to theirs received on the afternoon of the 10th instant, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 12, 1776. }

"GENTLEMEN: Taking into consideration your letter of the 5th instant, applying to us for directions relative to the preservation of the stock at *Montauk*,—since the date of your letter you must have understood that Colonel *Livingston*, the commander in that quarter, has applied to the County Committee for their advice and assistance respecting the preservation of the stock and making necessary defence in your quarter. We also understand, from Messrs. *Dearing* and *L'Homme-dieu*, that persons are appointed by the Commissary-General to lay up all the stock in those parts fit for use, and also boats to be provided to remove the rest in case of danger. Viewing things in this light, we hope your fears are subsided. In case they are not, from the measures already taken, we shall expect to hear from you, and shall not be wanting in supporting all the friends of the common cause of *America*. We are, &c.

"To the Committees of *East* and *South Hampton*."

A Memorial of several Officers, complaining of improper appointments by Congress, and that they have been superseded in rank by the late appointments in the Third Regiment to be commanded by Colonel *Dubois*, was read.\*

\* WHITE-PLAINS, July 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Whereas we have had the honour to serve in the Continental Army by your appointment last year, we beg leave to mention to you a state of facts, which we esteem as real grievances, and look up to you for direction or redress.

When first the dire alarm of war was sounded in our land we willingly stepped forth and offered our services to our bleeding country, and were much pleased with the appointments which you honoured us with. Urged on by the same motives which first induced us to engage, we endured all the hardships of a most severe campaign with a pleasing fortitude, not doubting but whilst we were doing our duty we should meet with the applause of our country, and that an equal distribution of honour would have been conferred on those who had not merited the reverse. But this has not been the case; a few have been promoted to high rank, while others of equal standing and merit are superseded or entirely neglected.

Among the many instances of this procedure that might be given, the most recent is the late arrangement of the officers of a regiment to be commanded by *Lewis Dubois*, Esq., the injustice of which will, we hope, fully appear to your honourable House, if you will please to look over the copy of the arrangement itself, which we take the liberty of enclosing to you.

We humbly desire you, gentlemen, to take this matter into consideration; and are, with due respect, (in behalf of the disbanded officers that served in *Canada*,) gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

SAML. SACKET,  
AARON AORSON,  
RICHARD PLATT.

To the Honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

The Resignation of Lieutenants *Aorson, Pearsee, Plat, Gano, and Van Wagener*, on account of younger Lieutenants being appointed to a Captaincy in Colonel *Dubois's* Regiment, was read.

Mr. *Jay* reported a draft of a Letter to the President of the Continental Congress on the subject of these Resignations, which was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 12, 1776. }

"SIR: Nothing but regard to their duty could induce the Convention of *New-York* again to call your attention to a subject so disagreeable as complaints against the arrangements of the *Canada* Regiment formed by your honourable House.

"They this day received certain papers relative to that business from a number of officers who think themselves deeply affected by it, of which papers the enclosed are copies; from thence it appears that, besides other appointments out of the line of rank, three Sergeants, a Corporal, and a Lieutenant fire-worker have been raised over the heads of commissioned officers.

"We have the honour to be, &c.,

"NATHL. WOODHULL, President.

"The Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Continental Congress."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted, together with copies of the Memorial and Resignation of the Officers.

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to *Nathaniel Sacket*, Esq., or his order, six thousand pounds of Lead, for the use of the Militia of the County of *Dutchess*, and that he charge the same to the said County.

Mr. *Sampson Duyckinck* came from the City of *New-York*, and informed the Congress that three Ships-of-War had passed the Fort and Battery at *New-York*, and sailed up *Hudson's River*; that they were fired upon from all the Batteries along the banks of the river; that he believes they have already passed *King's Bridge*:

Thereupon, Ordered, That Mr. *Jay*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Mills*, Colonel *Drake*, and Mr. *Schenck*, be a Committee to take such measures on this occasion as to calling out such parts of the Militia, sending Expresses to the Forts in the *Highlands*, and all such other measures as they shall think necessary.

—  
Saturday morning, July 13, 1776.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Jay*, Colonel *Brasher*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *R. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Smith*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Platt*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Mr. *Schenck*.

ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Little*.

WESTCHESTER.—Major *Lockwood*, Captain *Platt*, Colonel *G. Drake*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *James Townsend*, Colonel *Blackwell*, Captain *Lawrence*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Vader*, Mr. *Paris*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*.

Mr. *Gilbert Livingston* and Mr. *Wisner* took the general oath of secrecy.

The Deputies for *Queen's County* represented to the Convention that the Militia of the said County are destitute of Ammunition, and therefore request that a supply may be immediately ordered for them.

Thereupon, Ordered, That Mr. *Norwood*, the Commissary of Military Stores, deliver to Captain *Jonathan Lawrence*, or his order, ten thousand Cartridges, of different sizes, filled with Powder and Ball, and one thousand Flints, for the use of the Militia of *Queen's County*, and charge the same to the said County.

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Captain *J. Platt*, or his order, fifteen hundred pounds of Lead—one half thereof in Ball; and if Colonel *Curtenius* has no Ball in store, that he call on Mr. *Norwood*, who in such case is ordered to deliver to Colonel *Curtenius*, or his order, seven hundred and fifty pounds of Ball, for the purpose aforesaid;

and that Colonel *Curtenius* charge the same to the said County, for the use of the Militia thereof.

A draft of a Letter to Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"White-Plains, July 13, 1776.

"SIR: Be pleased to order such a number of your Regiment to guard the stores in which provision and other effects belonging to the publick are lodged, at and near *Peekskill*, as you may think necessary. Colonel *Drake* will afford them the necessary supplies of bread and pork.

"As it would not be prudent, on every little alarm, to call great numbers of the inhabitants from their farms, we hope the detachments you may order on service will not be greater than the exigency of affairs may require.

"We are, sir, your most obedient servants. By order.

"To Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted immediately.

A draft of a Letter to Lieutenant-Colonel *Hammond* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"White-Plains, July 13, 1776.

"SIR: We last evening ordered Colonel *Thomas* to send you a reinforcement of forty or fifty men, together with one hundred pounds of lead and two quarter casks of gunpowder, all of which we hope you have received.

"There is no great reason to apprehend that any considerable incursions into the country will be made by parties from ships in the river, and therefore are of opinion it would not be expedient for great numbers of the Militia to leave their farms at this busy season of the year.

"Great attention should be paid to the conduct of the disaffected among us, and care taken to prevent any unusual gatherings of them; and let all such of them be apprehended and secured as may give any aid to the enemy, or threaten to give you any molestation.

"Colonel *Drake* will give the necessary orders for provisions, and we hope the Whigs of this County will distinguish themselves by their zeal and alacrity on this occasion.

"We are, sir, your very obedient servants.

"To Lieutenant-Colonel *Hammond*."

Ordered, That a copy be engrossed and signed by the President, and immediately transmitted.

A draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"Saturday morning, July 13, 1776.

"SIR: On being informed yesterday afternoon that two ships-of-war had gone into the *North-River* and passed by all the fortifications on *York-Island*, the Convention immediately sent an express to the commanding officer of the fort at the *Highlands*, advising him thereof. Last evening, advice arrived that two frigates and two or three tenders were at anchor at *Tarrytown*; whereupon, the Convention sent the inhabitants a supply of powder and ball, and took immediate measures for reinforcing the inhabitants along that shore. This morning the Convention were informed that the frigates and tenders still lay there at anchor, and that several barges were busy in sounding the river. Another detachment of the Militia has been directed to guard the stores in that neighbourhood, in which are sundry effects belonging to the publick. The Convention will endeavour to prevent their making incursions into the country, and beg leave to suggest to your Excellency the propriety of keeping a strong guard at *King's Bridge*, the destruction of which they apprehend to be an object with the enemy.

"I have the honour to be, with esteem, your Excellency's most obedient servant. By order.

"To His Excellency General *Washington*."

—  
Saturday afternoon, July 13, 1776.

The following Members met, and for want of a sufficient number of Members, adjourned till to-morrow morning, to wit:

NEW-YORK.—Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Jay*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *R. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Miller*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Platt*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *G. Livingston*.

TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. Harper, Mr. Paris, Mr. Vader.  
 ULSTER.—Mr. Wisner.  
 ORANGE.—Mr. Little.  
 CUMBERLAND.—Mr. Stephens.

—  
 Sunday morning, July 14, 1776.

The same Members met, and adjourned till to-morrow morning.

—  
 Monday morning, July 15, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayer.

Present: General Woodhull, President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel Broome.

ALBANY.—Mr. A. Yates, Mr. R. Yates, Mr. Adgate.

SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Smith, Mr. Miller.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. G. Livingston, Mr. R. R. Livingston, Dr. Crane, Mr. Platt, Mr. Sacket, Mr. Schenck.

TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. Harper, Mr. Vader, Mr. Paris.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Haviland.

ORANGE.—Mr. Little.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. Keteltas.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. Duer.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. Stephens.

ULSTER.—Mr. Wisner.

Mr. Duer and Mr. Robert R. Livingston took the general oath of secrecy.

Ordered, That Colonel Curtenius or Mr. Norwood deliver to Henry Wisner, Jun; Esq., six thousand pounds weight of Lead, for the use of the Militia of Ulster County, and four thousand pounds weight of Lead for the use of the Militia of Orange County, and charge the same to those Counties respectively.

A Letter from General Washington, dated yesterday, by express, was received and read, and is in the following words, to wit:

“New-York, Head-Quarters, July 14, 1776.

“GENTLEMEN: The passage of the enemy up the North River is an event big with many consequences to the publick interest. One particularly occurs to me, well deserving your attention, and to prevent which I shall gladly give every assistance in my power consistent with the safety of the Army.

“I am informed there are several passes on each side of the river, upon which the communication with Albany depends, of so commanding a nature, that an inconsiderable body of men may defend them against the largest numbers. It may be that on board these ships there may be troops for this purpose, who, expecting to be joined by the disaffected in that quarter, or confiding in their own strength, may endeavour to seize those defiles. In which case, the intercourse between the two Armies, both by land and water, will be wholly cut off, than which a greater misfortune could hardly befall the State and Army. I must entreat you to take the measure into consideration, and, if possible, provide against an evil so much to be apprehended. I should hope the Militia of these Counties might be used on such an emergence until further provision was made.

“I have also thought it very probable these ships may have carried up arms and ammunition to be dealt out to those who may favour their cause, and coöperate with them at a fixed time. I would, to guard against this, submit to your consideration the propriety of writing to the leading men on our side, in those Counties, to be very vigilant in observing any movement of that kind, in order that so dangerous a scheme may be nipped in the bud: for that purpose to keep the utmost attention to the conduct of the principal Tories in those parts; any attempts of intercourse with the ships; and all other circumstances which may lead to a discovery of their scheme and the destruction of their measures.

“I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your obedient and humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

“To the Hon. the President of the Provincial Congress of New-York.”

A draft of an Answer to the Letter just received from General Washington, was read and approved of, and a copy transmitted by the same express, and is in the words following, that is to say:

“White-Plains, July 15, 1776.

“SIR: Your letter of the 14th instant was read in Convention. They see the importance of securing the passes

your Excellency mentions, and will immediately take the measures you are pleased to recommend, and every other which they conceive will tend most to the security of this State. Your Excellency was informed by our letter of the 13th, of the precautions we had used in order to prevent any intercourse between the disaffected people of our State and the ships of the enemy, and to repel any attempts they might make to land. They see the necessity of watching with the utmost vigilance the steps of the Tories in this and the neighbouring Counties, and shall give your Excellency the earliest notice of any resolutions that they may form for this purpose.

“We have the honour to be, &c.

“His Excellency General Washington.”

Ordered, That Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq., advance to Henry Wisner, Jun., Esq., the sum of £50, to be by him disposed of in defraying the expenses of transporting a quantity of Lead to the Counties of Orange and Ulster, Mr. Wisner to render an account of the expenditure thereof.

Ordered, That Peter Van B. Livingston, Esq., advance to Nathaniel Sacket, Esq., the sum of £40, to be by him disposed of in defraying the expenses of transporting a quantity of Lead to Dutchess County, Mr. Sacket to render an account of the expenditure thereof.

—  
 Die Lunæ, P. M., July 15, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General Woodhull, President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel Broome, Major Abeel, Mr. Jay.

ALBANY.—Mr. A. Yates, Mr. R. Yates, Mr. Adgate.

SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Miller, Mr. Smith.

ULSTER.—Colonel De Wit, Major Tappen, Mr. Cantine, Colonel Paulding, Mr. Wisner.

DUTCHESS.—Dr. Crane, Mr. G. Livingston, Mr. R. R. Livingston, Mr. Platt, Mr. Hopkins.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Haviland, Mr. Tompkins, Mr. Paulding, Mr. Mills.

TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. Harper, Mr. Vader, Mr. Paris.

ORANGE.—Mr. Little.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. Duer.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. Stephens.

Credentials of the Deputies for Ulster County were read, approved, and filed.

Ordered, That the Deputies for Ulster County take their seats.

William Duer, Esq., one of the Deputies from Charlotte County, delivered in Convention a Certificate of the Committee of the said County, dated the 28th ultimo, subscribed by John Williams, Chairman, and attested by John Gibson, Clerk, of the election of Deputies for the said County, to serve in this Convention. The said Certificate was read and filed.

Ordered, That the Deputies from Charlotte County take their seats.

Ordered, That Mr. Jay, Mr. Robert Yates, Mr. Duer, Mr. Robert R. Livingston, and Colonel De Wit, be a Committee to take into consideration General Washington's Letter received and read this morning, and that they report thereon with all possible speed.

Two Letters from Colonel Hammond,\* at Tarrytown, in-

\* July 14, A. D. 1776.

These lines are to inform the honourable Congress that Captain William Dutcher is willing to raise a Company of forty men, to protect the inhabitants along the shore of the North River from the mischievous attempts of the Ministerial ships now lying in the river near Tarrytown, in compliance with the requisitions of Congress yesterday, on supposition that the honourable Congress will immediately put the men under pay, so that the multitude may return to their respective habitations to secure their harvests.

From your friend and servant in the common cause,

JAMES HAMMON, Lt. Col.

To the Hon. Provincial Congress, now sitting at the White-Plains.

P. S. We have taken one John Fowler returning from on board of one of the men-of-war, whom we are soon going to send under guard to the Plains.

N. B. Pray, sir, send an answer to the above as soon as is any ways consistent. Yours, as above,

J. HAMMON.

TARRYTOWN, July 15, 1776.

SIR: The men who came down with Captain Hunter from Bedford, for the sake of expedition came on horseback. Their horses have been kept here, as they expected to be immediately relieved. As they have been very serviceable to us, would beg that the Congress would be pleased to make them an allowance for the extraordinary expense they have been at in this emergency.

I much fear that without a reinforcement we shall be put to it for our complement of men to-night, as some are continually going away without leave, to take care of their harvests. From your most humble servant,

JAMES HAMMON, Lt. Col.

To Brigadier-General Woodhull, President of the Convention of the State of New-York.



forming the Convention that the men posted there are very desirous of being relieved, in order to attend their harvests, were read:

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Thomas* relieve, by detachments from his Regiment, such of the Militia stationed at *Tarrytown* as may incline to return home; and that the number of Militia to be stationed there be one hundred and fifty, exclusive of Captain *Townsend's* Company.

A Letter was wrote and sent to Colonel *Hammond*, informing him that one hundred and fifty men are sufficient to be stationed at *Tarrytown*, for the present, and that such further aid will be afforded them as the Convention may think necessary; and that they be relieved, so that the burden be equally borne by all the Militia.

A draft of a Letter to Lieutenant-Colonel *Hammond* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"In Convention for the State of New-York, }  
White-Plains, July 15, 1776. }

"*SIR*: We are surprised to find that any of the men under your command at *Tarrytown* have left their station without permission from the commanding officer. We flattered ourselves that no part of the Militia of this State would have forsaken their duty from pecuniary considerations, especially at a season when everything dear to a freeman is at stake. Assure such of the officers and men as have done their duty that they, and all others of the Militia who may be called into service, shall receive the like pay and rations as Continental troops, and that those now at *Tarrytown* shall speedily be relieved.

"We are, sir, your very humble servants. By order.

"To Lieutenant-Colonel *Hammond*."

*Resolved and Ordered*, That Mr. *Tompkins* and Mr. *Haviland* be a Committee to have the staircase of the room in which this Convention sits, closed; and also that they be a Committee to procure Guard to be stationed at the Jail.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That if his Excellency General *Washington* should think it expedient, for the preservation of this State and the general interest of *America*, to abandon the City of *New-York*, and withdraw the Troops to the north side of *King's Bridge*, that this Convention will cheerfully coöperate with him in every measure that may be necessary for that purpose.

A draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington*, to enclose the above Resolution, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"In Convention, July 15, 1776.

"*SIR*: One or two pettiaguers have been observed going to and from the ships-of-war at *Tarrytown*. Had the detachment of Militia stationed there been supplied with boats, they would certainly have taken them. The Convention take the liberty, therefore, of requesting your Excellency to send them four whale boats, which they will take care to man.

"I am directed by the Convention to transmit the enclosed resolution to your Excellency; and have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant. By order.

"His Excellency General *Washington*."

Colonel *De Wit*, Major *Christopher Tappen*, Colonel *Levi Pawling*, and Major *Garret Abeel*, took the general oath of secrecy.

Friday Morning, July 16, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Jay*, Colonel *Broome*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Bancker*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Duncomb*, Mr. *Harper*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *R. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Colonel *Renselaer*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Webster*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Gelston*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Wit*, Major *Tappen*, Col. *Pawling*, Mr. *Cantine*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Dr. *Crane*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Platt*, Mr. *Schenck*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Paris*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Pawling*, Mr. *Mills*, Colonel *G. Drake*, Major *Lockwood*.

A Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel *Hammond*,\* with a Return of the men under his command, posted at *Tarrytown*, and requesting that some person be appointed to furnish them with Provisions:

*Resolved*, That *George Coombe* be, and he is hereby, appointed Commissary of Provisions, to such of the Militia as now are or may be stationed at and in the neighbourhood of *Tarrytown*; that he supply the said Militia with fresh Provisions one half of the time, and the other half with salt Provisions, out of the Provincial Store.

A draft of a Letter to Colonel *Hammon*, acknowledging the receipt of his, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"White-Plains, July 16, 1776.

"*SIR*: The Congress duly received your letter of this day, and, pursuant to your request, have come to the enclosed resolution, by which you will see they have appointed *George Coombe* Commissary, and that suitable measures are taken for the regulating of the supplies of provision for the Militia, both fresh and salt. Yours, &c. By order.

"Colonel *Hammon*."

*Ordered*, That the same be copied, and, together with the Resolution appointing Mr. *Coombe* Commissary of Provisions, be immediately transmitted.

A Letter from *Joseph Travis*,† dated at *Peekskill*, yesterday, in substance complaining that the harvest is great and the labourers few, they expect to be attacked every moment by the Regulars and Tories, and are obliged to keep something of a guard over the stores, was read and filed.

A Petition from *Samuel Smith*, as also the Petition of *Cadwallader Colden*,‡ Jun., Esq., both confined in *Ulster*

\*HEAD-QUARTERS, TARRYTOWN, July 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We having no proper orders from you in what manner the Militia shall be found with provision, the men have eat nothing but salt provision as yet. They find much fault, as there has been no person appointed by you as Commissary. I desire that there may be a person appointed for that purpose. *George Coombe* has done this business, but he is unwilling to buy cattle without proper orders.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JAMES HAMMOND, Lt. Col.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress.

TARRYTOWN, July 16, 1776.—Return of the state of the forces under Colonel *Hammond's* command. Upon mustering the Regiment, at five o'clock this morning, agreeable to the Colonel's orders—

Appeared upon parade, fit for duty.....129 men.

Upon guard:.....10

Total.....139

JOHN G. GRAHAM, 2d Major.

†PEEKSKILL, July 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We, the inhabitants of *Cortland's Manor*, are very desirous to have your approbation what is best for us to do. The harvest is considerable great, and the labourers but few, and as we expect to be attacked every moment by the Regulars and Tories, we are obliged to keep something of a guard, on the account of the stores at our place, as well as our preservation. I should be very desirous to have a few lines from the honourable House, concerning matters of encouragement what is best to be done in these matters. I have written in haste, alone, because just had this immediate opportunity.

From your friend and well wisher,

JOSEPH TRAVIS.

To the Hon. the Congress of the Province of *New-York*.

‡ULSTER COUNTY JAIL, July 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed copy of a letter which I wrote to the General Committee of this County, [dated *Hanover Precinct*, June 27, 1776,] I beg leave to refer you to, as it contains a true relation (to that time) of a most arbitrary, cruel treatment to me; and as, instead of meeting redress where I applied for it, I was most unexpectedly sent here, where I am now confined in the common jail with a criminal, &c., I shall now relate the truth of what passed in the County Committee when I appeared before them pursuant to their order, a copy of which I also enclose. No evidence or proof in any shape appeared to contradict what I had set forth in my letter to the Committee, nor did any new matter appear against me, only that the officers who had searched my house declared they could find no arms at all, which gave suspicion that I must have secreted them. When they searched my house, and asked me for arms, I told them that there were but two guns in the house, the one a left-handed one for my own use, which was broke in the stock, and at these times did not think worth while to have it mended: the other, a fowling-piece, belonging to Dr. *Antill*, which my youngest son appeared with at the training; that all the spare arms that had been in the house I had caused to be disposed of to the soldiery. I did not show them these guns, as I made no doubt they had seen them standing in the common room; likewise, my son's pistols and sword hung up in my best bedroom, where some of these officers lodged the remainder of the night; and if they did not see them, I could not help it. It is true, my own pistols I forgot to tell them of, as they lay on a shelf of a closet in my bedroom, where they had been out of sight for a year or two, and one of them has the cock broke. I have been the more particular about this trifling circumstance, as it seemed to be the only matter before the Committee that they hinged upon. They

Jail, with copy of Mr. *Colden's* Letter to the Committee of *Ulster* County, and the Warrant for his commitment, were respectively read.

*Ordered*, That both Petitions and Papers be referred to the General Committee of *Ulster* County, and that a Letter be wrote to the Committee, enclosing the said Petitions.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee, informing them of this reference, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 16, 1776. }

"*SIR*: Enclosed you have a petition from *Samuel Smith*, a prisoner confined in *Kingston* Jail; also a letter and petition of *Cadwallader Colden*, Jun.

"This Convention have taken the petitions under consideration, and thought most expedient to refer the prayers thereof to your Committee, whom we doubt not will take such proper steps as the present times will admit of.

"We are, sir, your most obedient servants. By order.

"*Robt. Boyd*, Jun., Esq., Chairman of the General Committee of *Ulster* County."

A draft of a Letter to Mr. *Colden*, informing him of the same, was also read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 16, 1776. }

"*SIR*: The Congress received your letter to them respecting your confinement, and have directed me to inform you that they have transmitted all the papers relative to your case to the Committees of *Ulster* County, to whom it is referred.

"I am, sir, your most obedient servant. By order.

"To *Cad. Colden*, Jun., Esq."

*Ordered*, That copies of the foregoing Letters be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted immediately.

It being represented to the Convention that considerable quantities of salt Pork is stored in different places at and in the neighbourhood of *Peekskill*, where the same is much exposed to the enemy:

*Resolved*, That the Sub-Committee at *Peekskill* be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed immediately to cause all Provisions and other stores, as well private as publick property, which are stored in places within their district, and so situated as to be in danger of being taken by the enemy, to be removed to such places of safety as the said Committee shall think proper.

*Ordered*, That a Commission issue to *Cornelius J. Du-bois*, as Second Lieutenant in *John L. De Wit's* Company, in Colonel *Humphrey's* Regiment, of *Dutchess* County.

A Letter from Colonel *Hammond*,\* at *Tarrytown*, was read. The Colonel therein informs the Convention that the ships-of-war have left that harbour, and are sailing up the river, with a fair wind, towards the *Highlands*:

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Van Cortlandt* and

had indeed a letter, dated last *January*, said to be written by one *Hamilton* to his brother, in which my name was mentioned; but this letter was found to be the same that had been handed to several committees last winter, and which by them had been judged to be forged by some malicious person, on purpose to make mischief.

The Committee then asked me if I would sign the Association agreed upon in Provincial Congress, the 20th of *June*. I told them that I was willing to take the oath prescribed by the resolve of that day, relating to the secreting of arms; but as to signing the Association, I desired some days to consider of it. But that not being granted, I said, rather than go to jail, which I found was like to be the case, I would sign it. But then they were for adding another clause to it, of their own forming, upon which I positively refused to sign it; whereupon I was committed to this jail, as I have already said, and here to remain till discharged by them, or the Provincial Congress. Now, as the County Committee have adjourned not to meet till summoned, and as they are so dispersed that they cannot be soon called, if they inclined to take the matter of my discharge under consideration, but more especially as I have little reason to expect any favour or indulgence from men who have acted thus arbitrary, obliges me to appeal to your honourable House, where I doubt not I shall meet with that speedy relief my situation and the justice of my case merits at your hands; and am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,  
CAD'R COLDEN, JUN.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the Province of *New-York*.

\*TARRYTOWN, July 16, 1776.

*SIR*: The shipping have all left this harbour, and are now sailing up the river, with a fair wind. I likewise have marched my men up the river. The number of my men one hundred and twenty.

I am your humble servant, JAMES HAMMOND, Lt. Col.

To the Chairman of the Provincial Congress.

Mr. *Z. Platt* be directed to repair immediately to the *Highlands*, in order to call out such Militia as they may think necessary for the defence and security of this State; to direct their stations, to reinforce the garrisons of the Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*, if expedient, and to supply such forces as may be called out, or to appoint proper persons for that purpose.

And *Resolved*, That the Militia so employed shall receive Continental Pay and Rations.

*Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., advance to Colonel *Van Cortlandt* and Mr. *Z. Platt* the sum of five hundred Dollars, to be disposed of by them in procuring Provisions for the forces which may be called out to service in the *Highlands*.

Whereas this Convention have the greatest reason to believe that the *British* Armies in *New-York* and *Canada* will endeavour, by means of *Hudson's River*, to effect a junction, and thereby cut off all intercourse between the Eastern and Southern States; and whereas the country contiguous to the *Sound* and *Hudson's River* will be greatly exposed to the ravages and invasions of a cruel and unnatural enemy, which, if not prevented, will render them a scene of ruin and desolation; and whereas, from the situation of said country, intersected with defiles and narrow passes, it will be extremely practicable to repel the hostile attempts of the enemy, provided the inhabitants exert themselves in its defence with the union, spirit, and alacrity of men determined to defend their rights and transmit the blessings of freedom to posterity; and whereas it is the indispensable duty of this Convention, by every means in their power, to provide for the happiness and security of their constituents, reposing the highest confidence in their virtue and publick spirit:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That one-fourth part of the Militia of the Counties of *Westchester*, *Dutchess*, *Ulster*, and *Orange*, be forthwith drawn out for the defence of the liberties, property, wives and children, of the good people of this State.

And as at this busy season of the year the service may be inconvenient to many of them,

*Resolved*, That each man be allowed twenty dollars as a bounty, with Continental pay and subsistence, and be continued in the service until the last day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to such of the inhabitants who remain at home to give all possible assistance to the families of those spirited persons who step forth in defence of the rights and liberties of this invaded country, and that the Sub-Committees of the several Districts in those Counties pay particular attention to see that this recommendation be complied with.

*Resolved*, That the Brigadier-Generals and the Field-Officers of the Militia of each County be directed to adopt the most equitable and expeditious mode of raising the levies and of furnishing with Arms those who are not supplied, the price of the Arms to be deducted out of each man's pay, and that they be authorized to call on the Committee of each County for their assistance.

*Resolved*, That these levies be formed into Companies, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, three Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and fifty Privates, and that the Captains and Subalterns be appointed by the Field-Officers of each Regiment of Militia from which the quotas are to be raised out of the Militia Officers, having in such appointments a regard to their respective ranks and the dates of their commissions, if a sufficient number of such are willing to serve; if not, that they be at liberty to appoint such others as they may think properly qualified.

*Resolved*, That each Regiment shall consist of ten Captains and one Surgeon, under the command of one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Major, and to have one Adjutant and one Quartermaster; that the Field-Officers and Surgeon be appointed by this Convention, and the Quartermaster and Adjutant in each Regiment by the Colonel thereof, and the Non-Commissioned Officers by the Captains of each Company under whom they go into service.

*Resolved*, That each man furnish himself with a Blanket and Knapsack, and every six men with a Pot or Camp-Kettle.

*Resolved*, That two Deputy Commissaries be appointed

to provide four months' Provisions for six thousand men, to be deposited in two Magazines, one on each side of the river, at such places as his Excellency General *Washington* shall think proper to appoint.

*Resolved*, That all the men now raised in the Counties of *Ulster* and *Orange* be stationed in the *Highlands*, on the west side of the *Hudson River*, to guard those defiles the possession of which Brigadier-General *Clinton* shall think most conducive to the safety of the State.

*Resolved*, That the men raised in the Counties of *Westchester* and *Dutchess* repair immediately to *Peekskill*, and that General *Washington* be requested to appoint an Officer to take the command of all the levies, on both sides the river, to fix upon what station they shall occupy, and to nominate the two Deputy Commissaries for the Troops on each side the river.

*Resolved*, That all the Troops raised in the above Counties shall be subject to the Articles of War established by the Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Brigadier-Generals and Committees of the respective Counties be immediately furnished with copies of those Resolutions.

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be, and they hereby are, appointed Field-Officers of the Regiments of the Militia to go into immediate service, viz: in *Westchester* County, *Thomas Thomas*, Colonel; , Lieutenant-Colonel; *Ebenezer Purdy*, Major.

A draft of a Letter to Colonel *Van Cortlandt* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, White-Plains, July 16, 1776. }

"SIR: In our letter of the 13th instant you were requested to order a sufficient guard at the stores of publick provisions at or near *Peekskill*. We understand by a letter from Mr. *Joseph Travis*, of yesterday, and a person from *Peekskill*, that there are about fifty men who are very anxious to be relieved. We likewise understand that fifty men in that neighbourhood are willing to be engaged to continue in that service during the present necessity. We think this the most eligible method, and that they shall be engaged on the like terms that the Continental Troops are, with respect to pay and rations; and further, leave to you the appointment of a Commissary to supply the men on that station with provisions, half salt and half fresh, the salt to be taken out of the publick stores. If a sufficient number of men cannot be obtained to remain on the spot, we wish you would see that those on that service be frequently relieved. The Militia who have been or may be on that service to be allowed the like pay and rations.

"We are, sir, your very humble servants. By order.

"Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*."

The Convention took into consideration the danger to which the Continental Ships building at *Poughkeepsie*, together with the stores belonging to them, will be exposed, should the enemy's ships pass the fortifications in the *Highlands*.

*Resolved*, That a Letter be immediately despatched to the Commissioners for superintending the building of those Ships.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"GENTLEMEN: The enemy's ships have left *Tarrytown*, about ten o'clock this morning, with an intention, as we conceive, to destroy the Continental ships. We have therefore to request that you will exert your utmost abilities and attention to defend those ships from the hostile attempts of the enemy; but should you be of opinion that their preservation is not practicable, you will use your utmost endeavours to preserve the plank, rigging, and other stores, from falling into their power. We recommend particularly to your attention the security of the plank, which may hereafter be made a beneficial use of, for the safety of the State. Should you stand in need of assistance, you must apply to the nearest Field-Officer or Committee in your District.

"Yours, &c. By order.

"To *Jacobus Van Zandt*, Esq.; in his absence, to the Captains *Lawrence* and *Tuder*, or either of them, at *Poughkeepsie*."

Tuesday afternoon, July 16, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Colonel *Broome*, Mr. *Duncomb*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Bancker*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Colonel *Renselaer*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *L'Hommiedieu*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Gelston*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *Fawling*, Major *Tappen*, Mr. *Cantine*, Colonel *De Wit*, Mr. *Wisner*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *G. Livingston*, Mr. *Landon*, Dr. *Crane*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Schenck*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Mills*, Colonel *Drake*, Major *Lockwood*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Paris*, Mr. *Vader*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Sessions*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Webster*.

A Resolution\* of the General Committee of *Dutchess* County, whereby it is resolved, that any five of the Deputies from said County, met in Convention, be a quorum to represent the said County, was read and filed.

A Letter from *Egbert Benson*, Esq.,† Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess* County, was read and filed.

Ordered, That Colonel *De Wit*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Mr. *Miller*, and Colonel *Renselaer*, be a Committee to take the said Letter into consideration, and report on the same as soon as possible.

A Certificate from the Committee of *Westchester* County recommending and appointing *Elijah Miller* First Lieutenant in Captain *Thomas's* Company, in Colonel *Drake's* Regiment of Militia, now in service at *New-York*.

Ordered, That a Commission issue immediately.

Colonel *Lewis Dubois* attending, produced his Accounts for billeting his Company of Troops in Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment last year; requested the Convention to direct some mode by which the same may be audited, (as not a sufficient number of the Committee appointed to audit Accounts

\*IN GENERAL COMMITTEE, DUTCHESS COUNTY, July 13, 1776.

*Resolved*, That five of the Representatives elected for this County be a quorum to represent the same in the Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

An extract from the Minutes:

REUBEN HOPKINS, Secretary.

†DUTCHESS COUNTY, July 12, 1776.

SIR: I am now, by the direction of the Committee, to acquaint you with a dangerous insurrection that has happened in this County, but which, through the extraordinary exertions of our friends, is now happily suppressed. We have not been able as yet, with any tolerable degree of precision, to discover how many persons were engaged, though we have reason to believe that the number was great; and had they not been opposed with spirit and in season, they would in a few days have become formidable. There were about two hundred imbodyed and actually in arms. They had furnished themselves with arms by previously going about in small parties the night before and disarming the friends of liberty. We have apprehended several. The rest are skulking in the woods; however, we shall endeavour to have them all taken. The number of delinquents in this affair is so great that we are at a loss how to proceed; and, for that reason, must entreat the advice of Congress respecting the matter as soon as possible. Our own jail, with safety, will not contain above twenty persons, considering the number of debtors already in confinement, and therefore we have sent those actually taken in arms to *Connecticut*; a few to be closely confined, and the others to be disposed of in the Towns till the pleasure of Congress can be known. About five hundred of the Militia of *Connecticut*, upon a report that the insurgents were very numerous, and were collecting fast, came to our assistance, and have left bills for subsistence unpaid to a considerable amount, and applications have already been made to the Committee for payment. You will please to lay this matter also before Congress, and that we may be directed how these bills are to be discharged. We would observe, that should they not be paid, our warmest friends will in many instances be sufferers, as the troops were obliged to quarter themselves wherever it was most convenient. Indeed, the Committee conceive this expense ought by all means to be borne by the country.

We are now confirmed in a sentiment I mentioned when I appeared last before Congress, namely: that it will be impossible to preserve peace in the County and effectually to carry into execution the Resolutions of Congress, without a standing military force equal to what we requested at that time; and therefore must beg that we may still be indulged in raising another company for the service of the County. We are confident that the Colony might rather have maintained a regiment for six months than have suffered the loss it will sustain by the Militia's being called out to quell this insurrection at this critical season of the year. A future call may be prevented by a sufficient military force to overawe the disaffected.

I have the pleasure to inform you that many inhabitants of the County, upon this alarming occasion, behaved with becoming resolution; and testified a spirit and zeal worthy of men engaged in the cause of freedom.

I have the honour to be (by order of the Committee) your most obedient servant,

EGBERT BENSON, Chairman.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq.

are now present,) that he may be enabled to receive payment for the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Broome* and Mr. *Bancker* be a Committee to examine and audit those Accounts, and that a Certificate of such examination, and their approbation of the said Accounts, be a sufficient voucher to the Treasurer for the payment thereof.

On motion of Mr. *Duer*,

*Resolved, unanimously*, That a Secret Committee be appointed to devise and carry into execution such measures as to them shall appear most effectual for obstructing the Channel of *Hudson's River*, or annoying the enemy's ships in their navigation up the said River; and that this Convention pledge themselves for defraying the charges incident thereto.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, Major *Tappen*, Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, and Mr. *Paulding*, be the said Committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Duer* and Colonel *Broome* be a Committee to wait upon Governour *Trumbull* for the purposes mentioned in the Resolutions of this Committee, of the instant.

A draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"White-Plains, July 16, 1776.

"SIR: We cannot but express our satisfaction at the unremitted attention which your Excellency manifests to the interests of this State. We see the force of your observations, and have taken and shall continue to take every measure which we conceive most conducive to defeat the designs of our enemy. This will in part appear from the enclosed Resolutions.

"We are extremely sorry that the low state of our finances reduces us to the necessity of applying to your Excellency for a loan, which it may perhaps be inconvenient for you to make, but we shall take the earliest care to replace what nothing but urgent necessity would have induced us to borrow.

"As our Troops are but ill supplied with ammunition, we hope that your Excellency will order them an immediate supply, as part of them are already in motion, as well as direct the Commissary-General to take the necessary steps for their subsistence. New levies, who have never seen service, will, without doubt, require a commander of some experience; such a one we trust your Excellency will supply as soon as possible.

"Our apprehensions of an attempt on the part of our enemies to cut off the communication between the city and country, by landing above *King's Bridge*, makes us wish to have some force ready to hang on their rear, in case such a step should be taken; for which reason we have not only called out all the force we could possibly collect, (exclusive of that which may probably be wanted in the frontier Counties,) but would take the liberty, if it should meet your Excellency's approbation, to suggest the same idea to Governour *Trumbull*, who, by forming a camp at *Byram River*, of six thousand men, might render any designs which the enemy may have to land above *King's Bridge* extremely hazardous.

"We have just been informed that the ships which sailed this morning, have anchored about ten or twelve miles below *Fort Montgomery*; we have great reason to believe that they design to pass it, and burn our shipping at *Poughkeepsie*. We shall be happy to coöperate with your Excellency in every measure which may tend to secure the liberty of *America*, which we conceive to be nearly connected with the preservation of this State.

"We remain, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant. By order.

"To His Excellency General *Washington*."

"P. S. We have this moment heard that the *Phoenix* is aground in *Haverstraw Bay*, and have some reason to believe it."

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and, together with a copy of the Resolutions for calling out one-fourth of the Militia of the Counties of *Westchester*, *Dutchess*, *Ulster*, and *Orange*, be immediately transmitted.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Duer* and Colonel *Broome*, or either of them, be authorized to receive the Money requested by

this Convention on loan from his Excellency General *Washington*, and that they cause the same to be conveyed to this Convention with all possible safety and despatch.

Whereas the present dangerous situation of this State demands the unremitted attention of every Member of this Convention:

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the consideration of the necessity and propriety of establishing an independent civil Government be postponed until the 1st day of *August* next; and that in the mean time,

*Resolved, unanimously*, That all Magistrates and other officers of justice in this State, who are well affected to the liberties of *America*, be requested, until further orders, to exercise their respective offices: *Provided*, That all processes and other their proceedings be under the authority and in the name of the State of *New-York*.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That all persons abiding within the State of *New-York*, and deriving protection from the laws of the same, owe allegiance to the said laws, and are members of the State; and that all persons passing through, visiting, or making a temporary stay in the said State, being entitled to the protection of the laws during the time of such passage, visitation, or temporary stay, owe during the same time allegiance thereto.

That all persons members of, or owing allegiance to, this State, as before described, who shall levy war against the said State within the same, or be adherent to the King of *Great Britain*, or others, the enemies of the said State, within the same, giving to him or them aid and comfort, are guilty of *treason* against the State; and being thereof convicted, shall suffer the *pains and penalties of DEATH*.

*Ordered*, That the Chairman of the Central Committee of the City and County of *New-York* cause the foregoing Resolution to be publicly read at the City Hall of the said city as soon as possible, giving due notice, by ringing of the bells, to all the inhabitants, that none hereafter may plead ignorance.

And *Ordered*, That the same, together with the Resolution relative to Magistrates, &c., exercising their respective offices, be published in the newspapers.

*Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to the General Committees of the Counties and the Sub-Committees in the Districts of the several Counties in this State immediately to apprehend and secure all such persons whose going at large at this critical time they shall deem dangerous to the liberties of this State: *Provided, always*, That the parties arrested by the Sub-Committees have a right of appeal to the General County Committee, who may recommit or discharge them as to them shall seem meet, and that the County Committees report the steps they have taken in consequence of this Resolution.

Mr. *Duncomb*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Sands*, and Mr. *Lowdon*, appeared and took the general oath of secrecy.

—  
Wednesday morning, July 17, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Broome*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Duncomb*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Bancker*, Colonel *Remsen*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *R. Yates*, Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Miller*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Wit*, Major *Tappen*, Mr. *Contine*, Mr. *Wisner*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Schenck*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Dr. *Crane*, Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *G. Livingston*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Mills*, Colonel *Drake*, Mr. *Paulding*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Graham*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*, Mr. *Vader*, Mr. *Paris*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, Captain *Lawrence*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stephens*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Webster*.

A Letter from Colonel *Malcomb*,\* of General *Scott's* Bri-

\*Colonel MALCOM requests that the honourable the Congress will oblige him with orders on P. T. Curtenius and Commissary Norwood for Arms and Pouches. There are of both in store, and his Regiment are destitute. He hopes to receive it by Lieutenant Cole. About seventy Firelocks and one hundred Pouches.

CAMP AT GREENWICH, July 16, 1776.



gade, was read and filed. The Colonel informs the Convention that many men in his Regiment are without Arms and Pouches, and requests an order on the Commissary for those articles.

Colonel *Hoffman* and Mr. *Outwater* took the general oath of secrecy.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners who superintend the building of the Ships at *Poughkeepsie* would be justified in suspending that work, and suffering the Carpenters and others employed thereon to labour under the direction of the Secret Committee of this Convention on such vessels or works as they may think proper to build and erect for the defence of *Hudson's River*.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners would be justified in suffering the materials intended for the purpose of building the Continental Ships to be employed by the Secret Committee in such a manner as to them shall seem best calculated for exercising the trust reposed in them.

*Resolved*, That this Convention will immediately apply to the honourable the Congress for their approbation of this measure.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners of the Continental Ships and Captains *Lawrence* and *Tudor* be immediately furnished with a copy of these Resolutions.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee have power to impress Boats, Vessels, Teams, Wagons, Horses, and Drivers, when they shall find it necessary for the publick service, as well as to call out the Militia, if occasion should require.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer of this State be ordered to furnish the gentlemen of the Secret Committee with the sum of £5,000 in advance, in order to enable them to expedite the important business with which they are intrusted.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., advance to Messrs. *Jay*, *Robert Yates*, *Tappen*, *Robert R. Livingston*, *Gilbert Livingston*, and *Paulding*, the Secret Committee, or either of them, the sum of £5,000, to enable them to expedite the important business with which they are intrusted.

Wednesday afternoon, July 17, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Remsen*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Bancker*, Colonel *Lott*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Outwater*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Webster*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stephens*.

ALBANY.—Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Gansevort*, Mr. *A. Yates*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Schenck*, Dr. *Crane*, Colonel *Hoffman*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Hobart*.

WESTCHESTER.—Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Drake*, Mr. *Mills*, Colonel *Graham*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Major *Tappen*, Mr. *Contine*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, Captain *Lawrence*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Vader*, Mr. *Newkirk*, Mr. *Paris*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Renselaer* have leave of absence, to go home, and to return as soon as possible.

*Ordered*, That *Leonard Gansevort*, Esq., of *Albany*, have leave of absence, to return home, and that he send down some other Deputy or Deputies from that County, with all possible despatch.

Mr. *Thomas Outwater*, from *Orange County*, appeared in Congress, and produced his Credentials, signed by *John Cole*, Deputy Chairman, and attested by *John Coleman*, Clerk, which were read and filed. It is thereby certified that Colonel *Isaac Sherwood*, *Joshua Smith*, and *Thomas Outwater*, were duly elected to represent the Precincts of *Orange-Town* and *Haverstraw*, in *Orange County*, in this Convention; and that any two of the Deputies attending for the County of *Orange*, shall represent the whole County, as if all their Deputies were present.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Outwater* take his seat.

Whereas, the Committee of the *White-Plains* have informed this Convention that *James Horton*, Jun., *William*

*Sutton*, and *John Sutton*, are engaged in schemes and practices against the peace of this State and liberties of the inhabitants thereof, and are persons so dangerous that they ought not to be permitted to go at large.\*

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Lieutenant *Alexander Hunt* do immediately take the bodies of *James Horton*, Jun., *William Sutton*, and *John Sutton*, and commit them severally to close confinement, in safe custody, in the Jail at the *White-Plains*.

And *Ordered*, That *Albert Ogden*, the Keeper of the said Jail, do receive them, the said *James Horton*, Jun., *William Sutton*, and *John Sutton*, respectively, and keep them in safe custody until further order.

The Letters from General *Scott* † and Colonel *Malcom*, which were received and read this morning, were again read.

\* JOHN JAY TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

WHITE-PLAINS, July 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed is a copy of an examination taken by the Committee of Safety of this County, of which you will be pleased to make the proper use. It appears to me expedient that *Robert Sutton* should be apprehended.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN JAY.

To *John Sloss Hobart*, Esq., and others, the Committee of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, now in the City of *New-York*.

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, WHITE-PLAINS, July 12, 1776.

Mr.

, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty *God*, deposeth and says: That some time after *William Sutton* returned home from Governour *Tryon's* ship, he (this deponent) was informed by said *Sutton* as follows: That our people were to be cut off from *New-York*, and that the King's forces were to land about ten miles from *Mamaroneck*; that *Hudson's River* was to be occupied by them; that the fleet was to be drawn up in a line before *New-York*, with intent to keep the forces there in action, in order to give the transports a better opportunity of running up the *North-River*, with intent to cut off the communication between the country and city; that the King's standard was to be hoisted, and that then the Tories would have a chance. That said *Sutton* further informed this deponent that *Robert Sutton*, of *Long-Island*, would join the Regulars, with seven hundred men, well equipped; that a proclamation would be issued out by the King's party; that then the people would know what they had to expect; and that there would be forty-five thousand troops sent over to *America* this summer. And this deponent says that he heard *John Sutton*, son of the aforesaid *William*, declare that the Regulars would land between *Mamaroneck* and *Horse-Neck*, and that he would join them. And this deponent further says, that he heard *James Horton* say that he was sure the Ministerial Army would conquer us, and that matters would soon be settled. And further says not.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., Chairman.

The Committee is of opinion that the within deponent is a person whose evidence may be relied upon; they never hearing of anything that might give them a contrary opinion. By order of the Committee of Safety:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., Chairman.

COMMITTEE CHAMBER, WHITE-PLAINS, July 12, 1776.

Mr.

, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty *God*, deposeth and says: That some time after *William Sutton* returned home from Governour *Tryon's* ship, he (this deponent) was informed by said *Sutton* as follows: That our people were to be cut off from *New-York*, and that the King's troops were to land about ten miles from *Mamaroneck*; that *Hudson's River* was to be occupied by them; that the fleet was to be drawn up in a line before *New-York*, with intent to keep the forces there in action, in order to give the transports a better opportunity of running up the *North-River*, with intent to cut off the communication between the country and city; that the King's standard was to be hoisted, and that the Tories would then have a chance. That said *Sutton* further informed this deponent, that *Robert Sutton*, of *Long-Island*, would join the Regulars, with seven hundred men, well equipped; that a proclamation would be issued out by the King's party; that the people would then know what they had to expect; and that there would be forty-five thousand troops sent over to *America* this summer. And this deponent says, that he heard *John Sutton*, son of the aforesaid *William*, declare that the Regulars would land between *Mamaroneck* and *Horse-Neck*, and that he would join them. And this deponent further says, that he heard *James Horton* say that he was sure the Ministerial Army would conquer, and that matters would soon be settled. And further says not.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., Chairman.

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, WHITE-PLAINS, July 13, 1776.

The within deponent came before this Committee, and made oath that he saw *Joshua Gidney*, of *Dutchess County*, have a long list of men's names who would join the Ministerial Army; that said list of names was delivered to Governour *Tryon*, by said *Gidney*, in the presence of this deponent. And this deponent further says, that he heard *Caleb Fowler*, Jun., of *Northcastle*, degrade the service he had been in, and that if he went again, he would go like a man and join the Ministerial Army.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., Chairman.

† NEW-YORK, July 16, 1776.

SIR: This will be delivered to you by Lieutenant *Cole*, of my brigade. He is from *Queen's*, and should have been under the command of the *Richmond* Captain, had he not proved a villain, and joined the enemy. I do not know what to do with him in the present situation of things. He has twelve men with him, now in camp; he expects, by the evening, to be made up to twenty-five. It would be a great pity to lose so stout and handsome a young fellow. I could provide him with a Second Lieutenantcy, but he has too much spirit to be degraded. I like him well, and wish something may be done for him by Congress.

Is it possible, sir, that the Congress can sustain the clamours of the Army and the murmuring of the inhabitants, occasioned by their retreat? For *God's* sake, for the honour of the State of *New-York*, and for their own honour, bring them back, if possible.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN MORIN SCOTT.

To the President of the Congress of the State of *New-York*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* immediately deliver such Arms as are in store, fit for use, and not appraised at a higher value than £4 10s., to Colonel *McDougall* and Colonel *Ritzema*, for the use of their respective Regiments, until they are supplied with Arms for the men they now have; and that he deliver the residue of all Arms, now in store, fit for use, and not of a higher value than aforesaid, to Colonel *Lasher* and Colonel *Malcom*, for the use of such men in their respective Regiments as are destitute of Arms, and in proportion to the number of men in each of those last-mentioned Regiments who are destitute of Arms.

And *Ordered*, That Mr. *Richard Norwood* deliver to Colonel *Malcom* seventy Pouches and Belts, for the use of his Regiment, taking Colonel *Malcom's* receipt for the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Remsen* and Major *Abeel*, together with Mr. *Bancker*, be a Committee to examine and audit all special Accounts which cannot be delayed until an Auditor-General is appointed; and that the Treasurer of the Convention of this State do pay, on such Accounts as they may audit, the sum or sums by them certified to be due thereon.

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be, and are hereby, appointed Field-Officers of the Regiments of Militia to go into immediate service, viz:

In *Ulster County*: *Levi Pawling* Colonel, *Thomas Jan- sen*, Jun., Lieutenant-Colonel, *Samuel Logan* Major.

In *Dutchess County*, First Regiment: *Jacobus Swart- wout* Colonel, *Reuben Ferris* Lieutenant-Colonel, *Israel Thompson* Major. Second Regiment: *Morris Graham* Colonel, *Roswell Hopkins* Lieutenant-Colonel, *William Barker* Major.

In *Westchester County*: *Thomas Thomas* Colonel, ——— Lieutenant-Colonel, *Ebenezer Purdy* Major.

In *Orange County*: *Isaac Nicoll* Colonel, *Gilbert Cooper* Lieutenant-Colonel, *Hendrick Vande Linden Van Bruyck* Major.

A Letter, or Report,\* dated the 16th *July* instant, from *John McDonald*, Miner, was read and filed. He thereby informs the Convention that he has already cleared out two pits at the Lead Mine in *Nine Partners*; he informs the state or appearances of the said Mine, and he is to proceed to clear out other two pits, and will report thereon.

*Ordered*, That the said Report be filed.

A Letter from *Egbert Benson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess County*, dated the 12th instant, was again read.

Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, from the Committee appointed to report on the said Letter, brought in their Report;† which

\*LITTLE NINE PARTNERS MINE, *July 16, 1776.*

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: In compliance with your directions have used the utmost of my endeavours in clearing two pits, or shafts, at the northeast end of the mine hill, and met with great difficulties in them, owing to the water; *Jonathan Landon* and *Ezra Thompson*, Esquires, being very punctual from time to time inspecting the same. This day Mr. *Landon* have with sincerity taken inspection of the appearances, and thereby he ordered me to make up a report of the circumstances thereof, as he was intending going to *New-York*. In the first pit discovered a small quantity of lead, in three different places, about two inches diameter, lying about five foot distant, not in a continued vein; the bottom is free from any prospect. The second pit is more likely, by the appearances of the spar, and found lead in four places, about two or three inches diameter, six foot distant, not containing in a continued vein; the bottom is entirely void of the appearances of mines. Both pits are not worthy of pursuing at present unless further promising discoveries be made. To-morrow am going to clear the pit of fifty foot deep, and another small pit, by order of Mr. *Thompson*, which I shall finish with all convenient speed, and immediately thereafter shall repair for *New-York*, and transmit the full account of my proceedings, unless I receive further instructions. The truth of this small report, &c., *Landon* will describe more at large to you. I am, honourable gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN McDONALD, Miner.

†*Resolved*, That the Committee of *Dutchess County* be directed to keep the disaffected persons that are or may be taken prisoners, in the County in some convenient place, under guard, (the most dangerous to be closely confined,) till the further direction of this Convention.

And in order to carry the same more effectually into execution:

Be it further *Resolved*, That an additional Company, consisting of one Captain, one Lieutenant, two Sergeants, two Corporals, one Drum, one Fife, and fifty Privates, be immediately raised in said County, on the same footing that the two Companies lately raised in said County are; and that the command of the Company be given to as Captain, and as Lieutenant; the Captain to appoint the Sergeants and Corporals; to be under the command and direction of Captain Commandant *Melancthon Smith*.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of *Dutchess County*, after carefully examining all and every account that may be brought to them by any person that has furnished provisions or other comfort to any of the Militia of the sister State of *Connecticut*, which so generously gave their assistance to the friends of liberty in said County, to quiet the dangerous insurrection lately existing there, certifies the same to be reasonable and just, and on being endorsed by the Auditors of Accounts, the Treasurer of this State is hereby directed to pay the same.

he read in his place, and delivered in to the Chair, when the same was again read.

*Ordered*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

Mr. *Abm. Yates*, from the Committee appointed to report on the Letter from the Committee\* who conferred with his Excellency General *Washington*, relative to the Horned Cattle and Sheep on *Nassau-Island*, brought in their Report, which he read in his place and delivered in at the table, where the same was again read.

*Ordered*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

A Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel *James Hammond*,† dated this day, was read and filed. He thereby informs the Convention that he had then mustered his Regiment and only forty-six men appeared; that his men are very much fatigued; that one of his Companies are gone off; that the Ministerial fleet is now in *Haverstraw-Bay*, and that he would be thankful for a speedy relief.

Thursday morning, *July 18, 1776.*

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. *Lewis*.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Harper*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Bancker*, Colonel *Lott*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Colonel *Pawling*, Colonel *De Wit*, Mr. *Contine*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Schenck*, Dr. *Crane*, Colonel *Hoffman*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Gelston*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Outwater*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Paris*, Mr. *New-kirk*, Mr. *Veder*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, Captain *Lawrence*, Mr. *Ben. Sands*, Mr. *S. Townsend*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Graham*, Colonel *G. Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *Tompkins*, Mr. *Haviland*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Webster*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

Mr. *Richard Norwood* returns about twenty-three thousand Flints in store at *New-York*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Richard Norwood*, Commissary of Colony Stores, deliver to *Henry Wisner*, Jun., Esq., two thousand Flints for the use of the Militia of *Ulster County*, and one thousand Flints for the use of the Militia of *Orange County*, and that Mr. *Norwood* take Mr. *Wisner's* receipt for the same.

The President informed the Convention that two prisoners, said to be named *George Davy* and *William Tucker*, have been apprehended by Major *Graham*, and are now in prison; that they produced some paper purporting to be a pass from *John Dennis*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee

\*NEW-YORK, *July 12, 1776.*

GENTLEMEN: We have conferred with the General concerning the removal of the stock back again to the pastures from whence they were driven. He was much chagrined at the proposal, and absolutely refused his consent, mentioning the unhappy consequences of not seasonably removing the stock from *Staten-Island*. He is of opinion that all means should be used with the utmost expedition to remove the stock from *Long Island*, for which promised to give all necessary assistance. We are of the same opinion, and hope your House will not lose a moment in giving peremptory orders concerning a matter of such vast importance.

We are just informed by General *Putnam* that one of Lord *Howe's* fleet arrived yesterday. The utmost despatch is necessary: we need use no arguments, the affair of *Staten-Island* being fresh in our minds.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants,

ABM. KETeltas, JNO. BROOME.  
SAML. TOWNSEND,

To the Provincial Congress.

†MANOR OF CORTLANDT, CROTON FERRY, *July 17, 1776.*

This morning mustered the Regiment, and upon parade appeared forty-six men. Our men are at present very much fatigued. Captain *Ledue's* company, in defiance of us all, waded through the ferry and are gone off. The Ministerial ships are still riding in *Haverstraw-Bay*. We have been very peaceable last night. We should be very thankful for a speedy relief. From your humble servant, JAMES HAMMOND, Lt. Col.

To the Hon. Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress.

I this minute received intelligence from a man on *Cortlandt's Manor*, that the Tories told him, before the shipping came up, when they would come; and that when they came the Tories were to collect to assist them.

To Brig. Gen. *Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress.

at *New-Brunswick*, but that they are represented as suspicious persons.

Ordered, That Colonel *Hoffman* and Mr. *Lockwood* be a Committee to hear and examine the said prisoners, and report thereon with all convenient speed.

Colonel *Levi Pawling* informed the Congress of sundry difficulties which had arisen in the Company whereof *Petrus Schoonmaker* had been elected Captain, in the Town of *Rochester*, in his Regiment. The same were considered.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Rochester* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"GENTLEMEN: The Convention being informed that Captain *Petrus Schoonmaker* still declines taking the command of his Company, and as it may be necessary for the Commander-in-Chief to call out the whole Militia of this State, it is absolutely necessary that officers for that Company should be appointed.

"I am therefore directed by this Convention to acquaint you that they expect you will once more desire Captain *Schoonmaker* and his subalterns to take the charge of the Company; and if they should refuse, immediately to call the Company to a new election, and if the choice shall fall upon the same persons, and they still decline to accept, and the Company refuse to elect others, the Convention are of opinion that the Company, by such conduct, will forfeit their right of election, and in that case request you immediately to appoint proper officers for them, who have by their uniform conduct shown themselves friends to the interests of their invaded country.

"Blank commissions are enclosed, which you will please fill up as soon as the appointments are made. I am directed to urge you to use all possible despatch in the execution of this business.

"I am, very respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servant. By order.

"To Committee of the Town of *Rochester*, *Ulster County*."

Resolved, That the President be authorized and ordered, and he is hereby authorized and ordered, to absolve all the Members and the Secretaries of this Convention from their oath of secrecy, relative to the Committee appointed to carry into execution resolutions of the Congress of this Colony of the 5th day of *June* last, relative to persons dangerous and disaffected to the *American* cause, and those of equivocal character, and all the proceedings of that Committee, except so much thereof as relates to the names of persons not already apprehended or summoned.

The Report of the Committee relative to Horned Cattle and other Live Stock on *Nassau-Island*, was again read; and, being read,

Ordered, That it be recommended that the following gentlemen be added to the Committee who brought in that Report, viz: Colonel *De Wit*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Lawrence*, *Samuel Townsend*, Mr. *Miller*, Colonel *Drake*, Mr. *Tompkins*, Colonel *Blackwell*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Gelston*, and Mr. *Hobart*. That every Member of this Congress have a right to attend this Committee, and every Member who attends shall have a vote; and the said Committee reconsider the said Report, and report thereon with all convenient speed.

A Letter from *David Mathews*, Esq., a prisoner, now at the *White-Plains*, was read. He therein desires to be heard before this Convention. A Member informed the Convention that this request is made by Mr. *Mathews* with the design to exculpate himself from a charge of having supported some disaffected persons now in custody, and of having sent them on board of the ships-of-war.

Another Member informed the Convention that *John L. C. Roome* requests that he may be sent a prisoner on his parole to *Shrewsbury*.

Ordered, That the said Letter and Applications be referred to the Committee appointed to deal with dangerous and disaffected persons, and those of equivocal character.

Mr. *Yates*, from the Committee appointed to report of the number of Rangers proposed or necessary to be raised in and for the defence of the frontier Counties, delivered in their Report, which was read. The same being read a second time, Mr. *De Wit* moved, and was seconded, that Rangers

be also raised and stationed in *Ulster County*, or that the Report be recommitted.

Thereupon, Ordered, That said Report be recommitted to Mr. *De Wit*, Mr. *Little*, and the Committee who brought in the said Report, and that they report with all convenient speed.

Whereas the navigation of *Hudson's River* is become obstructed so that the fifteen hundred pounds weight of Lead lately ordered to be sent from *New-York* to *Charlotte County*, cannot be transported up that river:

Therefore, Ordered, That the Committee of the County of *Albany* supply to Major *Alexander Webster* fifteen hundred pounds weight of Lead, if that quantity can be spared by the said Committee; and if so much cannot be spared from the City and County of *Albany*, that then the said Committee be, and hereby are, requested to cause so much Lead to be taken out of the windows of the houses in *Albany* as to supply that quantity of Lead to the Committee of *Charlotte County*; that a particular account be kept of any Lead taken or received from any person for the purpose above-mentioned, that a compensation may hereafter be made for the same, and that the said Lead be charged to *Charlotte County*, to the end that the same may be fully paid for by *Charlotte County*, when thereunto required. ~

Die Jovis, 4 ho. P. M., July 18, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Remsen*, Colonel *Brasher*, Colonel *Lott*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Dunscomb*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Gelston*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Wit*, Mr. *Conline*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *L. Graham*, Colonel *G. Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *Tompkins*, Mr. *Haviland*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *Schenck*, Dr. *Crane*, Colonel *Hoffman*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Outwater*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, Captain *Lawrence*, Mr. *J. Townshend*, Mr. *Ben. Sands*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Paris*, Mr. *Newkirk*, Mr. *Veder*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Webster*.

A Letter from Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt* and Captain *Z. Platt*, dated this day, at *Peekskill*, was read and filed. They thereby inform the Convention of the station of the enemy at *Haverstraw Bay*; the number of the Militia already come and coming in from the different Counties; that General *Clinton* had six hundred men at *Fort Montgomery*, and sent home a considerable number of the Militia; that one of the tenders had beat up the river within two miles of *Fort Montgomery*, and has been obliged to return; that the Militia have had a skirmish with one of the tenders, and obliged her to remove; that General *Ten Broeck*, from *Dutchess County*, and General *Fellows*, from *Massachusetts*, conclude they have six hundred men, and expect to have twelve hundred men by the evening.

Ordered, That a copy of said Letter be sent to General *Washington*.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington* was read and approved of; and is in the words following, that is to say:

"SIR: I have the honour to enclose a copy of a letter this moment received from Colonel *Van Cortlandt* and Captain *Z. Platt*, who were sent from this Convention for the purpose of providing for and stationing the Militia that might come down from the country to guard the river, and assist the other Militia at the forts in the *Highlands*.

"I am, respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant.

"By order.

"His Excellency General *Washington*."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted by *Sampson Dyckman*.

The Committee appointed this morning to report what is

necessary to be done with Horned Cattle and Live Stock on *Nassau-Island*, delivered in their Report, which was read; and, being again read by paragraphs, and many amendments made, on reading the fourth paragraph, Mr. *Dunscomb* moved, and was seconded by Colonel *Lott*, that the words "with a bounty" be obliterated. Debates arose thereon, and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, that is to say:

For the affirmative.	Negative.
4 Suffolk.	5 Dutchess.
2 Cumberland.	4 Ulster.
4 Queen's.	8 New-York.
2 Charlotte.	4 Westchester.
3 Orange.	
3 Tryon.	21 votes.—Mr. Drake and Mr. Graham dissenting.
18 votes.	

*Ordered*, That the words be not obliterated; and the further consideration of the Report postponed till to-morrow.

Mr. *Hobart*, from the Committee appointed to carry into execution the Resolutions of this Congress, of the 5th June last, as to dangerous and disaffected persons, reported their determination as to the following Prisoners, that is to say:

Prisoners' names.	Nature of their crimes.	Place of destination and nature of confinement.
David Mathews, Esq.....	Treasonable practices against the States of America.....	Litchfield jail, in the County of Litchfield, in the Colony of Connecticut, to be put in safe custody.
John L.C. Roome, Esq.....	Notoriously disaffected to the rights and cause of America.....	The same jail and same confinement.
Gilbert Forbes...	Treasonable practices against the States of America.....	The same jail and same confinement.
William Forbes..	The same crime.....	The same jail and confinement.
James Mason....	The same crime.....	The same jail and confinement.
Thomas Coyne..	The same crime.....	The same.
John Clark.....	The same crime.....	The same.
Nathan Gyre....	The same crime.....	The same.
Lazarus Gyre....	The same crime.....	The same.
Jonathan Baker..	The same crime.....	The same.
Isaac Youngs....	Counterfeiting the bills of credit of the States of America.....	The same.
Israel Youngs...	The same crime.....	The same.
Thomas Vernon..	Corresponding with and supplying the enemies with provisions, &c....	The same.
Henry Dawkins..	Counterfeiting the bills of credit of the United States of America.....	Albany jail, and in safe custody.
Ryner Van Hoesen	Too good a pilot to be trusted at large.....	Albany, to be supported at the publick expense, under the directions of the Albany Committee.
Jacob Losee and George Watts...		Those two persons, the Committee are of opinion that they be permitted to enlist in the Regiments, which they are ready to do.

*Resolved*, That this Convention. does agree with their Committee in their said Report, and that the said Prisoners be disposed of agreeable to the determinations mentioned in the said Report. That the Committee prepare the draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Litchfield*, respecting the case and imprisonment of those Prisoners, agreeable to the directions now given or mentioned; that the Committee request Captain *Moses Seymour*, of the *Connecticut* Horsemen, if he should arrive with his party this evening, or early to-morrow morning, to take the care and guard of those Prisoners to *Litchfield*. That if Captain *Seymour* should consent to take the charge of those Prisoners, and be ready to depart before the meeting of this Convention in the morning, that the President sign such Letter to the Committee of *Litchfield* concerning those persons, and to be sent with them, as the said Committee shall prepare and the President approve of.

*Ordered*, That the said Committee prepare a draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Albany*, to attend the Prisoners who are to be sent to *Albany*, and that they report the same with all convenient speed.

The order of the day, for taking into consideration the appointment of an Auditor-General of Accounts, being read,  
*Ordered*, That the same be deferred till to-morrow.

Friday morning, July 19, 1776.  
The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. *Lewis*.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.  
NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Dunscomb*, Col. *Lott*, Major *Abeel*, Col. *Rensen*, Col. *Brasher*.  
ALBANY.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*.  
SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Hobart*.  
ULSTER.—Colonel *De Wit*, Mr. *Contine*.  
ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Outwater*.  
DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Schenck*, Mr. *Landon*, Colonel *Hoffman*.  
TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*, Mr. *Vader*, Mr. *Paris*.  
WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Haviland*, Colonel *Drake*.  
QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, Captain *Lawrence*, Mr. *Townsend*, Mr. *Sands*.  
CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Sessions*.  
CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Webster*.

Colonel *Allison* brought in the joint and several Bond of *John Carpenter*,\* of the Precinct of *Cornwall*, in *Orange* County, and *Colvill Carpenter*, of the Precinct of *Goshen*, in *Orange* County, Yeomen, unto *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., *John Thomas*, Jun., *Petrus Ten Broeck*, *John Herring*, and *Jacobus Bruyn*, Esq., in the sum of £400, *New-York* money, with condition to pay £200 to the obligees on the 8th of July, 1778; which was read and filed. Also, a Certificate of *William Allison*† and *Israel Seely*,‡ that the said *John Carpenter* has erected a good Powder-Mill in *Orange* County, which those gentlemen had seen going with eighteen stampers. The said *John Carpenter* and his co-partner having applied for the loan of money without interest, for the erecting of a Powder-Mill, agreeable to the resolution of the Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, of the 9th day of *March* last, which was then agreed to, and he having since erected the said Powder-Mill,

Therefore, *Ordered*, That *Peter Van B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Convention, deliver or pay to the said *John Carpenter* the sum of £200, in part of the money to the loan of which he is entitled by the said resolution, taking the receipt of the said *John Carpenter* for the same.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee relative to Horned Cattle and other Live Stock on *Nassau-Island*. On reading the fourth paragraph,

On motion of Mr. *Hobart*,  
*Ordered, unanimously*, That the fourth paragraph be obliterated.

\* Know all men by these presents, That we, *John Carpenter*, of the Precinct of *Cornwall*, in the County of *Orange*, and Province of *New-York*, Yeoman, and *Colvill Carpenter*, of the Precinct of *Goshen*, County and Province aforesaid, Yeoman, are held and firmly bound unto *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., *John Thomas*, Jun., *Petrus Ten Broeck*, *John Herring*, and *Jacobus Bruyn*, in the just and full sum of four hundred Pounds, current money of *New-York*, to be paid to the said *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., *John Thomas*, Jun., *Petrus Ten Broeck*, *John Herring*, and *Jacobus Bruyn*, or to their survivor or survivors, or any future Congress; to which payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

Sealed with our seals, dated the eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

The condition of this obligation is such, that if the above bounden *John Carpenter* and *Colvill Carpenter*, them or either of them, their or either of their heirs, executors, administrators, or any of them, shall well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, unto the above-mentioned *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., *John Thomas*, Jun., *Petrus Ten Broeck*, *John Herring*, and *Jacobus Bruyn*, or either of them, or either of their survivor or survivors, or any future Congress, the just and full sum of two hundred Pounds, current money aforesaid, on the eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, without any fraud or other delays, then this obligation to be void, or else to remain in full force and virtue.

JOHN CARPENTER,  
COLVILL CARPENTER.  
Sealed and delivered in the presence of  
HENRY WISNER, Jun.,  
WILLIAM JACKSON.

† WHITE-PLAINS, July 19, 1776.  
These are to certify, that at the request of *John Carpenter*, of *Goshen*, *Orange* County, I have been to see his Powder-Mill, built in said County, and that she was set agoing while I was present, and, in my opinion, went exceeding well with eighteen stampers, a good stone house and yard, and many other things necessary for drying and securing the powder. Witness my hand.  
WILLIAM ALLISON.

‡ GOSHEN, July 15, 1776.  
These are to certify, that I was called on by *John Carpenter* some time before the tenth day of June last, to see that his Powder-Mill was built and finished. I went the same day and saw her agoing; and, as far as I am a judge, I think she went exceeding well, everything appearing to me to be in good order. Witness my hand.  
ISRAEL SEELY.



The fifth paragraph being read, was entirely obliterated, and another substituted in its stead, and marked No. 4.

Mr. *Hobart* moved, and was seconded, that a Bounty be allowed to the said Troops.

Objections were made against the said motion, as being contrary to the sixth rule, because that matter was determined yesterday.

Debates arose whether Mr. *Hobart's* motion is disorderly and against the said rule. It was determined to be disorderly, in manner following, that is to say :

That the motion is disorderly.	That the motion is not disorderly.
6 Albany.	4 Suffolk.
5 Dutchess.	3 Tryon.
8 New-York.	4 Queen's.
4 Westchester—Colonel Drake	2 Charlotte.
4 Ulster. [dissenting.]	—
3 Orange.	13 votes.
2 Cumberland.	
—	
32 votes.	

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That the said motion is disorderly, and that it be rejected.

Mr. *L'Hommedieu* moved, and was seconded, that the Continental Troops now stationed in *Suffolk* County, which were raised out of the Militia of said County, be considered as part of the one-fourth of the Militia now ordered to be draughted from the Militia in *Suffolk* County.

Some debates arose thereon.

*Ordered*, That it be deferred till the afternoon.

The Committee for carrying into execution the Resolutions of the Congress of this Colony of the 5th of *July*, reported, that, agreeable to the order of yesterday, they had prepared a Letter, which was signed by the President, and transmitted with the Prisoners to *Litchfield*; the draft whereof was read, and is in the words following, that is to say :

“White-Plains, July 19, 1776.

“GENTLEMEN: As this State is now attacked by the common enemy, and our jails are in general so near to the sea-coast and the banks of *Hudson's River* as to render it extremely imprudent to continue prisoners of a certain cast any longer in them, the Convention have therefore come to a resolution to send thirteen prisoners, who are accused of notorious disaffection to the rights and liberties of the *American* States, of counterfeiting the currency of the States, of corresponding with the enemy, or of engaging in treasonable conspiracies, to be confined in your jail till we shall have formed a civil constitution and established courts of justice, that they may be brought to trial, which cannot be done while our whole attention is engaged about the means of resisting the enemy.

“The Convention have observed such a zeal in our brethren of *Connecticut*, upon every occasion, to give all assistance to their neighbours, that it is scarce necessary to mention to you that his Excellency General *Washington* has recommended them to send all our prisoners, whose remaining in this State would be attended with dangerous consequences, to *Connecticut*.

“I am directed to request that you will cause all the prisoners, except *David Mathews*, *John L. C. Roome*, *Israel* and *Isaac Youngs*, to be furnished with provisions, at the same rate that the Continental troops receive; but if you should judge it improper for them to cook their own provisions in jail, you will please to take such other methods as you shall judge best for supplying them, only observing to have it done at the cheapest rate, and the Convention will, with the utmost pleasure, repay the expense.

“It has given me great pain to observe that Mr. *Mathews*, the Mayor of the city of *New-York*, is among those accused of treasonable practices; but I must observe to you, that though the evidence against him renders it necessary that he should be confined till he can be tried, yet they are by no means of so black a dye as those against the other conspirators, and therefore I trust he will receive from you every indulgence consistent with his safe confinement.

“This will be handed to you by *Abraham De Peyster*, Esq., the Commissary who has the charge of subsisting the prisoners on the road; to him I beg leave to refer you for further particulars; and am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant.

By order.

“To the Committee at *Litchfield, Connecticut*.”

Friday Afternoon, July 19, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Duncomb*, Colonel *Remsen*, Mr. *Harper*, Colonel *Loft*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Gelston*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Wit*, Mr. *Contine*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Haviland*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, Captain *Lawrence*, Mr. *S. Townshend*, Mr. *Benjamin Sands*, Mr. *James Townshend*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *Schenck*, Colonel *Hoffman*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Outwater*, Colonel *Allison*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Newkirk*, Mr. *Paris*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Webster*.

A Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel *Hammen*,\* of the Militia now stationed at the banks of *Hudson's River*, at *Cortlandt's Ferry*, dated this day. Colonel *Hammond* informs Congress that a Member of this Convention has informed him that a complaint is exhibited against him to this Convention, charging him with deficiency of duty on the night the enemy's ships came up to *Tarrytown*, as also a charge relative to some pork. The Colonel requests an opportunity of vindicating himself before this Convention.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Lieutenant-Colonel *Hammen* attend this Convention to-morrow afternoon, at five o'clock, with his witnesses, to answer to a complaint exhibited against him of neglect of duty as an officer, and a complaint relative to some pork.

And *Ordered*, That Major *Graham* take the command of the Militia now under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Hammen*, until further orders, or until a superior officer of his Regiment shall attend to command them.

*Ordered*, That the following persons attend this Convention to-morrow afternoon, at five o'clock, as witnesses on a complaint exhibited against Lieutenant-Colonel *Hammen*, relative to some pork, to wit: *Martinus Van Wart*, *Joseph Legget*, *Saml. Purdy*, Jun., *Thomas Deane*, and *Jacob Buckhont*; and that the following persons attend, at the same time, as witnesses on a complaint exhibited against the said Lieutenant-Colonel *Hammen*, for neglect of duty as an officer, to wit: *Daniel Marling*, *Wm. Forshe*, Sen., Lieutenant *Wm. Hunt*, *Jon'n G. Tompkins*, *Isaac Buys*, *Abm. Acker*, *James Requaw*, *Cors. Van Tessel*, *Thomas Buys*, *John Paulding*, *Danl. Requaw*, — *Weaver*, and *John Hammen*.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of *Westchester* County be requested to meet on *Monday* next, for the trial of the Prisoners now confined in the Jail of *Westchester* County.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee relative to Horned Cattle and Live Stock on *Nassau-Island*. The fourth paragraph being again read, several amendments were then made.

Mr. *L'Hommedieu's* motion of this day was again resumed, and being again read, is in the words following, to wit:

“I move that the Troops now stationed in *Suffolk* County, which were raised out of the Militia of said County, be considered as part of the one-fourth of the Militia now ordered to be draughted from the Militia in *Suffolk* County.”

Debates arose on the said motion, and the question being

\* *CORTLANDT'S FERRY*, July 19, 1776.

SIR: I am informed by a member of the Convention that a complaint is made against me by one of the House, that I was deficient in performing my duty on the night that the enemy's ships came to *Tarrytown*, and also that there is a charge exhibited against me relative to some pork sent by me to *New-York* for the use of the troops.

I confide, sir, in the justice of your honourable House, that no sentiments prejudicial to my reputation will be entertained until I have an opportunity of vindicating myself, when I doubt not I shall prove to the honourable Convention that the charges are entirely groundless. I should, sir, have immediately waited on the Convention upon receiving notice of the complaints, had I not been stationed here, and been fearful that my leaving this post without orders would be detrimental to the service and injurious to my reputation. But, sir, whenever the Convention will be pleased to order my attendance upon them, I shall gladly embrace the opportunity of showing that I have endeavoured to serve them to the utmost of my abilities. So no more at present, but remain, sir, your very humble servant,

JAMES HAMMAN, Lt. Col.

To General *Nathaniel Woodhull*.

put thereon, it was determined in the negative, in manner following, that is to say:

For the Negative.	For the Affirmative.
5 Dutchess.	6 Albany.
4 Queen's.	4 Ulster.
8 New-York.	4 Suffolk.
4 Westchester.	2 Cumberland.
3 Tryon.	3 Orange.
2 Charlotte.	—
—	19 votes.
26 votes.	

Therefore, *Ordered*, That the said motion be rejected.

Mr. *Hobart* then moved for leave to give notice of a motion to be made to-morrow, for reconsidering of some Bounty to be allowed to the Troops, to be raised by this draught of the Militia, agreeable to the sixth rule of this Convention.

Debates arose thereon, and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, that is to say:

For the Affirmative.	For the Negative.
2 Cumberland.	4 Ulster.
2 Charlotte.	—
4 Suffolk.	New-York and Albany equally divided.
4 Westchester.	
3 Orange.	
3 Tryon.	
5 Dutchess.	
4 Queen's.	
—	
27 votes.	

The Convention then gave permission to Mr. *Hobart* to move that matter immediately.

Thereupon Mr. *Hobart* moved that ten dollars Bounty be allowed to each Non-Commissioned Officer and Private of the Militia of *Suffolk*, *King's* and *Queen's* Counties, who will be draughted into the present service.

Debates arose thereon, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, that is to say:

For the Affirmative.	For the Negative.
4 Suffolk.	5 Dutchess.
2 Charlotte.	8 New-York.
3 Tryon.	4 Ulster.
4 Westchester.	—
4 Queen's.	17 votes.
2 Cumberland.	
3 Orange.	
—	
22 votes.	

*Resolved, therefore*, That the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of the said Troops be allowed ten dollars Bounty to each man.

The fifth, sixth, and seventh\* paragraphs of the said Report were then severally read, and being separately amended and corrected, were approved of.

Colonel *Lott* had leave of absence for a few days.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary prepare a set of Resolutions agreeable to the said Report.

*Ordered*, That the appointment of an Auditor-General of Accounts for this State be deferred till to-morrow.

Die Sabbati, 9 ho., A. M., July 20, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayer.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Colonel *Remsen*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Harper*, Major *Abeel*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Abm. Yates*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *L'Homme-dieu*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Smith*.

DUTCHESS.—Major *Schenck*, Mr. *Landon*, Colonel *Hoffman*, Nathl. *Sackett*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Colonel *De Wit*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *G. Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *L. Graham*, Jno. *Tompkins*.

ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Little*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Paris*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, Captain *Lawrence*, Mr. *Ben. Sands*, Mr. *Saml. Townshend*, Mr. *James Townshend*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stephens*.

\*Major *Abeel* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Harper*, that those Troops to be raised on *Nassau-Island* be allowed 10½d. per day for their rations.

For the Affirmative: 2 Cumberland, 4 Queen's, 4 Suffolk, 6 Albany, 2 Charlotte, 4 Westchester, 3 Tryon—25.

For the Negative: 4 Ulster, 3 Orange, 5 Dutchess, 8 New-York—20.

*Resolved*, That the President have power, and is hereby authorized, to forward any Letters by express, and of sending any Messengers, without delaying for the directions of this Convention.

A Letter from Colonel *Henry Ludenton*,\* of *Dutchess* County, dated the 19th instant, was read and filed. He hereby informs that there are many vacancies of Captains and Subalterns in his Regiment, besides that the offices of First and Second Major are also vacant. He recommends, with the advice of the Precinct Committee, Mr. *Robinson* and Mr. *Gee* for Majors, and requests twenty blank Commissions by the bearer, who says part of the Regiment is to march to-morrow, and that they have delayed for Commissions.

On reading the said Letter from Colonel *Ludenton*, of *Dutchess* County, and considering the state of his Regiment at this critical time,

*Resolved*, That Commissions be issued to the two gentlemen therein named, as Majors of that Regiment, in the order they are named in the said Letter, and that twenty other Commissions be signed by the President and countersigned by one of the Secretaries, and transmitted to Colonel *Ludenton*, to be filled up for the Captains and Subalterns of his Regiment, when necessary, by the Precinct Committee and himself; that the said Precinct Committee and Colonel *Ludenton* do return to this Convention an exact list of the names, rank, and dates of the Officers commissioned, which they shall fill up and deliver.

And *Resolved*, That the sending blank Commissions to a Precinct Committee shall not from this instance be drawn into precedent.

A draft of a Letter to Colonel *Ludenton* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: Agreeable to your request, in your letter of yesterday, we now send you twenty blank commissions, to be filled up by you, in conjunction with the Committee of the precinct, for the Captains and Subalterns wanted in your regiment, and have likewise enclosed two commissions appointing Mr. *Robinson* and Mr. *Gee* Majors. As the Congress were not informed of Mr. *Gee's* Christian name, you, together with the Committee of the precinct, are requested to insert it.

"I am, sir, your very humble servant. By order.

"To Colonel *Henry Ludenton*."

A Letter from General *Washington* was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Head-Quarters, New-York, July 19, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: By Messrs. *Broome* and *Duer* I was yesterday favoured with your several resolves of the 16th instant. The spirit of decision in which they are formed will, I doubt not, appear in their execution, and as far as I can coöperate, I shall most cheerfully contribute all my aid and assistance.

"The state of this Army would make it improper for me to send up any General officer in the Continental service to take the command of the levies proposed to be raised; and from the nature of the service, I should apprehend a knowledge of the country and its inhabitants would be very necessary. General *Clinton*, on all accounts, appears to me the most suitable person; and as the appointment is made dependent on me, I shall nominate him, unless some objection should be made or difficulty arise which I do not now know.

"The Deputy Commissaries I will take advice upon, and have them appointed as soon as possible.

\* FREDERICKSBURG, July 19, 1776.

These may inform your Honours that I meet with some difficulty in furnishing my quota of men for the present emergency, for want of commissions in the regiment which I have the honour to command. We have a number of officers chosen already that have no commissions, and several more must be chosen in order to have the regiment properly officered. And whereas I have applied to the County Committee for blanks to be filled up, and there are none to be had, therefore I, in conjunction with the Committee of this precinct, would desire that there might be about twenty blank commissions sent up by Mr. *Nyrick*, the bearer hereof.

I would further acquaint your Honours that the regiment is destitute of Majors, and would be glad if your Honours would appoint two gentlemen to that office, and fill up commissions for them. There are two gentlemen that I do, with the advice of the Committee, nominate, viz: Mr. *Gee*—his Christian name I am not able to tell—of *Philp's* Precinct, and Captain *Ebenezer Robinson*, of this Precinct. These gentlemen are doubtless known by several of the members of the honourable House.

From your humble servant,

HENRY LUDENTON, Colonel.

To the Hon. Provincial Congress.

"The state of the Pay Office here did not admit a full compliance with your request of the loan of £20,000, there not being so much in the Paymaster's hands at this time. However, that so good a work might not be delayed, I immediately gave a warrant for \$20,000, and as circumstances will admit shall make up the remainder.

"I have enclosed the resolution to Governour *Trumbull* on the subject of forming a camp at *Byram River*, for the security of the communication with *New-York*, but at the same time I very much doubt his ability to carry it into execution.

"The quota of troops to be furnished by *Connecticut* for the assistance of this Army is not half completed, notwithstanding the most urgent and pressing instances on the subject, which affords a very dull prospect of fixing a new camp adequate to the intended design; and I very much fear the attempt would obstruct the raising the levies now ordered, and in the end prove ineffectual; at the same time I most heartily approve the measure, and should rejoice to see it carried into execution in the completest manner.

"Since writing the above, your favour of the 18th instant, enclosing Colonel *Cortlandt's* and Captain *Platt's* report, is come to hand. The spirit and alacrity of the Militia in so readily turning out at this trying season is a very encouraging circumstance, and does them great honour.

"I observe Colonel *Fellows*, of *Massachusetts-Bay*, mentioned as having marched in. If his troops compose a part of those destined for this Army, it is my intention that all, under that circumstance, should come immediately down, and be properly arranged. And I observe there will be the less inconvenience, as Messrs. *Cortlandt* and *Platt* observe that they had such a surplus of men as to enable them to discharge a number.

"I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect and esteem, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"GO. WASHINGTON.

"P. S. With respect to ammunition, I had flattered myself that the Provincial stock would not only have been sufficient for the purposes of its immediate defence, but in case of necessity have assisted us. I shall endeavour, under a late direction of Congress, to procure what is to be had from the adjoining mills."

An Order for Gunpowder from his Excellency General *Washington* was enclosed, in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, July 19, 1776.

"SIR: Please deliver to the order of the Convention of the State of *New-York* fifteen hundred weight of Powder, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant.

"GO. WASHINGTON.

"To *John Livingston, Esq.*"

*Mr. Miller*, of *Suffolk* County, had leave of absence, and Certificate that he is a Member given to him, to prevent his being delayed or obstructed by Sentinels in his passage through the City.

A Certificate and Pass was given to *Mr. John Franks*, of *Suffolk* County, Merchant, at the request of the Members of this Convention from that County.

Ordered, That *Sa. Dyckman* proceed immediately, as Express, with General *Washington's* Letter to the Secret Committee, and that he take a private Letter for Colonel *Cortlandt*, which is now in this Hall.

Colonel *Remsen* produced a Letter from *Daniel Tillinghast* to *Jacobus V. Zandt, Hen. Remsen*, and *Lewis Pintard*, informing that he had received by Captain *Jauncey*, and stored, one hundred and forty-three casks of Gunpowder and eighty-one bales Merchandise for this Colony. Colonel *Remsen* informs the state of the Merchandise, and that he expects it to arrive at *New-York*, and desires the direction of Convention as to its disposition.

The Convention directed Colonel *Remsen* to store the said bales of Merchandise until the further order of this Convention.

The Resolutions formed on the Report of the Committee appointed to consider of General *Washington's* answer relating to Horned Cattle on *Nassau-Island*, and to devise means to preserve them from the enemy, were read; and being again read by paragraphs, and agreed to, and approved of, are in the words following, to wit:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, July 20, 1776. }

"This Convention having taken into consideration the expediency of removing the stock from *Nassau-Island*,

"Resolved, That it will not be for the publick good, provided it were practicable, to remove the Stock from the Island, except such Cattle, Sheep, and Hogs as are fit for the use of the Army.

"2d. That the common Stock in *Suffolk, King's*, and *Queen's* Counties, be put in such convenient and secure places in each County as may be most convenient to be guarded by a sufficient number of Troops, and to be drove off into the interior parts of *Nassau-Island*, whenever the Commanding Officer or Officers of the said Troops shall order, to prevent such Stock from falling into the enemy's hands; leaving, if he shall judge it safe and necessary, with each large family three milch Cows, two Cows to a middling family, and one to a small family: and if the said Commanding Officer finds that he cannot prevent the Stocks falling into the enemy's hands, he may order them to be killed or destroyed.

"3d. And to the intent that no person may be a loser by said Stock being so killed or destroyed,

"Resolved, That the oath or affirmation of the owner of Cattle, describing the number, age, and qualities, shall be a direction for the valuation of such Cattle drove from his possession: Provided, That no person who has joined, or shall go over to and join the enemy, or who has been, or shall be in anywise aiding or assisting to the enemy, shall, in consequence of this Resolve, be entitled to a compensation for any loss he shall or may sustain.

"4th. That the Commanding Officer of each Battalion of Minute-men and Militia in *Suffolk, King's*, and *Queen's* Counties, be ordered immediately to draught out one-fourth part of the Minute-men and Militia of said Counties to carry these Resolves into execution; and that the Field-Officers of the Minute and Militia Regiments in each County do appoint Captains and Subalterns to command such draughts out of the Minute and Militia Officers as they shall judge most proper; and that the draughts be formed into Companies, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, three Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and fifty Privates. And in case any draught shall be left after the Companies are completed, and not sufficient to form another Company, Officers shall be appointed for them in the following proportion: one Captain and one Lieutenant, two Sergeants and two Corporals for forty Privates; two Lieutenants, two Sergeants, and two Corporals for thirty Privates; and one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, and one Corporal for twenty Privates; each man to find his own arms and accoutrements. That the Field-Officers of the said Militia so to be draughted be appointed by this Convention; the Troops so raised to have Continental pay and rations; and to continue in service until the last day of *December* next, unless they shall be sooner discharged. That the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of the said Troops who shall furnish themselves with a good and sufficient Musket or Firelock, Cartouch-Box and Belt, and Bayonet or Hatchet, shall be allowed ten dollars bounty to each man.

"5th. Resolved, That the Brigadier-General of *Suffolk* and *Queen's* Counties be directed to order the Militia of those Counties to hold themselves in readiness to march into either of the said Counties, or any other part of *Nassau-Island*, on the shortest notice, with five days' provisions: and that the President of this Convention be, and is hereby, directed to write a Letter to the Colonel of the Militia of *King's* County, ordering that he hold his Regiment in the like readiness to march to any part of *Nassau-Island*, with five days' provisions.

"6th. Resolved, That Colonel *Josiah Smith*, of *Suffolk* County, be First Colonel of the Troops to be raised by draughts from the Militia on *Nassau-Island*; that Colonel *John Sands* be Second Colonel of those Troops, with the rank of Colonel, but with the pay of a Lieutenant-Colonel, and that *Abraham Remsen* be Major; that Colonel *Benj. Birdsall*, at south side of *Queen's* County, take the command of one Company of those draughts, with Captain's pay, saving his rank.

"7th. Resolved, That the Rations of the said Troops be estimated at the rate of 10½d. each, which they are to receive in Money in lieu of Provisions.

"8th. And whereas the protection of *Nassau-Island* is of vast importance to these States, there being one hundred thousand Horned Cattle, a much larger number of Sheep, besides other Stock and Provisions, on the same; and if the Stock be all removed, the inhabitants, amounting to about thirty thousand, must remove or perish:

"*Resolved*, That the necessity of the protection and security of the said Island be stated in a Letter to the Congress, enclosing a copy of the foregoing Resolutions, and requesting their directions what further measures may be necessary for the security and protection of the said Island.

"9th. *Resolved*, That his Excellency General *Washington* be made acquainted with these Resolutions, and be informed that there are on *Nassau-Island* great numbers of Horned Cattle and Sheep fit for the use of the Army, and that it be submitted to his Excellency whether it would not be proper that the Commissary-General should be requested to give a preference in purchasing at present those Cattle and Sheep on account of their exposed situation."

Colonel *Remsen* (according to order) brought in the draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony in Congress; which was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"GENTLEMEN: The Convention, after the most mature deliberation, have agreed to sundry resolutions for the preservation of the stock on *Nassau-Island* and the protection of the inhabitants; a copy of them I am directed to enclose. These resolves are to be carried into execution without delay.

"The draughts, we expect, will compose a corps of between seven and nine hundred men, and is the only measure that promises (with such aid as his Excellency General *Washington* has already or may hereafter grant for the same purpose) to be effectual to prevent the enemy from procuring a supply of fresh provisions from that Island. We hope the same will be approved of by Congress.

"An attempt for a total removal of the stock, computed to be near one hundred thousand head of horned cattle, besides a much greater number of sheep and hogs, &c., would take up much time, and be attended with very great if not insurmountable difficulties. And were it possible to remove all the stock and to find pastures and provender for the same, it necessarily follows that the inhabitants, supposed to be from twenty-five to thirty thousand in number, must immediately abandon their habitations to find shelter and subsistence elsewhere, which cannot be procured in this and the nearest sister States, the inhabitants of *New-York* having removed their families into every part where they could find accommodations.

"These considerations have induced the Convention to relinquish the thoughts of removing the stock from the Island, and to the utmost of their power to protect them there, and to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy. If Congress should be of opinion that any further steps are necessary for the defence of the Island, we beg their directions.

"I am, most respectfully, gentlemen, &c.

"To the Delegates in Congress for the State of *New-York*."

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President and transmitted.

Mr. *Hobart*, according to order, brought in a draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington*, to attend the last foregoing Resolutions; which draft was read and approved of, and is in the words following, viz:

"SIR: I have the honour to enclose your Excellency, by order of the Convention, a copy of sundry resolves which were yesterday agreed to for the defence of the inhabitants and protection of the stock upon *Nassau-Island*, and beg leave to submit to your consideration a short statement of the situation and circumstances of that Island and its inhabitants, from which you will see the inutility of any attempts for a total removal of the stock from thence.

"It is supposed there are near one hundred thousand head of horned cattle, besides a much larger number of sheep and other stock, the removal of which would necessarily consume the greater part of the campaign. But supposing the same could be effected in a short time, vast numbers of the stock must inevitably perish for want of subsistence, as it could not be procured within any reasonable distance; besides,

such a measure would reduce the inhabitants, computed from twenty-five to thirty thousand, to the most deplorable and insupportable difficulties and distresses.

"These considerations have induced the Convention to give over the thoughts of removing the stock from the Island as not only impracticable, but not advance of the publick service, especially as the waste and common lands in the eastern part of *Queen's* and in *Suffolk* Counties are so covered with thickets of wood as to render it too dangerous for foraging parties to attempt to penetrate.

"I trust that the Militia now to be raised, which is expected to form a corps of between seven and nine hundred men, with the troops already stationed at the east end of the Island, may be sufficient to remove the stock from those places which are most exposed, and prevent the depredations of small detachments; and should the enemy attempt, with their main army, to fix themselves on any part of the Island, I doubt not but your Excellency will give a good account of them.

"The Convention have received information that there are a considerable number of fatted cattle and sheep on the Island; they submit whether it would not be proper that the Commissary-General should be requested to give the preference in purchasing those cattle.

"I cannot conclude without expressing my wishes that the detachment under Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston* may be continued at their present post, for that part of the Island is so much exposed to be insulted by the enemy's cruisers that I fear the inhabitants would totally abandon the country should those troops be drawn off.

"I have the honour to be, &c.,

"To His Excellency General *Washington*."

Die Sabbati, 5 ho. P. M., July 20, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Harper*, Col. *Remsen*, Mr. *Bancker*, Major *Abeel*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Dearing*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Paris*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Wit*, Mr. *Contine*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Henry Schenk*, Mr. *Sacket*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Mr. *Haviland*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*.

ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Little*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *James Townshend*, Mr. *Benjamin Sands*, Captain *Lawrence*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

Colonel *Remsen* had leave of absence to go to *New-York*.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the number of Rangers in and for the northern Counties, delivered in their Report, which was read; and being again read, much time was spent therein until night, and the further consideration thereof postponed till *Monday*.

*Resolved*, That the President and five or more Members be a Committee to receive and answer Letters, and do any other necessary business during the adjournment of the House, until their next meeting.

A Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel *Weissenfels*, dated the 14th instant, was again read.\* He thereby informs that

\* *New-York*, July 14, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Jonathan Holmes* not having been able to perform the condition of the resolves of the honourable House, dated *June 27*, and obtained another resolve of *July 12*, which certificate, required in said resolve, cannot be granted by Captain *Riker*, because he can produce but eleven able-bodied men and a little boy, which number has always, according to former resolves, entitled a person only to an Ensigny; and, inasmuch as Mr. *Pelton* can produce a certificate from his Captain for having enlisted nineteen men, I would humbly recommend him for a Lieutenant's commission. He is a good officer, and already experienced in military discipline.

Please to allow me to make another observation in Mr. *Pelton's* favour: that he has enlisted his men during the contest, and Mr. *Holmes* only during the term of six months and nine months; which, in my humble opinion, ought not to meet with the encouragement that the former deserves. Mr. *Holmes*, therefore, will be glad, I fancy, to accept of an Ensign's commission.

I leave these premises to your Honour's consideration, and humbly entreat the favour, that, for the good of the service, you will be pleased to grant my request.

I am, with much respect, sir, your most humble and obedient servant,

FRED. WEISSENFELS.

To the President of the Honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York*.



*Jonathan Holmes* had not complied with either of the resolutions of the Congress of this State, of the 27th of June or 12th instant; that he had only brought to the Regiment eleven men, and a boy who would not pass muster; that his men were enlisted, some for the term of six, and others nine months; that *P. Pelton* had enlisted nineteen men, and during the present contest.

A Certificate of Captain *Riker*\* was also read, certifying that Mr. *Daniel Pelton* had enlisted nineteen men.

Ordered, That the said *Daniel Pelton* be appointed Second Lieutenant, and *Jonathan Holmes* Ensign, of Captain *Riker's* Company, and that their Commissions issue accordingly.

Die Solis, 9 ho. A. M., July 21, 1776.

The Convention met, pursuant to the call of the President, agreeable to the order of yesterday.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Colonel *Brasher*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Harper*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *L'Hommiedieu*, Mr. *Dearing*.

ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Little*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Wit*, Mr. *Contine*.

DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Hoffman*, Captain *Platt*, Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Henry Schenck*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Paris*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*, Mr. *Duer*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *James Townshend*, Mr. *Lawrence*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stephens*.

Captain *Platt*, from the Committee appointed to repair to the *Highlands*, and take measures for the protection of the country, informed Convention that a number of men from the neighbouring States are now doing duty on *Hudson's River*, and that many of them have left their affairs in such a situation at home that their continuance for any considerable time must be attended with very great inconveniences, asking the direction of Convention on the subject.

The President, with a number of Members, being thereunto authorized by Convention, are of opinion that it would be improper to give the Committee any direction in the premises, but do advise that the matter be considered by a Council of War, and conceive it would be advisable, if consistent with the good of the service, that at least a part of the men should be dismissed, and their places supplied by draughts from the neighbouring Militia of this State.

Captain *Platt* further informs that the men have generally come on horseback, and that many of them are without money to carry themselves home, and requesting directions in the premises.

Ordered, That the Committee do provide for the Horses, as well as the Men, and that when any of the Men are ordered home, the Committee, at their discretion, do appoint a Commissary to make provision for them on the road, or give them a reasonable allowance for their subsistence on their return.

Resolved, That whenever any Officers of the Militia of this State shall do duty with any Militia Officers from the neighbouring States, they submit themselves to the orders of all Officers of superior rank, in the same manner as if the whole belonged to this State.

Die Lunæ, 9 ho. A. M., July 22, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Harper*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *E. Bancker*, Colonel *Broome*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Dunscumb*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Ab. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—Major *Smith*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *L'Hommiedieu*, Mr. *Dearing*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Colonel *De Wit*.

DUTCHESS.—Col. *Hoffman*, Mr. *H. Schenck*, Mr. *Sackett*.

\* WEDNESDAY, July 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This is to certify that Mr. *Jonathan Holmes* brought into my Company eleven able-bodied men, and one small boy that is too small to pass muster. From your obedient, humble servant,

ABRAHAM RIKER, Captain.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of New-York.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Drake*, Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Paulding*, Mr. *G. Morris*, Major *Lockwood*.

ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Little*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *James Townshend*, Mr. *Jona. Lawrence*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Paris*, Mr. *Volkert Veder*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*, Mr. *Duer*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stephens*.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Colonels of each Regiment of Troops to be draughted from the Militia of the Counties of *Dutchess*, *Westchester*, *Ulster*, *Orange*, *Suffolk*, *Queen's*, and *King's*, be each of them respectively a Muster-master of the several Regiments draughted or enlisted in the said Counties; and that each of the said Colonels do return upon oath to this Convention a Muster-Roll of the Regiment by him so mustered as aforesaid; and that no person so draughted or enlisted receive his Bounty until he shall have passed muster.

Resolved, unanimously, That one-half of the Bounty to be given to the draughts from the Militia in the said Counties be sent to the Committee of each County, to be paid unto the said Troops immediately upon and after their passing muster as aforesaid, and that the remainder of the Bounty be paid when the said Troops shall be mustered by the Continental Muster-master at their respective places of rendezvous; and that his Excellency General *Washington* be requested to cause the said musters to be completed with all possible despatch.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this State do pay into the hands of the gentlemen hereafter named, (Members of this Convention,) on the behalf of the Committees of the Counties hereinafter mentioned, the following sums of money, to be by the County Committees applied in payment of the Troops to be draughted from the Militia of the said Counties, and that the said Committees respectively do render an account to this Convention of the disposition of the said sums of money, viz:

In <i>Dutchess</i> County, Colonel <i>Anthony Hoffman</i> .....	\$10,000
In <i>Westchester</i> County, General <i>Morris</i> .....	5,000
In <i>Ulster</i> County, Colonel <i>De Wit</i> .....	5,000
In <i>Orange</i> County, Colonel <i>Allison</i> .....	4,000
In <i>Suffolk</i> County, Mr. <i>Gelston</i> .....	2,000
In <i>Queen's</i> County, Mr. <i>Townshend</i> .....	2,000
In <i>King's</i> .....	600
	<u>\$28,600</u>

General *Morris* informed this Convention that Colonel *Joseph Drake*\* is Colonel of the First Regiment of *Westchester* County; that as such he conceives it was his right, in a tour of duty, to have taken the command of the one-fourth part of the Militia now ordered on service, and that Colonel *Drake* and many other officers conceive themselves injured by the preference given to Colonel *Thomas Thomas* and the other Field-Officers nominated by this Convention for that service.

Ordered, That General *Morris*, Mr. *Duer*, and Mr. *Gouverneur Morris*, be a Committee to confer with Colonel *Drake* and Colonel *Thomas*, and endeavour to accommodate and settle this matter, so as to prevent inconveniences and the resignation of Colonel *Drake*, and that they report as soon as possible.

A Letter from *John Alsop*, Esq., dated the 16th instant, resigning his seat in the Continental Congress, which had been received and read some days ago, was again read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, July 16, 1776.

"HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Yesterday our President read in Congress a resolve of your honourable body, dated the 9th instant, in which you declare *New-York* a free and

\* WHITE-PLAINS, July 22, 1776.

SIR: I last Friday received orders from General *Morris* to call my Regiment together, in order to select every fourth man out for immediate service, according to a resolve of the Convention for the State of *New-York*. Have since understood that those men were to be commanded by the Field-Officers of the County Militia. And being further informed, by a resolve of Convention, that Colonel *Thomas* is appointed to the command, as I look upon myself slighted, or rather superseded, I beg the Convention will take the matter into consideration. If it should be my commission that is wanted, I am free and willing to give it up. The dilemma that I am now in, I cannot act and save my honour.

From, sir, your very humble servant,

JOSEPH DRAKE.

To the Honourable the President of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

independent State. I can't help saying that I was much surprised to find it come through that channel. The usual method hitherto practised has been for the Convention of each Colony to give their Delegates instructions to act and vote upon all and any important question. And from the last letter we were favoured with from your body, you told us that you were not competent or authorized to give us instructions on that grand question; nor have you been pleased to answer our letter of the 2d instant, any otherwise than by your said resolve transmitted to the President. I think we were entitled to an answer.

"I am compelled, therefore, to declare, that it is against my judgment and inclination. As long as a door was left open for a reconciliation with *Great Britain* upon honourable and just terms, I was willing and ready to render my country all the service in my power, and for which purpose I was appointed and sent to this Congress; but as you have, I presume, by that declaration, closed the door of reconciliation, I must beg leave to resign my seat as a Delegate from *New-York*, and that I may be favoured with an answer and my dismission.

"I have the honour to be, with esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
JOHN ALSOP."

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the Convention do cheerfully accept of Mr. *Alsop's* resignation of his seat in the Continental Congress, and that Mr. *Alsop* be furnished with a copy of this resolution.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Duer* and Mr. *Morris* be a Committee to prepare a draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony, to cover a copy of the last above resolution or dismission of Mr. *Alsop*, and that they report with all convenient speed.

The Convention then proceeded to take into further consideration the Report of the Committee on the raising and appointment of Rangers in the northern Counties of this State.\* The same was read, and being again read by para-

\* Your Committee, to whom is referred the appointment of Rangers in the northern Counties of the State of *New-York*, report: That from the best information they can obtain, the inhabitants in the western and northern parts of the County of *Albany*, and the inhabitants of the Counties of *Tryon*, *Charlotte*, *Cumberland*, *Gloucester*, *Orange*, and *Ulster*, are more immediately exposed to the *Indians*, and that several families in some of the above-mentioned Counties, in consequence of the danger they apprehend, have moved, and others, it is probable, will move into the interior parts of this State, to the inevitable ruin of many, and the great distress of the publick.

Your Committee do further report, in order to induce those inhabitants to remain on their possessions, and to afford them a protection against the occasional inroads of the *Indians*:

*Resolved*, That five hundred and fifty men, officers included, be raised in the Counties aforesaid, and taken into the pay and service of this Convention, and confined to the service of these Counties, unless called forth to the defence of a neighbouring County or State, by the consent of the County Committees of the respective States.

That in like manner two hundred men be raised in the County of *Tryon*, to be employed as scouting parties to range the woods, as the Committee of the said County shall think proper.

That in like manner two hundred and fifty men be raised in the Counties of *Gloucester* and *Cumberland*, to be under the command of a Major, to be appointed by this Convention.

That also in like manner one hundred and twenty men, to be divided into two Companies, be raised in the County of *Charlotte*.

That in like manner fifty-five men be raised in the County of *Orange*.

That the said Rangers be formed into Companies, each consisting of one Captain, one Lieutenant, three Sergeants, three Corporals, and forty-two Privates, except in the Counties of *Charlotte*, *Orange*, and *Albany*.

That the officers be nominated, for approbation and appointment, by the respective County Committees, and that they issue warrants for levying their troops, and that it be strongly recommended to them to nominate persons of sober and active dispositions for these appointments.

That the pay of the officers and privates be the same as the pay of the Continental troops.

That a bounty be allowed to each non-commissioned officer and private of twenty-five dollars, upon his passing muster.

That to each Captain there be allowed 16s., to each Lieutenant 12s., and to every non-commissioned officer and private 10s. per week, in lieu and in stead of all rations and provisions.

That the officers and privates furnish themselves each with a good musket or firelock, powder-horn, bullet-pouch, and tomahawk.

That the said Companies be under the order and direction of the authorities before-mentioned, or such other person or persons, as this or a future Convention or other Legislature of this State shall direct.

That each officer of the respective Companies of Rangers do, before he receives his commission, take an oath before the Chairman of the County Committee, where he shall receive his recommendation, that he will once in every month, or as soon after as possible, transmit to the Convention or Legislature of this State, a muster-roll of the names and rank of every officer or private under his command, and that any officer who shall return a false muster-roll of the officers or privates under his command, shall, on conviction thereof, be cashiered and lose his pay, and be forever thereafter rendered incapable of holding any office, civil or military, in this State.

That certified copies of the foregoing resolves be transmitted to the respective General Committees of the said Counties.

That the said Rangers continue in such service until they be discharged by this or some future Convention or other Legislature of this State.

July 20, 1776.

graphs, on reading the paragraph ascertaining the number of Rangers for *Albany* County, Mr. *Yates* moved that it be obliterated, and the following inserted in its stead, viz:

"That there be raised in the City and County of *Albany* two hundred men, officers included, to be at the disposal of the Committee of the said County; one hundred and twenty-five to be employed as scouting parties to range the woods, and the remainder to guard the stores, provisions, ammunition, and vessels, in and about the said City, in conjunction with the Militia of that City."

Debates arose thereon, and the question being put on said motion, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.

6 Albany.  
5 Dutchess.  
2 Charlotte.  
3 Tryon.  
4 Ulster.  
4 Queen's.  
3 Orange.

27 votes.

For the Negative.

4 Suffolk.  
8 New-York.  
2 Cumberland.

14 votes.

Westchester divided.

The further consideration thereof postponed till the afternoon.

Die Lunæ, 4 ho. P. M., July 22, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Broome*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Dunscomb*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Harper*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—Major *Smith*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Woodhull*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Colonel *De Wit*.

DUTCHESS.—Col. *Hoffman*, Mr. *H. Schenck*, Mr. *Sackett*.

WESTCHESTER.—Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *G. Drake*, Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Morris*, General *Morris*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, Colonel *Allison*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *Van Wyck*, Mr. *James Townshend*, Captain *Lawrence*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Major *Webster*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stevens*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Paris*.

Colonel *Broome* informed the Congress that he had fully inquired into the character of *Christopher Templer*, and finds that he bears the character of a hearty friend to the *American* cause.

*Ordered*, That he be discharged, and that he be allowed 6s. a day for his loss of time since he was committed, amounting to 48s.

And *Ordered*, That the Treasurer of this State pay to the said *Christopher Templer* the said sum of 48s., for his loss of time, and take his receipt for the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Broome* give a Pass to the said *Christopher Templer* to return to *New-York*.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the raising and appointment of Rangers in the northern Counties of this State.

On reading the paragraph relating to the nominations of Officers, Mr. *Morris* moved (and was seconded by Mr. *Duer*) that "the Officers of the Rangers be appointed by this Convention."

Debates arose thereon; and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the negative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Negative.

6 Albany.  
5 Dutchess.  
2 Cumberland.  
4 Ulster.  
8 New-York.  
4 Suffolk.

29 votes.

For the Affirmative.

4 Queen's.  
4 Westchester.  
8 votes.

Tryon and Charlotte equally divided.

Therefore the said motion was rejected.

Mr. *Duer* then moved a new amendment to the said paragraph, which was unanimously agreed to.

The whole of the said Report being read, amended, and agreed to, was delivered to Mr. *Duer* and the former Committee, to be converted into Resolutions.

Mr. *Morris*, from the Committee for that purpose, reported the draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this State at Congress, on the subject of the dismission of *John Alsop*, Esq.,

as a Delegate; which was read and approved, and is in the words following, viz:

"GENTLEMEN: I am directed by this Convention to enclose you the copy of a letter which they received from *John Alsop*, Esquire, together with two copies of their resolution on that subject, one of which they request you to deliver to him.

"The Convention are much surprised to learn that a measure which they conceived necessary in this State, to show their warm approbation of the measures of Congress and to strengthen the bands of Continental union, should disgust any gentleman; nor can they discover how their approbation of the Declaration of Independence can be construed an instruction to you to act or vote upon an occasion where every act was already performed, and every vote received. And they are equally astonished to find themselves censured for declaring at one time that they were not competent or authorized to give instructions on that grand question, when, in fact, they had no such authority; and for making such declaration at another time, when they had received from their constituents a full authority for the purpose.

"I am further directed, gentlemen, to assure you, that if the measure of Independency had originated with this Convention, they would gladly bear whatever measure of blame *Mr. Alsop* should in his wisdom think meet to confer upon them; as, on the other hand, they take care that all persons who avow sentiments inimical to the cause and rights of *America* shall be prevented from affording aid or assistance to the common enemy. But as this grand step in *American* affairs has been taken by that honourable body of which *Mr. Alsop* was once a member, the Convention are of opinion that it belongs to them, and to them only, to determine upon the little cavils of those who wish to keep open a door for *their reconciliation*.

"I am directed, therefore, to desire that you will lay this letter, together with the copy of that gentleman's favour, and the resolution of the Convention in consequence of it, before the Congress, since they will best be able to investigate the meaning of the writer, and determine how far his knowledge of the publick transactions may or may not be safely trusted in his custody.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient and humble servant.

"To the Delegates of the State of *New-York* at Congress."

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted, with a copy of the Letter of *John Alsop*, Esq., of the 16th instant, and two certified copies of the Resolution of this Convention thereon, of the 22d instant, therein enclosed.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That a Letter be wrote to General *Gates*, requesting the favour of him to communicate to this Convention a candid state of our military operations in the Northern Department; particularly with respect to the number of our forces, the state of health in which they are, and the intelligence he has received of the strength and designs of General *Burgoyne's* Army; and assuring him of every possible exertion in this Convention to repel an invasion of the enemy in that quarter.

*Resolved*, That *Leonard Gansevort* and *Jacob Cuyler*, Esqs., be a Committee from this Convention to wait on General *Gates* with the said Letter, and that they be directed to transmit to this Convention, as soon as possible, the General's answer; and to make every observation which they may think will give to this Convention a full insight into the state of our Northern Army.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Morris* and *Mr. Robert Harper* be a Committee to prepare a draft of such Letter, as above mentioned, to General *Gates*, and also to prepare a draft of a Letter to *Leonard Gansevort* and *Jacob Cuyler*, Esqs., on the subject mentioned in the above Resolutions.

Whereas this Convention, upon an opinion that *Thomas Thomas*, Esquire, was the first Colonel of the Militia of the County of *Westchester*, did tender unto him (the said *Thomas Thomas*) the command of the Regiment draughted from the said Militia, which he did accept of; and whereas this Convention are now assured that Colonel *Joseph Drake* is the first Colonel of the said County; and whereas it has been represented to this Convention, on the part of the said *Joseph Drake*, that his reputation may be materially injured, from a

suggestion that the appointment of the said *Thomas Thomas* proceeded from an opinion that the said *Joseph Drake* was unfit to hold the said commission: In justice, therefore, to him, the said *Joseph Drake*,

*Resolved, unanimously*, That this Convention have a high opinion of the integrity, talents, and military virtue, of the said *Joseph Drake*; and that the preference given to him, the said *Thomas Thomas*, in the aforesaid appointment, was merely owing to the mistake above mentioned.

*Ordered*, That a certified copy hereof be sent to Colonel *Drake*, without delay.

Die Martis, 8 ho. A. M., July 23, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayer by the Rev. *Mr. Lewis*.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Bancker*, Major *Abeel*, *Mr. Dunscomb*, *Mr. Harper*, Colonel *Broome*, Colonel *Brasher*.

FOR ALBANY.—*Mr. Abm. Yates*, *Mr. Adgate*, *Mr. Bleecker*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, *Mr. Gelston*, Major *Smith*, *Mr. L'Homedieu*, *Mr. Dearing*, *Mr. Hobart*, *Mr. Miller*.

DUTCHESS.—*Mr. Sackett*, *Mr. Henry Schenck*, *Mr. Hoffman*.

ORANGE.—*Mr. Hen. Wisner*, *Mr. Little*, Colonel *Allison*.

QUEEN'S.—*Mr. Samuel Townshend*, *Mr. Van Wyck*, *Mr. James Townshend*, Captain *Lawrence*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gib. Drake*, *Mr. Morris*, General *Morris*, *Mr. Haviland*.

TRYON.—*Mr. Moore*, *Mr. Harper*, *Mr. Veder*, *Mr. Paris*, *Mr. Newkirk*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Mr. Duer*, Major *Webster*.

CUMBERLAND.—*Mr. Sessions*, Colonel *Marsh*, *Mr. Stephens*.

*Mr. Duer* informed the Convention that on the account of sundry matters now before the Convention, and yet to be considered, he desires to continue his attendance at present in the Convention; that he was appointed to wait on Governor *Trumbull* with Colonel *Broome* with the despatches from this Congress, and that they are intrusted with very important despatches from General *Washington* to Governor *Trumbull*; that *Mr. Hobart* has consented to go with Colonel *Broome* on that service, if agreeable to this Convention, instead of *Mr. Duer*:

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Hobart* and Colonel *Broome* be a Committee to wait on his Honour Governor *Trumbull*, of the State of *Connecticut*, for the purposes mentioned in the Resolutions of this Convention on the 16th instant.

The Convention were informed that Provisions are very scarce and dear in the City of *New-York*; that Provisions have notwithstanding been shipped for exportation, and fallen into the hands of the enemy:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That no Provisions whatever shall be laden for exportation on board of any Ship or Vessel at the Port of *New-York*, or from any other part of this State, unless for the use of the crew of such Ship or Vessel, or for the necessary supply of any of the *United States of America*, until further order; and that the City and County of *New-York* shall be first applied to for their permission to export any Provisions for the purposes aforesaid, which said Committee are hereby empowered to judge and determine upon the propriety of granting such supplies.

*Resolved*, That in all cases where a breach shall be made in the above Resolution, the Vessel and Cargo shall be forfeited to the use of this State, and the persons guilty of infringing it shall be held up as enemies to the *United States of America*.

*Mr. Morris*, from the Committee for that purpose, reported the draft of a Letter to Major-General *Gates*, which was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"July 23.

"SIR: I am directed by the Convention of this State to make it their earnest request that you will do them the honour of communicating a full state of the military operations which you now superintend. It is by no means an idle curiosity which prompts the Convention to inquire into the number of forces under your command, and their situation as to arms, health, provisions, and other necessities, as also what intelligence your Honour may have obtained of the

strength and design of General *Burgoyne*. But as the war is now brought to our doors, and this State invaded at each extremity, the utmost attention and strictest inquiry are necessary in the Legislature, that they may be enabled to give all the assistance in their power to the several armies employed in our defence.

"I am further directed to inform your Honour that this letter will be handed to you by *Leonard Gansevort* and *Jacob Cuyler*, Esquires, a Committee of this Convention, who are sent to receive such intelligence as you may think necessary to give a complete idea of the situation of our Northern Army, and to assure your Honour that the Convention will make the most strenuous exertions to repel any invasion which may be meditated against us in your department.

"I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant.

"Major-General *Gates*."

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted to Messrs. *Gansevort* and *Cuyler* unsealed; that a copy of the Resolution of this Convention to write to General *Gates* be therein enclosed.

Mr. *Morris*, from the Committee for that purpose, reported the draft of a Letter to Messrs. *Gansevort* and *Cuyler*, which was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"GENTLEMEN: I am directed by the Convention to enclose you a copy of two resolutions of this date, together with a letter to Brigadier-General *Gates*, at *Ticonderoga*, which we leave open for your perusal.

"It is the wish of the Convention that you should immediately wait on General *Gates* with his letter, and that you should likewise exert yourselves in obtaining every intelligence, from your own observation, which you think will tend to give this House a full insight into the state of our Northern Army.

"In the letter which this Convention has ordered to be wrote to General *Gates*, they have chiefly confined their inquiries to the number of our forces, the state of health they are in, and General *Burgoyne's* designs.

"From motives of delicacy, this Convention has not thought proper to inquire of General *Gates* whether proper harmony prevails amongst the officers, and subordination amongst the troops. These are objects of infinite consequence, and on which the fate of a battle has often depended. The Convention, therefore, wish you will pay particular attention to obtain proper information on these points. Your own prudence and knowledge of the world will lead you to obtain these inquiries in the most delicate manner possible.

"You will be pleased to transmit General *Gates's* answer by express, together with your own observations, in writing, in case you should be detained in joining the Convention.

"I am, &c.

"To *Jacob Cuyler* and *Leond. Gansevort*, Esqs., *Albany*.

"July 23."

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President and transmitted, with copies of the Resolutions relating to their going to the Northern Army therein enclosed.

Mr. *Duer*, according to order, brought in a set of Resolutions formed on the Report of the Committee for the raising and appointment of Rangers in the northern Counties; which, being read, were again read by paragraphs, and amended, and the same being read the third time, were unanimously agreed to, and are as follows, to wit:

Whereas, from the best information this Convention has obtained, the inhabitants in the western and northern parts of the County of *Albany* and the inhabitants of the Counties of *Tryon*, *Charlotte*, *Gloucester*, *Cumberland*, *Ulster*, and *Orange*, are greatly exposed to the *Indians*, and several families in some of the above-mentioned Counties, from the dangers they apprehend, have already removed, and it is probable others will remove into the interior parts of this State, to the inevitable destruction of many, and to the great distress of the publick: In order, therefore, to induce those inhabitants to remain in their possessions, and to afford them a protection against the inroads of the *Indians*,

*Resolved, unanimously*, That there be raised in the Coun-

ty of *Albany* one hundred and twenty-six men, officers included, to be employed as scouting parties to range the woods; and that the same be divided into two Companies, each Company to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, three Corporals, and fifty-four Privates.

That in like manner, and for the same service, two hundred and one men be raised in the County of *Tryon*; to be divided into three Companies, each to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, three Corporals, and fifty-eight Privates.

That in like manner, and for the same service, two hundred and fifty-two men be raised in the Counties of *Gloucester* and *Cumberland*, for the joint defence of both Counties; and that those men be divided into four Companies, each Company to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, three Corporals, and fifty-four Privates.

That in like manner, and for the same service, one hundred and twenty men be raised in the County of *Charlotte*, to be divided in the following manner, viz: two Companies, each to consist of one Captain, one Lieutenant, three Sergeants, three Corporals, and forty-two Privates; and one party to consist of one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, one Corporal, and seventeen Privates.

That in like manner, and for the same service, two hundred and one men be raised in the County of *Ulster*, to be divided into three Companies, similar to those of the County of *Tryon*.

That one Company be raised for the County of *Orange*, to consist of one Captain, one Lieutenant, three Sergeants, three Corporals, and forty-seven Privates.

That the Commissioned Officers of the Companies of the Counties of *Albany*, *Tryon*, *Charlotte*, *Ulster*, and *Orange*, be nominated, for approbation and appointment of this Convention, by the respective County Committees; and that the said County Committees issue Warrants for levying those Troops to such persons whom they propose to nominate for Companies; and it hereby is strongly recommended to them to nominate persons of sober and active dispositions for these appointments.

That the Commissioned Officers of the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Gloucester* be nominated by the mutual consent of the Committees of both Counties, and that Warrants issue to the Captains of each Company in the same manner as before directed.

That the Pay of the Officers and Privates be the same as the pay of the Continental Troops.

That a Bounty be allowed to each Non-Commissioned Officer and Private of twenty-five dollars upon his passing muster.

That to each Captain be allowed sixteen shillings; to each Lieutenant, fourteen shillings; and to each Non-Commissioned Officer and Private, ten shillings per week, in lieu of all rations.

That the Officers and Privates furnish themselves each with a good Musket or Firelock, Powder-Horn, Bullet-Pouch, and Tomahawk, Blanket, and Knapsack.

That the Companies in the Counties of *Albany*, *Tryon*, *Charlotte*, *Ulster*, and *Orange*, be confined to the service of those Counties, unless called forth to the defence of a neighbouring County or State by the mutual consent of the bordering County Committees of the respective Counties or States.

That the Companies in the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Gloucester* be under the command of a Major, to be appointed by this Convention.

That the Major commanding the Rangers in the Counties of *Gloucester* and *Cumberland* shall march to the relief of any of the neighbouring Counties or States, upon a mutual application from the County Committees of such respective Counties or States, or upon an application from the Continental Officer commanding in the Northern Department, provided that such Continental Officer do not call these Companies out of the said three Counties of *Cumberland*, *Gloucester*, and *Charlotte*.

That each Officer of the respective Companies of Rangers shall, before he receives his Warrant, take an oath before the Chairman of the County Committee from whence he is to be recommended, that he will once in every month, or as soon after the expiration of any month as possible, transmit to the Convention or Legislature of this State a muster-roll of the names of every Officer or Private under his command,



and their respective times of enlistment and service; and that any Officer who shall return a false muster-roll shall, on conviction thereof, lose his pay, and be cashiered, and forever thereafter rendered incapable of holding any office, civil or military, in this State.

That all the Companies of Rangers shall, at any future time, be under the direction and command of such person or persons, and be continued so long in the service, as this Convention or a future Legislature of this State shall please to appoint, not exceeding the duration of the present war, and that all these Troops be subject to the Continental Rules of War, till further orders from this Convention, or a future Legislature of this State.

*Resolved*, That one-half of the Bounty be paid by the Captain of each Company to every able-bodied man when he shall pass muster, and that so soon as the first muster-roll of every Company shall be received by this Convention, the other half shall be remitted by this Convention to the respective County Committees of *Albany, Tryon, Orange, Ulster*, and *Charlotte* Counties, and to the Major commanding the *Gloucester* and *Cumberland* Rangers, to be by them issued to the Captains of their respective Companies, and immediately disbursed to the men.

*Ordered*, That certified copies of the foregoing Resolutions be transmitted, with all despatch, to the respective Committees of the Counties afore-mentioned.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the expediency of raising a Company of men to guard the Stores and Vessels with Provisions and Ammunition in the City of *Albany*, delivered in their Report, which was read; and the same being again read and amended, was unanimously agreed to, and is in the words following, to wit:

*Resolved*, That seventy-five men, officers included, be raised, to guard the Stores and Vessels with Provisions and Ammunition in and about the City of *Albany*; that they be under the pay of this State; that they be imbodyed into one Company, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, and one Fifer, and sixty-two Privates; that they furnish themselves each with a Gun or Musket, one Pouch or Cartouch-box, one Tomahawk or Cutlass; that they be allowed Continental pay, and be subject to the Continental Rules and Articles of War; and that instead of Rations, the Captain be allowed sixteen shillings, the Lieutenants twelve shillings, and the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates seven shillings per week. That they be under the direction of the Committee of the City and County of *Albany*, and in their absence the Sub-Committee of the City of *Albany*; that they be continued in the said service until the first day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged by this or a future Convention or Legislature of this State.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., July 24, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Dunscombe*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Miller*, Major *Smith*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Gelston*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Major *Parks*, Colonel *De Witt*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *H. Schenck*, Colonel *Hoffman*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Haviland*, Colonel *Gil Drake*, General *Morris*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Van Wyck*, Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *James Townshend*, Major *Lawrence*, Mr. *Wat. Smith*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Wisner*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stevens*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*, Mr. *Duer*.

On reading the Report of the Committee of *Westchester* County, which was read and filed,

*Ordered*, That the Keeper of the Jail of *Westchester* County do discharge *Robert Sutton* out of custody on account of any order of detention by this Convention.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Jeremiah Wool* be requested to send, by the first safe and convenient opportunity, to *John McKesson*, one of the Secretaries of this Convention, all the papers by him seized and taken from the several persons of

the name of *Youngs*, at or near *Cold Spring*; and also the papers taken in like manner from *Isaac Ketchum*.

Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, from the Committee appointed to report such amendments as are necessary further to encourage the manufacture of Saltpetre,\* brought in the Report of the said Committee, which he read in his place, and delivered in at the table, when the same was again read.

*Ordered*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till the afternoon.

A Letter from the Chiefs of the *Onenoghkuage* and *Tuscarora* Nations of *Indians*, to *Henry Wisner, Jun., Esq.*, of *Ulster* County, dated the 4th of *June* instant, was read and filed. They thereby request a supply of Gunpowder, Lead, and Flints; give assurance of their peaceable disposition and neutrality, and invite the inhabitants to trade with them in Gunpowder and Goods.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That two hundred weight of Gunpowder, with an adequate supply of Lead and Flints, be sent as a present to those *Indian* Nations by this State; that *Henry Wisner, Jun., Esq.*, be, and is hereby, authorized to forward the said Gunpowder, Lead, and Flints, to the said *Indian* Chiefs.

Colonel *De Witt* informed the Convention that there are a number of *Indians* in some parts of the County of *Ulster* to whom it would be good policy to distribute a small supply of Gunpowder. That there are also a few very indigent persons on the *Delaware* who are very hearty friends of the *American* cause, but that they are destitute of Gunpowder, and have applied to the Committee of *Rochester*, and to the County Committee of *Ulster* County, for a small supply of that article, which could not there be furnished to them.

*Ordered*, That seventy weight of Gunpowder be delivered by *Henry Wisner, Jun., Esq.*, to Major *Arthur Parks*, *Dirck Wynkoop*, *William Peck*, and *Andrew Stewart, Esqs.*, or either of them, to be distributed gratis to the said *Indians* in *Ulster* County, and to such indigent friendly inhabitants of *Ulster* County, near the *Susquehannah*, as they may think proper.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Wisner* and Mr. *Gouverneur Morris* be a Committee to prepare and report a draft of a Letter to the said *Onenoghkuage* and *Tuscarora Indian* Nations, acquainting them of the said presents, and of the dispositions of this State towards them.

And also a Committee to report a draft of a Letter to the Superintendents of *Indian* Affairs, to cover a copy of the said Letter from the *Indians*, and of the Letter in answer thereto, and to acquaint them of what has been ordered by this Convention.

On motion, *Resolved, unanimously*, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into and report what Officers were in the service of this State last year who merit the further patronage of this Convention, and to devise modes of providing for all such deserving Officers who stood forth in defence of the liberties of *America* in the dawn of this dispute.

*Ordered*, That General *Morris*, Colonel *Hoffman*, and *Abraham Yates, Esq.*, be a Committee for the purpose above mentioned.

The Convention took into consideration the state of the Treasury. After sometime spent therein,

\*Your Committee, to whom the consideration of making such amendments as should be necessary to the resolutions of the Committee of Safety of this State, of the 17th of *April* last, for encouraging the manufacturing of Saltpetre, are of opinion, that, for the further encouragement of setting up that necessary manufacture in this State, it will be necessary to prolong the time mentioned in the said resolution, and that the several Committees appointed by the said resolution be empowered and authorized to purchase, on account of this Convention, all well refined Saltpetre that shall be made in this State, and offered to them for sale before the first day of *July* next, at the rate of 7s. per pound.

That the several Committees appointed to purchase Saltpetre have liberty, from time to time, to draw on the Treasurer of this State for such sum or sums of money as they stand in need of for the purpose of purchasing Saltpetre; and the Saltpetre so purchased be sent by the said Committees to any Powder-Mill or Mills in this State, to be manufactured into Powder, taking a receipt of the manufacturer, or his agent, for the quantity so delivered.

That *Henry Wisner, Esq.*, be added to the Committee for the encouraging the manufacture of Saltpetre, and for purchasing the same in *Orange* County.

That *Henry Wisner, Jun., Esq.*, be added to the Committee for the encouraging the manufacture of Saltpetre, and for purchasing the same in *Ulster* County.

That *Henry Skenk* and *John R. Livingston, Esqs.*, be added to the Committee for the encouragement of the manufacture of Saltpetre, and for purchasing the same in the County of *Dutchess*.

*Resolved, unanimously, That £200,000, in Bills of Credit, be immediately struck, and issued for the publick exigencies of this State. And that Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Bancker, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Tredwell, and Mr. Harper be a Committee to report the most expeditious and useful ways and means for carrying the same into execution.*

*Resolved, unanimously, That Comfort Sands, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed Auditor-General of the Publick Accounts of this State during the pleasure of this Convention; and*

*Resolved, That the said Auditor-General be allowed a salary at and after the rate of £300 per annum; to be paid to him quarterly.*

*Resolved, That Mr. Gouverneur Morris, Mr. Duer, and Mr. L'Hommiedieu, be a Committee to report upon the mode of auditing and passing the publick Accounts of this State, and such other matters as may be necessary for the regulation of the Treasury of this State.*

Mr. Duer gave notice that he intended to-morrow to move this Convention that the order for furnishing two hundred weight of Gunpowder to the *Indians* at *Onenoghkwaga* and *Tuscarora* be reconsidered, if a majority of the Convention, pursuant to the sixth standing rule, consent to such motion; and he moved, seconded by Mr. Abraham Yates, that the sense of the Convention be taken, whether he shall be permitted to make such motion. Debates arose thereon, and the question being put, it was determined in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.

6 Albany.  
5 Dutchess.  
2 Cumberland.  
8 New-York.  
2 Charlotte.  
4 Ulster.

27 votes.

For the Negative.

4 Westchester.  
3 Orange.  
4 Queen's.  
4 Suffolk.

15 votes.

Therefore, *Ordered*, That Mr. Duer have leave to make such motion for the reconsideration of the said order.

On the recommendation of the Members from *Cumberland* County, the Convention unanimously agreed to appoint *Joab Hoisington, Esq.*, to be Major of the Rangers to be raised in the Counties of *Gloucester* and *Cumberland*.

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries prepare a draft of a Commission for him.

Die Mercurii, 4 ho. P. M., July 24, 1776.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Duncombe*, Colonel *Brasher*.

DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Hoffman*, Mr. *Landon*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*, Mr. *Veder*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Yates*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gil. Drake*, Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Tompkins*, Mr. *Mills*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*, Mr. *Duer*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stevens*.

SUFFOLK.—Gen. *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *L'Hommiedieu*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Gelston*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Little*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Major *Parks*, Colonel *De Witt*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *James Townshend*, Mr. *Wat. Smith*.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer of this State do advance the following sums to the Deputies of the different Counties where the Rangers are to be raised—being one-half of the County resolved on by this Convention for those forces—taking a receipt of the several Deputies of each County for the respective sums undermentioned, to wit:

To the Deputies of Albany County.....	£ 600
To the Deputies of Tryon County.....	960
To the Deputies of Cumberland County, for the Rangers, to be raised in Gloucester and Cumberland Counties.....	1,200
To the Deputies of Ulster County.....	960
To the Deputies of Orange County.....	265
To the Deputies of Charlotte County.....	575
	£ 4,560

The Committee appointed to examine into two charges against Lieutenant-Colonel *James Hammon*—the first, that he had not acted uprightly in the purchase of some pork, on account of this State; and the other, of a neglect of duty, in that evening when the enemy's ships lately proceeded up *Hudson's River*—reported that they had examined all the

witnesses which appeared or were brought before them, as to each of the said charges, the substance of whose testimony they reported.

The said Committee further reported, that it appears to them that the charges exhibited against Lieutenant-Colonel *Hamman* are entirely groundless; and that, therefore, Lieutenant-Colonel *James Hamman* ought to be acquitted from all further trouble in the premises, that he may immediately return to his duty.

The Evidence given to that Committee, whereon they founded their Report, was read and filed.\*

*Resolved*, That this Convention agrees with their Committee in the said Report.

A Petition of *William Eagles*, of the City of *New-York*, Carpenter, setting forth his services to his country, and his skill as a mechanick, was read; he thereby prays for employment.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *Jay*, *Robert Livingston*, *Yates*, *Tappen*, *Gilbert Livingston*, and *Paulling*, be requested to employ the said *William Eagles*, agreeable to the prayer of his petition, or in any other way wherein they may find him most useful to this State.

The Committee appointed to devise means for employing Mr. *James Stewart* in the service of this State, delivered in their new Report, which was read; and being read a second time, the Convention proceeded to hear the same read by paragraphs. Several paragraphs were read and amended. The whole afternoon being spent, for want of light the further consideration thereof is deferred till to-morrow.

The Convention having this day appointed *Joab Hoising-*

\*The Examination of the Evidences against Colonel HAMMAN, in respect to his behaviour as an officer on the evening of the day on which the enemy's ships came to anchor off TARRYTOWN, in this County, and as a buyer of pork for this State.

Lieutenant *Daniel Martin*, being sworn, deposeth and saith, That upon seeing the fleet drawing near *Tarrytown*, the 12th instant, ordered his Sergeant to warn the men—this was about seven o'clock; that said Sergeant afterwards told the deponent he had been with Colonel *Hammond* to warn him, and that thereupon the said Colonel mounted his horse and set out directly to warn Captain *Vermilite*; that the said Colonel and a brother of this deponent had some words, as the deponent heard from some of the men, but cannot recollect from whom; and that the said Colonel arrived at *Tarrytown* between twelve and one o'clock the next morning, as his said brother informed him. And further this deponent saith not.

*Samuel Purdie, Jun.*, being sworn, deposeth, That Colonel *Hammond* agreed with him for four barrels pork at £4 5s. per barrel. That afterwards the said Colonel told him that Colonel *Drake* was dissatisfied with the bargain, and asked him, the said Colonel *Hammond*, if he did not think the people would take the pork again. That *Hammond* said he told the said *Drake* that he did not choose to go about to countermand what he had done, for that he knew that some of the people wanted the money; that he would sooner take it himself than do so. That he, the deponent, after this, delivered the said pork to the said Colonel *Hammond*. That either at that time, or some time before, the said Colonel told the deponent that the said Colonel *Drake* had wrote to him, the said *Hammond*, for a number of prime barrels of pork, which the deponent thinks he, the said *Hammond*, said were about eight in number. That the next day after the said *Hammond* had received the said four barrels pork from the deponent, he told the said deponent, it having been repacked, that he had made three barrels of prime pork out of the four barrels aforesaid, and that he did allow the deponent but £4 for the remaining barrel. That the deponent heard others call the said repacker of the said pork by the name of *Thomas Hunt*, and heard him say that he was authorized by the Congress to that employment. The deponent further saith, that he was present when the said repacker was repacking the pork of *James Requa*, and that he saw several pieces of the said pork rejected by the said repacker, and that afterwards he, the deponent, saw the said *Requa* carrying back several pieces of the said rejected pork in his cart. And the deponent saith that he heard the said Colonel *Hammond* say to the said *Requa*, that he would as soon see his pork repacked as any of his neighbours, if the repacker thought it would do. The deponent further saith, that he saw several prime pieces of pork taken by *Joseph Leggett*, while the said *Hunt* was repacking pork, which he, the said *Leggett*, had sold the said *Hammond*, and that the deponent did not hear the said *Leggett*, or any other person, desire the said packer to put in any pieces into the barrels but what he thought proper; nor doth he know that any pieces were taken out of any of the said barrels after having been repacked.

*Jonathan G. Tompkins, Esq.*, being sworn, deposeth and saith, That near nine o'clock in the evening of the 12th instant, he called at Colonel *Hammond's*, and found a man advising him to warn his men to muster, for the enemy's ships were coming up the river. The said Colonel asked the deponent whether the report was a matter of fact; this deponent told him it was, and desired said Colonel to warn his officers immediately. That the Colonel turned to a certain Justice *Deane*, and borrowed his horse, and set off directly with the deponent, without so much as going into his own house first, to warn Captain *Vermilite*; and he, the said Colonel, also desired the aforesaid man to warn all he came across, and that they should influence others to do the same. That the said Colonel informed the deponent that he was under the necessity of ordering the people to meet at his house, as he had the ammunition there; that Captain *Requa* was sufficiently warned, being in a field from which he could see the vessels as they came up. That the deponent parted with the said Colonel about two miles from the river where the road strikes off to Captain *Vermilite's*. That the said Colonel went towards the said Captain's, and the deponent to the river at *Tarrytown*. That about ten

ton, Esq., Major of the Rangers to be raised in the Counties of *Gloucester* and *Cumberland*, a draft of a Commission for him was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York.

"To JOAB HOISINGTON, Esq., greeting:

"Whereas this Convention did, on the 23d day of July, instant, direct and order the raising and embodying two hundred and fifty-two men, officers included, in the Counties of *Gloucester* and *Cumberland*, for the joint defence of both Counties and of the neighbouring Counties and States, to be divided into four Companies, to be under the command of a Major: Now, therefore, we, the Representatives of the State of New-York, reposing especial trust and confidence in your patriotism, martial valour, vigilance, conduct, and fidelity, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you to be Major of the said four Companies of Rangers, so to be raised as aforesaid, for the defence of *American* liberty, and for repelling every hostile invasion thereof. You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of Major, by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging; and we do strictly charge and require all officers and soldiers under your command to be obedient to your orders as Major. And you are to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as you shall receive from this or a future Convention of the State of New-York, or the Congress of the *United States of America*, or Commander-in-Chief for the time being of the Army of the *United States of America*, or any other your superior officer, according to the rules and discipline of war, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This commission to continue in force

o'clock the deponent returned to the said Colonel's, and was told that he had not returned since he had set out with the said deponent; and the deponent believes that the said Colonel was active in collecting his men; and further saith not.

Captain *Benjamin Vermilie* being sworn, deposeth and saith, That on the evening of the 12th instant Colonel *Hammond* came to his house, early in the evening, and gave him orders to warn the men as fast as he could. After the said deponent had warned the Corporal to acquaint the Sergeants to come down to *Tarrytown*, this deponent went to Mr. *Vantassel's*, and found the Colonel there; that scarcely an hour after the deponent with the Colonel went down to the river; but the hour of the night he could not tell, as he had no watch.

*Peter Allair*, clerk to Colonel *Hammond's* Regiment, being sworn, deposeth and saith, That Colonel *Hammond's* son-in-law, about nine o'clock, warned him to turn out on the alarm; that he went to alarm some men, then returned to the Colonel and charged all the guns there; that he afterwards went to *Vantassel's*, and that the Colonel was there before him. And the deponent believes that the said Colonel made no unnecessary delay in going down to *Tarrytown*; the time of night he knew not.

Lieutenant *Cornelius Vantassel* being sworn, deposeth and saith, That on the aforesaid evening he went to the house of Lieutenant *Martin*, where he found Colonel *Hammond*, about one or two o'clock, and found him doing his best to prepare and forward the men to the shore; that he, the Colonel, got the deponent a hat-full of cartridges for his men, who had before but three or four rounds a man; and that said Colonel was busy in furnishing others with cartridges also.

*Joseph Youngs* being sworn, deposeth and saith, That *William Paulding*, Esq., told the Committee of this place, (*Westchester*), that Colonel *Hammond* had been warned at ten o'clock on the evening the enemy appeared off *Tarrytown*, and did not go to *Tarrytown* till ten o'clock the next day; but the deponent going down to the said town found, by the information of credible persons, that Colonel *Hammond* had been down at about one in the morning; and further saith not as to that matter. That he was present when *Joseph Drake* asked *Hammond* if he could purchase him some pork; the Colonel replied he could; that *Hammond* bought some by *Drake's* order, who told him he allowed him to give £4 and £4 5s. per barrel for prime pork. After he had bought it, *Drake* told *Hammond* the Congress would not allow so much, and asked him whether he could not return it to the people again. *Hammond* told him he could not, for that he would rather lose the five shillings. *Young* then advised *Hammond* to keep the pork, for that he would not lose by it.

*Joseph Leggett* doth affirm, That he was present when *Requaw's* pork was repacked by the aforesaid *Hunt*, and told the company, of which Colonel *Hammond* and the repacker *Hunt* were two, that the pork was very much moulded; and that he saw the said repacker put several pieces to his nose, and throw them aside; but did not see or learn that Colonel *Hammond* gave the repacker any orders or instructions about the said pork. The affirmant further saith, that in his opinion the said pork was not merchantable; that he, the affirmant, saw Colonel *Hammond* cull one barrel of pork out of four or five, but that the remaining three were good pork and merchantable.

*Martinus Van Woort* being sworn, deposeth and saith, That he sold Colonel *Hammond* five barrels pork; that he was present at repacking the same; that the said Colonel *Hammond*, upon a door which he had laid down, took and laid the prime pieces of the said five barrels; that four barrels were filled by the repacker *Hunt*; and that a barrel was filled with part of the prime pork, and marked by the repacker; the remainder of the said prime pieces of pork the deponent took back; and also that he, the deponent, heard the repacker commend the whole of the said pork as he was repacking it; and that he does not know whether *Hammond* took the said barrel prime pork to himself or not.

From the foregoing evidences it appears to this Committee that the charges exhibited against Colonel *Hammond*, both in regard to the affair of the pork and neglect of duty as an officer, are entirely groundless; and that therefore the said Colonel ought to be acquitted from all further trouble on these accounts, and returned to his Regiment immediately.

July 24, 1776.

until the end of the present war, unless sooner revoked by the Congress of the *United States of America*, or the Convention or Legislature of the State of New-York.

"Dated at *White-Plains*, in *Westchester* County, the twenty-fourth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

"By order of the Convention."

Ordered, That a copy of the said Commission be engrossed and signed by the President, and countersigned by one or both of the Secretaries, and delivered to the said Major *Joab Hoisington*.

Thursday Morning, July 25, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Dunscomb*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Harper*, Colonel *Brasher*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Gen. *Woodhull*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *L'Homme-dieu*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Major *Parks*.

FOR QUEEN'S.—Mr. *James Townsend*, Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *Smith*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Hoffman*, Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *Sacket*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Wisner*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—General *Morris*, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Tompkins*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Newkirk*, Mr. *Harper*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Webster*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Marsh*, Mr. *Sessions*.

A Letter from Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt* and *Zephaniah Platt*, Esq., dated at *Peekskill*, on the 23d instant, was read and filed.

They thereby inform, that by a Council of War held at *Fort Montgomery*, it was agreed that three hundred men will be a sufficient guard on the east side of *Hudson's River*, from *Anthony's Nose* to *Croton*. That the *New-England* forces will depart on *Saturday* next, and request that such of the new levies as are raised may be on the ground by that time. That in order to discharge the subsistence of the men and horses and other necessary expenses, they want immediately £600, and request that sum to be paid to the bearer, *John Levinus*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of this State do pay to *John Levinus* the sum of £600, for the use of Colonel *Pierre V. Cortlandt* and Captain *Zephaniah Platt*, agreeable to their request, for discharging the subsistence of the Troops who have been attending on duty on the east side of *Hudson's River* with their horses, and such other expenses as have accrued and they choose to discharge in that service; and that the Treasurer take a receipt of the said *John Levinus* for that sum.

Ordered, That Brigadier-General *Morris* command that the men draughted from the Militia in his Brigade be marched immediately to the mouth of *Croton River*, to perform duty and be under the command of the officer or officers commanding the *American* troops and Militia there.

And Ordered, That Captain *Townshend*, of *Westchester* County, return to duty with his Company, at the mouth of *Croton River*, and such places adjacent, as such Commanding Officer as aforesaid shall direct.

A draft of an Answer to Colonel *Van Cortlandt* and Captain *Platt* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"GENTLEMEN: I am directed to inform you, that, agreeable to the request of your letter of the 23d instant, which was this day delivered, the Convention have issued an order upon the Treasury for the sum of £600, to be paid to *John Levinus*, and to be accounted for by you; and that they have further given orders to General *Morris* for marching those men draughted from his Brigade, and also that Captain *Townshend* march with his Company to the mouth of *Croton River* immediately.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant.

"To Colonel *Van Cortlandt* and *Zephaniah Platt*, Esq."

A Letter from Mr. *Balthazar De Hart* was read and filed. He therein sets forth, that he had served his country



last campaign as an officer, with much fatigue and diligence; that he is ready to continue his services to his country, and requests to be further employed in some military department.

*Ordered*, That the said Letter be referred and delivered to the Committee appointed to report a method of employing the Officers who served with reputation last year and are now unemployed.

A Member informed the Convention that *Balthazar De Hart* could give useful information as to many disaffected persons at *Shrewsbury*, who keep up a communication with the enemy:

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Wisner* and Mr. *L'Hommedieu* be a Committee to examine Mr. *Balthazar De Hart* as to such disaffected persons and communication with the enemy as he knows or can give information of.

A Letter from Mr. *Andrew Adams*, Chairman of the Committee of *Litchfield*, dated the 22d instant, was read and filed, and is as follows:

"Litchfield, July 22, 1776.

"SIR: The Committee of this town have duly received, by the hand of *Abraham Depeyster*, Esq., your letter of 18th instant, together with twelve prisoners sent here to be confined in our jail. The Committee, sensible of the situation of the State of *New-York*, and grateful for the good opinion you express of our zeal in the common cause, are entirely willing to give all possible aid in our power to a neighbour State. But the situation of our jail in this town is such at present, having on hand near forty prisoners of war, a number of which we are obliged to keep confined, besides six other prisoners sent here from *Fairfield* and *Dutchess* Counties to close confinement, for disaffection to the rights and liberties of the *United States of America*, corresponding with the enemy, &c., together with a number of other criminals for various crimes, all to be confined in two very uncomfortable rooms—the whole jail consisting of but three, one of which is occupied by a woman, confined for murder,—that renders the confinement of those prisoners in this jail incompatible either with the publick safety, or even with the safety of the prisoners' lives, some of whom are now sick. We have, however, received them for the present, trusting that, upon the above information, your Convention would think their immediate removal absolutely necessary, to which their earliest attention is requested, as our jail is not sufficient for the prisoners we before had, besides others expected from within this County. For the above reasons, Mr. *Depeyster* has not committed to our care the Mayor of your city, but has taken for him private lodgings, under the care of a particular gentleman, for his safe custody, until he can know your pleasure in the premises. To him we beg leave to refer you for further particulars; and are, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servants.

"Signed by order. *ANDREW ADAMS, Chairman.*"

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, and Mr. *Wisner*, be a Committee to consider the state of the Prisoners lately sent to *Litchfield*, and to report what may be necessary to be done in their case.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Hoffman* and Captain *Rutgers* proceed to *Harlem*, and make proper inquiry whether this Convention can be there properly accommodated with convenient lodgings.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Wisner*, and Mr. *Contine*, be a Committee to reconsider whether any and what quantity of Gunpowder shall be sent to the *Indians* at *Onenoghkwaga* and *Tuscarora*, and in what manner.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gelston* and Mr. *Smith* of *Suffolk* County, be added to the late Committee appointed to report the best method for encouraging the manufacture and importation of Salt.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Robert Harper* and Colonel *Brasher* be a Committee to prepare and report a draft of a peremptory Resolution, that the Committee of *Albany* return to this Convention a copy of their Proceedings against *Abraham Cuyler*, *Henry Cuyler*, *Stephen DeLancey*, *John Duncan*, *Benjamin Hilton*, and *John Monier*, whom the said Committee have sent prisoners to *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration and report the most proper mode for employing in the service of this State Mr. *James Stewart*, late Lieutenant in Colonel

*Livingston's* Regiment, delivered in their Report, which was read; and the same being read, paragraph by paragraph, and amended, was agreed to, and is in the words following, to wit:

*Resolved*, That the said *James Stewart* is deserving a Captain's Commission in the service of this State, and that a Warrant be immediately given to him to raise a Company with all possible despatch.

That the said Company ought to consist of *Scotch Highlanders*, or as many of them as possible, and that they serve during the war, unless sooner discharged by this Convention, or a future Legislature of this State.

That the said Company shall consist of one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drum, one Fife, and not less than sixty-two Privates.

That a Bounty of fifteen dollars be allowed to each Non-Commissioned Officer and Private.

That they be entitled to Continental Pay and Rations, and subject to the Continental Articles of War, till further orders from this Convention or a future Legislature of this State.

That the said *James Stewart* shall not receive pay as a Captain until he shall have returned to this Convention, or a future Legislature of this State, a regular muster-roll, upon oath, of thirty able-bodied men, duly inlisted.

That the Treasurer of this Convention be ordered to advance to the said *James Stewart* £144, in order to enable him to advance the bounty to those he may inlist, taking his receipt to account for the same to the Treasurer of this State.

That as soon as the said *James Stewart* shall have returned to this Convention, or a future Legislature of this State, a regular muster-roll of thirty able-bodied men, duly inlisted, certifying that the said men have been mustered, in the presence of a person to be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee of the City and County of *Albany*, or of a person to be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, that then, and not before, the said *James Stewart* shall be authorized to draw upon the Chairman of the Committee of the City and County of *Albany* for the further sum of £100, in order that he may be enabled to proceed in his inlistment, giving his receipt to account for the same to the Treasurer of this State; and that when the said *James Stewart* shall have duly inlisted and mustered, in the presence of a person to be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee of the City and County of *Albany*, the whole of his Company, or as many as he can inlist, that then he shall be entitled to receive of the said Chairman of the County Committee the remaining proportion of bounty due to the non-commissioned officers and privates which he shall have inlisted.

That if the said *James Stewart* shall not be able to complete the inlistment of this Company, that he shall make a report of the same, with all despatch, to the President of this Convention, or to a future Legislature, who will either order his Commission to issue, or make such further provision for his trouble in recruiting as the equity of the case shall require.

That the Treasurer of this Convention be ordered to remit into the hands of *John Barclay*, Esquire, of the City of *Albany*, the sum of £288, on or before the last day of *December* next, in order to enable him to make unto the said *James Stewart* the disbursements aforesaid.

That the said *James Stewart* shall be authorized to engage to each man the sum of 7s. per week, billeting money, till such time as further provision is made for the subsistence of his recruits.

That the said Company, when raised, shall be either employed as an independent Company, or incorporated into any Battalion as to this Convention, or to a future proper authority of this State, shall appear advisable.

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Die Jovis, 5 ho. P. M., July 25, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Bancker*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Major *Webster*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Landon*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Morris*, Gen. *Morris*, Mr. *Tompkins*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Wat. Smith*.



ORANGE.—Mr. Wisner, Mr. Outwater.

TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. Harper.

Mr. Gouverneur Morris informed the Convention that sundry Pilots have lately gone off and disappeared.

Sundry Affidavits,\* with respect to inimical declarations and threats used by William Sutton and his son John Sutton,

\*IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, WHITE-PLAINS, July 15, 1776.

Mr. Sutton came before this Committee, and made oath that William Sutton did, about fourteen days ago, at the house of Nicholas Morrell, at Mamaroneck, declare, in the presence of this deponent and James Reynolds, cabinet-maker, of New-York, and several others, whose names this deponent does not at present recollect, that, in case independency was declared by the Continental Congress, there were three Colonels in the service that would join the Ministerial Army; and further says not.

By order of the Committee: JOHN THOMAS, Chairman.

William Sutton, being examined by the Committee appointed for that purpose, says: That he was at first for choosing a Congress, &c., and afterwards opposed it, and protested against it; that his reasons for his change of conduct was, his hearing that the Assembly had taken, or was about to take, the matter into consideration. That he had received several letters from Judge Jones, but that there was not a word of politics in either of them; that he had never received any letter from any of the Delanceys, except one from James Delancey, enclosing the Protest against choosing Deputies. That several people went on board the Governor's ship, while he (the said Sutton) was there with his boat, amongst whom were James Horton, Esq., Captain Ebenezer Shield, one Holmes, of Cortlandt's Manor, Gabriel Purdy, Isaac Gidney, and several of the Hainesses.

That Governor Tryon said, from what he heard, he expected that there would be friends of Government enough, with the forces that would come; that the friends of Government would be protected. That he never received any letter from Wilkins or Seabury; that none of the Delanceys have ever endeavoured to influence him to take the part he has done.

Captain Ritchie, being asked, says he never saw a letter from Wilkins and Seabury to William Sutton.

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, WHITE-PLAINS, July 23, 1776.

William Sutton, being examined before this Committee relative to the charge laid against him, (dated 12th instant,) utterly denies the same, excepting that Governor Tryon told him that when the fleet arrived there would be a proclamation published, declaring all those Rebels who would oppose their measures, and all those who would come into them should have a pardon; that the Governor further told him that there would be some shipping sent into the Sound.

In respect to the second charge, he says that he might have said that there would be three or four Colonels that would revolt and oppose independency in case it was declared, but does not know their names. But it appears to this Committee that said Sutton either knows who they are, or the person who gave him the information, but declines to discover them. By order of the Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., Chairman.

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, WHITE-PLAINS, July 23, 1776.

Mr. Sutton appeared before this Committee, and maketh oath that William Sutton did, about fourteen days ago, at the house of Nicholas Morrel, declare, in the presence of this deponent, James Reynolds, and several others, whose names this deponent does not at present recollect, that in case independency was declared by the Continental Congress, there were three Colonels in the service who would join the Ministerial party. By order of the Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., Chairman.

The above deponent is a man of good character, and well known to this Committee; and if the Congress requests to have him before them, his name shall be given up to them. By order of the Committee of Safety:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., Chairman.

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, WHITE-PLAINS, July 23, 1776.

John Sutton, being examined before this Committee, declares that the charge alleged against him is groundless; that he might have said the Regulars would land between Mamaroneck and Horseneck; but if he did say it, that was only an opinion of his own. By order of the Committee of Safety:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., Chairman.

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, WHITE-PLAINS, July 23, 1776.

James Horton, being called before this Committee, by order of the Convention of the State of New-York, and being examined respecting his saying "that he was sure that the Ministerial Army would conquer us, and that matters would soon be settled," says, that he might have made use of such words, but does not recollect that he did; that he had no design or reason for saying so, only that the fate of war was uncertain; and further says, that he never knew of any conspiracy whatever against the United States of America. And whereas it has been reported that he went on board of the Governor's ship and swore a new allegiance to the King: voluntarily declares, under oath, that he never swore allegiance since he was first qualified as a Justice of the Peace; and the only reason he had for going on board the Governor's ship was, that he heard William Sutton (who was then on board) was going to England, and that he had business of a private nature to settle with said Sutton. By order of the Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., Chairman.

This Committee prays that the Congress would take Mr. Horton's case into consideration as soon as possible.

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY FOR THE COUNTY OF }  
WESTCHESTER, July 24, 1776. }

Benjamin Lyons, of the White-Plain, being a man of repute, and a member of this Committee, being sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, deposes and saith, that he was coming from New-York in a boat, some time last March, as near as the deponent can recollect the time, when Joseph Bull was in company at the same time; and a dispute arising between the deponent and said Bull respecting the propriety or impropriety of independency, when the said Bull declared to the deponent that when independency was set up, he (the said Bull) would meet the deponent in the field of death; and further the deponent saith not.

BENJN. LYON.

Sworn before this Committee the day and year as above.

By order of the Committee: JOHN THOMAS, Jun., Chairman.

ton, taken before the Committee of Safety of Westchester County, together with the Examinations of the said William Sutton and John Sutton, were received from the said Committee, and read and filed.

It thereby appearing to this Convention that the said William Sutton and John Sutton are both persons whose going at large might endanger the liberties of America:

Resolved, unanimously, That the Committee of Safety of Westchester County be requested to have them, respectively, confined in safe custody.

Major Webster mentioned to the Convention sundry circumstances relating to the forwarding of money for the raising of Rangers in Charlotte County, and other matters relating to the publick service, which require his going to that County; that he will return speedily, or send down another Member to this Convention, and requested leave of absence.

Ordered, That Major Webster have leave of absence, and that in the mean time Charlotte County be considered as represented by Mr. Duer, and have a voice in this Convention as usual.

The Convention were informed that a certain Henry Chase\* has been committed to the Jail at White-Plains, by an order from the Mayor.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., July 26, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. Harper, Mr. Bancker, Col. Bra-sher, Mr. Dunscomb.

ALBANY.—Mr. Yates, Mr. Bleeker, Mr. Adgate.

SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Smith, Mr. L'Homme-dieu, Mr. Gelston, Mr. Dearing.

ULSTER.—Colonel De Wit, Mr. Contine, Major Park.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. Landon.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Mills, Mr. Morris.

ORANGE.—Mr. Wisner, Mr. Outwater, Mr. Little.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. Samuel Townshend, Mr. James Townshend, Mr. Wat. Smith.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. Duer.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. Sessions, Colonel Marsh, Mr. Stevens.

TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. Harper, Mr. Newkirk.

Ordered, That seven thousand five hundred weight of Lead be supplied and delivered by Colonel Curtenius to Colonel Marsh, Mr. Stevens, and Mr. Sessions, or either of them, for the use of the Rangers and the inhabitants of the Counties of Gloucester and Cumberland, and that Mr. Richard Norwood, Commissary to deliver stores, deliver to the said Colonel Marsh, Mr. Stevens, and Mr. Sessions, or either of them, two thousand Flints, for the use of the same Rangers and inhabitants.

And Ordered, That the Treasurer pay to the said Colonel Marsh, Mr. Stevens, and Mr. Sessions, on their receipt, the sum of £70, to enable them to transport the said Lead and Flints to the Committees of the Counties of Gloucester and Cumberland, and that Colonel Marsh, Mr. Stevens, and Mr. Sessions, the Deputies in this Convention from Cumberland County, be accountable for the expenditure of that money.

Mr. Wisner brought in (according to order) the Testimony of Balthazar De Hart, † Esq., which was read and filed.

It thereby appears that the inhabitants at Deal, Monmouth,

\* WHITE-PLAINS, July 25, 1776.

We, the humble petitioners, now are confined in Jail upon suspicion, without money or friends. We beg you will bestow your charity upon us.

HENRY CHASE, JOHN SMITH,  
JOHN CAMERON, JOHN THOMAS.

To the Honourable Congress.

† The Examination of BALTHAZAR DE HAERT, of the County of ORANGE, Attorney at Law, who has for some time past been in SHREWSBURY, in MONMOUTH County, in NEW-JERSEY.

He saith, that when he left Shrewsbury, as he conceives, far the greatest part of that place was inhabited, or rather infested, with Tories or persons disaffected to the common cause of America, and that he has understood, from information, that their disaffection has been greatly increased by a number of persons who have gone from the city of New-York there, and, as he has understood, secretly labour to deceive the lower set of people, the higher being almost all disaffected; that he knows that Joseph Wardell, John Corties, and George Allen, went the week before last, or last week, to General Howe's camp, on Staten-Island, after, as they pretended, two negroes who had run away from William Kipping and the said John Corties; that they staid some time there; that this examinant has been informed, and indeed believes, that those three persons are dis-

County, of *New-Jersey*, are disaffected; that sundry persons therein named have had some correspondence with the enemy as therein mentioned, and that several suspicious characters from *New-York* are in *Monmouth* County:

Ordered, That three copies thereof be prepared, one to be sent to General *Washington*, another to the Convention of *New-Jersey*, and a third to the Committee of *Monmouth* County, and that Mr. *Duer* and Mr. *Morris* report Letters to accompany the same.

The Committee to whom the Letter from the *Ouenhoughkuaga* and *Tuscarora* Indians to Mr. *Wisner* was referred, reported, that it is their opinion that Mr. *Wisner* be required to answer said Letter, and in his answer to inform them that he makes them a present of seventy pounds of Gunpowder, one hundred and fifty pounds of Lead, and one hundred and fifty Flints, and that he hopes it will not be long before we will be enabled to supply them in a way of trade with anything they may stand in need of; and that Mr. *Wisner* charge this Convention with the said Gunpowder, Lead, and Flints, and the expense of necessary transportation.

Resolved, unanimously, That this Convention agrees with their Committee in the said Report.

The President informed the Convention that Mr. *Fredrick Jay*, from the Committee of the *White-Plains*, has applied to him, and says that Captain *Townshend's* Company has always been considered as under the direction of the said Committee, and that they have speedy occasion for them.

The Convention took the same into consideration, and are of opinion that Captain *Townshend* should leave a Sergeant and six men to guard the Court-House, and the residue of the Company, on account of the present danger from the enemy in *Hudson's River*, proceed to *Hudson's River*.

The Committee appointed to consider the state of the Prisoners lately sent to *Litchfield*, and to report what may be necessary to be done in their case, brought in their Report, which consisted of a Letter of request to Governour *Trumbull*, which was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: I am directed to acquaint you that this Convention lately sent thirteen prisoners from *New-York* to *Litchfield*, in your Colony, with a request to the Committee of that County to secure them in close confinement. We were induced to take this measure, as we esteemed it unsafe to venture such persons in any parts of this State, now attacked by the enemy. The crimes alleged against those prisoners, and the disposition we requested to be made of them, you will see by the enclosed copy of our letter to the Committee of *Litchfield*.

"The Committee of *Litchfield*, by their letter of the 22d instant, the copy of which we enclose, informs us that, from the number of prisoners already confined in their Jail, it is incompatible with the publick safety, and with the safety of the lives of those prisoners, to keep them any time in that Jail where they are now confined, and desire measures may be taken for their immediate removal.

"We make no doubt of the readiness of the people of your Government to give this State all necessary assistance in securing those persons; but as we are unacquainted in what proper places they may be secured, take the liberty to request your Honour that you will be pleased to give orders

affected, and heard that, for that very reason, the negroes were delivered to them by *Howe's* order; that he has heard that they had a long conversation with some of *Howe's* officers. And further, he saith, that he was informed by Captain *Jacob Dennis*, a Militia officer that had been ordered to guard *Deal* shore in that township, that he could scarce persuade a man to go there with him, and that the examinant knows that his brother, who is another Militia officer there, could by no means prevail on his men to go to defend that shore—the Whigs telling him they expected that, if they went there, they would be delivered by the Tories to the enemy on their landings; and that he was informed by the said Captain *Dennis*, that the inhabitants along *Deal* shore told him they did by no means thank him for guarding them, and that they would much rather have the Regulars than the Yankees there. And he (this examinant) was further informed by the said Captain *Dennis*, that there were some vessels of force lying off *Shark River*, which, he supposed, were landing some men there to get provisions, as he observed flat-bottomed boats with them. And further this examinant saith, that he saw some armed vessels off *Deal* shore last Saturday, and observed some boats which seemed to be going on board said vessels, and that he verily believes that the inhabitants along that shore have communication with the enemy. And that this examinant further saith, that *Isaac Low*, *William Walton*, *Anthony Van Dam*, *John Roome*, *William Kipping*, *Hulet*, a dancing-master, with a number of other persons from *New-York*, are there, whose names this examinant does not recollect. And further, this examinant saith not.

for the removal of those prisoners to such secure and convenient places in your Government as you shall judge best.

"This will be handed to you by *Abraham Depeyster*, Esq., who will give you a particular account of the state of the prisoners, and will be ready to obey any orders you shall give respecting their removal.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"His Honour Governour *Trumbull*."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and (together with the copies of the Letters therein mentioned) transmitted by Mr. *Depeyster*.

The same Committee, by order, prepared at the table a draft of a Letter to the Committee at *Litchfield*. Being read and approved of, is in the words following, to wit:

"In Convention, &c.

"GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 22d day of this instant, informing us that the prisoners sent to your care cannot be confined in your Jail with any degree of safety to their lives, has been duly received.

"In order that they may be removed as soon as possible, this Convention have requested Governour *Trumbull* that he will give orders for their removal to such places in your Government as he shall judge safe and convenient.

"Mr. *Depeyster* will hand you this, who has orders to settle with your Committee for your charge of subsisting those prisoners while in your care.

"I am, most respectfully, &c.

"To *Andrew Adams*, Chairman, and the Members of the Committee of *Litchfield*."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted by Mr. *Depeyster*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of this State advance to *Abraham Depeyster*, Esq., as Commissary for prisoners sent into *Connecticut*, the sum of £20, on his receipt; the said *Abraham Depeyster* to be accountable for the same.

Mr. *Duer*, according to order, reported the two following Letters, which were read and approved, viz:

"A. M., July 26, 1776.

"SIR: I am directed by the Convention to transmit to your Excellency a copy of the Examination of *Balthazar De Hardt*, relative to the conduct of the Tories in *Monmouth* County, in *New-Jersey*, and to acquaint you that we have likewise sent duplicates to the President of the Convention of the State of *New-Jersey*, and to the Chairman of the Committee of *Monmouth*, in order that measures may be taken for preventing the pernicious practices of such paricides to their country. I have the honour to be, &c.

"His Excellency General *Washington*."

"A. M., July 26, 1776.

"SIR: I am directed, by the Convention of this State, to transmit to the Committee of your County the Examination of *Balthazar De Hardt*. It is with great concern that they find any inhabitants of the County of *Monmouth* so lost to every principle of virtue and patriotism as to aid and assist the forces of the tyrant of *Great Britain*, who is aiming to stab to the vitals the liberties of *America*. As yours is a maritime County, such practices will be peculiarly pernicious to the publick cause. We doubt not, from the character you bear, you will exert yourselves in putting a stop to all communication with the enemy, and in punishing such offenders. I am, sir.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of *Monmouth* County, *New-Jersey*."

Ordered, That a copy of each of the said Letters be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted, with a copy of the Examination of *Balthazar De Hart* enclosed in each.

Mr. *Duer*, from the same Committee, further reported (according to order) a draft of a Letter to the President of the Convention of *New-Jersey*, to cover a copy of the Examination of *Balthazar De Hart*; which was read and approved, and is in the words following, viz:

"A. M., July 26, 1776.

"SIR: I am directed, by the Convention of this State, to transmit to the honourable body over which you preside, the Examination of *Balthazar De Hart*. We have sent duplicates to General *Washington* and the Chairman of the

Committee of the County of *Monmouth*, in order that the most effectual measures may be passed for preventing any communication with our tyrannical enemy.

"The Convention are sorry to observe several inhabitants of this State hinted at in this examination. Unfortunately for the safety and reputation of this State, too many of its inhabitants have been seduced from that sacred duty which they owe to their country, by either giving countenance and aid to our enemies, or by deserting its defence at this dangerous crisis.

"The characters of these persons, we confess, are equivocal; but as we conceive them to owe allegiance to your State, during their temporary stay, we therefore submit to your Convention what measures it will be most proper to pursue, so as to ensure the publick safety. I am, &c.

"To the Hon. *Samuel Tucker*, Esq., President of the *New-Jersey* Convention."

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted, with a copy of the Examination of *Balthazar De Hart* therein enclosed.

Mr. *Robert Harper*, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, delivered in their Report\* relating to the Troop of Horse of *Westchester* County, which was read.

*Ordered*, That the consideration thereof be postponed till the afternoon.

Mr. *Robert Harper*, from the Committee, also reported (according to order) the draft of a Resolution, to be sent to the Committee of *Albany*, relating to *Henry Cuyler* and others, by them sent prisoners to *Connecticut*, which was read and filed.† After sundry debates thereon,

*Ordered*, That it be deferred till to-morrow se'nnight.

Mr. *Harper* also delivered in the Report of the Committee for preparing a plan for the emission of Bills of Credit of this Colony, to the amount of £200,000, which was read, and again read paragraph by paragraph.

*Ordered*, That it remain for further consideration.

*William Sutton* sent in a Petition, setting forth his ill state of health, and requesting a release from confinement in Prison.‡

\* WHITE-PLAINS, July 26, 1776.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the present state of the Troop of Horse belonging to the County of *Westchester*, do report, that, according to the evidence they have had, *Samuel Tredwell*, Captain of the said Troop, by order of General *Morris*, was applied to by Colonel *Thomas* to furnish five men for reinforcing the Army at *New-York*, which number of men were, by order of Congress, the complement required from the said Troop, and the said *Tredwell* utterly refused to comply therewith, but said he was willing to march with his whole company when called upon:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That this Convention do forthwith cite the said Captain *Tredwell* to appear before them to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, in order to answer for his said conduct as aforesaid.

And *Resolved secondly*, That if the said Captain *Tredwell* doth not give full satisfaction to this Convention, with respect to his conduct as above, that the said Captain be immediately cashiered.

ROBERT HARPER, Chairman.

† *Resolved*, That the Chairman of the Committee of the County of *Albany* do, upon receipt hereof, send to this Convention a copy of their proceedings against *Abm. Cuyler*, *Henry Cuyler*, *Stephen Delancy*, *John Duncan*, *Benjamin Hilton*, and *John Monier*, and also of the misdemeanors with which those persons stand charged, agreeable to a resolve of this House bearing date the 26th of June last, of which an authentick copy was sent to the said Chairman, but to which no answer has yet been received by this Convention.

[This did not pass.]

‡ The Petition of *WILLIAM SUTTON*, now confined in Jail. To the honourable Convention of the Representatives of the State of *NEW-YORK*, most humbly sheweth:

That the intelligence or report spread abroad by him he received from the Governour at the time he was down with the shipping, some time last fall; that he has not, since that time, received any letter or any intelligence from the Governour, of any kind, on any subject whatever; that he has not corresponded with any person or persons belonging to the Ministerial Army, either before or since that time; that your petitioner did not convey to the honourable Committee his meaning, if he said, on the Declaration of Independency, three or four Colonels would revolt, as he only meant to be understood they would lay down their arms. Your petitioner begs leave to mention that his present situation is rendered very miserable by the ill state of body he labours under, having for some weeks past been severely handled with a very bad cough, and for the greatest part of the time attended with a fever; and as it produces something of the phthisical kind, the want of air is very distressing. Your petitioner, therefore, humbly prays that the honourable Convention would indulge him to return to his family and business, as the gentlemen of the Convention must be very sensible how inconvenient it must be for a farmer to be absent at this busy season. Your petitioner would be willing to give any security for his remaining on his own farm as well as that he will not hold any correspondence with the Ministerial Army, their aiders or abettors; that he will not influence, or endeavour to influence any person or persons to aid the Ministerial or discourage the *American* arms. Your petitioner humbly prays that he might not

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Graham* be requested to visit him, and report his state of health to this Convention in the afternoon.\*

Colonel *De Witt*, with consent of a majority of the votes of the Counties here represented, gave notice that he intended to move for a reconsideration of the order for draughting one-fourth part of the Militia of *Ulster*; and that the Rangers to be raised in that County may be considered as a part of the said one-fourth part of the Militia of the said County.

Die Veneris, 3 ho. P. M., July 26, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR *NEW-YORK*.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Brasher*, Mr. *Dunscombe*.

*ALBANY*.—Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Mr. *Adgate*.

*CUMBERLAND*.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

*WESTCHESTER*.—Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *Haviland*.

*ULSTER*.—Colonel *De Witt*, Major *Parks*, Mr. *Contine*.

*DUTCHESS*.—Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Landon*.

*SUFFOLK*.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Dearing*.

*TRYON*.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

*ORANGE*.—Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Outwater*.

*QUEEN'S*.—Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *James Townshend*, Mr. *Wat. Smith*.

*CHARLOTTE*.—Mr. *Duer*.

Colonel *De Witt* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Wisner*, that the Resolutions passed on the 17th instant, relative to the draught of one-fourth part of the Militia, and the Resolution relative to raising Rangers, so far as it respects the Counties of *Ulster* and *Orange*, be reconsidered.

Debates arose thereon, and after much time spent thereon, Mr. *De Witt*, with leave of the House, withdrew his motion, as being inconsistent with the sixth Rule of this Convention.

Mr. *Wisner* then moved, and was seconded, that the Convention proceed to take into consideration the Report of the Committee for making amendments to the Resolutions of the Committee of Safety for making Saltpetre, which passed 27th April last.

Debates arose thereon, and the question being put, it was carried in the negative, in the manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.

3 Orange.  
4 Suffolk.  
4 Ulster.  
6 Albany.

17 votes.

For the Negative.

8 New-York.  
2 Charlotte.  
4 Queen's.  
3 Tryon.  
2 Cumberland.

19 votes.

*Dutchess* equally divided.

Therefore the said motion was rejected.

The Memorial of *Alexander Stewart*,† praying to be relieved from service in the Troops in which he has been draughted, was read.

be farther removed from his family, as it would increase his anxiety of mind, and naturally retard his getting rid of a disorder which, if not speedily removed, will prove fatal. He further begs leave to request the honourable House would take into consideration the extreme youth of his son, now confined with him, as well as that the time when he is charged with making the expression, was when he saw his father's substance wantonly destroyed by flames, and grant such relief as they, in their wisdom, shall think fit. And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

WILLIAM SUTTON.

\* WHITE-PLAINS, July 26, 1776.

SIR: According to the desire of the honourable Convention, I have duly examined with respect to the indisposition of Mr. *William Sutton*. I find that he labours under a violent harassing cough, phthisick, and disorder of his lungs, attended with universal decay; for the cure of which, or even to preserve him from imminent danger of a supervening consumption, I should judge it necessary that he have a free air, proper diet and exercise, which, in the present situation he is now in, cannot be exhibited. From, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

JNO. AUGUSTUS GRAHAM, M. D.

To Brigadier-General *Woodhull*.

† To the honourable Convention of the Representatives of the State of *NEW-YORK*: The Memorial of *ALEXANDER STEWART* most humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist came to *New-York* in December, 1774, a passenger, recommended to Messrs. *Mercer & Ramsay*, to take charge of a ship in the *Mediterranean* trade. The disturbance then being so great between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, your memorialist could not accomplish his desires; he still continuing in expectation of a reconciliation, waited until an opportunity to leave the Continent and return to his country and friends was cut off, except by stealth. In this situation your memorialist remained, without pursuing or attempting to pursue any business, except an offer made by Mr. *Grigg*, of *Horse-Neck*, who was about to employ

*Ordered*, That the said Memorial be referred to Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Bleecker*, and Mr. *Wisner*, to report thereon.

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Morris* be requested immediately to furnish this Convention with a report of the number of draughts made from his Brigade, together with the number and condition of their arms.

*Ordered*, That General *Morris* be immediately furnished with a copy of the foregoing Resolution.

*John Thomas*, a prisoner in *Westchester Jail*, who says he deserted from the ship-of-war named the *Lively*, was brought up into the Convention and examined, and the substance of his examination is as follows, viz:

*John Thomas*, born in *Old England*, came over two years ago; that he was pressed on board a ship-of-war, and turned over to the *Lively*; was at the battle of *Bunker's Hill*; that he deserted from the ship *Lively*, at the southeast side of *Long-Island*, opposite *New-England*, about eight weeks ago; that he has not been on board the ships in *Hudson's River*, or on board of the fleet at the *Hook*, or *Staten-Island*; that he has been at work on shore; that he was wounded at *Bunker-Hill*, and does not choose to fight again; that he will work on forts or batteries, but will not go in battle, for if taken he will die an ignominious death; that he landed at *Killingsworth*; that he worked with *John Cromwell*, three miles from hence.

*Ordered*, That *John Thomas* be recommitted.

*William Sutton*, Esq., examined, says he was on board Governour *Tryon's* ship in *November* last; that he was on board his boat, near the ship, six weeks; was on board Governour *Tryon's* ship several times; that he knew Governour *Tryon* was an enemy to his country; that he was obliged to go on board, to save his life; that Governour *Tryon* said there would be some ships in the *Sound*; that he thinks Governour *Tryon* said the King's standard should be erected, but he does not recollect that he fixed the place; that the Governour said there would be troops enough; that *Kempe* and *Holland* were on board, and the Council frequently on board.

*Ordered*, That *William Sutton* be recommitted.

*Resolved*, unanimously, That Lieutenant *Peter Graham*\* be confined as a prisoner, upon his parole, to his own house and within a mile of the same, with permission to go to the City of *New-York* when the health or sustenance of his family may require; and that Mr. *Morris* be ordered to take his said parole.

Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A. M., July 27, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, Esquire.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Dunscombe*.

FOR ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*, Major *Parks*.  
WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Mills*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *Sackett*, Colonel *Hoffman*.

FOR QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *James Townshend*.

him, but the vessel being purchased for a privateer, put a stop to that employ. This week, when a draught was made for troops to go into the Continental service your memorialist was among the number draughted in the company of Captain *Bloomer*, of *Mamaroneck*. Your memorialist being a *North-Britoner*, and having all his property there, and having a number of relations engaged in the regular Army, conceives it extremely hard that he should be called forth to the field, under these circumstances, to meet the near connexions he has there; although his sincere wishes are that the country may avoid the slavery with which they are threatened. Your memorialist therefore humbly prays that the honourable Convention would take his case into consideration, and give him such relief as they in their wisdom shall think fit, and, as in duty bound, he will ever pray, &c.

ALEXANDER STEWART.

I certify the honourable Convention that the within matter is true, to the best of my knowledge, and that what is related since Mr. *Stewart's* being in *America* has come within the compass of my knowledge.

CHARLES DUNCAN.

\*I, Lieutenant *Peter Graham*, do hereby solemnly promise, upon my word of honour, to Gouverneur *Morris*, on behalf of the State of *New-York*, that I will not depart from within a mile of my own house, unless to the City of *New-York*, when the health or sustenance of my family may require it, according to a resolution of the Convention of the Representatives of the State aforesaid, in that case made and provided.

Given under my hand, at *Harlem*, the 31st day of July, 1776.

P. GRAHAM, Lieut. 60th Regt.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Wisner*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Newkirk*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Sessions*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Richard Norwood* deliver to Major *Arthur Parks*, *Dirck Wynkoop*, *William Peek*, and *Andrus De Witt*, Esqs., or either of their order, two hundred Flints, to be by them distributed gratis to such *Indians* in *Ulster County*, and to such indigent friendly inhabitants of the said County, near the *Delaware*, as they may think proper.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Major *Parks*, *Dirck Wynkoop*, *William Peek*, and *Andrus De Witt*, Esqs., or either of them, or their or either of their order, two hundred and fifty pounds weight of Lead, to be by them distributed gratis to such *Indians* in *Ulster County*, and to such indigent friendly inhabitants of the said County, near the *Delaware*, as they may think proper.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer, pay to Colonel *De Witt* twenty dollars, to be by him delivered to the Rev. *William Lewis*, for attending and praying with this Convention, and that Colonel *De Witt* return the thanks of this Convention to Mr. *Lewis*, for such attendance.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, as Treasurer, pay to Colonel *Joseph Marsh* the sum of £61 1s. 8d., on account, for sundry disbursements by him made, in transporting a quantity of Gunpowder from *Newport*, in *Rhode-Island*, to *Red-Hook*, in *Dutchess County*, and take Colonel *Marsh's* receipt to account for the same.

A Letter from Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, dated at *Goshen*, on the 22d instant, was read and filed.\* He thereby recommends Mr. *Henry White* for Surgeon to his Regiment.

A Letter from Colonel *Jacobus Swartwout*, dated at *Fish-kill*, the 25th instant, was read and filed.† He thereby recommends Dr. *Osborn* for Surgeon to his Regiment.

A Letter from Dr. *Samuel Cook*‡ to Mr. *Zeph. Platt*, dated at *Poughkeepsie*, the 24th instant, was read and filed. He thereby highly recommends Dr. *Forman* as a proper person, and well qualified to be Surgeon to a Regiment.

*Ordered*, That those gentlemen respectively be examined by Dr. *John Jones* and Dr. *Bard*, if they choose to be employed in the Army, and bring Certificates that they are duly qualified.

“New-York, July 24, 1776.”

“SIR: I have been honoured with your favour of the 20th, with its several enclosures. I observe the statements of your honourable body on the impracticability of removing

\* GOSHEN, July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I understand that a Surgeon is wanting to the Regiment which I am to have the command of; would therefore recommend Dr. *Henry White*, of this County, as a proper person for that station, and should be glad, if consistent, that he might be appointed.

I am, gentlemen, yours, &c.,

ISAAC NICOLL.

To the President of the Honourable Convention of the independent State of *New-York*, at *White-Plains*.

† FISHKILL, July 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In these times of distress and danger, when the lives and health of the soldiers are daily exposed, and, for want of good doctors, are often rendered incapable of doing the publick services, loudly calls upon every well-wisher to the cause now embarked in, to recommend such persons whose skill and abilities are known and can be depended upon; and as the bearer hereof, Dr. *Osborn*, hath for many years resided near me, and hath been respected as a person having skill and abilities in that profession, I humbly pray the honourable Convention of the State of *New-York* will take the matter into their consideration, and if they think Dr. *Osborn* capable, that they will appoint him Doctor to my Regiment.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your very humble servant,

JACOBUS SWARTWOUT.

To the Hon. Convention of the State of *New-York*.

‡ POUGHKEEPSIE, July 24, 1776.

SIR: I understand the Provincial Congress have ordered two regiments raised from the Militia of this County for our common defence, and I am informed that the Congress have the appointment of the Surgeons. Dr. *Forman* has a desire of serving in one of them, if the Congress would think proper to appoint him. He has served the last war as Surgeon's Mate, by which means he has had an opportunity of being acquainted with disorders incident to an Army; and as he has ever been engaged in the cause of his country, and is desirous to serve them in that capacity, would be glad of your assistance in a particular manner. I am informed that Colonel *Graham* has promised him his assistance to procure him a surgeoncy in his regiment.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

SAMUEL COOKE.

To Captain *Zephaniah Platt*, in Provincial Congress.

P. S. All your family and friends are well.



the stock from *Nassau-Island*, and the measures they have adopted for securing them there, and protecting the inhabitants, and sincerely wish they may prove adequate.

"I have long since and frequently requested the Commissary to purchase all the fatted cattle and sheep from the Island that he possibly could, in preference to any other. He informs me that he has had many from thence, and that he now has persons employed in different parts for that purpose. The expediency of the measure strikes me so forcibly, that you may depend every means in my power will be directed to its execution.

"Agreeable to your request, I shall continue Colonel *Livingston* at his present post, for the protection of the inhabitants against the insults of the enemy's cruisers, unless something should happen to make his removal necessary.

"When the several regiments are raised, and I am certified thereof, and of the places of rendezvous, I will direct the Mustermaster-General to attend and complete the musters.

"Governour *Trumbull* having informed me by letter yesterday, that since the arrival of the fleet at the *Hook* many of the enemy's frigates and ships have been stationed between *Montauk-Point* and *Block-Island*, to intercept the trade from the *Sound*, (and in which they had been but too successful in taking several provision vessels,) and of the impossibility that any should escape falling into their hands, he had ordered the armed vessels in the service of *Connecticut* to stop and detain all vessels going down the *Sound*, with provisions, till the Continental Congress or the Conventions of the States to which they belong could be apprized of the hazards attending their proceeding in their voyages, and give orders thereon,—I beg leave to recommend the matter to the consideration of your honourable body, and submit it to them, whether it may not be expedient to lay a general embargo or prohibition upon all exports of this kind from your State, except such as the Congress or yourselves may order. The propriety of keeping the enemy from supplies of this sort and providing a sufficiency for our own Army, is so evident, that words are unnecessary upon the subject. However, I cannot but observe, as my opinion, that the former will be impossible to effect unless some general restraining regulation is come into. No care, nor industry, nor honesty on the part of the exporters, will be able to elude the vigilance and activity of their almost innumerable cruisers. But when it is considered that as long as a free export of any articles of this nature is tolerated, disaffected persons may easily fall into their hands with impunity, nor any means be left us to ascertain their guilt; when there is strong reason to believe that some have designedly done so, and almost incontestable proof, from sundry depositions of deserters and others, that a ship that went from hence sailed with no other view and joined the enemy at the *Hook*,—I incline to think the measure not only advisable, but necessary, especially as the large consumption of provisions by our Army affords, and will afford, a ready cash market for all that individuals may have to dispose of, and take away every objection of injury on that head. Were it otherwise, private advantages and emoluments must always give place to the publick good, when they are incompatible.

"The last deserters from the enemy inform us, since they have heard of our forming a camp at *Amboy*, they have talked much of turning their views to *Long-Island*, and regaling themselves with large supplies of provisions they intend to get from thence. This is an additional circumstance to induce the Commissary to purchase the cattle there before any other.

"I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,  
GO. WASHINGTON.

"P. S. When the ships-of-war, &c., run up the river, I wrote Governours *Trumbull* and *Cooke* for some of their row-galleys, supposing they might be of service in attempting something against the ships. I expect three or four every hour, besides one I have. If the Secret Committee are forming any plan against the ships, in which they think they may be usefully employed, if they will let me know, I shall be glad to coöperate with them, and furnish every assistance the galleys can give, if not otherwise materially engaged.

"I am just now informed that the ship mentioned above to have gone to the enemy, was fitted out by the Congress, under the command of a Captain *Hilton*, who has acted this base part."

*Ordered*, That a copy of the postscript of the foregoing

Letter be immediately transmitted to the Secret Committee of this Convention now at *Poughkeepsie*.

The following Letter from Governour *Trumbull* was received and read:

"Lebanon, July 17, 1776.

"SIR: I have received credible information that there has lately been intercepted and taken several provision vessels bound to or from your Colony through the *Sound*; that there are three or four men-of-war, frigates, and cutters, cruising off *Block-Island*, and that it is scarcely possible for any vessel bound to sea to escape them. I have kept out the armed sloop the *Spy*, Captain *Niles*, cruising off *Block-Island*, to give notice of danger to vessels passing that way, and merely for the publick service have been obliged to give him orders to stop any provision vessels bound to sea when danger is apparent. In consequence whereof, he has detained a ship laden with wheat and flour from *New-York*, which, if she had proceeded, must undoubtedly have fallen into the hands of the enemy, and of which I understand the Captain is fully persuaded. I trust you will think that nothing but the common good would have induced me to have taken this step, and that you will readily approve the measure when you consider the reason and motives of my conduct therein. Whenever there is a fair prospect of the ship's sailing with safety and avoiding the enemy, no objection arises to her or any other vessel's sailing, if within the rules of the Continental Congress. I have acquainted the Congress and General *Washington* with my proceedings, and furnished them with a number of affidavits supporting the above information. The General, I dare say, will show you them, if desired.

"I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your obedient, humble servant,  
JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

"Hon. President *Woodhull*."

A draft of an Answer to Governour *Trumbull* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
at the White-Plains, July 27, 1776. }

"SIR: I am directed by the Convention to return you their thanks for your prudent care and attention in preventing the enemy from making capture of vessels laden with provisions. The reasons which influenced your Honour's conduct have had their full weight upon the councils of this Convention, which you will perceive by the enclosed copy of a resolution, which I am also directed to send you.

"I am, sir, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient and humble servant.

"To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour, &c."

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted, with a copy of the Resolution of this Convention of the 23d day of *July*, to prevent the exportation of Provisions, therein enclosed.

A Certificate signed by *William Cross*, Chairman of the Committee of *Hanover Precinct*, in *Ulster County*, was read and filed. It is thereby certified that on the 27th day of *June* last, at an election held in the presence of *John Barkley* and *John Houston*, two members of the Committee, *James Monnel*, Sen., was elected Second Lieutenant, and *John Barber* elected Ensign, of Captain *Henry Van Keuren's* Company of Militia, agreeable to the rules and orders of the late Provincial Congress of this State.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for the said two gentlemen.

A Letter from Colonel *Henry Remsen*,\* one of the Mem-

\*NEW-YORK, July 24, 1776.

SIR: I beg you will be pleased to represent to the honourable Convention the absolute necessity of instituting a Court of Admiralty for the State of *New-York*, as several cargoes that are perishable now wait a determination or decision of such a Court, viz:

A sloop retaken by Captain *Rogers*, in company with a Continental armed vessel, laden with flour and lumber, owned in *Newport*. The flour, if not disposed of soon, must perish.

Two vessels with oil, and one with molasses. The oil is wasting daily, and it is necessary the whole should be sold, in order that the original owners should have their proportion, as well as to prevent too great a loss that will arise from the goods lying in store.

I further beg leave, by your means, to apply to Convention in behalf of the poor and necessitous families in this city, who have not been able to procure lodgings and shelter in the country for want of money; and also for the poor of the city in our alms-house. I am confident the Convention will not suffer the real poor to perish for want of support, but cheerfully grant them a subsistence, in some way the least burdensome to the State—a maintenance it is our indispensable duty, as Christians, to grant them. No more is desired; and I trust the Representatives of the State will readily enter into measures necessary to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient and humble servant,  
HENRY REMSEN.

To General *Woodhull*.

bers for the City of *New-York*, was read and filed; it bears date the 24th instant. He thereby mentions that several cargoes that are perishable wait the determination or decision of a Court of Admiralty; that three vessels have been retaken; that the owners are delayed, and want their proportions.

Colonel *Remsen* further presses the necessity of the Convention making some provision for the Poor in the Alms-House at the City of *New-York*.

Ordered, That the institution of a Court of Admiralty in this State be taken up on *Wednesday* next.

A Letter from *Henry Wilmot*,\* Deputy Chairman of the General Committee of *New-York*, dated the 26th instant, was read and filed. He therein mentions, that the Committee had taken separate Bonds of *Henry Durland* and *Thomas Fleet* to the President of this Convention, for their respective good behaviour to the State, and abiding by the determinations of Congress.

The said Bonds, viz: one of *Henry Durland* and the other of *Thomas Fleet*,† which were received in Mr. *Wilmot's* Letter, were also read and filed.

A Letter from *Robert Yates*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee for obstructing the navigation of *Hudson's River*, dated at *Poughkeepsie*, on the 22d instant, directed to the General Committee at *New-York*, and by them sent to this Convention, was read and filed.

They thereby inform, that they have determined to fit out two armed Vessels at *Albany*;‡ that they want Gunners and persons used to cannon on board of ships; they request such to be sent to them, and mention *Alexander Dean* and *Wessels* as having been recommended to them. They also request combustible materials, to make fire-arrows, and that money be advanced to such persons as may be sent to them, to defray their expenses.

\* *NEW-YORK*, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have it in charge from the General Committee of this City and County to enclose you *Henry Durland* and *Thomas Fleet's* separate bonds, for £100 each. On a close examination, it appeared to the Committee that *Durland* might at times have made some unfriendly expressions to some people, which he declared were only for argument's sake; and he readily complied with every requisition that has been taken from suspected persons.

*Fleet* also satisfied the Committee in that respect, but was unwilling to sign the bond, which he at last complied with, rather than go back to jail.

The Committee thought it better to let these men go to their families than to keep them any longer in confinement; and they make no doubt but their conduct will meet with your approbation.

I am, with due esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
HENRY WILMOT, Dep. Ch'n. of the Gen. Committee.

The Honourable Convention.

† Know all men by these presents, That I, *Thomas Fleet*, of *Oyster-Bay*, am held and firmly bound unto *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, in the sum of five hundred Pounds, lawful money of *New-York*, to be paid to the said *Nathaniel Woodhull*, or to his executors, administrators, or assigns, for the payment of which sum I do bind myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

Sealed with my seal, dated the twenty-fifth day of *July*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that if the above bounden *Thomas Fleet* shall, on reasonable notice to him given, or left at the usual place of his abode, attend the Convention of the said State for the time being, or a Committee thereof thereunto duly authorized and appointed, and answer such matters as may be alleged against him, and in the mean time, shall, neither directly or indirectly, contravene or oppose the measures of the Continental Congress, or of the said State of *New-York*, but, on the contrary, shall approve himself a good friend to the *American* cause, then the above obligation shall be void; otherwise, to remain in full force and virtue.

THOMAS FLEET.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

‡ *POUGHKEEPSIE*, July 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Secret Committee appointed by the Convention of this State for the purpose of devising ways and means to protect the navigation of *Hudson's River*, have determined to fit out two armed vessels at *Albany*. In order to effect this matter, persons are wanting to act as gunners, or who are in anywise used to the management of cannon on board of ships. You will therefore please to procure as many men as possible qualified for this business, and let them proceed immediately to this place, and bring with them combustible materials for fire-arrows. You will advance the money necessary to defray the expense of the men on their journey and to purchase the materials; and by drawing on Mr. *G. Livingston* here, you will be immediately reimbursed. The necessity and importance of this business, we trust, will induce you to exert yourselves upon this occasion; and we conceive that it would conduce more to the publick cause if the fitting out of privateers was neglected, that we might have the service of the seamen on the river.

By order of the Committee:

ROBT. YATES, Chairman.

To the Committee of the City of *New-York*.

N. B. Two persons are mentioned to us, *Alexander Dean*, who may be found by applying to Captain *Ten Wyck*, in *McDougall's* Regiment, and *Wessels*.

A Letter from *Henry Wilmot*,\* covering the above, and sent by express, to be paid by this Convention, was also read and filed; it is dated *July 26*, 1776.

Thereupon, a Letter to Captain *Hazelwood* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: I am directed by the Convention of the State of *New-York* to desire the favour of you immediately to repair to *Poughkeepsie*, with the combustible materials necessary for charging fire-ships and making fire-arrows.

"When you arrive at that place, you will inquire for Mr. *Jay* and Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Members of a Secret Committee, appointed by this House to annoy the enemy's ships in *Hudson's River*, and concert with them the most effectual measures for carrying their designs into execution. If these gentlemen are not at that place, you will be pleased to inquire of Captains *Lawrence* and *Tudor*, who live at that place, where they are, and make the utmost despatch in joining them.

"It will, however, be necessary that you should wait on General *Washington*, and obtain his permission for coming up; which, from Mr. *Duer's* representation, we doubt not you will effect.

"Should you stand in need of any money or assistance, in order to forward the materials, be pleased to apply to General *Washington*, who, we flatter ourselves, will give every necessary direction to the Quartermaster-General.

"I am directed by the Convention of this State to enjoin to you the most profound secrecy in conducting this matter.

"I am, most respectfully, &c.

"Captain *Hazelwood*."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted by the Messenger.

*John Thomas*, a Mariner, who says he deserted from the Ship *Lively*, into which he had enlisted as a Marine, now a prisoner in the Jail at this place, was brought before the Convention and examined. He gave no material intelligence. He was discharged, and a certificate given to him to permit him to go through the country to the eastward of *Hudson's River*, to acquire his living by labour and industry.

Die Sabbati, P. M., July 27, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR *NEW-YORK*.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Dunscombe*, Mr. *Bancker*, Colonel *Brasher*.

*ALBANY*.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Mr. *Adgate*.

*QUEEN'S*.—Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *James Townshend*, Mr. *Wat. Smith*.

*WESTCHESTER*.—General *Morris*, Mr. *Tompkins*, Mr. *Morris*.

*ULSTER*.—Mr. *Contine*.

*DUTCHESS*.—Mr. *Hoffman*, Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *Sacket*.

*CUMBERLAND*.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Sessions*.

*TRYON*.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

*ORANGE*.—Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Outwater*.

*CHARLOTTE*.—Mr. *Duer*.

*SUFFOLK*.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Gelston*.

The Committee appointed to examine *William Sutton* reported, that they had carefully examined him, but cannot obtain any further intelligence, information, or satisfaction from him.

Thereupon, Resolved, That *William Sutton* be immediately sent, under safe and proper guard, at his own expense, to the Jail of *Philadelphia*, in the State of *Pennsylvania*; that he there subsist himself; and that a Letter be wrote to the Chairman of the Committee of the City and County of *Philadelphia*, mentioning his state of health, and enclosing a copy of the evidence against him; and that General *Morris* be requested to see this resolution carried into execution.

\* *NEW-YORK*, July 26, 1776.

SIR: This enclosed letter is conceived by Mr. *John Ray*, Jun., and myself to be of so much consequence to the State as to forward it by express, who has agreed to go at the same price you pay Mr. *Dyckman*, if he goes to the *White-Plains*, and he should not find your honourable House removed to *Harlem*. The other letters I have taken out of the post office, as they have lain there several days and no opportunity offered. I have told the express you would order him to be paid the customary charge.

I remain, with due esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

HENRY WILMOT, Dep. Chairman of Gen. Com.

To the Hon. *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of *New-York* Convention.

General *Morris* informed the Convention that he should direct the said *William Sutton* to be delivered into the care and charge of Lieutenant *Alexander Hunt*, to be conveyed to the Committee of the City of *Philadelphia*, at his own expense; and requested the Convention to determine what allowance shall be made to Lieutenant *Hunt* for his trouble in the premises.

*Resolved*, That the said *William Sutton* do pay to *Alexander Hunt* twelve shillings per day (exclusive of his necessary expenses) for every day he shall be employed in proceeding to *Philadelphia* with the said *William Sutton*, and returning.

*Ordered*, That the Jailer of the Jail of the County of *Westchester* do deliver the body of *William Sutton* to Lieutenant *Alexander Hunt*.

A draft of a Letter to the Chairman of the Committee of *Philadelphia*, to attend *William Sutton*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Convention, &c., White-Plains, &c.

"SIR: From information, received upon oath, respecting the publick character of a certain *William Sutton*, of this County, of which we send you copies, we have reason to believe him an enemy to the rights and liberties of *America*, and therefore have some time past confined him to the Jail here; but on account of his infirm state of health, which he conceives to be under peculiar bad circumstances, and also the probability of his corresponding with the enemy, we have resolved to send him, at his own expense, to the Jail of your city, where he is to be maintained at his own charge. Of this, sir, I am ordered by the Convention of this State to acquaint you, and to request that you may give such assistance as may be required.

"I am, respectfully, &c.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of the City of *Philadelphia*."

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and, with certified copies of the evidence against *William Sutton*, delivered to Lieutenant *Alexander Hunt*, to be delivered at *Philadelphia*.

The Committee appointed to consider the case of *Alexander Stewart*, and his Petition or Memorial, delivered in their Report; which was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Your Committee appointed to examine into the case of Mr. *Alexander Stewart*, report:

"That, according to the best information they have been able to obtain, the said *Alexander Stewart* arrived at *New-York* in the latter end of *December*, 1774, with an intent to take the command of a vessel, in the employ of *Mercer & Ramsey*.

"That on account of the dispute between the *United States of America* and *Great Britain*, the owners of the vessel which he was intended to command, did not think proper to send the ship to sea.

"That on this account he retired into the County of *Westchester*, where he has since lived a private life at the house of his relative Mr. *Charles Duncan*, formerly a Lieutenant in the service of the King of *Great Britain*. That Mr. *Charles Duncan* has not signed the General Association, but that in other respects his conduct has been inoffensive.

"That Mr. *Alexander Stewart* refused to sign the General Association, assigning for reason that, as he had no interest to induce him to stay in the country, and, as he only waited for a passage to return to *Scotland*, his native country, such a measure might prove fatal to him.

"That the said *Alexander Stewart* was draughted on the 24th day of this present month as a private soldier to reinforce the Continental Army. That the Convention of the State of *New-York*, on the 16th instant, unanimously came to a resolution, in which it was enacted, that all persons abiding within the State of *New-York*, and all persons deriving protection from the laws of the same, owe allegiance to the said laws, and are members of the said State; and that all persons passing through, visiting, and making a temporary stay in the said State, being entitled to the protection of the said laws, during the time of such passage, visitation, or temporary stay, owe, during the same time, allegiance thereto.

"That under this description, the said *Alexander Stewart*

is a member of this State; but how far it will apply to the making him subject to our military laws, the Committee leave it to the wisdom of your House to determine.

"That the said *Alexander Stewart* acknowledges himself a subject of the King of *Great Britain*, and claims the protection of the law of nations, by which the subject of one nation is not compelled, by the State in which he makes a temporary stay, to bear arms against the Sovereign to whom he owes allegiance.

"Your Committee have thought proper to confine themselves to a mere state of facts, thinking the case of Mr. *Stewart* so peculiarly nice, as to merit the mature consideration of the whole House.

W. DUER."

On reading and considering the said Report, the Convention came to a determination thereon, in the words following, to wit:

Whereas a certain *Alexander Stewart*, of *Dundee*, in *North Britain*, Mariner, having been draughted as one of the Militia of the County of *Westchester*, hath claimed an exemption from serving in the said draughts as a subject of the King of *Great Britain*, which he declareth himself to be:

*Resolved*, That the said *Alexander Stewart* is entitled to such exemption.

*Resolved*, That *Alexander Stewart* having declared himself to be a subject of the King of *Great Britain*, with whom this State is now at open war, therefore the said *Alexander Stewart* is to be treated according to the law of nations, of which he hath claimed the benefit.

*Resolved*, That the said *Alexander Stewart* ought to be taken prisoner, and kept in custody until such further order as this Convention may, upon examining more fully into the peculiar circumstances of his case, establish.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That *Alexander Stewart*, late of *Dundee*, in *North Britain*, Mariner, at present of *Rye*, in *Westchester* County, in the State of *New-York*, who hath declared himself a subject of the King of *Great Britain*, with whom this State is now at open war, be immediately taken into custody, a prisoner, by *Albert Ogden*, the keeper of the Jail in *Westchester* County, who is hereby commanded to keep him safe in custody until the further order of this Convention.

A Certificate of Dr. *Samuel Bard*,\* dated this day, was read and filed. He thereby certifies that he has examined Dr. *Cornelius Osborne*, respecting his knowledge in Physick and Surgery, and thinks him qualified for the office of Surgeon to a Regiment.

*Resolved*, That the said *Cornelius Osborne* be, and is hereby, appointed Surgeon to the Regiment of Militia now in Continental service under the command of Colonel *Cornelius Swartwout*, of *Dutchess* County.

Another Certificate of Dr. *Samuel Bard*,† dated this day, was read and filed. He thereby certifies that he has examined Dr. *William Mead*, respecting his knowledge in Physick and Surgery, and that he finds him qualified for the office of Surgeon to a Regiment.

*Ordered*, That the said *William Mead* be, and is hereby, appointed Surgeon to the Regiment of Militia now in Continental service under the command of Colonel *Thomas Thomas*, of *Westchester* County.

*John Sutton*, (son of *William Sutton*.) by order, was brought to the bar of the House to be discharged.

The President, by order, gave him an admonition in the words following, to wit:

"MR. SUTTON: You stand charged before the Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York* with being inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*. In pity to your youth and in hopes of your amendment, you are discharged. Learn to revere the lenity of that Government which hath dealt so kindly with their avowed enemy, and henceforth respect that attention to the rights and liberties of mankind which hath now befriended you.

"In the name of this Convention I admonish you to beware

\* WHITE-PLAINS, July 27, 1776.

I hereby certify that I have examined Dr. *Cornelius Osborne* respecting his knowledge in Physick and Surgery, and that I think him qualified for the office of Surgeon to a Regiment.

SAMUEL BARD, M. D.

† WHITE-PLAINS, July 27, 1776.

I hereby certify that I have examined Dr. *William Mead* respecting his knowledge in Physick and Surgery, and that I find him qualified for the office of Surgeon to a Regiment.

SAMUEL BARD, M. D.

in future how you shall dare to offend the majesty of the people of this State, and in this solemn manner warn you that any future transgression shall not pass unpunished."

On motion of Mr. *Duer*,

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries, with all their records, files, and papers, and the Treasurer, with the treasury and his books, files, and papers, belonging or appertaining to the Treasury, do respectively attend this Convention at *Harlem*, on *Monday* next, at nine of the clock, in the forenoon.

Die Lunæ, 4 ho. P. M., July 29, 1776.

The Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York* met in the Church at *Harlem*.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Harper*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Smith*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Landon*, Colonel *Hoffman*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *James Townshend*, Mr. *Ben. Sands*.

KING'S.—Colonel *Covenhoven*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

The Convention of this State having adjourned on *Saturday* last from the Court-House at the *White-Plains*, in *Westchester* County, to meet at this place, at nine o'clock this morning, the Members above-mentioned having from time to time arrived, and now assembled, for want of a sufficient number to proceed to business, they adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning, to meet in this Church.

Die Martis, 9 ho. A. M., July 30, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Beekman*, Col. *Brasher*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Smith*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Wit*.

DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Hoffman*, Mr. *Landon*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Gouverneur Morris*, General *Morris*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Outwater*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *James Townshend*.

KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*.

TRYON.—Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *Williams*, Mr. *Duer*.

GLOUCESTER.—Mr. *Olcott*.

*Peter Olcott*, Esq., one of the Deputies from *Gloucester* County, produced his Credentials, dated at *Newbury*, the 28th *June*, ultimo, subscribed by *Jacob Boyley*, Esq., as Chairman, by himself as Clerk, and six other principal inhabitants, members of the Committee of the said County, whereby it appears that he is elected and returned a Member of this Convention by the inhabitants of the said County, (only three dissenting,) and that the inhabitants are forward for having a form of Government, &c. The said Credentials were read and filed.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Olcott* take his seat.

Colonel *Williams* and Mr. *Olcott* were severally sworn, and took the general oath of secrecy.

The Petition of *Richard Cantillon*,\* of *Amenia* Precinct,

\* To the Honourable the Convention of the Representatives of the State of NEW-YORK:

The petition of *Richard Cantillon* and *John Parkinson*, of *Dutchess* County, humbly sheweth: That your petitioners conceive themselves acquainted with the various branches of the Linen Manufactory; that your petitioners find, from the great scarcity of linen, that it is exceedingly necessary to have some manufactories of that kind set up in this State to supply the necessities of the inhabitants thereof, and of the Army; that your petitioners intend to set up a very extensive Linen Manufactory in *Dutchess* County in this State, if they may be favoured with a resolution and order of this Convention, to exempt themselves and their labourers and manufacturers from being draughted into the Militia, when called out into actual service; that your petitioners will always cheerfully give a preference to the Convention of this State, by reserving for their use, on their order, such manufactures as they may from time to time have made, and may be fit for or wanted for the use of this State. Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your petitioners and the manufacturers and labourers which they shall employ in the said business (not to exceed the number of twelve, exclusive of your petitioners) may, by order or resolution of the Convention of this State, be exempted from being subject to be draughted or called out into actual service in the Militia of the said County of *Dutchess*. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

RICHARD CANTILLON,  
JOHN PARKINSON.

NEW-YORK, July 29, 1776.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

and *John Parkinson*, of *Charlotte* Precinct, in *Dutchess* County, was read. They therein set forth their acquaintance with several branches of the Linen Manufactories in this State, the necessities of setting up such Manufactories in this State, their intentions to set up a Linen Manufactory, and they thereby offer a preference of their manufactures for the use of the State, and praying for such resolution of this Convention as may exempt their manufacturers (to the number of twelve) from being draughted into the publick service.

*Resolved*, That the said *Richard Cantillon* and *John Parkinson*, together with such manufacturers and labourers as they may stately employ in the business of the Linen Manufactory in that County, (not to exceed the number of twelve men, besides the said petitioners,) shall, while so employed in the said manufactory, be exempted from being subject to be draughted or called out into actual service in the Militia of the said County of *Dutchess*.

As the Doorkeeper is necessarily in such a situation as to hear many of the debates of this Convention,

*Ordered*, That he be sworn to secrecy.

Thereupon he was sworn, in the words following: "I do solemnly swear, on the Holy Evangelists, that I will not divulge any matter or thing which I may hear agitated, moved, or debated, in this Convention, unless by leave of the President, or upon publication thereof in the newspapers. So help me God."

The Committee to whom was referred the reconsideration of ways and means for supplying the good people of this State with Salt, reported the following Resolutions, which were read; and the same being again read, paragraph by paragraph, and amended, were unanimously agreed to, and are as follows:

*Resolved, unanimously*, That this Convention will, upon good security, lend to the first five persons skilled in the process of extracting Salt from sea water, who shall apply for the same, a sum of money not exceeding £500 to each person, for the term of two years from this date, without interest, for the purpose of erecting Salt Works within this State.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That such Works be erected at such place or places as, in the opinion of the respective County Committees where such Works shall be erected, shall be most proper: *Provided always*, that the said Works be not erected within less than fifteen miles of each other, on the sea-coast.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That this Convention will receive Salt at 8s. per bushel, in payment of the respective sums advanced to the different adventurers: *Provided*, the said Salt be manufactured by the person who shall offer it in payment, and that the same be tendered for payment before the expiration of two years after the loan of the money.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That if any of the said Works should be destroyed by the enemy, this State will lose one-half of the money which has been appropriated for the purpose of erecting such Works, out of the money advanced on loan by this State to the proprietor.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That nothing in the foregoing Resolves shall extend to the loan of any sum of money to any person who shall not apply before the first day of *October* next, nor then, unless upon condition that the Works shall be completed within three months of the said loan.

On motion of Mr. *Gouverneur Morris*,

*Resolved*, That whereas Dr. *Samuel Bard* hath undertaken to erect a Salt Work in this State, and is about to go to *Philadelphia* for the completion thereof, it be recommended to the Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, that during the absence of the said *Samuel Bard* his house be not taken up for the use of the Troops which are or may be stationed in the said City.

A Letter or Certificate of Colonel *Samuel Drake*, dated the 26th instant, was read and filed.\* He thereby certifies that Mr. *Stephen Halsey*, the Surgeon of his Regiment, has done the duty of Surgeon to that Regiment since the eighth day of *July*, instant.

The Certificate of Dr. *John Jones*, dated the fifteenth day

\* CAMP AT GREENWICH, July 26, 1776.

I do hereby certify that Dr. *Stephen Halsey* has done the duty of a Surgeon for my Regiment since the 8th of instant; and I desire his warrant may be made out accordingly. SAMUEL DRAKE, Colonel.

To the Provincial Congress, at the *White-Plains*.



of *July*, instant,\* certifying that he had examined Dr. *Stephen Halsey*, and finds him competently qualified to act as Surgeon of a Regiment, was again read, and was now filed.

*Ordered*, That the said Dr. *Stephen Halsey* be, and he is hereby, appointed Surgeon to the Regiment whereof *Samuel Drake*, Esq., is Colonel, and that his pay commence from the eighth day of *July*, instant.

An Affidavit of *Abraham Fort*, taken before *Johannes Sleght*, Chairman of the Committee of *Kingston*, in *Ulster* County, on the 16th instant, was read and filed. Information is therein contained that a number of disaffected persons who had enlisted in the Continental service, and as such received the money of the Continent, have deserted from *Lunenburg*, and gone back of the mountains, behind *Cocksockie*; that *Butler* was at the *Susquehannah*, with such number of *Indians* as he thought sufficient, and they intended to come through the woods and attack *Hurley-Town*.

A Letter from *Johannes Sleght*, Esq.,† Chairman of the said Committee at *Kingston*, dated the 23d day of *July*, instant, was received by Mr. *Beekman*, and read. They thereby acknowledge the receipt of sundry Prisoners on parole, with a Letter from this Convention dated the 19th *June*.

Another Letter, of the 24th of *July*, from the same Committee, was also read. They therein request an explanation of the parole of the said Prisoners, as to the limits within which they are to be circumscribed; and also therein declare that it will oblige them and the inhabitants to have those Prisoners removed.

*Ordered*, That those Letters and the Affidavit be referred to Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Beekman*, and Mr. *Duer*, to consider thereof, and report thereon with all convenient speed.

Die Martis, 4 ho. P. M., July 30, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Beekman*, Colonel *Brasher*, General *Scott*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Ab. Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Mr. *Adgate*.

DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Hoffman*, Mr. *Landon*.

KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*.

GLOUCESTER.—Mr. *Olcott*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Jonathan Lawrence*, Mr. *Sam. Townshend*, Mr. *Jas. Townshend*, Mr. *Ben. Sands*.

CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *Williams*, Mr. *Duer*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Smith*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Outwater*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*, Mr. *Moore*.

Dr. *Joseph Gerreau*, a Frenchman, with *Hyam Solomon*, the Distiller, as his interpreter, applied to the Convention for encouragement for making Salt, or imparting the knowledge of that art, which the said *Joseph Gerreau* professes to understand.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Harper*, and Mr. *Morris*, be a Committee to treat with Monsieur *Gerreau*, concerning the process of manufacturing Salt, in a cheap and expeditious manner, which he professes to understand, with power to engage to give him any sum not exceeding £200, for commu-

\*This is to certify that I have this day examined Dr. *Stephen Halsey*. I find him competently qualified to act as Surgeon of a Regiment.  
Dated in *New-York*, July 15, 1776. JOHN JONES, M. D.

† KINGSTON, July 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 19th *June*, together with the prisoners therein mentioned, we have received. We understand, by their parole, that the said prisoners are to reside in this town, or anywhere within six miles thereof, and that they are not at liberty to pass and repass, when and where they please, within six miles of said town. Understanding their parole in this sense, we have confined them to the town spot only, and to their respective lodgings after nine o'clock in the evening. The gentlemen officers understand that they are allowed by their parole to pass and repass, when and where they think proper, within the distance of six miles of this town; and that our confining them to any less space than that of six miles, is a breach of the parole; and that they, in point of honour, are not bound any longer by said parole. Notwithstanding, they have agreed and promised to abide by said parole in everything, strictly, until the sense of Congress can be had in this matter; but at the same time do request that (if the Congress should be of opinion that they cannot have the liberty of recreating themselves when and where they think proper, in the full extent of six miles round this town) their parole may be returned them, and themselves sent to some other part of the country, where, upon their parole, they can be admitted to more liberty.

Signed by order of the Committee. JOHANNIS SLEGHT, Chairman.

To the President of the Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*, or to the Committee of Safety.

nicating the same; and to call to their assistance such person of chemical knowledge as they may think proper, in order to ascertain the utility of Mr. *Gerreau's* process.

A Letter from several Captains of the respective Companies of Militia in *King's* County was read.\* They thereby request that the Militia of their respective Companies may be excused from being draughted, agreeable to the Resolutions of this Convention of the twentieth day of *July* instant, and mentioning that their whole Militia engage to turn out whenever necessary for the purposes mentioned in the said Resolutions.

The said Letter was taken into consideration, and the question put, whether this Convention will grant the request contained therein.

*Resolved and Agreed, unanimously*, That the request of the said Captains, by their said Letter, be not granted; and

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Covenhoven* inform those gentlemen of this determination.

A Member informed the Convention that the Sloop *Non-such* and her cargo, which had been taken by the enemy, and afterwards retaken, is in a perishing condition—in a dangerous situation on the south side of *Nassau-Island*, for want of a proper Court of Admiralty in this State.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That Colonel *Henry Remsen* and Mr. *Robert Ray*, or either of them, be, and they hereby are, empowered by this Convention to treat with Mr. *Isacher Poluck* upon the sale of the Sloop *Nonsuch* and her cargo, *William Hefferman* Master, and to take from the said *Isacher Poluck* good and sufficient security to the President of this Convention for the payment of such moneys as may be decreed for the salvage of the said sloop and cargo to the captors, and for the fees upon the libelling and adjudication thereof, &c.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., July 31, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Brasher*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *John Van Cortlandt*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Smith*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*.

DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Hoffman*, Mr. *Landon*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Morris*, Colonel *Graham*, General *Morris*.

ORANGE.—Doctor *Outwater*, Mr. *Little*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, Mr. *James Townshend*, Mr. *Sands*.

KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *Williams*, Mr. *Duer*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Colonel *Marsh*.

GLOUCESTER.—Colonel *Alcott*.

The Letter of the Committee for devising ways and means to protect the navigation of *Hudson's River*, subscribed by *Robert Yates*, their Chairman, and dated 22d *July*, was again read.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Alexander Dean*, of the City of *New-York*, be requested forthwith to proceed to *Poughkeepsie*, in *Dutchess* County, and on his arrival there that he wait upon Messrs. *John Jay*, *Robert R. Livingston*, *Robert Yates*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Christopher Tappan*, and *William Paulding*, or either of them, and that he observe such directions as shall be given him by them, or either of them.

*Ordered, further*, That all officers, civil and military, be, and they hereby are, requested to aid and assist the said

\* July 26, 1776.

Whereas Colonel *Rutgers Van Brunt*, agreeable to the resolves of the said State, has demanded every fourth man of our Companies, we, the Captains of the *King's* County Militia, pray the Congress to indulge us with the men under our command as Militia to execute the said resolves of the 20th instant, relating to *King's* County stock, without being paid, provided it be in the said County of *King's*; and we promise to be ready, with the men under our command, whenever called on by the commanding officers, think it necessary to drive the stock into an interior part of the Island, we are also ready to perform the same; and also are ready to guard the coast, agreeable to the said resolves, and protect the inhabitants.

JNO. VAN DERBILT, Captain,  
LAMBERTH SOYDAM, Captain,  
BARENT JOHNSON, Captain,  
JOHN TITUS, Captain,

CORS. VAN DEBEER, Captain,  
REM. WILLIAMSON, Captain,  
BARNARDUS SOYDAM, Captain,  
ADRIAN VAN BRUNT, Captain.

*Alexander Deane*, that he be not interrupted in his journey to *Poughkeepsie* as aforesaid.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the several Brigadier-Generals in this State do make return to the Convention, or future Executive power thereof, on or before the first day of *September* next, of the state of the Militia of their several Brigades—containing in such state the names and rank of the officers, the number of men, the condition of their arms, the draughts from time to time made, and the number of men now actually serving as draughts as aforesaid; or in default of such return, that the said Generals do show good cause why the same could not by them be made.

*Ordered*, That certified copies of this Resolution be immediately transmitted to the respective Brigadier-Generals of the Militia in this State.

A Letter from Colonel *Joseph Drake* to Brigadier-General *Morris*, dated at *New-Rochelle*, on the 24th *July* instant, relating to his Regiment refusing to be draughted, and his intention to resign his commission, was read.\*

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Duer*, Colonel *Hoffman*, and General *Morris*, be a Committee to take the said Letter into consideration, and report thereon as soon as possible.

The Letter was delivered to the said Committee.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That *Richard Morris*, Esq., be appointed Judge of the High Court of Admiralty of this State.

And *Ordered*, That *John Van Cortlandt*, Esq., wait on Mr. *Morris*, and request his acceptance of that office.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That *John McKesson*, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed Register of the High Court of Admiralty of this State.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That *Robert Benson*, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed Marshal and Provost-Marshal of the said High Court of Admiralty in this State.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Morris*, Colonel *Brosher*, Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Samuel Townshend*, and Mr. *William Smith*, be a Committee, to whom Mr. *McKesson* is directed to deliver tables or bills of such fees as have been heretofore established or usually taxed or taken in the former Court or Courts of Admiralty in this State. That the said Committee take such fees into consideration, and report what fees may be proper to be established by this State, to be taken and received by the officers of the Court of Admiralty to be established in the same.

A Letter from *Cornelius C. Roosevelt*, † who has for some

\*NEW-ROCHELLE, July 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of yesterday I received, enclosing the resolutions of Convention. I met the south part of my Regiment yesterday, according to your request of last *Friday*. I first proceeded to the nomination of Captains (in the manner we did the last time we raised men) to turn out as volunteers to command the Companies now to be raised; but they as one man peremptorily denied going, at any rate at present. I then, as before, proposed to the Lieutenants, who also, with one voice, positively refused. They all as one man determined not to go under any person to degrade their Colonel, whose right it was. I must tell you that I never saw so much spirit of resentment as there seemed to be running through the Regiment, even from the Captains down to the lowest private. I am well persuaded that I cannot get five men out of this part of the Regiment, without dragging them along like criminals, which disagreeable task I hope you will excuse me from, their refusal being on my account, which makes it the worse for me to do. What will be done I cannot tell. This I can say, that I am sorry from my heart that the service should suffer on my account; but at the same time am happy in the thought of having a conscience void of offence in bringing about this matter.

From, sir, your very humble servant, JOSEPH DRAKE.  
To Brigadier-General *Morris*, at *White-Plains*.

†NEW-YORK, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The contract Mr. *Curtenius* made for supplying the Artillery Company with provisions in my behalf, I did by no means expect to deviate from; but Captain *Hamilton* demanding one and a half pound of beef, or eighteen ounces pork, which was half a pound of beef or six ounces pork more than my contract stipulated, therefore could not grant the extraordinary supply without the price being raised equivalent thereto. As I was confident what I had hitherto received would by no means compensate for what it cost, which is evident by the following accurate detail, what a ration stands me in agreeable to the allowance demanded, to wit: one and a half pound of beef, or eighteen ounces pork, 7d.; one pound of bread, 2½d.; one quart of beer, 1d.; peas, meal, candles, soap, &c., 2d.—12½d.; and which I granted upon Captain *Hamilton's* most sanguine assurances of my being recompensed for the same. Enclosed is, therefore, gentlemen, my account, with vouchers, agreeable to which I expect to be paid, and at that rate will continue supplying the said Company. For less, no person can, without sinking money, on account of the exorbitant price of beef, pork, and flour, is enhanced to. Should therefore be glad the honourable Convention would favour me with an answer per the first conveyance, in order that I might provide myself accordingly.

I am, in the interim, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servant, CORN. C. ROOSEVELT.

time past acted as Commissary for Captain *Hamilton's* troops, dated the 26th instant, was read. He therein sets forth that he had been obliged to supply Captain *Hamilton's* Company with a much larger quantity of Provisions than the rations stipulated for, which has enhanced the prices so that each ration, as by him delivered, cost him 12½d. His Accounts were enclosed.

A Letter from Captain *Hamilton*,\* of the same date, on the same subject, and a Certificate of *John Pollard*, Quartermaster of the Army, certifying the allowances of Provisions delivered to each man as a ration, were also read.

*Ordered*, That as Captain *Hamilton's* Company was formerly made a part of General *Scott's* Brigade, that they be henceforth supplied with Provisions as a part of that Brigade.

That Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Landon*, and Colonel *Graham*, be a Committee to take the said Letters and Accounts into consideration, and report thereon. And the sense of the Convention was signified to that Committee that it is necessary to make compensation to *Cornelius C. Roosevelt* for the extraordinary quantity of Provisions which have issued to that Company beyond his contract.

The Convention were informed that *Thaddeus Noble*, from *King's* District, is attending with thirty Muskets, pursuant to his contract made on the 26th day of *April* last with *Jacobus Van Zandt*, on behalf of the State; that he has not furnished them with steel ramrods, according to contract; and that Mr. *Jacobus Van Zandt*, with whom he had contracted on behalf of this State, is in *Dutchess* County.

*Ordered*, That the said *Thaddeus Noble* deliver the said Arms to Colonel *Peter T. Curtenius*, as Commissary. That Colonel *Curtenius* view and examine the said Arms, or cause them to be viewed and examined, so as to determine whether they are made according to contract, (the ramrods excepted,) and that Colonel *Curtenius* send to this Convention a certificate how far the said Arms are made according to contract, and how much should be deducted on each for the defect of steel ramrods.

A Letter from *Joseph Robinson*, Esq., Deputy Chairman of the Committee of *Queen's* County, and *Noah Smith*, was read and filed.† They thereby certify that *William Ludlam*, Jun., had been duly elected Captain of the Minute Company of the Township of *Jamaica*, in the stead of *John J. Skidmore*, Esq., promoted to a Majority.

*Ordered*, That a Commission issue to Captain *William Ludlam* as Captain of that Company.

Die Mercurii, 4 ho. P. M., July 31, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Rutger*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Dunscomb*, General *Scott*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Mr. *Adgate*.  
SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Smith*.

\*GENTLEMEN: I am obliged to trouble you to remove a difficulty which arises respecting the quantity of subsistence which is to be allowed my men. Enclosed you have the rate of rations which is the standard allowance of the whole Continental and even the Provincial Army; but it seems Mr. *Curtenius* cannot afford to supply us with more than his contract stipulates; which, by comparison, you will perceive is considerably less than the aforementioned rate. My men, you are sensible, are, by their articles, entitled to the same subsistence with the Continental troops; and it would be to them an insupportable discrimination, as well as a breach of the terms of their enlistment, to give them almost a third less provisions than the whole Army besides receives. I doubt not you will speedily put this matter upon a proper footing. Hitherto we have drawn our full allowance from Mr. *Curtenius*, but he did it upon the supposition that he should have a further consideration for the extraordinary supply. At present, however, he scruples to proceed in the same way until it can be put upon a more certain foundation.

I am, gentlemen, with the utmost esteem and respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,

A. HAMILTON, Captain of *New-York* Artillery.

The Honourable the Provincial Congress.

July 26, 1776.

†JAMAICA, July 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By the appointment of *John J. Skidmore* to a Majority, the Captain's berth to our Minute Company became vacant. We therefore desire to inform you that the said Company have chosen (agreeable to the recommendation of the Congress before us, two of the members of the Committee for the Township of *Jamaica*) *William Ludlam*, Jun., for their Captain. We therefore pray you would send up as soon as possible a commission for the said *William Ludlam*, Jun., as Captain in our first Regiment.

We are, with great respect, gentlemen, your very humble servants,  
JOSEPH ROBINSON, Dep. Chairman.  
NOAH SMITH.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*.

DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Hoffman*, Mr. *Landon*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Morris*, Colonel *L. Graham*, General *Morris*.

ORANGE.—Dr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Little*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townsend*, Mr. *James Townsend*, Mr. *Benjamin Sands*, Major *Lawrence*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Colonel *Williams*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Colonel *Marsh*.

GLOUCESTER.—Mr. *Olcott*.

A Memorial of Lieutenant-Colonel *Stockholm* and Major *Livingston*, in Colonel *Lasher's* Regiment, to General *Scott*, was read. They therein set forth that a Committee of the late Provincial Congress, who treated with them on the subject of going into service, had engaged that they should not be called out of the city, and assign that reason for the unwillingness of the Companies of that Regiment to encamp with the Brigade.

Ordered, That the Secretaries prepare a copy of the appointment of the Committee referred to in that Memorial, and such other entries as relate thereto; and that the said Committee endorse such certificate thereon as may prevent any apprehension of the assurances by them given to the officers of Colonel *Lasher's* Regiment, when they conversed on the subject of entering into the service of this State only.

On motion, Resolved and Ordered, That the General Committee of Dutchess County, or their Sub-Committee of Safety, be requested to cause the Powder Mill of Mr. *John R. Livingston*, (with the Stores and Magazines thereunto appertaining,) in the said County, to be guarded; and for that purpose that they order Captain *Melancton Smith* to detach a Sergeant and six Privates out of one of the two Companies under his command in the said County to guard the same.

A Letter wrote and handed to a Member by Mr. *Richard Hetfield*, signed *William Dutcher*, Captain, *Daniel Martling*, (by order,) First Lieutenant, *George Monson*, Second Lieutenant, was read. They thereby offer to raise a Company out of Colonel *Joseph Drake's* Regiment, to serve under Colonel *Thomas*.\*

Mr. *Morris* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Duer*, that, by a resolve of this Convention, the Officers whose names are subscribed to that Letter, be ordered to raise a Company out of Colonel *Joseph Drake's* Regiment, and immediately to join Colonel *Thomas's* Regiment:

Debates arose thereon. General *Scott* offered some reasons for deferring such resolution at present, lest it might injure the service, by placing Officers in service out of their proper tour of duty or rank.

Mr. *Morris* opposed Mr. *Scott's* being permitted to speak or interfere in the debates of this Convention, and assigned for reason, that as, by the resolution of the late Congress of the 15th June that no officer in the pay of this Colony or of the Continent should be elected, General *Scott* was ineligible, and therefore not entitled to a seat or voice. General *Scott* claimed his seat on behalf of his constituents. Debates ensued thereon.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. *Morris*, seconded by Mr. *Duer*,

Resolved, That on next Tuesday this Convention will take into consideration the case of General *Scott's* election, and the said resolution above-mentioned, and the propriety of his taking his seat as a Member of this Convention.

A Letter from *George Townsend*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Queen's County, requesting the loan of money

\*As an evidence of our inclination of raising a Company in the Regiment under Colonel *Thomas Thomas*, pursuant to a late resolve of Congress for the State of New-York, we hereby certify to the honourable Members of the said Congress, that we are willing to turn out as Militia officers for that purpose, and to go in the service under him, notwithstanding the Congress has omitted appointing *Joseph Drake*, Esq., Colonel of the above-mentioned Regiment, and that we are humbly of opinion, from the conversation we have had with the men in our Company, and others, that we can, without the least difficulty, raise a full Company for the purpose aforesaid; and we pray that some plan may be adopted for the purpose of completing the Regiment, in case Colonel *Joseph Drake* should refuse appointing Militia officers, pursuant to the resolve aforesaid.

WILLIAM DUTCHER, Captain.

DANIEL MARTLING, 1st Lieutenant, (by order.)

GEORGE MONSON, 2d Lieutenant.

30th day of July, 1776.

for the necessary expenses of the County, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Committee, Queen's County, July 24, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: This County being under a necessity of an immediate sum of money for defraying the necessary expenses of the County, we desire that you will make application to Congress for the sum of £400, for the use of this County, and transmit the same to *Joseph Robison*, Esq., who is chosen our Treasurer.

"Signed by order of the Committee.

"Attested: GEORGE TOWNSEND, Chairman.

"JEROMS. REMSEN, Jun., Clerk.

"To Colonel *Blackwell*, Captain *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Benjamin Sands*, *Samuel Townsend*, *James Townsend*, *Abraham Keteltas*, *Cornelius Van Wyck*, *Walter Smith*, Esqs., or either of them."

Resolved, That this Convention, pursuant to the request of the County Committee of Queen's County, by their Letter of the 24th instant, subscribed, by their order, by *George Townsend*, their Chairman, will lend to the said Committee of Queen's County the sum of £400, for defraying the necessary expenses of the County, to be charged to and paid by the said County of Queen's County, in the like manner as the sums of money lent to other Counties in this State for the like purposes.

And Ordered, That the Treasurer of this State do pay the said sum of £400 to *Samuel Townsend*, Esq., one of the Members of this Convention from Queen's County, for the use of the said County Committee, to defray the necessary expenses of the said County, taking the said *Samuel Townsend's* receipt for the same.

Application was made to the Convention, on behalf of the Troop of Horse in Queen's County, that they conceive it hard to be draughted with the common Militia or Foot, on the late resolution of this Convention for draughting one-fourth part of the Militia into actual service, as they have been at the expense to equip themselves as Troopers under the authority of this State.

Ordered, That Brigadier-General *Woodhull* determine as he shall think proper on this application, and give his directions accordingly.

Ordered, That *Sa. Dyckman*, the Messenger, be called on to take the following oath, viz:

"I do swear on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God that I will diligently and faithfully execute the office of an express to the Convention of the State of New-York; that I will keep all the secrets with which I am or shall be intrusted; and that I will not suffer any papers committed to my charge to be examined by any other person or persons than such as, by this Convention or a future Legislature of the State, may be authorized to examine the same."

Adjourned to eight o'clock.

Die Jovis, 8 ho. A. M., August 1, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Dunscombe*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Beekman*, Colonel *Lott*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *William Smith*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Miller*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*.

DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Hoffman*, Major *Landon*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Smith*, General *Morris*, Mr. *Morris*, Colonel *Graham*, Mr. *Mills*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Outwater*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townsend*, Mr. *James Townsend*, Mr. *Benjamin Sands*, Mr. *Walter Smith*, Colonel *Blackwell*, Mr. *Van Wyck*, Major *Lawrence*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *William Harper*.

CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *Williams*, Mr. *Duer*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Sessions*.

GLOUCESTER.—Mr. *Olcott*.

*Sampson Dyckman*, attending, was called in and sworn as the Messenger of this Convention, by the form of the oath for that purpose agreed to and entered in the Minutes yesterday.

Resolved, That the Militia of the Counties of *Charlotte*, *Cumberland*, and *Gloucester*, in this State, be formed into

two separate Brigades, anything in the resolution of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, on the 22d day of August last past to the contrary notwithstanding.

That the Militia of the County of *Charlotte* compose one Brigade, and the Militia of the Counties of *Gloucester* and *Cumberland* the other Brigade.

And *Resolved*, That *Jacob Bayley*, Esq., of the Township of *Newbury*, in *Gloucester* County, be appointed Brigadier-General of the Militia of the Counties of *Gloucester* and *Cumberland*. That *Simon Stevens*, Esq., of the Township of *Springfield*, in the County of *Cumberland*, be appointed Major of Brigade of the said Brigade; and that Commissions issue for those gentlemen immediately.

*Resolved*, That Lieutenant-Colonel *James Hamman* be the Lieutenant-Colonel of the Militia of *Westchester* County, draughted or to be draughted into actual service under Colonel *Thomas Thomas*.

On two Returns delivered in and read, though very imperfect and not worth preserving, on motion of Colonel *De Witt*, who explained the said Returns,

*Ordered*, That *Abraham Smedes*, who has been duly elected First Lieutenant in Captain *Matthew Janse's* Company of *Shawangunk* Precinct, in Colonel *Jonathan Hasbrouck's* Regiment of the Militia of *Ulster* County, receive a Commission for that office.

And *Ordered*, That *Cornelius Dubois*, who has been an officer of Horse, had been duly elected Second Lieutenant in Captain *John De Witt's* Company from *Ulster* County, in service as a part of the Continental Army, in General *Scott's* Brigade, to continue an officer of Foot while in that service, have a Second Lieutenant's Commission issued to him.

The said Commissions were issued accordingly, and delivered to Colonel *De Witt*.

The Report of the Committee for issuing a second emission of Bills of Credit in this Colony was read; and being again in part read by paragraphs, debates arose thereon, and it was recommitted to the former Committee, and Mr. *Duer*, to report again with all convenient speed.

Mr. *Morris* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Duer*, that a Committee be appointed to take into consideration and report a plan for instituting and framing a new form of Government. The same was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. *Adgate* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Moore*, in the words following, viz: "I move that the Committee to be appointed by this Convention to report a form of Government, be directed first to prepare and report a Bill of Rights, ascertaining and declaring the essential rights and privileges of the good people of this State as the foundation for such form of Government."

Debates arose thereon. Mr. *Morris* moved for the previous question, which was carried in the negative.

Mr. *Duer* moved that the words "be directed first to prepare and" be obliterated, and the words "do report the same time" there inserted; which being debated, was carried in the affirmative by a great majority.

The question being then put on Mr. *Adgate's* motion, as thus amended, it was unanimously carried in the affirmative and agreed to.

The following gentlemen were then named by different Members to be of that Committee, viz: Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Wm. Smith*, Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Colonel *Broome*.

General *Scott* having been named, Mr. *Robt. Harper* moved that he be appointed one of that Committee.

Mr. *Morris* opposed, and assigned for reason the resolution of the late Congress, on the 15th day of June last, and that next Tuesday is fixed to consider whether Mr. *Scott* is entitled to a seat.

Debates arose, and the question being put on the said motion, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, viz:

For the Affirmative.  
8 New-York.  
6 Albany.  
3 Tryon.  
4 Ulster.  
—  
21 votes.

For the Negative.  
5 Dutchess.  
4 Westchester.  
4 Suffolk.  
2 Cumberland.  
1 Gloucester.  
4 Queen's.  
—  
20 votes.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Scott* be one of that Committee.

The other members of the Committee being named, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Wm. Smith*, Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Colonel *Broome*, General *Scott*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Wisner*, Sen., Mr. *Samuel Townsend*, Colonel *De Witt*, and Mr. *Robert Yates*, be a Committee to take into consideration and report a plan for instituting and framing a form of Government.

That the said Committee do prepare and report, at the same time, a Bill of Rights, ascertaining and declaring the essential rights and privileges of the good people of this State, as the foundation for such form of Government.

And *Ordered*, That the said Committee report on the 26th day of August instant.

Die Jovis, 4 ho. P. M., August 1, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, General *Scott*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Robt. Harper*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*.

WESTCHESTER.—General *Morris*, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Mills*, Colonel *Graham*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Cantine*.

DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Hoffman*, Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Landon*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Van Wyck*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Jas. Townsend*, Mr. *Saml. Townsend*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Ontwater*, Mr. *Little*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Colonel *Williams*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stephens*.

A Petition of *Alexander Robertson*, *Marinus Willett*, and *Symes*, was read. They thereby set forth that *Symes* is well skilled in the art of extracting Salt from sea water; that they are desirous of setting on foot a proper work for that purpose, and request the encouragement of this Convention, agreeable to their resolution for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Harper* be a Committee to examine Mr. *Symes* relative to his knowledge in the art of extracting Salt from sea water, and that they report with all convenient speed.

A Letter from *George Townsend*, Esq.,\* Chairman of the Committee of *Queen's* County, dated the 31st instant, was read and filed. Therein was enclosed a copy of the late

\* IN COMMITTEE, QUEEN'S COUNTY, July 31, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed we send you a Declaration published by Governor *Tryon*, and set up by Sheriff *Willett*, in this County. We desire you will lay the matter before the Congress, and have their direction in the affair. Signed by order of the Committee:

GEORGE TOWNSEND, Chairman.

To Captain *Jonathan Lawrence*.

P. S. We beg that you will take the sense of the Congress what shall be done with the County records, in order to secure them.

By RICHARD VISCOUNT HOWE, of the Kingdom of IRELAND, and WILLIAM HOWE, Esquire, General of his Majesty's Forces in AMERICA, the King's Commissioners for restoring peace to his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in NORTH-AMERICA, &c., &c. Declaration.

Whereas, by an act passed in the last session of Parliament to prohibit all trade and intercourse with the Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Rhode-Island*, *Connecticut*, *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the three lower Counties on *Delaware*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, *North-Carolina*, *South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, and for other purposes therein mentioned, it is enacted, that "it shall and may be lawful to and for any person or persons appointed and authorized by his Majesty to grant a pardon or pardons to any number or description of persons, by proclamation in his Majesty's name, to declare any Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, or any County, Town, Port, District, or place, in any Colony or Province, to be at the peace of his Majesty; and" that "from and after the issuing any such Proclamation in any of the aforesaid Colonies or Provinces, or if his Majesty shall be graciously pleased to signify the same by his royal Proclamation, then, from and after the issuing such Proclamation," the said "act, with respect to such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, County, Town, Port, District, or place, shall cease, determine, and be utterly void."

And whereas the King, desirous to deliver all his subjects from the calamities of war and other oppressions, which they now undergo, and to restore the said Colonies to his protection and peace, as soon as the constitutional authority therein may be replaced, hath been graciously pleased by letters patent under the great seal, dated the sixth day of May, in the sixteenth year of his Majesty's reign, to nominate and appoint us, *Richard Viscount Howe*, of the Kingdom of Ireland, and *William Howe*, Esquire, General of his Forces in *North-America*, and each of us, jointly and severally, to be his Majesty's Commissioner and Commissioners for granting his free and general pardons to all those who, in the tumult and disorder of the times, may have deviated from their just allegiance, and who are willing, by a speedy return to their duty, to reap the



Declaration of *Richard Viscount Howe* and *William Howe*, attested by *William Tryon*, certified as a true copy and subscribed *Thomas Willett*, Sheriff; which was also read and filed.

*Resolved*, That the said *Thomas Willett*, late Sheriff of *Queen's County*, be taken into custody, and brought immediately before this Convention, to answer for his conduct in having certified, subscribed, and published the late Declaration of *Richard Viscount Howe* and *William Howe*, attested by *William Tryon*, late Governour of *New-York*, contrary to the resolutions of Congress and the Convention of the Representatives of this State in such cases lately made and provided.

And *Ordered*, That General *Scott* be requested to direct that the above Resolution be duly executed.

The Committee appointed to consider of and report on the Letter from the Committee of *Kingston*, relative to the *Scotch Prisoners* from the Royal Army placed at *Kingston*, brought in their Report.

The same being read, it was postponed until further inquiry can be made and information obtained.

A Letter from Colonel *Ritzema* to Mr. *McKesson*,\* one of the Secretaries, dated this day, was read. He therein mentions that his Regiment is without a Major; that a Major is a useful officer; that Captain *Billings* is at present doing Major duty; and that Colonel *Ritzema* requests that a Major may be appointed.

*Ordered*, That the said Letter be referred to the Committee appointed to inquire what Officers, who served last campaign, remain unprovided for.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Hoffman* and Mr. *Abm. Yates* be discharged, at their request, from the Committee appointed to inquire and report the names of the Officers who served last campaign and are not provided for; and that Colonel *Lott* and Mr. *Bleecker* be of that Committee, instead of the Members hereby discharged.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Hoffman* and Mr. *Tredwell* have leave of absence.

A Letter from *Corns. C. Roosevelt*, Clerk to Colonel *Curtinius*, was read and filed. He thereby acknowledges the receipt of twenty-six Muskets from *Thads. Noble*.

A Certificate,† signed by *William Allen*, *William Elsworth*,

benefits of the royal favour; and also for declaring in his Majesty's name, any Colony, Province, County, Town, Port, District, or place, to be at the peace of his Majesty:

We do therefore hereby declare, that due consideration shall be had to the meritorious services of all persons who shall aid and assist in restoring the publick tranquillity in the said Colonies, or in any part or parts thereof; that pardons shall be granted, dutiful representations received, and every suitable encouragement given, for promoting such measures as shall be conducive to the establishment of legal Government and peace, in pursuance of his Majesty's most gracious purposes aforesaid.

Given at *Staten-Island* the fourteenth day of *July*, 1776.

HOWE.

WM. HOWE.

WM. TRYON.

The above is a true copy of the original Declaration.

The above is a true copy.

THOS. WILLETT, Sheriff.

\* *New-York*, August 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have long waited, with the utmost impatience, for the determination of the Convention of our State, for the filling up the vacant Majority in my Regiment, and can hardly conceive why it has so long been delayed. The office is of so much importance that a Regiment can't exist without its being filled, for which reason the eldest Captain in the Regiment (*Billings*) has been appointed, in general orders, to act as Major to the Regiment till further orders, and will, in all probability, soon be appointed to that office, for no other reason but his being the eldest Captain. This gentleman is no ways equal to that station, nor do I think entitled to it, as there are several elder Captains than himself of the old establishment. Let me, therefore, beg of you, sir, to urge this matter with the Committee who has the regulation of the arrangement of the military officers in hand, that a Major be immediately appointed to the Regiment, and his commission be sent to me. Captain *Goforth* told me he would not accept of it. If I am not mistaken, I think Captain *Griffin* comes next in turn. However, I don't pretend to dictate, but only to refresh your memory. All I want is, that the Majority be well filled: it is matter of indifference to me who is the person.

Your good offices herein will much oblige your humble servant,

RUDS. RITZEMA.

To *John McKesson*, Esq., at the Convention of the State of *New-York*, *Harlem*.

P. S. Lieutenant *Miller's* commission is still in my hands. The Ensigny in Captain *Horton's* Company vacant, as also in *Denton's*.

† This is to certify, that the muskets which Mr. *Noble* contracted for, to deliver in complete order, like unto King's muskets, is deficient at least ten shillings to be equal to the contract, as we have examined the said muskets attentively, and do upon honour declare that they are worth no more than fifty-four shillings.

WILLIAM ALLEN,

WILLIAM ELSWORTH,

GUILLIAM VARICK,

MICHAEL GANTER.

worth, *Guilliam Varick*, and *Michael Ganter*, Gunsmiths, enclosed in said Letter, was also read and filed. They thereby certify that the Muskets which Mr. *Noble* contracted to deliver in complete order, like unto King's Muskets, are deficient at least 10s. each of being equal to the contract. They have examined the said Muskets attentively, and do upon honour declare, that they are worth no more than 54s. each.

The Convention being informed that said *Noble* had been put to great expense in bringing the said Muskets by land, on account of the ships-of-war in *Hudson's River*, by which means the Muskets were also injured in their appearance,

*Resolved*, therefore, That Mr. *Noble* be allowed 10s. on each Musket for his extraordinary expenses in bringing them down by land, and for the injury they have received thereby, and that he be paid 54s. for each Musket, agreeable to the valuation of the said *William Allen* and others.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., pay to *Thads. Noble* the sum of £53 4s., in full for twenty-six Muskets by him made on contract with the Congress of this State made in *April* last, and in full for the allowance made to him by this Convention for extraordinary expenses in bringing down the said Muskets by land, and take his receipt for the same.

Mr. *Robert Harper* and *Gouverneur Morris* reported that they have examined *Peter Sim* as to his skill and knowledge in the art of extracting Salt from sea water, and think him well skilled in that art; and that in their opinion the application of the said *Sim* and his copartners in every respect comes within the resolutions of this Convention for encouraging the manufacturing of Salt.

*Resolved*, That the said *Alexander Robertson*, *Marinus Willet*, and *Peter Sim*, and their copartners, shall have the sum of £500 on loan, on their joint and several bond or obligation, conditioned for the payment thereof to the Treasurer, according to the said Resolutions.

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries do prepare such Bond; \* and that on the receipt thereof by the Treasurer, duly executed by the said *Alexander Robertson*, *Marinus Willet*, and *Peter Sim*, and their copartners, and conditioned for the payment of £500, he do advance to them that sum, taking a receipt for the same.

On motion of Mr. *Duer*,

*Resolved*, unanimously, That the Colonels of the respective Regiments in the County of *Charlotte* do make return to this Convention, or to a future Executive power of this State, on or before the first day of *September* next, of the number of men in their respective Regiments, the state of their arms, and the number of the levies which have been draughted from each Battalion; and that Colonel *Williams* be directed to send copies of this order to the respective Colonels.

*John Van Cortlandt*, Esq., reported that he had waited on *Richard Morris*, Esq., to inform him of the unanimous vote of this Convention to appoint him Judge of the Court of Admiralty in this State; that Mr. *Morris* declines to

\* Know all men by these presents, That we, , are held and firmly bound unto *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President of the Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*, in the sum of one thousand pounds, lawful money of the said State; for the payment whereof, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

Sealed with our seals, dated the day of *August*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

Whereas the above bounden hath received on loan from the honourable the Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*, for the term of two years from the thirtieth day of *July* last, the sum of five hundred pounds, lawful money aforesaid, as an encouragement to erect works within this State, for extracting salt from sea water, agreeable to certain resolutions of the said Convention made and passed on the thirtieth day of *July*:

Now, therefore, the conditions of the above obligation are such, that if the above bounden shall and do, on or before the day of next, erect and complete works within this State for the extracting of salt out of sea water, at such place or places as the County Committee of the County where such works are to be erected shall deem most proper, and at least fifteen miles distant on the sea-coast from any other works of the like kind, and also that if the said , his heirs, executors, or administrators, shall and do, well and truly, pay, or cause to be paid, unto the said *Nathaniel Woodhull*, his executors, administrators, or assigns, for the use of the Representatives or future Legislature of this State, the said sum of five hundred pounds, lawful money of *New-York*, or twelve hundred and fifty bushels of good white merchantable salt, manufactured by the said as aforesaid, on or before the thirtieth day of *July* which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, then the above obligation to be void; but on failure of either of the above conditions, to be and remain in full force and virtue.

accept that office, and will wait on this Convention to thank them for the honourable testimony they have given him of their esteem; that he assigns for the reason of his declining the office his intention to decline all publick business, and devote his time to settle his affairs and arrange them for the benefit of his children; and that he had requested Mr. Cortlandt in his behalf to return his sincere thanks to this Convention, and to assure them that he will always be ready to support his country with his life and fortune.

— Friday morning, August 2, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel Remsen, Mr. Van Zandt, Colonel Lott, Major Abeel, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Bancker, Mr. Harper, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Duncombe, Colonel Brasher.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. Abm. Yates, Mr. Bleecker, Mr. Adgate.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Smith, Mr. Miller.

FOR ULSTER.—Colonel De Witt, Mr. Cantine, Mr. Wisner, Jun.

FOR QUEEN'S.—Mr. James Townsend, Mr. Samuel Townsend, Mr. Smith, Mr. Von Wyck, Mr. Sands.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. Sackett.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. Little, Doctor Outwater.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Morris, Mr. Mills, Mr. Platt, General Morris.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. Harper, Mr. Newkirk.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Mr. Sessions, Mr. Stephens.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel Williams.

Resolved, That Colonel Henry Remsen be, and he hereby is, empowered to dispose of *Julius Caesar Thomson*, and also with both of them now confined in the Jail of the City of New-York, in such manner as the said Henry Remsen shall think proper.

Messrs. Wm. Smith and Rutgers, who were appointed yesterday for the purpose, reported that *Thads. Noble*, of King's District, in the County of Albany, agrees to contract with such persons as this Convention shall direct, to make one hundred good Muskets, as near as he can in imitation of the arms called King's Muskets, with steel ramrods, to be delivered at the price of £3 10s. each, within six months from the time of such contract. The Committee also report that the said Noble requests the loan of £100 from the Treasury to enable him to perform such contract.

Ordered, That those two gentlemen be a Committee to carry such contract into execution with the said *Thaddeus Noble*.

Resolved, That the Secretaries do examine the Minutes of this Convention, and do select therefrom the several Contracts made by and on behalf of this State, and do deliver the same to the Auditor-General to be filed with the Treasury Bond.

A Letter from the Committee of the City of New-York, dated the 1st instant, and signed by *John Berrien*, Esquire, their Chairman, was read and filed. They thereby inform that they are reduced to great difficulties by the frequent sales of Bohea Tea at higher prices than that limited by the Congress; that the growing evil is so great that it requires speedy redress.

Ordered, That the said Letter be committed to Colonel Remsen, Mr. Harper, and Mr. Abeel, to take the same into consideration and report thereon.

A Letter from *John Berrien*, *Henry Wilmot*, *Fras. Bassett*, and eight others of the Committee of the City of New-York,\* dated the 30th day of July last, was read and filed. They thereby inform that the Police of the City is neglected, the Magistrates absent, their time entirely engrossed by matters which ought to be determined by Magistrates, and requesting the Convention to provide relief in the premises.

\* NEW-YORK, July 30, 1776.

We, the subscribers, members of the General Committee for this City and County, beg leave to lay before you the particular situation and difficulties we have for some time past and do now labour under. Not one Magistrate being in the city, occasions every complaint, both criminal as well as of civil nature, to be brought before the Committee. The business for which the Committee was appointed would alone take up their whole attention at any time; notwithstanding which, we have cheerfully undertaken, and, to the best of our power and abilities, faithfully executed every business that has been brought before us, though this burden has fallen upon only a few, sometimes ten, twelve, and never more than sixteen or eighteen members, who have given their constant attendance to the publick service. The time the Committee was elected for will expire the 8th day of next month, and we conceive the publick or the

Ordered, That Colonel Remsen, Colonel Brasher, and Mr. Roosevelt, be a Committee to take the said Letter into consideration, and to examine the Charter of the City of New-York, and report what may be necessary and right to be done in the premises.

And Ordered, That a Letter be wrote to the said Committee, informing them of the steps this Convention have taken relative to the said Letter, and requesting them to exert themselves with that zeal they have heretofore shown in keeping the peace and good order of the City.

Colonel Remsen informed the Convention that the Books of Account of the Receiver-General of Quit Rents, which have been paid in this State, remain in the City of New-York, that they can be obtained and lodged in any such place of safety as the Convention may think proper.

Resolved, That the Chairman of the General Committee of the City of New-York, or, in his absence, the Deputy Chairman, take with him such guard of armed men as he may deem sufficient, together with Mr. James Moran, and proceed to the late Custom House in the said City, and there seize and take into his custody all the Books of the late Receiver-General of New-York which in any wise relate to the Quit Rents of this State, and transmit the same by the first conveyance or opportunity, safely locked up or secured in a proper box or chest for that purpose, to the Secretaries of this Convention at Harlem.

And Ordered, further, That Mr. James Moran do faithfully show unto the said Chairman, or Deputy Chairman, all such Books and Papers as he may know to relate to or concern the Quit Rents of this State of New-York, or any moneys heretofore received on account thereof.

Resolved, unanimously, That all Quit Rents formerly due and payable to the King of Great Britain within this State, are now due and owing unto this Convention, or such future Government as may be hereafter established in this State.

The Agent of the Commissary-General of American Army applied for leave to export Salt to Connecticut to preserve Provisions for the Army.

Ordered, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, permitted to export two thousand four hundred bushels of Salt to Connecticut.

Resolved, unanimously, That the twenty-seventh day of August instant be kept throughout this State as a day of Fasting, Humiliation, and Prayer to Almighty God, for the imploring of His Divine assistance in the organization and establishment of a form of Government for the security and perpetuation of the Civil and Religious Rights and Liberties of Mankind, and to supplicate his further protection in the war which now rages throughout America.

Ordered. That the foregoing Resolution be published in all the publick Newspapers throughout this State.

Resolved, unanimously, That three Sermons suitable to the occasion be preached on that day before this Convention; and that the Rev. Mr. Schoonmaker of Harlem, the Rev. Mr. Provost\* of the County of Albany, and the Rev. Dr.

Convention will not desire us, such a few individuals, to sacrifice our whole time to the publick service, and at this sickly season our constitutions also, when so many of our fellow-citizens, men of large property, are enjoying all the advantages of a rural life much in the same manner as if this Continent was in a state of peace. We therefore wish the Convention would devise any measure that would in any ways ease us of our present difficulties; for be assured we are, with all due esteem and respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, and very humble servants,

JOHN BERRIEN,	SIMON SCHERMEHORN,
HENRY WILMOT,	LEWIS THIBOU,
FRANS. BASSETT,	WILLIAM LAWSON,
SAML. COWPERTHWAIT,	JOHN CAMPBELL,
VICTOR BICKER,	JOHN STAGG.
SAML. JOHNSON,	

To the Honourable the Convention of the State of New-York.

\* CAMP MANOR OF LIVINGSTON, August 11, 1776.

SIR: I lately received the resolve of the honourable Convention, in which I am requested to preach before them on the 27th of this month. As I am convinced of the justice of the cause they are engaged in, and duly sensible of the honour intended me by their appointment, if I followed my own inclination I should very readily comply with their request. But so many things occur which would render it highly inconvenient for me to officiate upon this occasion, that I must rely upon their goodness to excuse me. I can't presume to take up your time with so inconsiderable a subject, therefore shall mention my reasons for desiring this indulgence to *James Duane*, Esq., and Colonel *Hoffman*, two worthy members of the Convention, and flatter myself they will prove satisfactory to that respectable assembly.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

SAML. PROVOST.

To Brigadier-General Woodhull, President of the Convention of the State of New-York.

*Rodgers* of the City of *New-York*, be requested to officiate on this occasion.

Ordered, That *Mr. Bancker* and *Colonel Brasher* wait on the *Rev. Mr. Schoonmaker* and some of his Consistory, to request the use of the Church at *Harlem* on this occasion.

The Worshipful *Richard Morris, Esq.*, waited on this Convention, and was introduced. He declines accepting the office of Judge of the Admiralty in the most polite manner; assured the Convention that he most heartily joined with his countrymen, and was ready to support them with his life and fortune; but from the situation of his family and property, the remainder of his life was necessary for attention to his own affairs, and that therefore he declined the office.

Die Veneris, 4 ho. P. M., August 2, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Beekman*, *Mr. Dunscombe*, *Mr. Bancker*, *Mr. P. Van Zandt*, *Major Abeel*, *Mr. Harper*, *Mr. Rutgers*, *Colonel Lott*, *Colonel Brasher*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. Abm. Yates*, *Mr. Adgate*, *Mr. Bleecker*, *Colonel Livingston*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, *Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Miller*.

QUEEN'S.—*Mr. Ben. Sands*, *Mr. Van Wyck*, *Mr. Watt Smith*.

ULSTER.—*Colonel De Witt*, *Mr. Cantine*, *Mr. Wisner, Jun.*

DUTCHESS.—*Mr. Landon*, *Mr. Sackett*.

TRYON.—*Mr. Newkirk*, *Mr. Harper*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Mr. Mills*, *Captain Platt*, *Col. Graham*.

ORANGE.—*Mr. Outwater*, *Mr. Little*.

CUMBERLAND.—*Mr. Stephens*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Colonel Williams*.

Ordered, That *Daniel Shaw*,\* Commander of the private sloop-of-war called the *Harlequin*, be, and he hereby is, permitted to purchase from *James* and *Alexander Stewart*, or any other person, twelve hundred weight of Gunpowder for the use of the said sloop.

A Letter from *Frederick Jay*,† Esq., Deputy Chairman of the Committee at the *White-Plains*, dated yesterday, was read and filed. The Committee mention their great want of Captain *Townsend's* Company, now stationed at *Hudson's River*, by order of this Convention, and request orders to recall them.

Ordered, That the said Committee recall Captain *Townsend's* Company as soon as the Committee shall judge that the said Company can, with safety, be spared from their present station.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee at *Kingston*, relative to the Prisoners there on parole, and in answer to their Letter, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"GENTLEMEN: The Member who is possessed of the paroles granted to the Prisoners in your care is absent, so that it is out of the power of this Convention to judge of the differences of opinion with regard thereto. As soon as we

\* To the Honourable the Representatives of the State of NEW-YORK in Convention assembled:

The memorial of *Daniel Shaw*, commander of the private sloop-of-war called the *Harlequin*, in behalf of himself and the owners of the said sloop, humbly sheweth: That your memorialists have, at a great expense, purchased and fitted out the said sloop for the purpose of cruising against and annoying the enemies of the *United States of America*; that the said sloop is now ready to proceed to sea in every respect, excepting the want of powder, but that your memorialists are unable to furnish themselves with that article, notwithstanding they have diligently exerted themselves for that purpose; and they are apprehensive their intentions will be defeated, unless they shortly procure a supply; that your memorialists are, therefore, under a necessity of applying to your Honours, and do not doubt attention will be paid to their petition, as the Convention were pleased to recommend and encourage the fitting out of privateers to cruise against the enemies of *America*. Your petitioners, therefore, pray your Honours to furnish them with twelve hundred weight of powder, out of the publick stock, for the purpose aforesaid. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

DANIEL SHAW,

In behalf of himself and the owners.

NEW-YORK, July 30, 1776.

† WHITE-PLAINS, August 1, 1776.

The Committee of Safety being in great want of Captain *Townsend's* Company, now stationed at the *North River*, by order of the Convention, they therefore request that you would lay the same before the Convention, and give the Committee orders to recall them.

I am your very humble servant, FREDERICK JAY, D. Chairman.

receive them, the Report of the Committee appointed for that purpose will be considered and immediately transmitted to you. In the mean time, you may keep them to their paroles in the manner you conceive to be right; and should you be apprehensive of any danger from them before you receive directions for their removal, the Convention has directed me to order them to close confinement, which is left to your discretion. I am, gentlemen, &c.

"P. S. Enclosed is a copy of the resolutions of the Continental Congress, relative to Prisoners, for your direction."

Colonel *John Williams* has leave of absence until the 26th instant, and *Charlotte* County is to be represented by *Mr. Duér*.

Saturday morning, August 3, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—*Col. Remsen*, *Major Abeel*, *Mr. Harper*, *Mr. Dunscombe*, *Mr. Van Zandt*, *Colonel Brasher*, *Mr. Rutgers*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. Abraham Yates*, *Mr. Adgate*, *Mr. Bleecker*, *Colonel Livingston*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, *Mr. Miller*, *Mr. Smith*.

DUTCHESS.—*Mr. Sackett*, *Mr. Landon*.

TRYON.—*Mr. Harper*, *Mr. Newkirk*.

ULSTER.—*Colonel De Witt*, *Mr. Wisner, Jun.*

WESTCHESTER.—*Mr. Morris*, *Mr. Mills*, *Captain Platt*, *Colonel Graham*, *General Morris*.

ORANGE.—*Mr. Little*, *Dr. Outwater*.

CUMBERLAND.—*Mr. Stephens*.

QUEEN'S.—*Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Sands*, *Mr. Van Wyck*.

*William Smith, Esq.*, and *Captain Rutgers*,\* reported that they had contracted with *Thaddeus Noble*, of *King's* District, in the County of *Albany*, to make and deliver to them on or before the 3d day of *February* next, on behalf of this Convention, one hundred good Muskets, at the price of £3 10s. each; and that £100 be advanced to him out of the Treasury, to enable him to perform that contract. For the security whereof, the said *Thaddeus Noble* and *Matthew Adgate, Esq.*, have executed their joint and several bond to *Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq.*, Treasurer.

The said Contract and Bond being approved of,

Ordered, That they be filed with the Treasurer, and that he advance to the said *Thaddeus Noble* the said sum of £100, taking his receipt for the same.

A draft of a Letter to Messrs. *Jay*, *Livingston*, and *Yates*, three of the Members of the Committee to report the organization of a new Government, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"GENTLEMEN: I am directed to inform you that a Committee, of which you are members, is formed for the organization of a new Government; that this Committee is ordered to report on the 26th instant. You are therefore desired to meet upon this important business as early as possible, and to inform those gentlemen who are with you of the Secret Committee, of the time when such Report will be made, as the Congress will then expect their attendance.

"I am, &c. By order.

"To Messrs. *Jay*, *Livingston*, *Yates*, and the other gentlemen of the Secret Committee."

Ordered, That the Secretaries do digest the Minutes of this Convention with all the despatch possible, and that they be empowered to employ such Clerks as they may think necessary for that purpose.

A Letter from *Abm. Cuyler* and others, dated 29th ult., at *Hartford*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Hartford, July 29, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: We have heretofore, by *Colonel Van Cortlandt*, applied to you to be released from our banishment, and by him we are informed, a few days past, that you had not yet, then, been furnished by the Committee of *Albany* with

\*Your Committee, who was ordered to contract with *Mr. Thaddeus Noble* for fire-arms, do report, that *Mr. Noble* agrees to make for this Convention one hundred guns, at the rate of £3 10s. each, to be delivered in good order, with steel ramrods, and engageth to make the guns, as near as he can, in imitation of the *King's* arms.

WILLIAM SMITH,  
ANTHONY RUTGERS.

N B. He prays to have advanced £100.

the proceedings of the cause of our removal. We conceive their delay much to our disadvantage. Permit us, therefore, again to call your attention to our unhappy situation, separate from our respective business, wives, and families, supporting ourselves at an expense which must eventually injure ourselves and families; suspected to be inimical to our country, which opinion we hope in the course of time to remove from our unfriendly brethren, by our future deportment and conduct. Notwithstanding the inference that might have heretofore been drawn to our disadvantage, from the freedom with which we have either approved or condemned publick measures, we make no doubt of convincing every real friend to *America* that we are sincerely so; for the observance of which we are ready to give security. We therefore rely that you will do us the justice to grant us speedy relief, in ordering us to return to our respective homes, there to pursue our business unmolested, by which you'll oblige, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servants,

"ABM. C. CUYLER, BENJ. HILTON,  
"JOHN DUNCAN, JNO. MONIER."  
"STEP. DE LANCEY,

Mr. *Morris* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Duer*, that "a peremptory order issue to the Committee of *Albany* to return their proceedings against the said *Abm. Cuyler* and others, without delay."

Debates arose on the said motion, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the negative, in manner following, viz:

For the Affirmative.

2 Charlotte.  
3 Orange.  
4 Queen's.  
4 Suffolk.  
4 Westchester.

17 votes.

For the Negative.

5 Dutchess.  
3 Tryon.  
6 Albany.  
2 Cumberland.  
4 Ulster.  
8 New-York.

28 votes.

Therefore the said motion was rejected.

On motion of Colonel *Remsen*, seconded by Colonel *Lott*,

Ordered, That a Letter be wrote to the Committee of *Albany*, enclosing a copy of the former Order of this Convention, and of the said Letter from the Committee, and desiring to know the reason of their delay.

Ordered, That Colonel *Remsen* and Major *Abeel* be a Committee for that purpose.

A Letter from *Silvester Salisbury*, Esq., Captain of the Troop of Horse in *Ulster* County, dated the first instant, was read and filed. He therein mentions that Colonel *Johs. Snyder*, in consequence of the late resolution of this Convention for draughting one-fourth part of the Militia of *Ulster* County, had directed that the said Troop of Horse (whereof he is Captain) should be draughted; that the Troopers are ready to serve as Horsemen, but refuse to serve on foot, and he requests directions in the premises.

The Convention took the same into consideration; and thereupon,

Resolved, That the Troopers in the several Troops of Horse in the Militia of this State, imbodyed by, and under the authority of the said State, who have provided themselves with proper horses and accoutrements as Troopers, be not compelled to serve as foot soldiers.

Ordered, That Colonel *De Witt* transmit a copy of this Resolution to Captain *Salsbury*.

The Committee to whom was referred the regulation of the Treasury, delivered their Report, which was read.

Ordered, That the consideration of that Report be postponed till *Wednesday* next.

Mr. *Harper*, from the Committee appointed to take into consideration Letters of *Cornelius C. Roosevelt* and Captain *A. Hamilton*, respectively, bearing date on the 26th day of *July* last, and the Accounts which accompany the same, delivered in the Report of the said Committee, which was read.

Ordered, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till *Monday* next.

A Letter from *Pierre Van Cortlandt* and *Zeph. Platt*, Esqs., was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Head-Quarters, mouth of Croton, August 2, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The enemy's ships lie off here, and their barges row up and down the river o' nights; and notwith-

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standing our utmost exertions, some infamous rascals must have given them information that the *New-England* troops went off on *Saturday* last, and not a sufficient number coming in to guard the shore. They landed at one *Bailey's*, on *Sunday* night, and went back half a mile, and drove off one pair of oxen, two cows, one calf, one heifer, and eleven sheep; no doubt had the assistance of some Tories on shore. We have since got some assistance from General *Clinton's* Brigade, and several companies came in, and more hourly expected, that we are in hopes soon to have such an arrangement as will effectually cut off all kind of communication. Hope there may be soon some discreet, smart officer appointed to take the command, and a proper Commissary, that the business may be conducted with spirit and regularity.

"We must confess, gentlemen, that as yet things have not been so well regulated as we should have been glad to have seen; but the many difficulties and disadvantages we had to encounter must only apologize. We consider our appointment as merely *pro tempore*; and cautious of assuming too much authority to ourselves, lest it might give disgust to some of the military corps; and having such an extensive shore, and frequent movements, were obliged to deal out provisions in different places; and not being able to give any man assurance that he should continue any considerable time in office, has made it difficult to get proper persons to act in different departments. Add to this, having to deal with new, raw troops, every few days, by reason of their frequent changes—and, sorry to say, many of them very refractory—that on the whole, our station has not been the most desirable. However, are willing to serve in any department that may be for the good of our country. Remain, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

"PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT,  
"ZEPHA. PLATT.

"To the Representatives of the Convention of the State of *New-York*."

Die Lunæ, 9 ho. A. M., August 5, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Col. *Brasher*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Dunscombe*, Mr. *Beekman*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *P. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Abm. Yates*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Cantine*, Major *Parks*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*, Colonel *Marsh*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

GLOUCESTER.—Mr. *Olcott*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Miller*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gil. Drake*, Mr. *Gouv. Morris*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*.

Mr. *Sackett*, a Member for *Dutchess* County, requested an order on the Commissary of Provincial Stores, for three thousand Flints, for the use of the Militia of the said County:

Thereupon, Ordered, That Mr. *Norwood* deliver to *Nathaniel Sackett*, Esq., or his order, three thousand Flints, for the use of the Militia of *Dutchess* County, and that Mr. *Norwood* take a receipt, and charge the same to the said County.

Resolved, unanimously, That *Lewis Graham*, Esq., be appointed Judge of the Court of Admiralty of this State, and that a draft of a Commission to him for that purpose be prepared as soon as possible.

Ordered, That Mr. *Morris*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Samuel Townsend*, and Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, be a Committee to prepare and report a draft of such Commission; and that the same Committee (exclusive of Mr. *Wm. Smith*, who desires to be excused) do report such Fees as they may think proper to be established, to be taken by the Officers of the Court of Admiralty of this State.

*Robert R. Livingston*, Esq., a member of the Secret Committee for obstructing the navigation of *Hudson's River*, and who is also since appointed a member of the Committee for preparing a form of Government, informed the Convention that he has it in charge to purchase anchors and cables, and other matters, for the use of that Committee; and must proceed to the stores and wharves of the City of *New-York* for that purpose, unless the Convention think proper to appoint some other fit person for the purpose.



*Resolved*, That *John Berrien*, Esq., be, and is hereby, appointed Agent at *New-York*, for the said Secret Committee, to purchase and forward such articles as that Committee may direct; and that this Convention will allow him a compensation for his trouble in the premises; and that *Mr. Livingston* send proper directions to *Mr. Berrien* for whatever may be at present necessary.

On application of Colonel *Remsen*, and reasons by him assigned to the Convention, a Certificate was made and issued for *Mr. Joseph Hallett*, in the words following, viz:

"*Mr. Joseph Hallett*, the bearer hereof, late a member of the Convention of the Representatives of this State, and a gentleman attached to the cause and interest of the *United States of America*, having frequent occasion to pass and repass to and from *New-York* to *Newark*, in *New-Jersey*, on the business of this State, he is, therefore, hereby permitted to pass and repass to and from the City of *New-York* to *Newark*, in *New-Jersey*, on all occasions, without delay or interruption, whereof all officers, civil and military, within this State are requested to take notice.

"By order of the Convention."

*Ordered*, That the said Certificate be signed by the President, and countersigned by one of the Secretaries.

*Resolved*, That this Convention will not in future grant Passes to any person whatsoever, unless to Members and Officers of this Convention, or to such persons who may be by them employed during the time of their actual service.

*Resolved*, That a Letter be wrote to General *Washington*, requesting him to issue general orders that every Member of Officer, or other person having a Pass from this Convention, may be permitted to pass without interruption; and that *Mr. Morris* and *Mr. Robert R. Livingston* be a Committee to prepare and report a draft of such Letter.

The application of Captain *William Goforth* and *John Houston*, dated the 3d instant, was read and filed.\* They thereby make application for such encouragement, and on such terms for the erecting a Salt Work as has been granted to others by this State.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Gouverneur Morris* and *Mr. William Smith* be a Committee to examine Captain *Goforth* relative to his skill in the art of extracting Salt from sea water.

Whereas his Excellency General *Washington* is in want of the use of a good Telescope; and whereas a good Telescope is absolutely necessary for the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, to discover the arrangements and operations of the enemy:

*Resolved*, That the Chairman of the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, with such other members of that Committee as he may think proper, take and deliver to his Excellency General *Washington*, for his use, the Telescope which belongs to, and is a part of the apparatus of the College at *New-York*.

No. 2. *Resolved*, That the Convention of this State of *New-York* will indemnify the governours of the College at *New-York*, for any injury, loss, or damage, that may happen to the Telescope belonging to the said College, from the time of its being delivered to the Chairman of the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, for the use of his Excellency General *Washington*, until the redelivery thereof to the said College, the governours thereof, or their order.

General *Morris* informed the Convention that Colonel *Joseph Drake* has resigned his commission; that no levies have yet been made out of that Regiment.

Colonel *Drake's* late Letter to General *Morris*, dated the 24th *July*, and his Letter to the Convention of the 22d *July*, were respectively read.

*Resolved*, That this Convention accept of Colonel *Joseph Drake's* resignation. That *Mr. William Smith* be appointed instead of Colonel *Hoffman* (now absent) one of the Com-

mittee to examine into and report on the conduct of Colonel *Joseph Drake*.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to examine into the conduct of Colonel *Drake*, do report on *Friday* next, and that they be empowered to send for Colonel *Drake*, and such evidences as they shall think necessary for that purpose.

A Letter from *William Dutcher*, Captain, *Daniel Martling*, First Lieutenant, and *George Munson*, Second Lieutenant, dated the 30th day of *July* last, and received on the 31st *July*, was read and filed. They therein set forth their willingness to raise a Company and serve under Colonel *Thomas*, and that they are of opinion that they can raise a Company without difficulty.

*Resolved*, That Captain *William Dutcher*, Lieutenant *Daniel Martling*, and *George Munson*, be, and they hereby are, authorized to raise one Company of Volunteers, to serve in the Regiment of Militia of *Westchester* County, commanded by Colonel *Thomas*; and that so many of the said Company as do now belong to the Militia of *Westchester* County be considered as a part of the number ordered to be raised by draught from the respective Regiments of the said Militia to which they do belong.

*Ordered*, That General *Morris* write a Letter to Captain *Dutcher*, directing him to call on Colonel *Thomas* for a proportion of the Bounty Money for his men.

A Letter from the Committee of the City of *New-York* was received and read, and is in the words following, viz:

"Committee-Chamber, *New-York*, August 3, 1776.

"SIR: This Committee have lately received information of a motion now depending before your honourable House respecting the rights of this City and County to say who shall represent them in the General Convention of this State; a motion which has greatly alarmed their fears, and which they conceive is big with absurdity and ruin (should it be drawn into precedent) to the future freedom and happiness of this State; nor could they have believed at this early dawn of establishing a free community and settling its constitution, any member of your honourable Convention could have so soon lost sight of the natural rights of men, and of that power by which alone he is entitled to a seat in your honourable House. The Committee lament the forlorn and deserted situation of this place by its inhabitants, or they would have pleaded with you by petition, and instructed their own members on this threatened violation of their undoubted rights; but as that cannot be done, they should think themselves inexcusable should they rest in silence without using the only means in their power to prevent the introduction of a principle so dangerous and unjust—a principle which has been combated (though unsuccessfully) by all the worthy members of a tyrannick State, with whom we are now at war, viz: to pray that your honourable House would be pleased to order the motion erased from your Journals, and buried in eternal oblivion. The Committee beg you will lay these their sentiments and prayer before the honourable Convention, requesting that the most favourable construction may be given both to the mode and matter of this address, as flowing from hearts zealously attached to the happiness of the State.

"I am, by order, and on behalf of the Committee, very respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

"JOHN BERRIEN, *Chairman*."

—  
Tuesday Morning, August 6, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR *NEW-YORK*.—Colonel *Remsen*, *Mr. Buncker*, Major *Abeel*, *Mr. Beckman*, *Mr. Dunscombe*, Colonel *Latt*, *Mr. Roosevelt*.

FOR *ALBANY*.—*Mr. Abraham Yates*, *Mr. Adgate*, Colonel *Livingston*.

FOR *SUFFOLK*.—General *Woodhull*, *Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Miller*.

FOR *ULSTER*.—Colonel *De Witt*, *Mr. Contine*, Major *Parks*, *Mr. Williams*.

FOR *TRYON*.—*Mr. Harper*.

FOR *DUTCHESS*.—*Mr. R. R. Livingston*, *Mr. Sackett*, *Mr. London*.

FOR *ORANGE*.—*Mr. Little*.

FOR *WESTCHESTER*.—*Mr. Morris*, General *Morris*, Colonel *Drake*, Colonel *Graham*.

\*To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the State of *New-York*:  
GENTLEMEN: Having been informed that your honourable body, after taking into consideration the great distress which the good people of this Province must shortly be reduced to for the want of Salt, have determined to advance moneys to certain companies for the purpose of encouraging the manufacturing so essential an article, therefore, we the subscribers are influenced to make application to your Board for such encouragement, and on such terms as have been granted to others.

WILLIAM GOFORTH, }  
JNO. HOUSTON, } In behalf of themselves.

August 3, 1776.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Mr. Duer.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel Marsh, Mr. Stephens.

GLOUCESTER.—Mr. Olcott.

A Letter from Colonel Snyder, of Kingston, in Ulster County, dated August 1, 1776, on the subject of the Militia, and whether the Troop of Horse ought to be draughted with the Militia of Foot, the Company of Troop refusing to be draughted, which gives great uneasiness, and probably will cause a mutiny :

Ordered, That Colonel De Witt, Major Parks, Mr. Little, Colonel Drake, and Mr. Morris, be a Committee to take into consideration the several resolutions which respect the Militia, and report on the subject with all possible speed.

A Certificate of Dr. Malachi Treat,\* dated yesterday, was read and filed. He thereby certifies, that he has carefully examined Mr. Henry White, both in physick and surgery, and has the pleasure to inform all whom it may concern, that he is well acquainted with the principles and practice of both, and qualified for discharging his duty in either.

Resolved, That Mr. Henry White be, and is hereby, appointed Surgeon to Colonel Isaac Nicoll's Regiment of Militia now called into the Continental service for a limited time.

Mr. Morris reported that Mr. William Smith and himself have examined Dr. Samuel Bard, and find him skilled in the process of extracting Salt from sea water; that Dr. Samuel Bard will give his Bond for the money to be lent to him, or will give other security if the Convention shall think proper.

Resolved, That Dr. Samuel Bard must give security for the money which shall be lent him by this Convention, and that the Treasurer of this State, on receiving the Bond of Dr. Samuel Bard, with such security as this Convention shall approve of, conditioned for the payment of £500, do advance to him that sum, taking his receipt for the same.

The said Committee further report, that they have also examined Captain William Goforth, and find him skilled in the process of extracting Salt from sea water,\* and in the method of erecting a work for that purpose; that Aaron Oarson, Jonathan Piercy, John Houston, and Richard Platt, are to be his copartners, and are ready to become bound with him for the money which may be lent to them agreeable to the Resolutions of this Convention of the 29th day of June last for encouraging the erecting of Salt Works.

Resolved, That the joint and several Bond of the said William Goforth and his copartners will be sufficient security for the sum of £500, and that the Treasurer of this State, on receiving the joint and several Bond of William Goforth, Aaron Oarson, Jonathan Piercy, John Houston, and Richard Platt, conditioned for the sum of £500, do advance to them that sum, taking their receipt for the same.

Mr. Robert R. Livingston (according to order) reported the draft of a Letter to his Excellency General Washington, which was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"A. M., August 6, 1776.

"SIR: I am directed by the Convention to make their apology to your Excellency for not sooner expressing their approbation of the appointment which you have made to the command on Hudson's River. It gives them great pleasure to find that your Excellency hath chosen for this important post a gentleman whose good sense and tried resolution do honour to the choice, which, united with his intimate knowledge of the country, cannot fail of rendering him useful to the publick. They have, however, some reason to fear that either from delay or misapprehension, General Clinton hath not that evidence of his authority which he ought to have, or else that he doth not conceive of it in its full latitude. The Convention would therefore esteem it a particular favour, if, sir, you would transmit to him his appointment, with the resolution which subjects the levies on both sides of the river to his command.

"By the removal of General Clinton from the fortifications in the Highlands, the command of one of these forts

hath devolved on Major Schuyler, a very young officer, and new to the service. Your Excellency will best be able to determine whether the fort is of such a nature as to be intrusted with this young gentleman alone, or whether it would be proper to send thither a more experienced officer.

"The Convention beg leave to inform your Excellency, that till Commissaries are appointed, the Convention are deprived of two of their members, who are directed to supply this post till your Excellency shall send proper officers to supply their place, which they flatter themselves will be done as early as possible.

"Upon a suggestion that the telescope belonging to King's College would be of use in discovering the arrangements and operations of the enemy, the Convention have made an order for delivering it to your Excellency, of which I am also directed to enclose you a copy, and hope that it may in some measure contribute to the furthering your designs. The Convention have further directed me to inform your Excellency, that their own members and persons employed by them in the publick service have frequent occasion to pass and repass where guards are placed, are often impeded; they do therefore submit it to your Excellency's consideration, whether it would not be proper to give orders that those persons who shall appear to be members of the Convention, and those who shall have permission signed by the President, be suffered to pass without interruption. At the same time, that no imposition may happen, I take leave to enclose the copy of a resolution restricting the issuing of all such permissions, except to those who are actually engaged in the publick service; and lest mistakes should arise with respect to members, it is intended that each one shall have a certificate thereof signed by the President.

"I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant."

Ordered, That a copy of this Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Thomas Willett, being brought here by a guard, was ordered in and examined.

The State of New-York } Examination before the Convention of the  
agt. Representatives of the said State, August 6,  
Thomas Willett, Esq. } 1776.

That he did publish, according to the order of William Tryon, Esq., late Governour of the Colony of New-York, the Declaration of Richard Viscount Howe and General Howe, of which he acknowledges that paper shown to him, and attested under his own hand, to be a true copy; that his brother, Edward Willett, being requested by Edward Willett, Sen., to call at his house, he did so call, and then received the Declaration, of which the aforesaid paper is a copy, and delivered it to the examinant; that examinant received it last Monday fortnight; that he first published it last Friday week; that with the aforesaid Declaration he received a letter from the said William Tryon, purporting that the paper enclosed in the said letter was a true copy of the Declaration of Lord Howe and General Howe, his Majesty's Commissioners, who had requested him, said William Tryon, to publish the same throughout his Government, and therefore desiring examinant to make the same known throughout his County; that examinant had not, previous to the said publication, seen or heard of the Declaration of the Congress proclaiming these States independent; that examinant doth not remember to have seen or heard of a resolution of the Provincial Congress of New-York prohibiting all intercourse between the inhabitants of this State and the King's ships or the said William Tryon; that examinant conceives himself to owe a duty to the said William Tryon, because of the commission of Sheriff which examinant holds under the King of Great Britain; that he had heard of the Declaration of Independence; that examinant does not remember that he ever saw the Declaration of Independence aforesaid until very lately; that examinant did know, at the time of publishing Lord Howe and General Howe's Proclamation aforesaid, that this State was at war with the King of Great Britain; that at the time of publishing the Proclamation last mentioned, examinant had good reason to believe that the Continental Congress had declared independency; that examinant did really believe the said Congress had made such Declaration; that examinant conceived that when the several Colonies in America had acceded to the Declaration of the Congress, the same would

\* These are to certify, that I have carefully examined Mr. Henry White, both in Physick and Surgery, and have the pleasure to inform all whom it may concern, that he is well acquainted with the principles and practice of both, and qualified for discharging his duty in either.

NEW-YORK, August 5, 1776.

MALACHI TREAT.

so operate as to make them independent States; that he doth not know that the Committee of *Queen's County* published the Declaration of Independence in the said County, nor hath he ever heard that they did; that shortly after the Declaration of Independence publickly made at the City Hall of the City of *New-York*, a report thereof prevailed, at which time, or about that time, examinant heard of the same from divers persons. The examinant being asked whether he did at that time consider himself Sheriff under the King of *Great Britain*, declines answering the same. Being asked whether he made the said publication in pursuance of any duty he owed to the said *William Tryon*, declines answering the same. Being asked whether he did consider himself as owing allegiance to the King of *Great Britain*, declines answering the same. Being asked whether, as Sheriff as aforesaid, he conceived himself bound to execute any process which he might receive in the name and by the authority of the State of *New-York*, declines answering the same. That at the time of publishing the said Declaration, he considered himself as acting in the character of a Sheriff, or of a private person; and being asked whether, upon the receipt of any Declaration from this Congress, he would publish the same, declines giving an answer. That the paper shown to him as aforesaid is in the handwriting of one *Lawson*, a schoolmaster in *Flushing*. That he doth not know of any person or persons in *Queen's County* who have applied for or received any pardon or pardons from the aforesaid Commissioners; that the name of the Attorney with whom he conversed on the subject of the Declaration was *Thomas Hicks*, of *Queen's County*, on *Long-Island*, who told him, that as it was published by the Congress, he did not think there was any harm in publishing it; that the more publick it was made the better.

THOS. WILLETT.

The State of New-York }  
 agt. } Interrogatories by W. Duer.  
 Thomas Willett, Esq. }

*Question.* The superscription of the Letter expresses itself to be on His Majesty's service. Did you conceive yourself in the service of the King of *Great Britain* when you complied with the order contained in it?

*Answer.* He does not choose to answer this question.

*Question.* The Declaration of Lord *Howe* and General *Howe* promises due consideration to the meritorious services of those who aid and assist in restoring the publick tranquillity. Do you think the publishing this Declaration a meritorious service?

*Answer.* He does not choose to answer.

*Question.* Did you ever see or hear of the Resolution of this Convention, *July 16*, requiring all Officers to issue Process, &c., in the name of the State of *New-York*?

*Answer.* I have seen it after I had published Lord *Howe's* Declaration.

*Question.* How many of Lord *Howe's* Declaration have you published?

*Answer.* Five; one in each Town of the County.

*Question.* Did you conceive, when you published this Declaration, that you was aiding and assisting the King of *Great Britain* or his adherents?

*Answer.* He did not.

*Question.* Do you conceive Governour *Tryon* an adherent of the King of *Great Britain*?

*Answer.* Declines answering.

*Qu.* Do you conceive Governour *Tryon* an enemy to the State of *New-York*?

*Ansr.* Declines answering.

*Qu.* Have you signed any of the Associations recommended by this Convention.

*Answer.* No.

*Question.* Do you at this day consider yourself as a subject of the State of *New-York*, and that you owe allegiance to said State?

*Ansr.* Declines answering.

*Qu.* Do you look up to the State of *New-York* for the protection of the laws, or do you look up to any other authority?

Declines answering.

*Qu.* As the Continental Congress have published a Declaration of Independency which has been acceded to by the other States, do you conceive that all the inhabitants of *America* are bound by such Declaration?

Declines answering.

*Qu.* Do you think Lord *Howe's* Declaration implies that he has power to treat with the Colonies for an accommodation?

*Answer.* No.

THOS. WILLETT.

*Question.* Did you conceive the Declaration of Lord *Howe* favourable or unfavourable to the liberties of *America*?

Declines answering.

THOS. WILLETT.

The foregoing is the Examination of *Thomas Willett, Esq.*, taken before the Convention of the State of *New-York*, on the 6th day of *August*, 1776.

*Thomas Willett*, by order, withdrew.

*Resolved*, That *Edward Willett*, brother of the said *Thomas Willett*, and *Edward Willett, Sen.*, *Lawson*, a Schoolmaster at *Flushing*, and *Thomas Hicks, Esq.*, Attorney at Law, be immediately apprehended and brought before this Convention; that they be apprehended by separate parties, and kept separate till brought before this Convention.

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Woodhull* direct the Captain of the Troop of Horse in *Queen's County* to apprehend the said persons separately, and bring them separately before this Convention.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Willett*, late Sheriff of *Queen's County*, be conveyed by his present Guard to the Jail of the City and County of *New-York*, and there confined until the further order of this Convention.

And *Ordered*, That *Smith*, Corporal of the Guard, having the care of the said *Thomas Willett*, be, and he hereby is, directed and requested to convey the said *Thomas Willett* to the Jail of the City of *New-York*, and there deliver him to *Daniel Goldsmith*, the Keeper of the said Jail, who is hereby required to receive the said *Thomas Willett* into his custody, and him safely keep until the further order of this Convention.

A Memorial of *Daniel Hauxhurst*, on behalf of *Townsend & Noble*, proprietors of an Anchor Forge, was read. The Memorial sets forth that they had contracted with the Continent to supply Anchors for the *American Ships* now building; that the Militia on the west side of *Hudson's River* had taken out of their store about fifty barrels of Pork, a quantity of Peas, and three hogsheads of Tobacco, which will speedily render them unable to proceed with their works. He prays restitution, and that the workmen who have left the works, as part of the Militia, may be ordered to return; and that they may be further supplied with twelve sledgesmen.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Graham*, Colonel *Livingston*, and Mr. *Wisner, Sen.*, be a Committee to take and consider of the said Memorial, and report thereon.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *De Witt* write a Letter to Colonel *Johannes Snyder*, informing him that his Letter has been received, and is committed to a Committee, who will report some general regulations relating to the Troops, which may probably be adopted; and that in the mean time Colonel *Snyder* proceed to draught and forward one-fourth part of the other Militia of his Regiment, as soon as possible.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of the City of *New-York* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: I herewith enclose you copies of two resolutions of the Convention of this State, for obtaining the telescope belonging to the College of *New-York*, for the use of his Excellency General *Washington*. The Convention request you to call on Mr. *Moore*, the President for the time being, or such governour of the College as may have the care of that telescope, and produce the resolve marked No. 2, and request the delivery of that telescope for the use of his Excellency, which we presume will procure it without difficulty. If by that means you do not obtain the said telescope, then we desire that, in pursuance of the resolution No 1, you cause the said telescope to be taken out of the City-Hall of the City, in the presence of yourself and some others of the Committee; and when, by either means, you have obtained the said telescope, please to have it safely delivered to his Excellency the General.

"I am, respectfully, sir, your very humble servant.

"By order.

"To *John Berrien, Esq.*, Chairman, &c."

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the propriety of Mr. *Scott's* taking his seat as a Member in this Convention, be deferred till to-morrow.

Die Mercurii, 8 ho. A. M., August 7, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Remsen*, Major *Abeel*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *P. P. Van Zandt*, Mr. *Dunscombe*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Baucker*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Beekman*, Colonel *Brasher*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Ab. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Colonel *P. Livingston*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Wm. Smith*, Mr. *Miller*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*, Major *Parks*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Morris*, Colonel *Gil. Drake*, Mr. *Haviland*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Little*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, Captain *Lawrence*.

TRYON.—Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stephens*.

On motion of Mr. *Gouverneur Morris*,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, and Mr. *Roosevelt*, be a Committee to report proper regulations for establishing a Fund in this State, and that they report with all convenient speed.

A Certificate of Dr. *Malachi Treat*\* was read and filed. He thereby certifies that he has examined Mr. *William Foreman* upon the practice of Physick and Surgery, and has found his experience in both such as recommends him to the attention of the publick, and qualifies him for the duties of a Surgeon of a Regiment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *William Foreman* be, and he is hereby, appointed Surgeon to Colonel *Morris Graham's* Regiment, now in actual service.

The Memorial of *Abel Noble* and *Peter Townsend* was again read.†

Colonel *P. Livingston*, from the Committee appointed to take into consideration the Memorial of *Abel Noble* and *Peter Townsend*, by their agent *William Hawxhurst*, do report, as their opinion, that so much of the Pork and Peas as have been taken from the said *Noble* and *Townsend* by the Militia, upon due proof being made that the same was expended for the use of the said Militia stationed on *Hudson's River*, ought to be replaced by the Commissary appointed to furnish provisions for that department; that the Tobacco, said to be taken by the Militia, ought to be paid for by the officer commanding the party at that station, on due proof being made that the

\*I hereby certify that I have examined Mr. *William Foreman* upon the practice of Physick and Surgery, and have found his experience in both such as recommends him to the attention of the publick and qualify him for the duties of a Surgeon of a Regiment. MALACHY TREAT.

NEW-YORK, August 6, 1776.

†To the Honourable House of Convention of the Representatives of the State of NEW-YORK:

The memorial of *Abel Noble* and *Peter Townsend*, proprietors of *Stirling Iron Works*, *Anchor Works*, &c., by *William Hawxhurst*, their agent, humbly sheweth: That your memorialists have made a contract for making anchors, steel, and broad-bar, and large square iron, to a considerable amount, for the Continental service, which were to be made with all possible expedition; that your memorialists have already constructed a new work for wroughting the said anchors, and have made a considerable progress therein; but unfortunately for your memorialists, the men-of-war's arrival up the *North River* have occasioned the country to raise the Militia, whereby the workmen and labourers are taken from the said works; that your memorialists had, just before the arrival of said men-of-war, lodged at *Case's* store, at *Haverstraw Landing*, fifty-eight barrels of pork, one hundred bushels of peas, five hogsheads of tobacco, and sundry other necessaries for the use of the people employed at the said works; of which said provisions, &c., the Militia have taken forty barrels of pork, seventy-five bushels of peas, and three hogsheads of tobacco; by means of all which, and the loss of time already sustained, your memorialists are unable to perform their contract this season, unless your Honours shall give them relief by discharging the workmen and labourers from the said Militia, and supplying them with the like quantity of pork, peas, and tobacco, as have been taken from them as aforesaid, and also with ten or twelve sledges; which your memorialists humbly pray your Honours will do as speedily as possible.

WILLIAM HAWXHURST.

same was expended by the Militia under his command, to be by him deducted out of the pay of the said party.

*Ordered*, That the said Report be filed.

*Resolved*, That this Convention does agree with their Committee in the said Report.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*, Colonel *R. R. Livingston*, and Mr. *Wisner*, Sen., be a Committee to report what and how many Artificers shall be exempted from being draughted into the Militia from the different manufactories in this State, and that they report on or before *Saturday* next.

A Letter from *Richard Speaight*\*, dated the first day of *August*, instant, was read. He therein sets forth that he is at *Goshen*, where he has been sent a prisoner-of-war by the Committee of the City of *New-York*, as a person disaffected to the *American* cause; that he is ready to accept of employment as a Chemist or Surgeon to a Regiment in the Army, and therefore requests a discharge.

*Ordered*, That the said Letter lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the several members of the Committee for carrying into execution the Resolutions of the Congress of this State, on the 5th day of *June* last, with respect to dangerous and disaffected persons and those of equivocal characters, be absolved, and they are hereby absolved from their oath of office to carry those Resolutions into execution, and from all further duty required of them by those Resolutions.

And *Ordered*, That the President do absolve all the Members of this Convention and the Secretaries from their oath of secrecy as to the matters contained in those Resolutions. And that he further absolve all the Members of this Convention and the Secretaries from the oath of secrecy by them respectively taken, and everything thereon charged, so that the same from henceforth be null and void.

Which was done accordingly.

*Resolved*, That henceforth, until further order of this Convention, all matters charged on the Members as matters of secrecy, be charged to them to be kept secret upon their honour respectively.

*Isaac Roosevelt*, Esq., to whom was committed the care and management of getting Plates engraved† for issuing the Bills of Credit of this State, framing the devices of those Plates, getting the said Bills of Credit printed and signed by the respective signers, and delivered to the Treasurer, made report of his proceedings in the premises, in writing, which is in the words following, to wit:

“MR. PRESIDENT: In pursuance of the resolutions of the 5th *March* and 8th *May*, 1776, of the then Provincial Congress for the emission of a Paper currency, to amount of

\*GOSHEN, August 1, 1776.

HONOURED FRIENDS—GENTLEMEN: Know, that through malice and enmity after seven months' imprisonment, and just opened shop in town, (*York*), and getting into a good living trade, I was, through misinformation, sent to this place, (by the Committee,) a prisoner on parole, from my family and business, and, without doubt, unless soon relieved, the whole of my substance (which is but little) must be spent, and my wife and two children suffer for want of bread as well as myself, as I have no allowance made me here to live upon, nor had I any to bring me up, which cost me upwards of five pounds, and am now at great expense, that soon will sink all I have got. Whatever accusation can be laid against me, I am willing to clear myself before your honourable body. I must own I have never signed the Association. For why? Because it was never presented to me, neither do I know the contents.

To be short, gentlemen: So far I am a friend to *America*; (let any person say what they will, out of prejudice to me, as I have a great many enemies, especially my late partner, whom I lay all my troubles to, on account of his advising me to go to *England*;) that I am willing to assist the Army in my business, which I flatter myself, as many things are much wanting in the Army, I would be of service in preparing many chemical medicines that are now not to be got. I would even enter in the service as a Doctor to any one of the Regiments where a vacancy might offer, as well as prepare medicines for the rest of the Army, as I believe my abilities are well known in the chemical business.

If the honourable Congress will consider me in the above particulars, and grant me relief, which may be the saving of a wife and two small children from distress, the thanks and prayers will ever be for your welfare, and all assistance wanting will be given by your Honours' most obedient servant,

RICHARD SPEAIGHT.

To the Hon. Provincial Congress of the Province of *New-York*.

†IN COMMITTEE OF THE CONVENTION OF THE STATE OF NEW-YORK, July 14, 1776.

*Ordered*, That *John McKesson*, as Secretary of the Convention of the said State, receive from *Isaac Roosevelt*, Esq., all the Plates, Borders, and Engravings made for printing the emission of Money or Bills of Credit issued by order of the late Congress of this Colony, and that the said *John McKesson* get those Plates, Borders, and Engravings conveyed to the *White-Plains* by the best conveyance he can readily obtain.

HENRY REMSEN, HENRY REMSEN, GOUVERNEUR MORRIS,  
LEWIS GRAHAM, LEONARD GANSEVOORT.



£55,000, I now report that I have executed the said resolution in manner following, to wit:

2,350.....	Bills of 10 Dollars each, is.....	23,500	Dollars.
2,350.....	do.. 5.....do.....	11,750	do.
2,350.....	do.. 3.....do.....	7,050	do.
2,350.....	do.. 2.....do.....	4,700	do.
30,000.....	do.. 1.....do.....	30,000	do.
30,000.....	do.. 2-3.....do.....	20,000	do.
30,000.....	do.. 1-2.....do.....	15,000	do.
30,000.....	do.. 1-3.....do.....	10,000	do.
30,000.....	do.. 1-4.....do.....	7,500	do.
30,000.....	do.. 1-6.....do.....	5,000	do.
30,000.....	do.. 1-8.....do.....	3,750	do.

138,250 Dollars,

at eight Shillings, £55,300.

“That the said overplus of £300 arises from the last-mentioned denomination of one-eighth of a dollar, which in the above recited resolution, of the 5th of *March*, was stipulated to be twenty-four thousand Bills. That I could not conveniently comply with the resolution in that respect, as the plates were all set for striking off the lower denominations together on one sheet, and the arrival of the *British* fleet and army renders it necessary to finish the striking them off speedily, it did therefore not admit of taking the printing press down to make an alteration. And as that denomination is very useful in small change, I judged it would meet with the approbation of this Convention. I have therefore paid the said Bills into the Treasury of this Convention, amounting to the said sum of £55,300, as per receipt.”

*Resolved*, That this Convention does fully approve of the conduct of *Isaac Roosevelt*, Esq., and the signers of the late emission of the Bills of Credit of this Colony or State, in having issued £300 more than was ordered to be issued by the resolution of the late Provincial Congress, of the 8th day of *March* and the 5th day of *May* last past; that the same shall pass current as the other money of this State, and be of equal credit, and that the said sum of £300 be considered as a part of the sum mentioned in the bill for a further emission of Bills of Credit of this State now before this Convention, and that provision be therein made for the cancelling thereof by this State by issuing £300 less than the sum mentioned in the said bill now under consideration.

Mr. *Isaac Roosevelt* also produced the Receipt of *Gerard Bancker*, Deputy Treasurer, on behalf of *Peter V. Brugh Livingston*, Esq., the Treasurer of this State, for the said sum of £55,300, which was read, and is hereunto annexed:

“Received at different times, from Mr. *Isaac Roosevelt*, sundry parcels of money, amounting to £55,300, which was emitted by orders of Convention of the State of *New-York*, and which Mr. *Roosevelt* had printed and signed by order of said Convention. Received for *P. V. B. Livingston*, Treasurer.

GERARD BANNER.

“Harlem, August 3, 1776.”

*Robert R. Livingston*, Esq., according to order, reported a draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this State at Congress on the subject of having resolved that the City of *New-York* be deserted if necessary, and on different arrangements of Militia and Rangers ordered to be raised for actual service; which was read, amended, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

“Harlem, August 7, 1776, A. M.

“GENTLEMEN: As the defence of this State is intimately connected with the safety of *America*, this Convention have not only exerted their utmost strength, but cheerfully agreed to sacrifice local attachments and a great share of their property to the attainment of these desirable ends. This will fully appear by the paper No. 1, and the other enclosures. We regret an unfortunate mistake which prevented your receiving them much earlier, since we cannot but flatter ourselves that a communication of them to the Congress would at the same time have afforded pleasure to that honourable body, and called forth every aid which they could render to the cause of liberty and a sister State in our critical situation.

“We can with pleasure assure you, that by far the greater part of the levies ordered by the Congress to be raised from our Militia are completed and at their several stations; that almost the whole of those draughted in consequence of the enclosed resolution will, by the time this reaches you, be at those posts which it is thought necessary to occupy, lest the enemy should cut off the communication between the Army at *New-York* and the country. The whole number of

draughts from the Militia of this State, exclusive of the Continental Battalion raised therein, will amount, as we conceive, when completed, to about nine thousand men. The stations the last levies will occupy on our frontiers in the *Highlands* and on *Long-Island* prevent their adding to the strength of the Army at *New-York*, much as it needs their assistance.

“It gives us great pain to inform you that the aid received from our sister States is very inadequate to our expectation, none of them having yet completed the levies directed by Congress; which leaves us reason to fear that instead of using every means that human wisdom dictates for insuring success, we shall, (with inferior numbers,) on the doubtful issue of a single battle, hazard the glorious cause for which we have hitherto struggled.

“A considerable detachment from the *Flying-Camp* might supply their defect, and afford us a speedy succour, without the least danger to the Middle Colonies, since it is now evident that the blow is aimed at *New-York*, and may perhaps be struck while you are deliberating on this measure. The season of the year, and the immediate demand for troops, obliged us to give very considerable bounties; we flatter ourselves, therefore, that our burdens will not be increased by any delay to take into the pay of the Continent all but those ordered to be raised for the defence of the city of *Albany*. Such as are to be employed on the frontiers are doubtless of general utility, and rendered necessary by the extreme weakness of the Northern Army. Should the Congress think otherwise, we propose to retain them at our own expense, since we are determined to neglect no measure, (however burdensome,) if within our reach, which we conceive necessary for the safety of *America*.

“You will see, from one of the enclosures, that a Secret Committee were appointed for obstructing the navigation of *Hudson’s River*. In the execution of this design they must necessarily run into some expense, as the forts in the *Highlands* were not properly furnished with cannon, boats, fire-ships, booms, &c. This has hitherto been a Continental object, and under the immediate direction of Congress; we hope, therefore, our endeavours to render their work effectual will meet the approbation of that honourable body, and be considered as a Continental charge. Your prudence will suggest the use to which this letter and the enclosures ought to be applied, to which we submit it; and are, &c.

“To the Delegates for the State of *New-York* at Congress.”

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted to the Delegates of this State at Congress, with copies of all the Resolutions and Orders therein mentioned.

Major *Abeel*, from the Committee appointed to report on the Letter of the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, relative to Prisoners apprehended in *Bergen* woods, and now in Jail, brought in their Report. Which Report was read.

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That the General Committee of the City of *New-York* do order the persons mentioned in their Letter of the 2d instant\* to have been taken up by order of his Excellency General *Washington*, to be detained in the Jail of the said city until the further order of this Convention, and that the said Committee order a reasonable daily subsistence to such of them as are in indigent circumstances; and also to all such persons as may hereafter be there confined for the safety of this State, and who are unable to support themselves.

And *Resolved*, That this Convention will provide for the

\* COMMITTEE CHAMBER, NEW-YORK, August 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your resolution of the 16th instant, we herewith transmit you the names of sundry persons taken up in *Bergen* woods, near *Bull’s Ferry*, by order of the General, and brought before this Committee as disaffected persons to these States. On examination, each of them declared they considered themselves bound in allegiance to *George the Third*, King of *Great Britain*, and were not pleased with the independence of this country, though they offered to swear they would not take arms for or against these States. Some of them, we are informed, are in indigent circumstances, and have large families. We conceived ourselves under the necessity of committing them to jail as prisoners of the State, and doubt not, as they were members of this State, you will speedily give such orders respecting them, and make such provision as you shall think their circumstances require.

I am, gentlemen, by order and in behalf of the Committee, your obedient, humble servant,

JOHN BERRIEN, Chairman.

TORIES—*James Holden*, *James Holden*, Jun., *Robert Crannell*, *James Potter*, *Edward Drury*, *David Purdy*—this person’s pettiawger was sent on board the *Phoenix* since she went up the *North River*: with what cargo unknown.

payment of such subsistence, when the accounts thereof are presented properly authenticated.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the state of the Troopers in the Militia, reported the following Resolutions, which were unanimously resolved and agreed to:

Whereas the service of Troopers does materially differ from that of others in the Militia, whereby it may frequently happen that Horse may not be necessary for the defence of the State at the same time with Foot, and, on the contrary, Foot may not be necessary at the same time with Horse; or when both are necessary, yet not in equal proportions:

Therefore, *Resolved, unanimously*, That the establishment of the Troopers shall be considered as totally different from that of the other Militia in this State, so that any general order for draughting the Militia shall apply only to the Foot soldiers, and every general order for the Troops of Horse shall apply only to them.

Whereas the defence of this State may require the immediate service of the several Troops of Horse in the Counties of *Ulster, Orange, Dutchess, and Westchester*:

Therefore, *Resolved, unanimously*, That General *Clinton* be, and he hereby is empowered to order out the whole or any part or detachment of the said Troops, or either of them, for such time or times as he may think necessary, until the last day of *December* next, unless otherwise ordered by this Convention or future Executive power of this State; and that provision shall be made for their pay and subsistence.

*Ordered*, That the former of the above two Resolutions be printed in the publick Newspapers, and that the latter of the said Resolutions be served on General *Clinton*, and on the several Brigadier-Generals of the Counties therein mentioned, with directions to communicate the same to the several Colonels commanding the said Troops.

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the propriety of General *Scott's* being admitted to a seat in this Convention be further postponed till *Friday* next.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., August 8, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Remsen*, Major *Abeel*, Col. *Broome*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *P. Van Zandt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Roosevelt*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Mr. *Adgate*, Colonel *Livingston*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Smith*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stevens*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *Robert Livingston*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, Major *Lawrence*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Tompkins*, Mr. *Haviland*.

A Letter from *John Berrien* and *Henry Wilmot*, Esquires, dated and received yesterday, was read and filed. They therein mention that they had, by application to the Rev. Mr. *Inglis*, obtained the Telescope belonging to the College for the use of his Excellency General *Washington*, and delivered it to his Aid-de-Camp, whom the General had sent to receive it; that Mr. *Inglis* readily consented to the delivery of it, and the General had been anxious to obtain it. That they had procured all the Books and Papers belonging to the Receiver-General's office, and sent them, under a guard, by Lieutenant *Thomas Lawrence*.

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries take the care and charge of all the Books and Papers taken from the Receiver-General's office until further order.

The Convention was informed that *Thomas Hicks*, Esq., *Edward Willett*, Sen., and *Edward Willett*, Jun., brought in custody by a guard of the Troopers of *Queen's County*, were attending:

State of NEW-YORK vs. EDWARD WILLETT:

*Edward Willett*, Sen., being brought in and examined, says, that he (the examinant) delivered to *Edward Willett* a letter for the Sheriff of *Queen's County*, but does not know whether it was from Governour *Tryon*; that he got said letter at *Jamaica*, from *Nathaniel Mills*; thinks *Mills*

said he got it from *Livingston* or *Depeyster*, but does not know exactly; that *Mills* said he had received that letter the same morning he had delivered it to the examinant, but declared he did not know the contents; that he never conversed with the Sheriff since he received the said letter.

The Examination of the said *Edward Willett*, Sen., by him subscribed, is on file.

*Edward Willett*, Jr., brother of *Thomas Willett*, examined, says, that he did deliver to his brother (Sheriff *Willett*) a letter from Governour *Tryon*, enclosing a Proclamation from Lord *Howe* and General *Howe*; that Mr. *Edward Willett*, of *Flushing*, gave said letter to the examinant; that he did not ask *Edward Willett* where he got it, nor did said *Edward* tell him; that he hath never read said letter; that he heard his brother say it was from Governour *Tryon*, and saw the Proclamation contained in the said letter; that he does not know whether his brother intended to publish the said letter upon the receipt thereof; that no conversation passed between them relating to the said Proclamation; that he hath had no conversation upon the Declaration of Independence with his said brother; that the Declaration of Independence was read off at the head of the Companies in *Queen's County*, nearly about the time the said letter was received; that he had heard of the Declaration of Independence frequently before the said publication thereof.

The Examination of the said *Edward Willett*, Jun., by him subscribed, is on file.

State of New-York }  
vs. } Examined before the Convention, &c., August 8,  
Thomas Hicks, Esq. } 1776.

Believes he saw a letter from Governour *Tryon*, enclosing a Declaration of Lord *Howe* and General *Howe*, which was sent to Sheriff *Willett*; does not remember that the Sheriff asked him how far he would or would not be safe in publishing that Declaration. That examinant, upon conversing with the said Sheriff, did at first consider the publishing of the said Declaration as trifling; but upon adverting to a resolution of the Convention, did tell him "that examinant did not know how far the said publication might, under that resolution, be considered as adhering to the enemy, and consequently treason, wherefore examinant was of opinion that the publishing said Declaration was dangerous." That said Sheriff declared to examinant that he was determined to publish the same, for that he would do his duty let the consequences be what they would, or something to that effect; which declaration was made, as examinant thinks, posterior to the delivery of his opinion as aforesaid, but is not certain. Does not remember that the Sheriff gave as a reason for publishing said Declaration that the Congress had published it themselves, although he may have given the same as a reason; and does not think, from the general tenor of the conversation, that the Sheriff meant to ask his advice or to be guided by it, but that it was a mere matter of chat or news between them. That examinant does not believe he should have had any conversation with the said Sheriff upon the subject, had he not asked to see the said Declaration, being curious to know what terms were offered, and having heard from Doctor *Johnson* that the Sheriff had received it. Examinant may have told the Sheriff during the course of the conversation, that as the Congress had published it there could be no harm for him to do it, but does not recollect that he did. Does not recollect whether he had any conversation with the Sheriff upon the subject of the Declaration of Independence: they possibly might have had.

THOS. HICKS.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Hicks*, Esq., *Edward Willett*, and *Edward Willett* the younger, be discharged, the evidence which had been given against them not appearing sufficient for their detention.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *Samuel Riker*, *Joseph Robinson*, and *William Furman*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby, authorized and required to call before them *Nathaniel Mills*, of *Jamaica*, and examine him from whom and when and where he received a letter or packet directed to the Sheriff of *Queen's County*, and which he lately delivered to *Edward Willett*. That they, or any two of them, do likewise call before them and examine all such other persons as they may think necessary to discover by what means or communication that letter was brought from the enemy. That they be, and are hereby, authorized to command to their assistance from time to time any number of the Troop-

ers or Militia which they may think necessary, and to send for, search for, and secure persons and papers; and, if they shall think proper, to send them to this Convention; and that they report their proceedings in the premises to this Convention with all convenient speed.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed yesterday to report Regulations for establishing a Fund in this State, be, and is hereby, dissolved.

Whereas there might probably be a want of Cash in the Treasury of this State before more can be obtained otherwise than by loan:

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Bancker*, and Mr. *Beekman* be a Committee to borrow and procure on loan for this State, any sum not exceeding in the whole the sum of £10,000, to be repaid in a short time, without interest; for payment whereof [this Convention] shall be liable, and will fully indemnify the said Committee and each of them.

Die Jovis, 4 ho. P. M., August 8, 1776.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Broome*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Dunscombe*, Mr. *Beekman*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Mr. *Bleeker*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *P. R. Livingston*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Woodhull*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Livingston*, Mr. *Henry Schenck*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Morris*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Newkirk*, Mr. *Harper*.

QUEEN'S.—Major *Laurence*, Colonel *Blackwell*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stevens*.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, dated this day, giving the intelligence received by two deserters from the *Solebay* man-of-war, was read, and is hereinafter inserted, viz:

"New-York, August 8, 1776.

"SIR: By this I mean to communicate to your honourable body the substance of the intelligence I received yesterday from two deserters that came from the *Solebay* man-of-war the evening before. They inform that they were in the engagement at *Sullivan's Island*, and give nearly the same account that was transmitted by General *Lee*, which you would see published by Congress. They add that they left *South-Carolina* about three weeks ago, with General *Clinton* and his whole army, who are now arrived and landed on *Staten-Island*. They also say that part of Lord *Howe's* fleet, with *Hessian* and *Highland* troops on board, have got in, and that the remainder, with a considerable body, is hourly expected, which those that have come in parted from in a gale of wind off the banks of *Newfoundland*.

"As the accounts given by those men are direct and circumstantial, and their authenticity corroborated by many other things that have occurred, it is not to be doubted but the number of the enemy's army will greatly exceed ours. Their force, which was generally expected would be considerable of itself, the unexpected augmentation of General *Clinton's* army, makes it more so. On the other hand, ours does not come up to the intended establishment. Under those circumstances, and as we may expect the period just at hand when they will make their vigorous push, I submit it to the consideration of your honourable Body whether it may not be necessary for your exertions to be employed in calling in the most expeditious manner such reinforcements as you can obtain to the aid of this Army.

"I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
"GO. WASHINGTON."

A Letter of this date from his Excellency General *Washington*, relative to the Militia called forth from the Counties of *Dutchess*, *Ulster*, *Westchester*, and *Orange*, was read, and hereafter follows, viz:

"New-York, August 8, 1776.

"SIR: I have been favoured with your letter of the 6th instant, and am happy to find the nomination I made of General *Clinton*, in consequence of your request to appoint an officer to the command of the levies on both sides of *Hudson's River*, has met the approbation of your honourable body. His acquaintance with the country, abilities, and

zeal for the cause, were the motives that induced me to make choice of him. However, I am led to conclude from that part of your letter which desires me to transmit him his appointment, with the resolution subjecting the levies on both sides of the river to his command, that your honourable body entertain ideas of the matter somewhat different from what I do or ever did.

"When I was honoured with your letter of the 16th ult., with the resolves of Convention upon this subject, the state of the Army under my command would not allow me to send a General Officer in the Continental service to command the levies you then proposed to raise, supposing I had been authorized to do it; but considering myself without power in this instance—the levies altogether of a Provincial nature, to be raised by you, and subject to your direction—I esteemed the nomination of a General Officer over them intrusted to my choice, a matter of favour and of compliment, and as such I gratefully felt it. I am persuaded I expressed myself in this manner to the gentlemen who were pleased to attend me on the occasion, and that they had the same ideas. Under the influence of this opinion, all I expected was, that an appointment would be made in conformity to my nomination, if there was no objection to the gentleman I proposed; conceiving then, as I do now, if he was approved by Convention he was their officer, and deriving his appointment and authority from them. In this light, I presume, General *Clinton* must be viewed, and his power over the levies you alluded to flow from you. Lest accident may have mislaid the letter I wrote you on the subject, I have enclosed an extract of it, so far as it had related to it: 'It is not in my power to send an experienced officer at this time to the post you mention. I trust that Colonel *Clinton* will be equal to the command of both the *Highland* fortifications. They are under his direction at present.'

"In respect to the two Commissaries, I thought the matter had been fixed; but as it is not, I have requested Mr. *Trumbull*, who has the charge of this, to wait upon and agree with the Convention on proper persons to conduct the business in such a way that their purchases and his may not clash; to him, therefore, I beg leave to refer you upon this subject.

"I am extremely obliged by the order for the telescope. I have obtained it, and will try to employ it for the valuable purposes you designated it.

"I shall pay proper attention to your members, and persons employed in their service, and give it in general orders that they be permitted to pass our guards without interruption.

"Before I conclude, I cannot but express my fears that the enemy's Army, so largely augmented, should possess themselves of the whole stock on *Long-Island*. When the further reinforcement arrives, which they hourly expect, they may do it without a possibility on our part of preventing them. I wish the Convention may not see cause to regret that they were not removed.

"I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,  
GO. WASHINGTON."

The Convention having taken General *Washington's* Letter into consideration,

*Resolved, unanimously*, That Brigadier-General *Clinton* be, and he hereby is, appointed to the command of all the levies raised and to be raised in the Counties of *Ulster*, *Orange*, and *Westchester*, agreeable to the Resolution of this Convention, of the day of *July* last.

*Resolved*, That General *Clinton* be informed of this appointment, and directed immediately to send express to the Counties of *Ulster*, *Dutchess*, *Orange*, and *Westchester*, and order them to hasten their levies, and to march them down to the fort now erected on the north side of *King's Bridge*, leaving two hundred men, under the command of a brave and alert officer, to take possession of and throw up works at the pass of *Anthony's Nose*.

*Resolved*, That General *Clinton* be requested to order the Troops of Horse belonging to the Counties of *Ulster*, *Orange*, and *Westchester*, immediately to march to such posts as he may think proper that they should occupy, in order to watch the motions of the enemy's ships-of-war, now in *Hudson's River*.

A draft of a Letter to General *Clinton*, to accompany the above Resolutions, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Convention, &c.

"SIR: I have the pleasure to inform you, that with the approbation of General *Washington*, you are appointed to the command of the levies last raised by order of the Convention of this State, which the Convention hope will be agreeable to you.

"The accounts received of General *Washington* are of a very alarming nature, and require our utmost exertions; you are, therefore, to send express to *Dutchess, Ulster, Orange, and Westchester* Counties, and order the new levies to march with the utmost expedition to the post erected on the north side of *King's Bridge*, since it is of the last importance to prevent the enemy occupying that post, and cutting off the communication between the Army in town, and the country. You will observe that the Convention direct two hundred men to be left to guard the pass on *Anthony's Nose*; you cannot be ignorant of its importance. They therefore doubt not that you will take care to order works to be thrown up, and supplied, if possible, with a couple of cannon, which we suppose may be obtained from *Kingston*. The guarding the coasts against any attempts from the shipping, is submitted to your discretion, in which the Convention repose the utmost confidence.

"I would just add, that it is the intention of the Convention that you should march yourself with those levies that are nearest at hand, and leave orders for the remainder to follow you as soon as they can be collected.

"I am, respectfully, &c.

"To Brigadier *Clinton*."

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted, with a certified copy of the Resolutions relating to Brigadier-General *Clinton*, and the Militia put under his command, therein enclosed.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Josiah Smith* be, and he hereby is, ordered immediately to march all his new levies to the western end of *Nassau-Island*, and within two miles of Brigadier-General *Greene's* encampment; and that he obey such orders as he may receive from time to time from Brigadier-General *Greene*.

*Ordered*, That General *Woodhull* forward the last preceding Resolution to Colonel *Josiah Smith*, by express; or that he direct the Captain of the Troop of *Queen's* County to forward it by one of his Troopers, with a letter of directions to Colonel *Smith*.

A draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington*, to cover copies of the Resolutions for calling the Militia to the fortification beyond *King's Bridge*, and Col. *Smith's* Regiment to General *Greene's* Brigade, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: I am directed by the Convention of the State of *New-York* to enclose to your Excellency sundry resolutions which they have entered into, in consequence of part of your letter of this date. The Convention have further measures in contemplation for the security of this State, which they conceive of the utmost importance to the general cause of *America*. So soon as they are determined on, I shall give your Excellency immediate notice; and at the same time answer your two letters of this date in a more particular manner than the hurry of business will at present admit of.

"I have the honour to be, most respectfully, &c.

"To his Excellency General *Washington*."

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and, together with copies of the Resolutions above-mentioned, transmitted to the General immediately.

A Letter from Captain *Abraham Le Dieu*,\* of *Westches-*

\*TARRYTOWN, August 8, 1776.

SIR: I would beg leave to represent to the honourable Convention for the State of *New-York* the disagreeable situation of part of the Regiment I belong to is in, for want of the complement of men to fill up the Regiment under Colonel *Thomas*. The Militia Companies, near this place in particular, are under the necessity of turning out to guard the shore against any inroads of the enemy, now in *Hudson's River*. The men under my command, as Captain of a Militia Company, think it very hard that they must turn out and do duty for Continental pay only, when those that are raised by a resolve of your Convention are entitled to a bounty, with Continental pay, &c.

As I, nor the officers under me, never have had any offers or orders to raise a Company to join Colonel *Thomas's* Regiment, think it my duty to give this information; and that I, and the men under me, think it hard, for the above-mentioned reasons, not to be put upon an equal footing with the Militia in the Second Regiment.

I think I could raise a Company in a short time, if I had orders for

ter County, offering to raise a Company of Volunteers, as a part of Colonel *Thomas's* Regiment, was read and considered.

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That Captain *Abraham Le Dieu* be, and is hereby, authorized to raise one Company of Volunteers to serve in the Regiment of Militia of *Westchester* County, called into service and commanded by Colonel *Thomas*; and that so many of the said Company as do now belong to the Militia of *Westchester* County be considered as part of the number ordered to be raised by draughts from the respective Regiments of the said Militia to which they do belong.

And *Ordered*, That Lieutenant-Colonel *Hamman* and the Major of the said Regiment do determine on the Subalterns who shall be called into service in that Company, having regard to the rank of the Officers of the Regiment to which they belong, agreeable to the resolutions of this Convention for calling out part of that Regiment into actual service.

And *Ordered*, further, That the said Captain *Le Dieu* apply to Colonel *Thomas* for a proportion of bounty money for his men, and show him this copy of our Resolution; and that Captain *Le Dieu* join Colonel *Thomas's* Regiment with his said Company as soon as possible.

Friday Morning, August 9, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Dunscombe*, Captain *Rutgers*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Brasher*, Mr. *Beekman*, General *Scott*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Colonel *Livingston*, Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Hobart*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Colonel *De Witt*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stephens*.

DUTCHESS.—Major *Schenck*, Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*.

ORANGE.—Dr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Wisner*.

WESTCHESTER.—General *Morris*, Colonel *Drake*, Mr. *Morris*, Colonel *Graham*, Mr. *Haviland*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Smith*, Major *Lawrence*.

The Examination of *Jacob Halsted*,\* of *Orange* County, Farmer, taken before *A. H. Hay*, Esq., the 7th August,

that purpose; and, should the Convention be of opinion that it would be for the good of the State to order a Company raised to join the Regiment now in service, would beg the liberty of offering myself as Captain thereof, and that the subaltern officers under me may be appointed by Colonel *Hamman* and self. I should be very glad of an answer by the bearer; and am, sir, your humble servant, ABRAHAM LE DIEU.

To Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, at *Harlem*.

\* The Examination of *JACOB HALSTEED*, of *ORANGE* County, Farmer.

The examinant saith: That he lived lately on the west bank of *Hudson's River*, near the *Donderberg*, on the south moiety of a farm bought by himself and *Caleb Seaman*, of *James Lilly*, until his house was burnt, in the manner hereinafter mentioned. That on the seventeenth of *July* last, a sloop passed his house to the *Donderberg*, and he went to drive off his cattle into the woods, and did not return till the sloop had gone down the river, when he learned from the said *Seaman* that a barge had been ashore, and carried off one of the examinant's calves, which he believes to be true, because on going to the place where he understood they landed, he found several musket cartridges, and ever since has not been able to discover the calf. That the next day he observed one of the ships-of-war (the smallest of the two) and a schooner anchor in the river, nearly opposite to his house; that two boats came off from the ship-of-war, and landed a little above his house, upon which he retired to the distance of about three hundred yards to the side of the mountain, out of sight of his house; that he heard a knocking at his house, and directions to the men who had the care of the barges to come along, for there was nobody there, upon which the examinant fired upon the barges; that the company then ran from the house to the barges, some up to their waists in the water, and rowed off till the schooner came more in shore, and then three barges came on shore, appearing to be fuller of men, to the southward of the house about two hundred yards, where he observed them shoot several hogs; that some of the company went to his house, and soon after the examinant discovered his house on fire; upon which he retired to take care of his children at *Stephen Parr's*, a mile off, leaving the crews on shore at his departure. That he has since missed nine of his hogs; that he had removed some of his effects before the burning of his house, but he has lost, besides the house, which was totally consumed, as well as he can recollect, a cuphoard that cost three pounds; a case, with bottles, that cost twelve shillings; an old one, with two bottles in, and some deeds, bonds, and writings in it; six common sitting straw-bottomed chairs, a churn, two pails, a flax hatchel that cost ten shillings, two half-worn saddles, two or three pounds of flax, two or three pounds of wool, an iron pot, five bushels of Indian corn, three bushels of salt, a linen and a woollen spinning-wheel, with a quantity of lumber, such as barrels, and some stockings and cloths. That the house was a framed one, of about thirty



1776, wherein he gives a particular account of the burning of his house near the *Donderberg*, by some of the crew belonging to the ships-of-war now in *Hudson's River*.

*Ordered*, To be filed, and lie on the table.

The Petition of *James Cargill*,\* Saltpetre maker, praying to be exempted from military duty. Referred to the Committee appointed to consider and report what Manufacturers ought to be exempted from military duty.

The Report of the Committee appointed to take into consideration and report on the Letters from *Cornelius C. Roosevelt* and Captain *Hamilton*, was read.

Whereupon the Convention came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the Company of Artillery formerly raised by Captain *Hamilton*, under the authority of this State, be, according to a resolution of the late Convention, of the 17th day of *June* last, considered as a part of the number ordered to be raised by the Continental Congress from the Militia of this State, and therefore that the said Company be, and hereby is, incorporated into General *Scott's* Brigade.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That *Cornelius C. Roosevelt* be allowed a reasonable compensation for the Beef and Pork which he has furnished to Captain *Hamilton's* Company of Artillery since the 27th day of *June* last, beyond the contract by him made with this Convention, and that such compensation be adjusted by the Auditor-General of this State, and that the said *Cornelius C. Roosevelt* do no longer supply the said Company with Provisions.

*Ordered*, That General *Scott*, Captain *Hamilton*, and *Cornelius C. Roosevelt*, be, each of them, furnished with a copy thereof.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Ogden*, the Keeper of the Jail of *Westchester* County, furnish *Rinier Van Housen* and *Henry Dawkins*, now in his custody, with Provisions for their subsistence, and that he be allowed 14d. per day for each of them till further order.

Sundry Resolutions, relative to persons who have or may hereafter join or assist the Army or Navy of *Great Britain*, were moved by Mr. *Duer*, and read.

*Ordered*, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, according to order, reported the draft of a Letter to General *Washington*, which was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: We received your Excellency's favours of yesterday, and have, agreeable to your request, made out General *Clinton's* appointment.

"As your Excellency seemed to think the Militia necessary, and had accordingly called them out, both from this and the *New-England* States, we, upon finding that they served with great reluctance at this busy season of the year, and were constantly quitting their posts to return to their farms, raised troops at great expense, in order to supply their place, conceiving that they would be considered in the same point of view, and entitled (agreeable to the resolutions of Congress with respect to the Militia called out in time of actual invasion) to Continental pay and subsistence. If in

feet long and twenty wide, with four sash windows, a few of which were broken. That he thinks he can't get such another house for less than a hundred and fifty pounds; and the value of the rest of his loss he estimates at twenty pounds more. That the examinant has no estate but that farm, a few household goods saved by concealment, and outstanding debts of about twenty pounds. That he has one blind eye, occasioned by an indisposition in his head, with which he is still affected; sees badly with the other; is forty-one years old, and has nine children, one of whom is a soldier in Captain *Blauvelt's* Company, of General *Scott's* Brigade. That he and his family would now be out of doors, if they were not taken in by their friends.

JACOB HALLSTED.

Sworn before me this 7th day of *August*, 1776. A. HAWKES HAY.

This is to certify, that the bearer, *Jacob Halsted*, is the person who had his house burnt by Captain *Wallis*, and from the character he bears, credit may be given to his deposition, and that he has always been friendly to the *American* cause.

A. HAWKES HAY.

GILBT. COOPER, Colonel.

E. W. KIERS.

\*The Petition of *James Cargill* humbly sheweth: That your petitioner finds the tending of military duty greatly breaks in on his time of manufacturing saltpetre, which he is beginning in *Orange* County, and therefore would humbly entreat this honourable body to clear him of all such duty, that he may properly attend the above business without losing so much time; and your petitioner shall ever pray. JAMES CARGILL.

To the Honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

this we have been mistaken, we only lament the error so far as it may have given your Excellency some trouble, since no pecuniary consideration shall make us relax those measures that are necessary to add strength to the great cause in which we are now engaged. We shall, therefore, retain the levies in our pay, subjecting them, however, implicitly to your Excellency's command, till you shall think them unnecessary. In the mean while, the duty we owe our constituents, obliges us to request that your Excellency will be pleased to hint the utility of this measure to the Congress, in which case we dare safely rely upon their justice for reimbursing our expenses, except as to the bounty, for which, considerable as it is, we expect no compensation. In order to avoid the confusion that will arise from the appointment of officers who may afterwards be removed, if our levies should be placed on the Continental establishment, we shall appoint, as Commissaries, the persons Colonel *Trumbull* nominated, especially as their characters are unexceptionable; and we beg that he will take the direction of them till we are informed by Congress of the light in which they are to be considered.

"We consider the order mentioned in your letter as an additional proof of that attention to the members of this Convention which your Excellency has before so frequently manifested, and which they conceive themselves bound gratefully to acknowledge. We see in the same point of view the communication of that interesting intelligence received from the deserters.

"It is our great misfortune that at this important crisis this State is unable to make those exertions which the cause of *America* requires. From the disaffection of some amongst us; from the want of arms; from the exposed situation of *Long-Island* and our frontiers; from the possession of one County by the enemy, and the probability of our being soon called upon to reinforce the Northern Army, we are unable to add much strength to the troops under your Excellency's command, being, by the several reasons above-mentioned, deprived of the assistance of nine Counties out of fourteen which compose this State. Notwithstanding all these difficulties, we are determined to combat every obstacle and to strain every nerve in defence of the rights and liberties of *America*, which we conceive to be most materially interested in the safety of this State. By our resolution for ordering the several draughts made in the Counties of *Suffolk*, *Queen's*, *King's*, *Westchester*, *Dutchess*, *Ulster*, and *Orange*, to the environs of *New-York*, we hope in about six days to add near three thousand men to your Army. We lament exceedingly that we should have occasion to complain of the languid efforts which the neighbouring States have made for our assistance. From the zeal they professed for the publick cause, from the vicinity of some of them to this invaded country, and from the dangerous situation in which *Connecticut*, *Massachusetts*, *Pennsylvania* and *Jersey* must be in, should the enemy succeed in their designs against this State, we expect the most strenuous and expeditious exertions. How great our concern at finding so considerable deficiency in the establishment for this Army, your Excellency may easily judge from the feelings of a patriotick bosom on the importance of the cause and the dangers to which it is by this means exposed. We flatter ourselves, however, that this supineness will not be of any duration, and that the Continental Congress will devise means of affording the most expeditious and effectual assistance to preserve a State, the loss of which, from its geographical situation and the political character of too many of its inhabitants, would be almost fatal to the cause of *American* liberty.

"We have the honour to be, with great esteem and regard, your Excellency's most obedient servants.

"By order."

Friday Afternoon, August 9, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

*NEW-YORK*.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Captain *Rutgers*, Major *Abeel*, General *Scott*.

*ALBANY*.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

*SUFFOLK*.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Smith*.

*ULSTER*.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*.

*QUEEN'S*.—Mr. *Smith*, Major *Lawrence*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *Sackett*, Major *Schenck*.

ORANGE.—Dr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Wisner*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Morris*, Colonel *Graham*, Mr. *Haviland*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stephens*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

A Letter from Colonel *J. Hardenbrook*, of Brigadier-General *Scott's* Brigade, dated this day, complaining of a deficiency of Arms and Accoutrements in the Companies under his command.

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Lieutenant-Colonel *Johannes Hardenbergh* seventy-two Guns, Muskets or Firelocks, for the use of such of his men as are unprovided, taking Colonel *Hardenbergh's* receipt to be accountable for the payment of the value of those Arms, and for that purpose stoppage be made out of their pay.

Ordered, That Mr. *Norwood* deliver to Lieutenant-Colonel *Hardenbergh* one hundred and sixty-two Cartouch-Boxes or Pouches, for the use of such of his men as have none, taking Colonel *Hardenbergh's* receipt to be accountable for the payment of the value of the same, and for that purpose that their proper stoppages be made out of their pay.

A Letter from *Joseph Drake*, late Colonel of the First Regiment of Militia in *Westchester* County, dated at *New-Rochel*, August 6, 1776, wherein he sets forth his conduct relative to draughting men out of his Regiment, together with his reasons for his resignation, was read and filed.

Ordered, That the same be referred to the Committee appointed to inquire into and report on the cause of the delay made by Colonel *Drake* in draughting the men out of his Regiment, agreeable to the Resolutions of this Convention.

Saturday Morning, August 10, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *P. Van Zandt*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Beekman*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*, General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Mr. *Wisner*, jun.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Smith*, Major *Lawrence*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Dr. *Outwater*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Haviland*, Judge *Graham*, General *Morris*.

DUTCHESS.—Major *Schenck*, Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Landon*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*, Colonel *Marsh*.

Whereas certain machines now in the City of *New-York*, said to be the property of Captain *Foy*, and left in the care of *John H. Cruger*, Esq., are found to be immediately necessary in the manufacturing of iron for the publick service; and whereas the said *John H. Cruger* is not now in the said City, whereby any application to him for the sale of the said machines is become impracticable:

Resolved, therefore, That *Anthony Jelang* be, and he is hereby, empowered to take, for the use of *Samuel Ogden*, Esq., of *Boonton*, all and singular the said machines, upon the especial trust and confidence, to be signified by the execution of the power unto the said *Anthony* as aforesaid, given, that he (the said *Samuel*) shall well and truly pay and satisfy unto the said *John H. Cruger* the just and full value of the several matters and things by the said *Anthony*, as Clerk or Agent to him the said *Samuel* taken as aforesaid, the said value to be adjusted by the said *John H. Cruger* and the said *Samuel Ogden*, and in case of dispute between them, by a Committee of this Convention or some future representative body of this State, thereunto to be appointed; and that the said *Anthony* do, upon his corporal oath, make return unto this Convention immediately of the several things by him taken as aforesaid.

A Certificate, dated at *Mamacotting* Precinct, the 19th *June* last, signed by *J. R. De Witt*, Chairman of the Committee of that Precinct, was read and filed. He thereby certified that the men of the train band of the northeast

district of the said Precinct had duly elected the following Officers, under the inspection of five members of that Committee, viz: *John Newkirk* Captain, *William Rose* First Lieutenant, *Matthew Neely* Second Lieutenant, and *Moses Miller* Ensign.

A Letter subjoined from Lieutenant-Colonel *Claughry*, dated the 10th day of *July* last, was also read. He informs that the inhabitants there are exposed, and have not any officers, and requesting the Commissions to be issued immediately.

Ordered, That the said Commissions be issued immediately.

The Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a draft of Commission to the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty of this State; which was read and approved, and is in the words following:

"To *Lewis Graham*, Esq., greeting:

"We, the Representatives of the State of *New-York* in Convention met, reposing especial confidence and trust in your judgment, learning, and integrity, do hereby commissionate you, during the good pleasure of the said Convention, to be Judge of the High Court of Admiralty, in the said State, giving and granting unto you, the said *Lewis Graham*, by these presents, all and singular the rights, liberties, privileges, powers, and emoluments, to such Judge of the Court aforesaid, within the said State belonging or in anywise appertaining.

"Given at *Harlem*, the            day of *August*, in the year of our Lord 1776.

"By order: NATHANIEL WOODHULL, President.

"Attest: JOHN MCKESSON, } Secretaries."  
ROBERT BENSON, }

A. M., Saturday, August 10, 1776.

Whereas a number of the inhabitants of this State, by removing from one County to another, have, by that means, avoided military duty in either, to the great injury of this State:

Therefore, *Be it resolved, and it is hereby Resolved*, That every person between the ages of sixteen and fifty, abiding and continuing in any County for the space of fourteen days, be enrolled and appear in the Militia of the County in which he so abided, under the penalty of 40s. for every day's difference on which he or they shall not be so enrolled, and after notice is given him or them by the officer of the beat in which they shall reside: *Provided always*, That this Resolution shall not extend to such persons as are in the service of this State or of the Continental Congress.

Die Sabbati, 4 ho. P. M., August 10, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Major *Abeel*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Hobart*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Platt*, Mr. *Sackett*, Major *Schenck*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Haviland*, General *Morris*, Mr. *Morris*, Judge *Graham*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *W. Smith*, Major *Lawrence*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

ORANGE.—Dr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Wisner*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*.

Brigadier-General *Woodhull* being necessarily absent, with the consent of the Convention, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., was unanimously chosen President *pro tempore*, and accordingly took the chair.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the Resolutions which were debated this morning, and adjourned over, and the same being agreed to, are in the words following, to wit:

Resolved, That one-fifth part of the Militia of the County of *Albany* be immediately draughted, and marched with the utmost expedition to the encampment to the northward of *King's Bridge*, to continue in service one month after their arrival at the said encampment, unless sooner discharged, and that the officers commanding this reinforcement be

appointed by the Brigadier-General or Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of that Brigade, who is desired to pay all proper attention to the rank of the respective officers.

*Resolved*, That one-half of the Militia of *King's* and *Queen's* Counties be immediately ordered to march and put themselves under the command of the officer commanding the Continental Troops on *Nassau-Island*, to be continued in service until the 1st day of *September* next, unless sooner discharged by order of this Convention.

*Resolved*, That the above levies be formed into Companies, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, three Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and fifty Privates; and that the Captains and Subalterns be appointed by the Field-Officers of each Regiment of the Militia from which the quotas are to be raised, out of the Militia officers, having, in such appointments, regard to their rank and the dates of their commissions, if a sufficient number of such are willing to serve; if not, that they be at liberty to appoint such others as they may think properly qualified, and that the non-commissioned officers be appointed by the Captains of each Company under whom they are to serve.

*Resolved*, That those Troops to be raised in the County of *Albany* shall be under the command of one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Major, and have one Adjutant, one Quartermaster, and one Surgeon. The Field-Officers of the levies to be raised in the County of *Albany* to be appointed by the Brigadier-General and the County Committee of the said County. The Troops or levies to be raised in *King's* and *Queen's* Counties to be formed into one Regiment, under the command of one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel and one Major, and have one Adjutant and one Quartermaster. The Field-Officers of those to be raised in the Counties of *King's* and *Queen's* to be appointed by this Convention, and the Adjutant and Quartermaster of each Regiment to be appointed by the Colonel of such Regiment.

*Resolved*, That each man be furnished with a good Musket or Firelock, Bayonet or Tomahawk, a Blanket and Knapsack, and every six men with a Pot or Camp-Kettle. And to the intent that the levies so raised may not be unfurnished with Arms, the Committees in the different Townships and Districts in the said Counties, and the Colonels of the Regiments, are hereby empowered to furnish all such as have no Arms, by taking them from those who are not draughted, and such other persons in the Districts as have Arms, the same being valued by the Committees of each District, the amount of such valuation hereafter to be paid to the proprietors of said Arms by this Convention, or the Arms restored in the same order to their former proprietors, and that one penny per mile be allowed during their march for subsistence money, and one day's pay for every twenty miles between home and rendezvous, going and coming.

*Resolved*, That the officers and men who compose this Regiment shall receive Continental pay and rations during the time they are in service, agreeable to their several ranks.

*Resolved*, That the Resolutions of this Convention relative to calling out every fifth man from the Militia of the County of *Albany*, be submitted to General *Washington*, and if he shall think them necessary, be sent to the Brigadier-General of the County of *Albany* by express.

*Resolved*, That General *Morris* be desired to order out the whole Brigade, with five days' provisions, to take possession of such parts of the *Sound* and *Hudson's River* as he thinks most exposed to the enemy; and that the said Militia continue in service, and under Continental pay and subsistence, for ten days, unless sooner discharged by this Convention; that each man who shall not have arms, bring with him a shovel, spade, or pickaxe, or a scythe, straightened, and fixed on a pole.

*Resolved*, That General *Clinton* be empowered to call in such part of his forces as he may think necessary to reinforce the post to the northward of *King's Bridge*.

*Resolved*, That General *Morris* be ordered immediately to apprehend and secure the persons ordered to be apprehended by this Convention yesterday, and that he be furnished with a list of these persons' names.

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer of the Militia in the Counties of *Orange*, *Dutchess*, and *Ulster*, be immediately ordered to hold their whole Militia in readiness to march, with five days' provisions, on the earliest notice;

and that when they march, they leave a sufficient guard to prevent insurrections of slaves, and to guard the prisoners in the respective Counties.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That whenever the whole Militia of any County in this State shall be ordered to march, that they bring with them all the disarmed and disaffected male inhabitants from sixteen to fifty-five years of age, who shall serve as fatigue-men to the respective Regiments.

*Resolved*, That whenever the whole or any part of the Militia of this State shall be ordered out on actual service by this Convention or any future Legislature of the State, and any Colonel, or other commanding officer of a Regiment, or any Captain, or other commanding officer of a Company, shall neglect or refuse to comply with such orders, the Brigadier-General of the Brigade to which such officer shall belong, shall immediately suspend him from his office, and with all convenient speed order a General Court-Martial for his trial; and he being thereof duly convicted before such Court by the oath or affirmation of two or more credible witnesses, shall be cashiered and rendered incapable of thereafter holding any military office within this State.

*Resolved*, That when any man who shall have been draughted in pursuance of the orders of this Convention, shall absent himself and neglect to appear, after being duly notified, the Field-Officer of the Regiment to which such offender shall belong, shall, upon due proof of the same, by the oath or affirmation of two or more credible witnesses, raise from the estate of the offender, by distress and sale, so much money as shall be sufficient to hire a man to serve in his stead, and apply the same to that purpose, provided the same shall not exceed the sum of £30, and provided, also, that nothing in this resolution shall be construed to excuse the said absentees from serving with the other draughts from the Militia.

*Resolved*, That if any Militia officer in the service of this State shall, during the present invasion, resign his commission, after having received orders to proceed upon duty from this Convention or his superior officer, without the permission of the Convention of this State, or shall not repair with all possible despatch to such place or places as he or they may be ordered by the Convention of this State or by his superior officer, shall, upon good proof before a General Court-Martial, be rendered incapable of hereafter holding any military employment under this State; and that the name of such officer shall be held up in all the publick newspapers as a deserter of his country's cause.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Resolves relative to the neglect of duty or resignation of Officers of the Militia, be published in the newspapers.

*Resolved*, That *William Paulding*, Esq., be, and he hereby is, appointed Commissary of the Militia raised and to be raised in this State to the northward of *King's Bridge*, while in service on the east side of *Hudson's River*, under the command of Brigadier-General *Clinton*. That he supply them with rations, agreeable to the Continental establishment, and that he make provision for continuing that supply; that he advise with Colonel *Trumbull*, the Commissary-General, on the mode of purchasing provisions and keeping his accounts, so that he may be enabled to keep his accounts in the same method with the Continental accounts of provisions, and that he take his future directions on this subject from Colonel *Trumbull* till further orders; and also that for this purpose he be, and hereby is, authorized to purchase, on the account of this State, any such provisions as may be necessary; for payment whereof, this Convention will provide means.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to Mr. *Paulding* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: General *Clinton* has been appointed to command the levies lately raised and draughted, or to be draughted, from the Militia to the northward of *King's Bridge*, and is ordered, with the greatest part of his troops, to the fortifications a little to the northward of *King's Bridge*. You will see by the copy of the enclosed resolution, that you are appointed Commissary for those troops while in service on the east side of *Hudson's River*, under General *Clinton's* command, until further orders, and that you are to take your further directions on this head from Colonel *Trumbull*, the Commissary-General. We desire your immediate attendance

to this business, and doubt not but you will exert your utmost endeavours to perform the same in the best manner.

"I am, sir, your very humble servant. By order.

"To *William Paulding*, Esq."

*Ordered*, That the same be (together with *Mr. Paulding's* appointment) copied, signed by the President, and transmitted.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Cortlandt* and Captain *Platt* be empowered to act as Commissaries in supplying the Troops under the command of General *Clinton* with Provisions till *Mr. Paulding*, who is appointed Commissary, shall join those forces.

*Resolved*, That the first above-mentioned gentleman be empowered to purchase, on account of this State, six hundred barrels of Flour, and as many pine Boards as they can procure, not exceeding ten thousand—the Flour and Boards to be delivered as near to *King's Bridge* as possible by water carriage.

*Resolved*, That the same gentlemen be empowered to impress Wagons, Carts, &c., in order to enable them to carry into execution these Resolutions, paying a reasonable price for the same.

*Resolved*, That the above gentlemen transport, as quick as possible, fifteen hundred pounds weight of the Powder at *Mr. Livingston's* powder-mills, belonging to this State, to General *Clinton's* encampment at *King's Bridge*. For which purpose,

*Resolved*, That the order from General *Washington*, in favour of this Convention, on *John Livingston*, for fifteen hundred pounds weight of Powder, be endorsed by the President, ordering the said Powder to be delivered to Colonel *Van Cortlandt* and Captain *Z. Platt*, or their order.

An attack upon the City of *New-York* being daily expected, in which case the stores belonging to this State in the custody of Colonel *Curtenius* and *Mr. Norwood* will be in danger of being destroyed:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* be, and he is hereby, directed to dispose of the Lead belonging to this State, and now in his possession, in the following manner, to wit: That he send thereof to *Stamford*, in *Connecticut*, twenty tons; to General *Clinton's* encampment, near *King's Bridge*, ten tons; and the residue thereof to *Orange-Town*, in *Orange County*; and that Colonel *Curtenius* send to General *Clinton's* encampment as many Bullet-Moulds and Ladles as *Mr. Duer* shall please to direct; and that Colonel *Curtenius* use the utmost despatch in executing this order.

And *Ordered*, That *Mr. Norwood*, the Commissary, cause to be conveyed to General *Clinton's* encampment, on the north side of *King's Bridge*, five hundred Pouches with Belts, sixty thousand Cartridges, of different sizes, filled with Powder and Ball, and five hundred Flints.

Whereas this Convention has received information that the inhabitants of *King's County* have determined not to oppose the enemy:

*Resolved, unanimously*, That a Committee be appointed to repair forthwith to the said County, and inquire concerning the authenticity of such report; and in case they find it well founded, that they be empowered to disarm and secure the disaffected inhabitants, to remove or destroy the stock of grain, and if they shall judge it necessary, to lay the whole County waste; and for the execution of these purposes they be directed to apply to General *Greene*, or the commander of the Continental Troops in that County, for such assistance as they shall want.

And *Ordered*, That *Mr. Duer*, Colonel *Remsen*, *Mr. Hobart*, and Colonel *De Witt*, be the Committee.

*Resolved*, That *A. H. Hay*, Esq., be appointed Commissary for the Militia raised and to be raised in this State to the northward of *King's Bridge*, while in service, on the west side of *Hudson's River*, below the *Highlands*, under the command of General *Clinton*; that he supply them with rations, agreeable to the Continental establishment; that he advise with Colonel *Trumbull*, the Commissary-General, on the mode of purchasing provisions and keeping his accounts, so that he may be enabled to keep his accounts in the same method with the Continental accounts of provisions, and that he take his future directions on this subject from Colonel *Trumbull* until further orders; and for this purpose Colonel *Hay* is hereby authorized to purchase on account of this

State such provisions as he shall find necessary for the support of the said Militia while in service as aforesaid, for payment whereof this Convention will provide means.

Sunday Morning, August 11, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Présent: *Abm. Yates*, Esq., President *pro tem*.

NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Bancker*, *Mr. Roosevelt*, Major *Abeel*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. A. Yates*, *Mr. Bleecker*, *Mr. Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—*Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Tredwell*.

ULSTER.—*Mr. Wisner*, Jun., *Mr. Contine*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Mr. Morris*, General *Morris*.

TRYON.—*Mr. Harper*, *Mr. Newkirk*.

DUTCHESS.—*Mr. Landon*, *Mr. Schenck*, *Mr. Sackett*.

ORANGE.—*Dr. Outwater*, *Mr. Wisner*, *Mr. Smith*.

A sufficient number of Members not appearing, adjourned till to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

Monday Morning, August 12, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abm. Yates*, Esq., President *pro tem*.

NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Bancker*, Major *Abeel*, *Mr. Roosevelt*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. A. Yates*, *Mr. Bleecker*, *Mr. Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—*Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Tredwell*; *Mr. Hobart* on

ULSTER.—*Mr. Contine*, *Mr. Wisner*, Jun.

DUTCHESS.—*Mr. R. R. Livingston*, *Mr. Sackett*.

ORANGE.—*Mr. Wisner*, *Dr. Outwater*, *Mr. Joseph Smith*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Mr. Morris*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*.

CUMBERLAND.—*Mr. Stephens*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Mr. Duer* on duty.

TRYON.—*Mr. Harper*.

A draft of a Letter to Messrs. *John Jay* and *R. R. Livingston*, requesting their attendance, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"GENTLEMEN: As you are both of the Committee for the forming of a new Government, the Convention think it highly proper that you should attend upon that business immediately, unless your presence is absolutely necessary in the Secret Committee, of which I am directed to inform you; and am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant."

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Tuesday Morning, August 13, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abm. Yates*, Esq., President *pro tem*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, Captain *Lawrence*.

TRYON.—*Mr. Harper*, *Mr. Newkirk*.

CUMBERLAND.—*Mr. Stephens*, Colonel *Marsh*.

ORANGE.—*Mr. Wisner*, *Dr. Outwater*, *Mr. Smith*.

NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Beekman*, *Mr. Roosevelt*, *Mr. Bancker*, Colonel *Broome*, Major *Abeel*, Colonel *Brasher*, Captain *Denning*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. A. Yates*, *Mr. Bleecker*, Colonel *Livingston*, *Mr. Adgate*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Mr. Morris*, *Mr. Haviland*, Judge *Graham*, Major *Lockwood*.

SUFFOLK.—*Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Tredwell*; *Mr. Hobart* on service.

DUTCHESS.—*Mr. R. R. Livingston*, Major *Schenck*, *Mr. Landon*.

*Resolved*, That from the information received by General *Clinton* of the business in which the Secret Committee are engaged, it will be improper to call *Mr. Jay* and *Mr. Yates* from that Committee.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Robert R. Livingston* have leave of absence, in order to attend on that Committee.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That Colonel *Jeromus Remsen*, of *Queen's County*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Nicholas Covenhoven*, of *King's County*, and Major *Richard Thorne*, of *Queen's County*, be, and hereby are, appointed Field-Officers of the Militia ordered to be draughted from *King's* and *Queen's* Counties, and put under the command of the officer commanding the Continental Troops on *Nassau-Island*, pursuant to the Resolutions of the Convention of this State on the 10th instant.



Doctor *John Morgan*, Director-General of the Hospital, attending, was admitted. He informed the Convention that General *Washington* had directed him to have all the sick removed to proper places out of such parts of the City as are closely built and inhabited; that a list of houses had been handed to him for the purpose by private persons, but that as he is a stranger, and does not know what particular houses might be proper to be exempted, and therefore requests the directions of this Convention in the premises:

*Resolved*, That his Excellency General *Washington* be, and he is hereby, empowered to apply the following houses, to wit: Mr. *Apthorpe's*; *Oliver Delancy's* and *Robert Bayard's*, at *Bloomingdale*; *William Bayard's*, at *Greenwich*; Mr. *Watts's*, near *Kepp's Bay*; *Robert Murray's*, on *Incklam Bergh*; Mr. *William McAdam's*, and the houses and buildings occupied by Mr. *Watson*, near the old *Glass-House*; *Nicholas Stuyvesant's*; *Peter Stuyvesant's*; Mr. *Elliot's*; Mr. *Horsemanden's*, commonly called *Frog Hall*; *Widow Leake's*, near *Kepp's Bay*; for the use of the General Hospital of the *American Army*.

*Ordered*, That the General Committee of the City of *New-York* do, on application by Dr. *John Morgan*, Director-General of the Hospital of the Continental Army, appoint a proper Committee of their body to ascertain and designate to him such houses on *Nassau-Island*, to be by him used as a General Hospital, as he may from time to time have occasion for that purpose.

A Petition or Memorial of Captain *Jacobus Roos* was read.\* He therein complains that his late appointment to be one of the Captains of the detachments of Militia in *Ulster County* was superseded. The copy of that appointment, therein contained, was also read; and General *Clinton*, now present, gave some information to the Convention on that subject.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That Captain *Jacobus Roos* have leave to raise a Company for immediate service; that he may choose any two Lieutenants who have commissions in Colonel *J. Hasbrouck's* Regiment, of the Militia of *Ulster County*, and are desirous to go into service; that from time to time, as soon as he shall have enlisted two or more men, he send them to join the Troops at *Peekskill*, until further orders; that if he shall enlist and bring into the service a full Company, he shall be entitled to the like pay and the same rank in the Regiment as if he had raised a Company when he was first appointed.

\* To the Honourable the Convention of the State of *NEW-YORK*, now convened in the Town of *HARLEM*.

GENTLEMEN: I am extremely sorry matters are so conducted in raising the new levies in Colonel *Jonathan Hasbrouck's* Regiment, in *Ulster County*, (in which Regiment I have the honour to command a Company,) that I am obliged and bound by the principles of honour to represent the state thereof to this honourable Convention, and pray they may take the same into consideration, and grant me such relief in the premises as to them shall seem meet; which is as follows, viz: That on the evening of the 24th of *July*, I received notice to appear, on the morning of the next day, at ten o'clock, at the house of Colonel *Hasbrouck*. I then asked the messenger whether I should notify my subalterns to attend also; to which I was answered, no. Agreeable to the aforesaid notice, I did appear at the time and place already mentioned. On my appearance there I found it was for the purpose of arranging the officers to command the new levies aforesaid, and that neither Captain *Rea* nor Captain *Teapenning* were there present, who were both superior to me in command in the Regiment; and have, since that time, had such information as will amount to full proof that neither of the aforesaid gentlemen had any notice thereof. I being next in rank in the Regiment to these gentlemen, I was appointed by Colonel *Hasbrouck*, Major *Jansen*, and Major *Dubois*, (which will more fully appear to this honourable House by the enclosed copy of a certificate from the aforesaid gentlemen,) to be a Captain, to command one of the companies. On my return home I found great uneasiness prevailing among my subalterns, as also among sundry other officers belonging to the Regiment; complaining loudly that they were unfairly dealt with, not being notified of the arrangement aforesaid, and sundry persons being appointed over them; particularly Lieutenants who never had any commission, either civil or military. However, I, from a due sense of the importance of the matter, immediately proceeded to raising the men, but found such difficulties as could not possibly be surmounted without absolutely proceeding to a draught; which appeared to be wholly owing to the appointment of Lieutenants who had never been their choice. All this happened on the 2d instant, *August*. Immediately on this, there was an express despatched from Lieutenant-Colonel *Jansen* to Brigadier-General *Clinton*, then at *Fort Montgomery*, informing him of the bad success we had in raising men; to which the General answered that it was out of his power to remedy the matter; also, that if the Field-Officers had committed an error, they only must rectify it in the best manner they could. The express who went to General *Clinton* met with Colonel *Hasbrouck*, at *Fort Montgomery*, who then wrote a letter to Major *Jansen*, informing him that he (Colonel *Hasbrouck*) was informed the principal objection the men had to turning out as volunteers was, their objection to me being appointed a Captain; which I believe to be an absolute falsehood. The only reason, (as before mentioned,) by all that I could learn among the men, was, that their own officers had no chance; which they thought was their indubitable right, agreeable to the resolves of the State of *New-*

A Letter from General *Washington*, dated the 11th instant, relative to Troops called out, was read, and is as follows, to wit:

"*New-York*, August 11, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: In answer to your favour of the 9th, with which I have been honoured, I beg leave to inform you that I neither wish or expect anything more than that the levies raised by you will be in Continental pay from the time they were called into service; that troops employed in a general cause should be supported at the general expense, is so evidently just, that I cannot see any objection to it. It is true, when the proceedings of your honourable body for raising those levies were first communicated to me, and it was mentioned by the Committee who brought them, that it was expected they would be paid by the States, I did not conceive myself authorized to take into service so large a number of men, and therefore could not say the States would pay them. But the situation of our affairs being much changed and requiring their service, I cannot but consider them as much entitled to Continental pay as any troops in this Army. In this light I am persuaded Congress will view them. It is so obvious and so equitable, that no application from me can be necessary. The bounty, I imagine, as you yourselves do, will be the expense of the State, for which indemnification will not be made by the publick. My letter of the 8th was not meant to comprehend this subject, it was particularly designed to explain my ideas of the authority from whence General *Clinton's* powers were derived.

"I have requested Mr. *Trumbull* to take the direction of the Commissaries, and to see that the levies are properly supplied with provisions. I am extremely concerned that the quotas of men to be furnished by the neighbouring States have proved so deficient. The busy season and harvest, to which it has been ascribed, being now over in a great degree, I flatter myself, from the zeal they have heretofore manifested, they will afford every possible assistance. They are well apprized of the importance of this State in the present contest, and the necessity of maintaining it against the attempts of the enemy.

"In respect to the Militia of *Albany County*, as you are pleased in your proceedings of the 10th instant to submit the propriety of calling them out to my determination, I would advise that they should not, unless the necessity for bringing them here should be extremely great. They otherwise should remain in their County, to afford succour to the frontier parts of the Government, if it should be necessary.

"I have enclosed a copy of Lieutenant *McMichael's* report transmitted me by General *Schuyler*, from whence it will

*York*. In this letter from Colonel *Hasbrouck* to Major *Jansen*, he desired the said Major *Jansen* should call the five Companies in that quarter together, and consult the officers of said Companies, and raise the men in the best manner they could. On which Major *Jansen* called the Companies together, accordingly, on the 6th of *August*, and made an offer to all the Captains of said Companies who choose to turn out, and try their success in raising men, promising at the same time the Captain who should raise the most volunteers should be the officer who should have the command; to which measure I was opposed, as being, in my opinion, contrary to the resolves of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, and my appointment in consequence thereof; therefore would not submit the matter. However, my remonstrance in this particular did not succeed, being answered by Major *Jansen* that he was not bound by the resolves of the State, and acted as he thought proper in the affair. On this, about twenty-six men turned out under Captain *John Graham*, three of which number formerly turned out under me. After which some of the aforesaid companies were obliged to draught the men, and as yet I do not know whether the whole is completed.

Now, gentlemen, you'll easily perceive, by the above narrative, how inconsistent the conduct of my Field-Officers hath been with your resolves. I humbly conceive that if the whole of the men could not be obtained as volunteers, but that a part must be draughted, with equal propriety the whole might, to be put under me; but there was no necessity for this, more than in the other case, as I had enlisted ten men, and had a number more promised to enlist, and am full of the opinion that the grand obstacle was owing to the appointment of Lieutenants, as before recited. To make you, gentlemen, clear in this matter, you must understand that the Colonel's son is one of them whom he hath long been anxious about getting into commission; another is a brother-in-law to Major *Dubois*, and Major *Jansen's* cousin, and the third is a cousin to Col. *Hasbrouck*.

Gentlemen, in this matter I view my reputation and honour as sensibly touched, therefore pray that in your great wisdom you'll be favourably pleased to grant me such relief in the premises as to you shall seem meet. And thereon I shall, as in duty bound, forever pray.

*SHAWANGONK PRECINCT, August 7, 1776.*

*JACOBUS ROOS.*

This is to certify, to whom it may come, that Captain *Jacobus Roos*, Lieutenant *Johannis Jansen*, and Lieutenant *Johannis Bruyn*, are appointed as officers, agreeable to a resolve of Provincial Congress, dated *July* the 16th, 1776. In witness whereof, we, the Field-Officers of Colonel *Hasbrouck's* Regiment, have hereunto set our hands.

*JONATHAN HASBROUCK, Colonel.*  
*JOHANNIS JANSEN, Major.*  
*LEWIS DUBOIS, Major.*

*At NEWBURGH, this 25th day of July, 1776.*

appear, if the intelligence contained in it be true, that their aid may be required there.

"I have desired General *Greene*, on the application of the Committee sent to *King's* County, to afford them any assistance he conveniently can for executing the business they are upon.

"Before I conclude I would observe, the letter of the 9th, which I acknowledged to have received, is without any signature; I presume it has been omitted through the hurry of business.

"I have the honour to be, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON."

The Intelligence of Lieutenant *McMichael* was read, and is as follows:

*Intelligence brought from Oswego by Lieut. McMICHAEL.*

"Was informed at *Oswego* that three Regiments of Ministerial troops had arrived at *Oswego Lake*, at which place they were joined by a number of Tories and *Indians*, under the command of Colonel *Johnson*, and was to embark immediately on board two armed vessels, batteaus, and canoes, and proceed to *Oswego*, at which place they were to be joined by Colonel *Butler*, with all the *Indians* under his command, and likewise by Colonel *Caldwell*, with what Regulars could be spared from *Niagara*. They intend repairing *Oswego* fort as quick as possible, in order that they might hold a treaty with the *Indians*, and be able to defend themselves against any attack; immediately after the treaty, they are to march with all their forces against *Fort Stanwix* and the *German Flatts*, at the latter of which places they intend to fortify at *Johnstown*, and to secure all the provisions they can. Was likewise informed that the main army, under the command of General *Burgoyne*, was marching to *Crown-Point* and *Ticonderoga*, to besiege those places. Was further informed that an *Indian* man, named *Thomas Davis*, was sent from *Niagara* by Colonel *Butler* (as a spy) to the *German Flatts*, and he is to inform said *Butler* of the particulars that pass at the *German Flatts* during the treaty. This intelligence came from a person that resides at *Oswego* that was a Sergeant in the Regulars last war, and likewise from a party of *Indians* which I conversed with, that had left Colonel *Johnston* four days before, and had come as spies.

"EDWARD McMICHAEL."

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, dated the 12th instant, relative to his having apprehended dangerous and disaffected persons, was received and read, and is as follows, viz:

"Head-Quarters, New-York, August 12, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: As the time is certainly near at hand, and may be hourly expected, which is to decide the fate of this City and the issue of this campaign, I thought it highly improper that persons of suspected character should remain in places where their opportunities of doing mischief were much greater than in the enemy's camp; I therefore have caused a number of them to be apprehended and removed to some distance, there to remain until this crisis is passed. Having formerly mentioned this subject to your honourable body, I would not again trouble them in a business which former connections, obligations, and interests, must make very unpleasant, and which, I apprehend, must have been in danger of failing in the execution, unless done with all possible secrecy and despatch. I postponed this most disagreeable duty till the last moment; but the claims of the Army upon me, an application from a number of well-affected inhabitants concurring with my own opinion, oblige me to enter upon it while time and circumstances would admit. I have ordered a very strict attention to be paid to the necessities of the gentlemen apprehended, and to their comfortable accommodation in every respect, both here and at the places of their destination. I have also wrote to the Committee of *Queen's* County that this step is not to be construed as making their property liable to any injury or appropriation, unless they should receive directions from your honourable body, to whom I have referred them on this subject, being resolved, in all cases where the most absolute necessity does not require it, to confine myself wholly to that line which will exclude every idea of interfering with the authority of the State. Some of those gentlemen have expressed doubts and raised difficulties from engagements they lay under to your honourable body, or some Committees. They do not appear to me to deserve much attention, as they cannot with any

propriety be charged with a breach of any part under their present circumstances; but I beg leave to submit to your consideration the propriety of removing the pretence.

"I am, gentlemen, with great respect and regard, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"Go. WASHINGTON.

"To the Convention of the State of *New-York*."

The Convention, having taken the said Letter into consideration, came to the following determination, that is to say:

Whereas certain Members of the Convention, by authority from the same, did take the parole of sundry persons, inhabitants of this State; and whereas his Excellency General *Washington* hath since found it necessary to cause some of the said persons to be made prisoners:

Therefore, *Resolved, unanimously*, That the said several Paroles be, and they hereby are, declared totally void as to any obligations thereby laid upon those who have been, since the giving of the said Parole, made prisoners as aforesaid.

*Ordered*, That a certified copy of the preceding Resolution be enclosed to his Excellency General *Washington*.

A Letter from Brigadier-General *Scott* to the Convention, dated this day, was read and filed. He therein submits to their determination whether it might not be the most politic, considering *Willett Taylor's* connection with a large family of well-attached warm Whigs, to accept of such security as he offers, to wit: his voluntary oath that he will not, directly or indirectly, injure the *American* cause, or communicate any intelligence to the enemy; and a security in a heavy penalty from himself and *John Bogert*.

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That General *Scott* be empowered, with the permission of his Excellency General *Washington*, to dispose of *Willett Taylor*, Esq., within this State.

A draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, viz:

"Tuesday, A. M., August 13, 1776.

"SIR: I am directed by the Convention to return their thanks to your Excellency for the attention you have paid to the removal of suspicious and dangerous persons from the environs of the City of *New-York*. Deeply sensible, with your Excellency, of the importance and necessity of this measure, the Convention had entered into a resolution for that purpose previous to their arrival at this place; but the difficulty of preparing proper lists, the danger of giving the alarm to some by the apprehension of others, and the dilatoriness of proceedings inseparable from a large body, together with the great urgency of our other publick affairs, delayed the completion of this business until your Excellency had taken it under your immediate cognizance.

"The delicate state of the present juncture did, in the opinion of this Convention, from the nature of the case, fully vest your Excellency with all the civil power necessary for the immediate safety of the Army under your command, and consequently of the *American* cause; and considering the great divisions which have prevailed among the inhabitants of the State of *New-York*, by sparing this House that disagreeable task, you have conferred upon them a considerable obligation.

"The Convention, sir, are at a loss to conceive on what foundation those gentlemen who had given their paroles to a Committee of this House could assume the opinion that any danger would, after their caption, result from it, since evidently the parole is by that effectually destroyed; but as doubts may remain in their minds, a resolution is enclosed to your Excellency, which, when you shall have made it known to them, must certainly obliterate all their scruples.

"I am further directed to inform your Excellency that the intelligence with which you have honoured them from the Northern Department fully convinces them of the propriety of preserving as much force as possible in the upper Counties, at the same time we hope that the assistance given to us by the neighbouring States will be sufficient to defeat the designs of our foes in this quarter.

"General *Clinton* will give your Excellency full information with respect to the troops under his command, seven hundred of which are now at the fort to the northward of *King's Bridge*, and more of them would have been there if the essential service of depriving the enemy of water did not demand considerable detachments along the banks of *Hudson's River*.

"The Convention are very happy that your Excellency hath attributed to its proper cause the omission of a signature to the letter which we had the honour of writing to you on the 9th instant. The fault lay with the Secretaries, who, in a great hurry of business, neglected the presenting of it to the President, for which we must pray your Excellency's excuse.

"I am further directed to enclose you the copy of a letter from General Scott, with relation to one of the prisoners who hath lately been taken by your order, and the copy of our resolution upon that subject.

"I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant.

"By order.

"To his Excellency General Washington, &c."

Ordered, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

A Letter from Colonel Blauvelt,\* of the south side of the Mountains, in Orange County, mentioning the exposed situation of that part of the County, and requesting aid, was received and read.

Thereupon General George Clinton informed the Convention, in substance, that there are at King's Bridge, and from thence to Croton River, fourteen Companies, consisting of about seven hundred men, officers included, besides some of the Westchester Militia; that he has been informed and believes that the men-of-war are scarce of water, having no more than a supply for ten days; that it is therefore necessary to keep a vigilant and numerous guard, so as to prevent their obtaining a supply of fresh water; that he has left about three hundred men, besides a few of the new Continental troops raised in this State, on and along the shores near Tappan, three hundred to guard the Eastern-Shore, and near two hundred at Peckskill, but the last mostly unarmed; that he expects his Brigade will consist of about seventeen hundred men; that he finds he can expect but few men from Westchester County; that he has ordered in the Troops of Horse from Kingston and Blooming-Grove, and directed Colonel Cooper to order one of those Troops to King's Bridge as soon as they arrive at Tappan. General Clinton also requested to be informed how his Brigade will be supplied with ammunition, tents, and provisions. General Clinton was then informed of the resolution of this Convention, of the 10th instant, appointing Commissaries, &c., and ammunition shall be sent to him.

Ordered, That Mr. Outwater inform Colonel Blauvelt of the measures taken by General Clinton for the security of Orange County.

Major Lawrence informed the Convention that the Letter from Governour Tryon to Willett, the Sheriff of Queen's County, was conveyed through the hands of Colonel Martin, and that the inhabitants of Queen's are satisfied that Colonel Martin, and his son Dr. Martin, should be apprehended.

\*ORANGETOWN, August 10, 1776.

SIR: Some days since I received a copy of the resolutions of your House for drawing out a fourth part of the Militia of the Counties of Westchester, Dutchess, Ulster, and Orange, for the defence of this country. Whereupon, I immediately gave orders to the Captains of this Battalion to call their Companies together, and endeavour to get their proportion, which was immediately complied with; and though the officers have made repeated trials, they have not been able to furnish their quota. The men, it seems, would not be unwilling to enlist, if they knew that they would have to guard their own shore, until an attack should be made somewhere else in this State, and then to march to the assistance of the place attacked. It may not be amiss to inform you that I have but about one hundred privates left in my Battalion, and am obliged to guard the shore for about seven miles, to prevent those from on board the British ships-of-war from landing in this place, which duty keeps about the one-half of my Battalion in constant motion. Indeed, they have not time to take the necessary care of their farms. One of the Companies that was raised in the northern part of this County has been a day or two among us; but it is now ordered to King's Bridge. Should we be obliged to raise our quota, and have them taken away, we shall not only find it difficult to get grain in the ground, but shall also be too weak to prevent the enemy from landing. This much I have thought it my duty to say, that the honourable Convention might know the situation; and if it is fully considered, I think no one will be surprised to find our men backward in enlisting, as no one who has the feelings of a man would choose to leave his parents, his wife, and his children, exposed to the fury of a cruel enemy. But if, after all that has been said, the Convention should be of opinion that I must raise or draw out the quarter part of my Battalion, I shall readily obey orders, let the consequence be what it will. Only beg that I may be informed how to proceed, where volunteers do not offer; for I am at a loss what construction to put upon some paragraphs in the resolution.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHANNIS D. BLAUVELT, Colonel.

To Brigadier-General Woodhull, President of the honourable Convention of the State of New-York.

Richard Norwood, Commissary of Arms, &c., for this State, made returns of the stores in his custody, which was read.

Therefore, Ordered, That Mr. Richard Norwood, Commissary, deliver so many of the Arms fit for use now in his store, or which he first may obtain, to Captain James Stewart, as will be sufficient to arm the men enlisted in his Company.

The Convention were informed that one Burga is brought here a prisoner from Long-Island.

Ordered, That Mr. Landon and Judge Graham be a Committee to take his examination, and report the same.

Resolved, That the President of this Convention, with so many of the Members as may be able to assemble immediately, be, and they hereby are, empowered, in case of urgent necessity, to cause the Treasury and publick Papers of this State to be removed to such place of safety as they may think proper.

Die Martis, 5 ho. P. M., August 13, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Abraham Yates, Jun., Esq., President pro tem. NEW-YORK.—Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Bancker, Mr. Beekman, Major Abeel, Colonel Broome, Captain Denning.

ALBANY.—Mr. Abraham Yates, Mr. Bleecker, Mr. Adgate, Colonel Livingston.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. Smith, Mr. Tredwell; Mr. Hobart absent by order.

ULSTER.—Mr. Contine, Mr. Wisner, Jun.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. Sackett, Mr. Schenck, Mr. Landon.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Haviland, Major Lockwood, Mr. Morris.

ORANGE.—Mr. Smith.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel Blackwell, Major Lawrence.

TRYON.—Mr. Harper, Mr. Newkirk.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel Marsh, Mr. Stephens.

The House resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee appointed to form a plan for the emission of Bills of Credit, to the amount of £200,000, agreeable to the Resolution of the Convention. The same being again read by paragraphs and amended, was unanimously agreed to.

Thereupon, Resolved, That Bills of Credit to the said amount of £200,000, or \$500,000, be immediately printed, and of the following denominations, viz:

20,000.....	Bills of 10 Dollars each.....	200,000	Dollars.
20,000.....	do... 5.....do.....	100,000	do.
20,000.....	do... 3.....do.....	60,000	do.
20,000.....	do... 2.....do.....	40,000	do.
105,866.....	do... 1-2.....do.....	52,933	do.
105,867.....	do... 1-4.....do.....	26,466½	do.
105,867.....	do... 1-8.....do.....	13,233¼	do.
105,868.....	do... 1-16.....do.....	6,616½	do.
6,000.....	do... 1-8.....do.emitted,extra- }	750	do.
	ordinary in the last emission..... }	\$500,000	do.

On the face of each of the said Bills shall be impressed the Arms of the City of New-York; and underneath, the words "'Tis death to counterfeit," with the same devices of those of a like denomination of the last Bills emitted by the Congress of this Colony.

And Resolved, That the Plates now in possession of this Convention, corresponding with the above respective denominations of Bills, be altered so far only as to make them agree with the style of this State; and the said Bills shall be in form following:

"This Bill shall pass current in all payments in this State for Spanish milled dollars, or the value thereof, in gold or silver, according to the resolution of the Convention of New-York on the 13th day of August, 1776."

Excepting those of the denomination of one-quarter dollars, which shall be in form following:

"This Bill shall pass current in all payments in this State for two Shillings, being equal to one-fourth of a Spanish milled dollar, or the value thereof, in gold or silver, according to the resolution of the Convention of New-York on the 13th day of August, 1776."

Also, excepting those of one-eighth of a dollar, which shall be in the words following:

"This Bill shall pass current in all payments in this State for one Shilling, being equal to one-eighth of a Spanish milled dollar, or the value thereof, in gold or silver, according to the resolution of the Convention of New-York on the 13th day of August, 1776."

Also, excepting those of one-sixteenth of a dollar, which shall be in form following:

"This Bill shall pass current in all payments in this State for six Pence, being equal to one-sixteenth of a *Spanish* milled dollar, or the value thereof, in gold or silver, according to the resolution of the Convention of *New-York* on the 13th day of *August*, 1776."

And that on the face of the Bills of the last-mentioned denomination of the one-sixteenth of a dollar, be impressed the Arms of the City of *New-York*; and underneath, the words "'Tis death to counterfeit," together with such other devices as *Isaac Roosevelt*, Esq., hereby appointed for that purpose, shall direct.

That all the said Bills shall be numbered by and signed by any two of them, the said signers, respectively, to be delivered by them to the said *Isaac Roosevelt*, and to be by him delivered to the Treasurer of this State as soon as finished.

*Resolved*, That the said *Isaac Roosevelt* be, and he is hereby, directed and requested, upon the delivery of the said Bills to him by the Printer of the same, to cause to be administered to him, by the President of this Convention, the following Oath:

"I, *A B*, do solemnly swear, by the Holy Evangelist of *Almighty God*, that from the time that the letters were set and fit to be put in the press for printing the Bills of Credit now by me delivered to you, until the Bills were printed and the letters afterwards distributed into the boxes, I went at no time out of the room in which the said letters were, without locking them up so that they could not be come at without violence or a false key, or other art unknown to me; and therefore to the best of my knowledge no copies were printed off but in my presence, and that all the blotters and other papers whatsoever impressed by the said letters whilst set for printing the said Bills, to the best of my knowledge were here delivered to you, together with the stamps; and in all things relating to this affair I have demeaned myself honestly and faithfully to the best of my knowledge and understanding. So help me *God*."

*Resolved*, That such person as the said *Isaac Roosevelt* shall agree with to alter and engrave the said plates shall take the following oath:

"I, *A B*, do solemnly swear, by the *Almighty God*, that I have not engraved or altered more plates than I delivered to *Isaac Roosevelt*, as directed by this Convention of *New-York*, of the like kind, or in imitation of the same, neither have I kept a copy or copies, draft or drafts of the said plates, neither will I engrave more of the like kind, without the order of the Convention of the Representatives of this State."

And shall deliver them to the said *Isaac Roosevelt*, who shall deliver them unto *Samuel Lowden*, Printer, or such other Printer as shall be directed by this Convention, and take his receipt for the same; and when the said *Samuel Lowden*, or such other Printer as shall be employed, has completed and finished the printing the quantity and sorts of Bills hereby directed to be struck, he shall redeliver the said stamps to the said *I. Roosevelt*, which shall be sealed with the several seals of the said *Isaac Roosevelt* and the President of the Convention of this State, and deposited in the office of the Secretary of this Convention, until the further order of this or some future Convention or Legislature of this State; the receipt of the said *Isaac Roosevelt* to the said *Samuel Lowden*, or such other Printer, shall be a sufficient voucher for such delivery.

*Resolved*, That the publick faith of this State be pledged for the redemption of the said Bills of Credit, and that this Convention, or some future Legislature of this State, will make effectual provision for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That if any of the inhabitants of this State shall, after the 1st day of *November* next, within or without this State, or any person whatsoever shall, within this State, after the said 1st of *November*, forge or counterfeit any of the Bills of Credit issued by the Continental Congress, by the Assembly or Convention of any of the *United States*, or alter the sum expressed in any of the said Bills of Credit, or shall offer or cause to be offered in payment any such counterfeit, forged, or altered Bill of Credit, knowing the same to be counterfeit, forged, or altered, and shall be thereof convicted by a petit jury, after a presentment by a grand

jury, in a Court to be erected in this State by this Convention, or any future Legislature, or shall stand mute, or peremptorily challenge above the number of twenty of the panel, shall suffer death as a felon.

*Resolved*, That the said *Isaac Roosevelt* be, and he is hereby, authorized and desired to apply to and contract with proper persons to sign the said Bills of Credit, and to report their names to this Convention, to be inserted in the bill or resolution now before this Convention for issuing such Bills of Credit.

Colonel *Livingston*, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, delivered in their Report relative to the exemption of certain Artificers and Manufacturers in this State from military duty; which was read, and deferred for further consideration.

Mr. *Wisner*, appointed to inquire into the state and quantity of Military stores in the City belonging to this State, and of a proper place of safety to which they may be sent, made his Report.

*Ordered*, To remain till further inquiry may be made.

Mr. *Landon*, according to order, reported the examination of *Burga*,\* taken by Judge *Graham* and himself, wherein the examinant states that Captain *Samuel Hallet*, of *Queen's* County, his son *Joseph Hallet*, *John Greenock*, Jun., *Samuel Ryder*, and a negro of Captain *Hallet*, went, on the 9th, from the mill of Mr. *Vandevcere* to *Barren-Island*, in *Jamaica Bay*, and from thence to the *British*, on *Staten-Island*, where they yet remain, was read and filed.

Whereas certain Members of this Convention, by authority from the same, did take the parole of sundry persons, inhabitants of this State; and whereas his Excellency General *Washington* hath since found it necessary to cause some of the said persons to be made prisoners:

*Resolved*, therefore, unanimously, That the said several paroles be, and they hereby are, declared totally void, as to any obligations thereby laid upon those who have been since the giving the said paroles made prisoners as aforesaid.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., August 14, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President *pro tem*.  
NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Broome*, Major *Abeel*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Jay*, (on duty,) Mr. *Roosevelt*.  
ALBANY.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Col. *Livingston*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Smith*; Mr. *Hobart* on duty.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Haviland*, Judge *Graham*, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Lockwood*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *H. Schenck*, Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Landon*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.

ORANGE.—Mr. *J. H. Smith*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*.

KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

*King's* County not having elected any Deputies since *May* last, [Mr. *Polhemus*] declared that the County Committee had met and directed him to attend as a member, in pursuance of the last election in *May*, until another election is had.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Polhemus* take his seat, and represent *King's* County, except in matters which relate to the formation of Government.

A Letter from Colonel *Jeromus Remsen*, Jun., of *Queen's*

\* *Isaac Bragau*, of *Queen's* County, being examined, says, that on *Friday*, the 9th instant, Captain *Samuel Hubbel* asked the examinant to go with him to *Jamaica Bay* a-clamming; that the day following, early in the morning, the examinant, together with *Joseph Hallet*, the son of Captain *Hallet*, *John Greenock*, Jun., *Samuel Ryder*, and a negro man belonging to Captain *Hallet*, went from the mill of Mrs. *Vanderere* to *Barn-Island*, in *Jamaica Bay*, where they arrived about twelve o'clock. About half an hour after, Captain *Hallet* called to a man fishing in a canoe, and desired him to take the examinant and *Samuel Ryder* to shore, and told the examinant that now was his time (Captain *Hallet's* meaning) to push; by which expression the examinant thought he meant to go to the fleet at *Staten-Island*, as Captain *Hallet* told the examinant the day before he would go there if he had an opportunity, and as he and the other three persons went out at the Gut, and have not since returned; but that Captain *Hallet* did not tell the examinant where he was going at that time; and that all the baggage Captain *Hallet* had with him was one loaf of bread, half pound butter, and a small piece of smoked beef.

ISAAC BRAGAU.



County, dated the 10th instant, was read and filed.\* He therein mentions the election of *William Lawrence*, late Lieutenant, to be Captain in a Company of Militia of *Newtown*, in the stead of *Jonathan Lawrence*, now Brigade Major, and requests, for the good of the *American* cause, that his commission issue.

A Certificate, signed by *Philip Edsall*, Deputy Chairman of the Committee at *Newtown*, by order of the Committee, dated the 10th instant, was also read. They thereby certify that on the 9th instant the Company whereof Major *Lawrence* was late Captain, had duly elected *William Lawrence* to be Captain, in the presence of Captain *Samuel Moore* and Colonel *Jeromus Rensen*, two of the Committee, and they thereby recommend him for a Commission.

Ordered, That a Commission issue to the said *William Lawrence*, as Captain, and that it be tested the 9th instant.

The Convention were informed that by the election of *William Lawrence* to be Captain, a Lieutenantcy is become vacant in the said Company, and that they have elected a Lieutenant.

Ordered, That a Commission be signed by the President, and countersigned by one of the Secretaries, and delivered blank, to be transmitted to the Committee at *New-Town*, for a Lieutenant in Captain *Lawrence's* Company, and that the Committee of *New-Town* report to this Convention the gentleman whose name they insert in that Commission as Lieutenant.

A Letter from Messrs. *William Furman*, *Joseph Robinson*, and *Samuel Riker*, dated 10th instant, was read and filed.† They thereby inform that in pursuance of the order of this Convention of the 8th instant, to examine *Nathaniel Mills*, of *Jamaica*, and any other persons whom they should think necessary, respecting a Letter which passed through the hands of *Mills* to the late Sheriff of *Queen's* County, they had traced the said Letter down to *Elizabeth Hicks*, a young lady of *Rockaway*, as appears by the Examination therein enclosed; that the said *Elizabeth Hicks* refused to give her affirmation to what she had declared, or even to sign her name to her Examination.

The Examination of *Nathaniel Mills*, *Caleb Mills*, and *Joshua Mills*, and the notes of the Declaration of the said *Elizabeth Hicks*, were read and filed.‡

Ordered, That Messrs. *William Furman*, *Joseph Robinson*, and *Samuel Riker*, the Committee who examined *Elizabeth Hicks*, of *Rockaway*, respecting the Letter or paper which she acknowledged to have received and delivered to *Joshua Mills* on a first day, be, and hereby are, authorized and requested to cause the said *Elizabeth Hicks* to be apprehended and kept in safe custody until she discover on oath (or affirmation, if she is one of the people called *Quakers*) from whom she received the said paper, or subscribe a declaration on her oath or affirmation that she does not know or has not any reason to suspect of whom she received the same; and if the said *Elizabeth Hicks* shall refuse to make such discovery or to make and subscribe such declaration on oath or affirmation as aforesaid, that she be

\* *NEWTOWN, August 10, 1776.*

SIR: By the enclosed you will see that Lieutenant *William Lawrence* is chosen Captain, in the room of *Jonathan Lawrence*, Esq., now Brigade Major, and also that he is recommended by the Committee of *Newtown* to the honourable Convention of the State of *New-York* for a commission; and as a Captain is much wanted in that Company at this time, I hope, for the good of the *American* cause, he will be speedily furnished with a commission. I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JEROMUS RENSEN, JUN., Colonel.

† *JAMAICA, August 10, 1776.*

GENTLEMEN: We being appointed by your honourable House to examine *Nathaniel Mills*, of *Jamaica*, and any other person or persons which we should think necessary, respecting a letter which passed through the hands of *Mills*, directed to the Sheriff of *Queen's* County, which order we have executed to the best of our ability, and traced it down to *Elizabeth Hicks*, a young lady of *Rockaway*, as will appear by the several enclosed examinations. As our inquiry of course must stop there, we thought proper to require her affirmation on what she had declared, which she refused to comply with, or even sign her name to her examination. We are, gentlemen, with respect, your very humble servants,

WM. FURMAN,  
JOSEPH ROBINSON,  
SAM. RIKER.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

‡ *State of New-York*  
vs. *NATHANIEL MILLS.* } Examination taken, *JAMAICA, August 9, 1776.*

Examinant says he received of his son, *Caleb Mills*, a packet of letters, directed to *Thomas Willett*, Esq., Sheriff of *Queen's* County, and that he knew nothing of the contents thereof, and that he never conversed with

confined in the Jail of *Queen's* County, there to remain until she make discovery or such declaration as aforesaid.

Whereas the manufacture of Saltpetre is highly worthy of publick encouragement, not only as it is an article immediately necessary for the defence and preservation of everything we hold dear, and may be hereafter of considerable importance to our commerce, but likewise as it is at all times the soundest policy and essential to the safety of a State never to be dependant upon foreign supplies, which are ever precarious, for the means of defence and self-preservation; and as the expiration of the time limited for the publick encouragement of the manufacture of that article in this State is so near at hand that no one is likely to be induced thereby to set up new works for that purpose:

Therefore, Resolved, That the Committee formerly appointed for encouraging the manufacture of Saltpetre in this State, and purchasing the same, and the members thereof, severally, be, and they hereby are, empowered and authorized to purchase, on account of this Convention, all well-refined Saltpetre made in this State that shall be offered to them for sale before the 1st day of *July* next, at the rate of six shillings per pound.

And that the said Committees and the members thereof, severally, be empowered to send, from time to time, the Saltpetre so purchased, by the most expeditious and safe conveyance, at the publick expense, to any manufacturer or manufacturers of Gunpowder in this State, his or their agent or agents, taking a receipt of the person to whom it shall be so sent for the quantity delivered; which receipt shall be a sufficient voucher to the Auditor-General of this State for passing and allowing their accounts.

And that such sum or sums of money be advanced to the said Committees from time to time as the Convention or Legislature of this State for the time being shall think necessary to enable them to execute the above Resolutions.

And that *Henry Wisner*, *Henry Wisner, Jun.*, *Henry Schenck*, *Peter R. Livingston*, and *Samuel Haviland*, Esqs., be added to the Committees already appointed for encouraging the manufacture of Saltpetre, and purchasing the same in the Counties to which they respectively belong.

A Letter from *Richard Peters*, Esquire, Secretary to the Continental Board of War, dated at *Philadelphia*, the 6th instant, requesting a list of all the Prisoners of War now in this State, and also requesting a list of the Officers and Troops raised in this State, the dates of their commissions and times for which their men were enlisted, was read, and referred to Judge *Graham* and Mr. *Tredwell*.

*Comfort Sands*, Esq., the Auditor-General, communicated an Account of Mr. *Abraham Livingston*\* of the number of Rations which, as Commissary, he had furnished to the Troops in the State of *New-York*; at the foot of which Account, there are a number of charges which he, the Auditor-General, does not think himself authorized to allow, without the direction of Congress, and praying that he may have some direction accordingly; which, being read, was

the said Sheriff anything about the same; that he can't tell by what means the letter came amongst us. *NATHANIEL MILLS.*

*State of New-York*  
vs. *CALEB MILLS.* } Examination taken, *JAMAICA, August 9, 1776.*

Examinant says he received the above letter of *Joshua Mills*, son of *Amos Mills*, of *Hempstead*, on *Sunday*, the 21st day of *July* last, and the same day delivered it to his father, not knowing anything of the contents of said letter, or from whence it came. *CALEB MILLS.*

*State of New-York*  
agt. *JOSHUA MILLS, Jun.* } Examination taken, *HEMPSTEAD, August 9, 1776.*

The examinant saith that he received the letter above mentioned of *Elizabeth Hicks* on the highway; that he did not know the contents, and that it was only delivered to him with a request to forward it to the Sheriff. *JOSHUA MILLS.*

*State of New-York*  
agt. *ELIZABETH HICKS.* } Examination taken, *HEMPSTEAD, August 9, 1776.*

The examinant says that a stranger gave a paper to her last first day a fortnight; whether there was anything wrote on the outside she does not know; that it was given to her with a request to give it to *Nathaniel Mills*; and further saith that she had not the least knowledge of the person that delivered it, from whence it came, nor by whom sent, nor nothing more relating to said paper.

\* Mr. *Abraham Livingston* has lately delivered in an account of the number of Rations which he, as Commissary, furnished to the Troops in the State of *New-York*. At the foot of the account there are a number

referred to a Committee, consisting of Colonel *Broome* and Mr. *Bancker*.

A Letter from Captain *Alexander Hamilton*, of the Artillery Company, informing that the First Lieutenant in his Company is vacant by the resignation of Lieutenant *Johnson*, and recommends a promotion of the inferior officers, was received and read, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"GENTLEMEN: It is necessary I should inform you that there is at present a vacancy in my Company, arising from the promotion of Lieutenant *Johnson* to a Captaincy in one of the row-galleys, (which command, however, he has since resigned for a very particular reason.) As Artillery officers are scarce, in proportion to the call for them, and as myself and my remaining officers sustain an extraordinary weight of duty on account of the present vacancy, I shall esteem it a favour if you will be pleased as soon as possible to make up my deficiency by a new appointment. It would be productive of much inconvenience should not the inferior officers succeed in course; and from this consideration, I doubt not you will think it proper to advance Mr. *Gilliland* and Mr. *Bean*, and fill up the Third Lieutenantcy with some other person. I would beg the liberty warmly to recommend to your attention *Thomas Thompson*, now First Sergeant in my Company, a man highly deserving of notice and preferment. He has discharged his duty in his present station with uncommon felicity, assiduity, and expertness. He is a very good disciplinarian, possesses the advantage of having seen a good deal of service in *Germany*, has a tolerable share of common sense, and is well calculated not to disgrace the rank of an officer and gentleman; in a word, I verily believe he will make an excellent Lieutenant, and his advancement will be a great encouragement and benefit to my Company in particular, and will be an animating example to all men of merit to whose knowledge it comes.

"Myself and my officers will be much obliged to the honourable Convention to favour us with our commissions with all convenient speed, as they may be highly requisite under some circumstances that may possibly hereafter arise.

"I am, with the utmost respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servant, A. HAMILTON,  
"Captain of New-York Artillery.

"To the Hon. the Convention of the State of New-York.

"August 12, 1776."

Ordered, That Colonel *Livingston* call on Captain *Hamilton* and inquire into this matter, and report to this House.

A Letter from the Auditor-General,\* requesting to know whether the publick are to pay Mr. *Pettit* (the Doorkeeper's) board and diet, was read.

Resolved, That the charge brought against this Convention in *Thomas Pettit's* account for his Board be disallowed, and that the Auditor-General be informed thereof.

of charges which the Auditor-General does not think himself authorized to allow, without the direction of Congress, and prays that he may have some directions accordingly. The exceptionable charges are—

<i>James Honnam's</i> and <i>Nehemiah Carpenter's</i> salaries as Deputy-Commissionaries at <i>Fort Constitution</i> .....	£ 31	2	10½
<i>John King</i> , Jun., ninety days pay as Clerk, at 8s.....	36	0	0
<i>William Hodge</i> , six months pay as Clerk.....	35	0	0
<i>James Cook's</i> assistance at <i>Horn's Hook</i> .....	11	0	0
<i>Barnet</i> and <i>John Sebring</i> , for fifty-five days attendance for two hands, at 5s.....	27	10	0
<i>Abraham Morris</i> , one month and ten days work.....	9	6	8
<i>Isaac Ball</i> , Jun., four and three-quarter months Clerk hire, at £64.....	25	6	8
<i>Matthew Daniel</i> , three and a half months boat hire, at £20.....	70	0	0
<i>John Henry</i> , Clerk hire.....	48	0	0
My service as Commissary two months, at \$125 per month, one-half is.....	50	0	0
	£ 343	6	2½

*Abraham Livingston* has received per order of Congress... £9,600 0 0  
He returned to the Treasurer at *White-Plains*..... 1,324 16 0

Remains..... £8,275 4 0  
The amount of his accounts as he furnishes them..... 8,324 2 4  
Due to him as the accounts stand ..... £ 48 18 4

But he is still to credit some provisions he omitted.

August 12, 1776.

\* HARLEM, August 13, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Pettit*, the Doorkeeper of the State, in his account brought in to me to audit, has charged for his board since he came from New-York, which I have not as yet allowed. Will you please to direct me whether I am to make an allowance for his board, and if so, how much.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

COMFORT SANDS.

To the Honourable the Convention of the State of New-York.

The Report of the Committee for exempting certain Manufacturers from military duty was read, amended, and agreed to, and is in the words following, that is to say:

As every possible encouragement ought to be given to such Manufacturers as are necessary to enable us to carry on our military operations with effect,

Therefore, Resolved, That the following persons be exempt from military duty in this State while actually employed in the several Manufactories hereafter mentioned, to wit: one Founder, two Keepers, one Stock-Jobber, one Moulder, two Fillers, one Ore-Burner, one Ore-Breaker, four Miners, and four master Colliers, at each Furnace for melting iron-ore into pigs and castings; two men at each fire, and two attendants to supply the same with coal, at every forge for making of bar-iron; two Firemen and one Coal-carrier to each fire at the several Steel Manufactories; ten Anchor-Makers, four Carriers, and one Bellows-Man to each bellows, at the Anchor-Forge in the County of *Orange*; the Master Workman and six Labourers at each Salt Works set up in this State by contract with this Convention; the Master Workman and two Attendants at each Paper Mill,\* and the Master Workman or Overseer of each Powder-Mill, together with three Labourers to every twenty Mortars used in such Mills, and so in proportion when they exceed or fall short of that number. Provided, always, That the several proprietors of the above-mentioned works do give in a list of the names of all the persons at their respective works entitled to the benefit of this exemption, to the commanding officer of the district in which they reside, who shall keep a register thereof; and that no person be entitled to the benefit of such exemption until his name be so registered. Provided, also, That nothing in the above resolutions contained be construed to exempt any person from military duty, when, in case of alarm or invasion, the whole military force of the County in which they reside shall be called out into actual service.

Ordered, That the same be published in the newspapers.

A Letter from *John Schenck*, Secretary, to the Committee of *Poughkeepsie*, dated the 9th instant, enclosing sundry Accounts for Arms purchased and hired by said Committee for the use of the State, were read, and committed to Mr. *Schenck*, Mr. *Bleecker*, and Mr. *Tredwell*.

A Letter from *Robert Boyd*, Chairman of *Ulster* Committee, to the Deputies of *Ulster* County, was read. They have chosen a new Treasurer for said Committee. Their former Treasurer, Colonel *Hardenbergh*, refuses to deliver up the cash in his custody. Committed to Mr. *Contine*, Mr. *Adgate*, and Mr. *Eacker*.

A Letter from Colonel *Remsen* to Mr. *John McKesson*,†

\*A Memorial humbly recommended to the consideration of the Honourable Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, held at HARLEM, August, 1776.

Your Memorialists humbly propose that an immediate order of this honourable Convention be issued to prevent the paper-makers from being compelled or permitted to go upon military service, since, in the present infant state of that necessary manufactory, the check it would receive in either of these cases would, in all human probability, entirely suppress the manufactory, which has been for many months past, and is at present, the only means of supply of paper to every department and business in the State, which, without it, would be laid in the most distressing and extensive difficulties, which will be obvious to every one upon the least consideration. The Continental Congress, sensible of this, have lately passed an order respecting the paper-makers of *Pennsylvania*, similar to this now requisite in this State, where it is hoped the same reasons will have a similar effect.

If this matter should be thought deserving the notice of this honourable House, it is humbly requested that they would, as speedily as possible, issue their orders, since the least delay may irretrievably ruin some paper manufactories which have supplied the Continental stores with great quantities of stores absolutely necessary for publick service, have supplied several other necessary businesses, and are now, by being compelled into military service, upon the very point of dissolution.

The inaccuracies in this hasty expression of our sentiments will be excused it is hoped, by, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

JOHN HOLT, Printer.

CHARLES LOOFLEY, } Paper-makers.  
THOS. ELMS, }

† August 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Colonel *Nicholas Covenhoven*, from *King's* County, called on me to request I would apply for commissions for the following persons, to command the troops draughted from his Regiment, viz: *John Lane* Captain, *Nicholas Van Brunt* First Lieutenant, *Michael Van Kleef* Second ditto—for one Company. *Harmanus Caspar*, Lieutenant, to command twenty men, but to be under the command of Captain *Lane*.

Colonel *Covenhoven* informed me that the men are all raised, and now at *Jacques' Bay*, and ready for any duty they may be ordered upon.

Be so good to deliver the enclosed to Major *Abel*.

I am, respectfully, sir, your obedient and humble servant,

HENRY REMSEN.

To *John McKesson*, Esq.

informing that Colonel *Covenhoven*, of *King's* County Militia, requests Commissions for the following Officers, to command the draughts of the Militia in the said County, pursuant to the Resolves of the Convention of 10th instant, to wit: *Thomas Lane* Captain, *Nicholas Van Brunt* First Lieutenant, *Michael Van Cleef* Second Lieutenant, for one Company; *Harmanus Casper* Lieutenant, to command twenty men, but to be under the command of Captain *Lane*—these not being Officers of the Militia, was read, and committed to Colonel *Blackwell*, Mr. *Harper*, and Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.

A Letter from General *Scott*, of the 13th instant, addressed to *John McKesson*, Esq., stating some difficulties in having *Taylor Willett* committed to his disposal, and also requiring that the Commissions of the Officers of his Brigade be dated previous to the 14th *June*, otherwise they will lose their proper rank, was read.

Ordered, That Mr. *McKesson* inform General *Scott* that, in consequence of the absence of the President, new Commissions cannot at present be issued, and that the Convention do not conceive that they can properly further interfere in regard to *Willett Taylor*.

A Letter from *Joseph Trumbull*, Commissary-General, was received and read.\*

Thereupon, Resolved, That this Convention will furnish *Joseph Trumbull* with the whole or such part of the salted Pork belonging to this Convention, and which is now stored in *Westchester* County, as he shall stand in need of for the immediate use of the Continental Army now at *New-York* and its neighbourhood, agreeable to the request of his Letter of this day.

And Ordered, That the persons who have the whole or any part of the said salted Pork in their possession do deliver to the bearer hereof, Mr. *Daniel Gray*, the whole or such part of the said Pork as he shall think proper to take, for the use aforesaid, and his receipt for the same shall be to them a sufficient voucher for such delivery.

—  
Thursday, A. M., August 15, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President *pro tem*.  
*NEW-YORK*.—Mr. *Bayker*, Major *Abeel*, Colonel *Broome*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Jay*, (the two last on duty.)

*TRYON*.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

*ALBANY*.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Colonel *Livingston*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

*KING'S*.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

*CHARLOTTE*.—Mr. *Duer*.

*SUFFOLK*.—Mr. *Wm. Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Hobart*.

*ORANGE*.—Mr. *Jno. Smith*, Mr. *Wisner*.

*WESTCHESTER*.—Mr. *Morris*.

*ULSTER*.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Mr. *Contine*, Col. *De Witt*.

*DUTCHESS*.—Mr. *H. Schenck*, Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Landon*.

The Member for *King's* departed before sundry of the other Members came in whereby there was a representation of the Colony.

A Letter from General *Washington*, of the 14th instant, was received and read, and is as follows, to wit:

“*New-York*, August 14, 1776.

“GENTLEMEN: I have no objection to your taking *Willett Taylor*, Esq.'s parole, or such other security as you may

\**NEW-YORK*, August 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have been informed that you have, in *Westchester* County, about one thousand barrels pork, which you had purchased and stored for the use of the State of *New-York*, to lie by till occasion should call for the use of it. Large numbers of men are now coming into this city and its neighbourhood, in defence of the liberties of our country. I have been disappointed of some pork which I expected, and have sent into *Massachusetts-Bay* for about three thousand barrels from thence, which are now on their way, but not arrived, and I have not now on hand so much as I could wish. Some of yours is in such situation that it may soon be had. I must therefore request the favour of you to give Mr. *Daniel Gray*, the bearer, an order on the persons who are possessed of your pork, for the whole or such part thereof as you shall judge proper, that he may take immediate and effectual care to get it to this city and its neighbourhood. His receipts shall be your vouchers against me for it, and I will pay the cash for the pork on demand, or replace it when my pork arrives, or return the same if we have not occasion to use it; or settle the whole matter in such way and manner as shall be most agreeable to you. I hope you'll not deny my request, in the present situation—it is of importance to the general service.

I am, gentlemen, with respect and esteem, your most humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable Congress of the State of *New-York*.

esteem sufficient to prevent him from taking an unfriendly part against the *United States of America*.

“I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

“GO. WASHINGTON.”

Ordered, That the same be taken into consideration tomorrow morning, at which time Mr. *Taylor* is requested to attend.

And it is also Ordered, That Mr. *Tredwell* notify the witnesses also to attend.

A Letter from *Rd. Bengier*, of the 27th *July*, was read and committed to Colonel *Broome*.

A Letter from *Henry Wilmot*,\* of the 14th instant, enclosing the examination of *John Sloane* and *Thomas Clarke*, committed by General *Putnam*, and requesting directions relative to them, was read, and referred to Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Abeel*, and Colonel *Livingston*.

Colonel *Livingston*, who was directed to inquire into the facts stated by Captain *Alexander Hamilton's* Letter, read yesterday, reported that the facts stated by Captain *Hamilton* are correct.

Thereupon, Resolved, That whereas *Thomas Thompson*, late a Sergeant in Captain *Hamilton's* Company of Artillery, has been represented to this Convention as a person who has discharged his duty in his office as aforesaid with uncommon fidelity, assiduity, and expertness:

Therefore, Resolved, That the said *Thomas Thompson* be promoted to the rank of a Lieutenant in the said Company, and that this Convention will exert themselves in promoting from time to time such privates and non-commissioned officers in the service of this State as shall distinguish themselves by their sobriety, valour, and subordination to their officers.

Ordered, That this Resolution be published in the newspapers of this State.

On motion of Mr. *Duer*,

Ordered, That copies of the last Resolution be transmitted to the Officers commanding the *New-York* Regiments, to be by them communicated to their Regiments.

Ordered, That Mr. *Morris* be added to the Committee with Colonel *Broome*, on the Letter from *R. Bengier*, read yesterday.

A Letter from *Jacob Cuyler* and *Leonard Gansevoort*,

\**NEW-YORK*, August 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have the examination taken after the commitment of *John Sloane* and *Thomas Clarke*. They were first examined by General *Putnam*, on which I was sent for; and, with his approbation, they were committed to jail, which the Committee approved of, and now wait for your further directions, or to send them to the Convention, as the General thinks something further with them ought to be done immediately.

The Committee received from *Rye* an account that information had been given the Committee there, that *Benjamin Clapp* had purchased a box of tea at *New-York*, and that the vender would not take any other but hard money for the same; that, on *Clapp's* examination before them, he declared he did not know the person from whom it was purchased; that *John Hitchcock*, a carman, had sent it to him. *Hitchcock* was sent for by this Committee, but he would give no answer to any proper question put to him, and only said, if he had done wrong, he must suffer for it. Without taking notice of the great contempt he showed to the Committee, they were unanimously of opinion, that he was a person whose going at large might be of dangerous consequences to this State, and therefore ordered him to jail. The Committee would be glad to receive some instructions from the Convention, as it clearly appears to them he has violated the resolves of the Congress, both with respect to the price and money he paid for it, and that he has done it to screen a person of much more consequence to the publick than a carman.

*George King*, a lad, apprentice to *McLean*, the shoemaker, was committed for breaking open and robbing the house that *Benjamin Davies* lived in of £5 10s. *Abraham Jones*, another apprentice, was concerned with him, but he has not yet been taken.

If this mode of application to the Convention, to obtain their answer as soon as possible, is most agreeable to the Representatives of this City and County, what other instructions the General Committee may from time to time want, shall be applied for in this way, by, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY WILMOT.

To the Representatives of *New-York*.

*John Sloane* says he worked at *Hobuck* for Mr. *Bayard*. He stopped work after Mr. *Bayard* went away, for fear he should not get paid; that he afterwards went in the ferry-boat, had some encouragement given him from Mr. *Murray* to work in his salt works at the back of *Long-Island*, and got a boat to go there; was on his way, off *Red-Hook*, betwixt *Gibbet-Island* and *Long-Island*, when taken. One *Thomas Clarke* was with him. *Sloane* says he did not know where Mr. *Murray's* salt works stood, but was going to *Red-Hook* to inquire. It is better than two months since applied to to work with Mr. *Murray*.

*Thomas Clarke* says he left *Hobuck* to go to *Long-Island*, with an intention to go to Mr. *Murray's* salt works, but was taken off *Red-Hook*, near eleven o'clock at night; was in a boat, which he believes belongs to Mr. *Bayard*. The reason of his going away was, he was afraid of being taken by Captain *Johnson* on a suspicion of carrying some persons on board the men-of-war; confesses he carried Captain *Benson* to *Staten-Island* some time ago; it was before the fleet arrived.

Esqs., Commissioners sent to the Northern Army, was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany, August 9, 1776.

"Sir: On Sunday, the 27th July, about ten o'clock, A. M., we received your letter covering two resolutions and a letter to Major-General Gates, and at about two, P. M., we set out for *Ticonderoga*, in obedience to your requisition, from whence we returned last night, and now, by express, transmit you the enclosed papers. The General has been so very particular with respect to some matters, that it would be trespassing on your patience to repeat them. The letter from the General, and the papers therein referred to, will give a full and explicit idea of the state of our Army in that quarter and their operations. You will find among the papers a list of the vessels now lying at *Crown-Point* with one month's provisions on board, and they propose by the middle of next week to proceed down *Lake Champlain* to some narrow pass in the Lake, to annoy the enemy, should they come out; and also another list of those on the stocks and intended to be built, from which you will be enabled to judge whether any and what dependance can be made on that part of our defence.

"It appears to us that the enemy will not be able to get a fleet superior in number to ours, nor officers better skilled to command them than Brigadier-General *Arnold* and Commodore *Wynkoop*; we conceive, therefore, that the command of the Lakes cannot be taken from us this year, and that the greatest dependance can be made upon that defence.

"We are extremely happy to inform you that the unhappy differences which have subsisted between the *New-England* and Southern troops are more or less subsided, and that there seems to be more harmony and concord between them than there has been from report; but we are apt to think that it has been greatly exaggerated by persons who perhaps would wish it to be so.

"You will observe in the map the full extent of the old *French* lines which are now repairing; and we do assure you, that from their appearance and the character of the *Pennsylvania* and *Jersey* troops that are stationed there, we have the greatest expectations that, should the enemy attempt to force them, they will receive as bloody a repulse as that of General *Abercrombie* in the last war.

"The fortifications on the heights of *Mount Independence* are exceedingly well calculated, in our opinion; but as we cannot be persuaded that the enemy will ever come up so high to land as to come within the reach of cannon-shot from that battery, we conceive it unnecessary to expatiate on its utility. Besides the redoubts marked out upon the map, there are to be three others erected—one upon an eminence to the northeast corner of the old *French* lines, and two between that and the redoubt marked "old redoubt," being the second from the fort. These redoubts, together with those marked out upon the plan or map, will, we conceive, be sufficient to oppose the landing of the enemy at the place the most advantageous to them, and, indeed, the only one where it will be possible for them ever to effect it.

"That we might inform ourselves of everything that was carried on above, we took our tour by the way of *Lake George*, and returned by the way of *Skenesborough*; hence we have received all the intelligence that was to be obtained at those posts and upon the communication, and it is with great satisfaction we inform you that everything flows through a proper channel, and the whole well organized. There is nothing so much wanted as medicine and artillery: the want of the former is so great, that it is shocking to behold the number of sick that die daily for the mere want of that article; but as we suppose that Dr. *Samuel Stringer* has been with you, and has given you a state of the hospital at *Fort George*, we shall say no more on that subject.

"We enclose you a copy of the examination of two *French* officers, who were examined by Major-General *Gates* and sent down to this place, as also the examination of one Lieutenant *Whitcomb*, of our Army, who has been out on a scouting party. From them you will collect all the intelligence with respect to the movements of the enemy that is in our power to communicate.

"Major *Bigelow*, who went out with the flag from General *Gates* to *St. John's*, is not yet returned; what detains him we know not; he has now been out twenty-two days.

"We hear from the *German-Flats* that General *Schuyler*

and Mr. *Douw* have not yet finished the treaty with the *Indians*, and that there are between sixteen hundred and seventeen hundred *Indians* there, and it is expected that they will finish by *Monday*; that the *Indians* show very friendly dispositions, and extremely lament perfidy of individuals who have been so base as to take up the hatchet against their *American* brethren.

"General *Gates* requested of us to forward his despatches by our express, and to beg the Convention to forward them, without a moment's loss of time, to Congress.

"We are, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and most humble servants,

"JACOB CUYLER,

"LEONARD GANSEVOORT.

"To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

"P. S. General *Waterbury* has about twelve hundred men with him at *Skenesborough*, and were daily coming in there from every quarter from the eastward."

Ordered, That the said Letter and Papers therein enclosed be referred to the consideration of a Committee, to consist of Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Tredwell*, and Mr. *Marsh*.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., August 16, 1776.

Present: *Abm. Yates*, Jun., Esq., President pro tem.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Broome*, Mr. *Beekman*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Dunscomb*, Colonel *Lott*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *W. Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Hobart*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, Mr. *J. Townsend*, Mr. *W. Smith*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *H. Schenck*, Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Landon*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Morris*, General *Morris*, Mr. *Haviland*, Judge *Graham*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Jos. Smith*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stephens*.

Captain *Denning* informed the Convention that *William Tundran*, the Pilot, had informed him that the navigation of the *East River* may be very easily obstructed between the Battery and *Nutten-Island*; that *Tundran* further informed him that the depth of water at a particular place which he could point out, did not exceed five fathoms, and that the navigation could be obstructed in four hours after proper vessels are prepared for that purpose.

Ordered, That Captain *Denning* wait on his Excellency General *Washington* and give him the above information, and that *William Tundran* is one of our best pilots. And that Captain *Denning* further inform his Excellency that it will be agreeable to the wishes of this Convention that the navigation of the *East River* should be there obstructed, if he shall think it advantageous for the defence of this State.

The Convention were informed that a number of Cannon are yet lying beyond the *King's Bridge*, and so exposed that they may be taken by the enemy, should an attempt of that kind be made; at the same time, that they are necessary for the defence of the Works at General *Clinton's* Encampment.

Resolved, That General *Clinton* be requested with all possible despatch to remove all the Cannon fit for use, which lie near the road to *New-Rochelle*, to his Encampment, and that this Convention will defray the contingent charges.

Resolved, That General *Clinton* be requested to employ as many Carpenters as possible, to make Carriages for such Guns as he thinks necessary for the defence of the Works to the northward of *King's Bridge*.

A Certificate of *William Miller*, Deputy Chairman of the General Committee of *Westchester* County, was read and filed.\* He thereby certifies that *Zephaniah Miller* is ap-

\*This is to certify that *Zephaniah Miller* is appointed a Lieutenant to Captain *Micah Townsend*, upon his First Lieutenant *Samuel Townsend* being promoted to a Captaincy, which said appointment has received the universal approbation of the General Committee for the County of *Westchester*.

By order of Committee: WM. MILLER, Deputy Chairman.  
To the Honourable Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*.



pointed a Lieutenant to Captain *Micha Townsend*, upon his First Lieutenant *Samuel Townsend* having been promoted to a Captaincy; which said appointment had received the universal approbation of the General Committee for the County of *Westchester*.

*Ordered*, That a Commission be issued for the said *Z. Miller*, as Lieutenant of Captain *Micha Townsend's* Company.

Two Letters from *David Matthews*, Esq., one to General *Woodhull*, the other to his wife, with a Mittimus enclosed; also a Letter from the Committee of *Litchfield*, and another from *Moses Seymour*, were respectively read, and referred to Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Hobart*.

Two Letters from the Secret Committee at *Poughkeepsie*, by Captain *Henry Benson*, were read, and are in the words following, to wit:

"Poughkeepsie, August 13, 1776.

"SIR: Among other measures devised for the defence of *Hudson's River*, we have purchased and are fitting out two sloops, each of them more than a match for a tender. We have given Captain *Benson* the command of one, Captain *Caswell* of the other. It will be impracticable to get a sufficient number of men for them here, or, in our opinion, elsewhere, unless permission be given to the Captains to enlist them from among the new levies. We have written to General *Washington* on the subject, and hope this expedient will meet with the approbation of the Convention.

"The State of *Connecticut* has sent us twenty cannon—ten twelves and ten six-pounders—with fifty rounds of shot to each cannon.

"Business grows upon our hands, and if Messrs. *Yates*, *Jay*, and *Livingston*, are recalled, a quorum will not be left, and consequently nothing further can be done. We beg the direction of the Congress on this point, for we have not the least reason to expect that the state of our affairs here will admit of our return to the Convention by the 26th instant.

"We are, sir, your humble servants.

"By order of the Secret Committee:

"ROBT. YATES, *Chairman*.

"To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*."

"Poughkeepsie, August 14, 1776.

"SIR: We find it necessary to direct Captain *Benson* to endeavour to purchase at *New-York* a number of articles for the armed vessels now fitting out here, which we cannot procure at this place, and beg that all possible assistance may be given him. As the Convention now sit at *Harlem*, and the moneys advanced to us will not be more than adequate to the expenses already incurred, we do not think it advisable to give Captain *Benson* any money to carry with him, but request the favour of your honourable House to supply him with as much money as may be necessary for the purpose above mentioned. As we may be shortly under the necessity of requesting further supplies, we hope care has been taken to put the treasury in such a condition as that no delays in a matter so important may be occasioned.

"We have applied to General *Washington* for an order on *John B. Livingston* for as much powder as may be necessary for both vessels, and we think it would not be improper that the General should be properly informed of the state of your Magazines, and thereby be led to perceive the propriety of our applying for Continental powder.

"We are your most humble servants.

"By order of the Committee:

"ROBT. YATES, *Chairman*."

*Ordered*, That the said Letters be referred to Mr. *Duer* and Colonel *De Witt*.

Mr. *Duer*, from the Committee to whom was referred the Letters from the Secret Committee at *Poughkeepsie*, having reported thereon, the Convention agreed to a recital, in the words following, namely:

Whereas the Secret Committee, appointed by this Convention to devise means for annoying the enemy's ships, and obstructing the navigation of *Hudson's River*, having, by their letter received this day, informed the Convention of their fitting out two armed vessels at *Poughkeepsie*, and giving the command of one of them to Captain *Henry Benson*, who they have sent down to *New-York* to procure and purchase sundry articles necessarily required in fitting out

said vessels, and requesting the Convention to supply Captain *Benson* with money for that purpose:

*Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Convention, advance to Captain *Henry Benson* the sum of £500, for the purpose aforesaid, and take his receipt for the same.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Eccun* be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver the Continental Salt\* now on board of his Vessel, at *Fire-Island Inlet*, to the Commissary-General or his order.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing Resolution be served on Captain *Eccun*, and that one other copy thereof, with a copy of Captain *Denning's* Letter to this Convention, be immediately sent by Captain *Eccun* to *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., the Commissary-General.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That Mr. *Thomas Grant* be requested to furnish this Convention with an inventory of the Medicine which he has lately received by Captain *Eccun*, with the price of each article, in order that this Convention may have the preference of purchasing such articles as they think necessary for the use of the inhabitants of this State.†

\*SIR: The bearer of this is Captain *Exceen*, of the brig *Friendship*, loaded by me in *April* last, by direction of a Committee of Continental Congress, with wheat and flour for *Lisbon*. He is returned with his brig to *Fire-Island Inlet* with a load of salt. He had orders to apply to the Convention of whatever State he arrived at, on his return to this Continent. He now waits your directions.

• Your most humble servant,

WM. DENNING.

Friday morning.

He left *Lisbon* seven weeks and four days ago this day. Captain *Exceen* says his cargo consists of one hundred and ninety-seven mays of salt on board, on account of the Continental Congress; that he had medicines on board, (three or four hogsheds) belonging to *Thomas Grant*, shipped by *Long*, about or between £300 or £400 sterling.

To *Abm. Yates*, Jun., Esq.

†NEWARK MOUNTAIN, August 19, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: On *Saturday* last, being in the city, though very lame, and an inflammation to my wound succeeding my travel, and necessity required my being home that evening, was obliged hastily to answer your resolve of the 16th, or leave it undone, on such paper and in such order I should otherwise be ashamed of, for which I craved your indulgence; the substance of which I shall repeat, though I have no copy, neither can I be certain if I mentioned what I was determined on at writing, to have the privilege of exportation as if the whole had been military stores, as part of it with much propriety falls under that denomination. This is a material article for me to insist upon, as otherwise my vessel may be unemployed.

If the Convention or either of the gentlemen of that body have an inclination to employ the brig *Friendship*, (a swift sailer,) wholly or in part, I shall be glad to know their proposals soon.

You shall be welcome to take all the medicines, and drugs for medicines in particular, and the few other articles contained in the invoice, such as pepper, paper, raisins, and currants. If you think proper, all the rest must go together. Copy of invoice herewith send you. Amount, with charges at foot, about £340 sterling, of which the medicines is the better half. I shall be fully content to take the generous price the Congress published should be given for military stores. As an example of which, £30 currency was given for powder, cost in *Europe* £4 sterling, or thereabouts. I mean to have £30 for every £4 sterling at foot of invoice, or in that proportion for what you take. When I receive your answer in the affirmative, I will send you the original invoice. I suppose them to be well laid in, as they were bought for ready money.

That no time may be lost, you may send order to Captain *Alexander Exceen*, now at *Long-Island*, for the delivery of them to your order.

I am, with great respect, honourable gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOS. GRANT.

To the Hon. Convention of the State of *New-York*.

Invoice, &c., per *Friendship*, viz:

LISBON, June 20, 1776.

8 bags, containing 911 lbs. pepper.....	at 250 per lb..	227,750
2 barrels, containing alqrs. prunes.....	at 300 per A..	5,250
4 bales, containing 96 reams paper.....	at 880 per R..	84,480
10 barrels raisins, at.....	4,400.....	44,000
4 barrels currants, 228 lbs. net, at.....	45 per lb..	32,760
No. 2. 1 cask, 632 lbs. saltpetre, at.....	200 per lb..	126,400
No. 4. 1 cask, 85 lbs. gum Arabic, at.....	240.....	20,400
No. 7. 1 bottle, 130 lbs. oil vitriol, at.....	150 per lb..	19,500
No. 10. 1 barrel, 94 lbs. crem. tart., at.....	150 per lb..	14,100
No. 11. 1 cask, 434 lbs. sulphur, at.....	60 per lb..	26,040
No. 12. 1 barrel, 66 lbs. liquorice ball, at.....	150.....	9,900
No. 13. 1 barrel, 50 lbs. camphor, at.....	1,200.....	60,000
No. 14. 1 tin canister, in a box, 64 lbs. oil capa, at.....	360.....	23,040
No. 15. 1 barrel, 62 lbs. raddish, at.....	200.....	12,400
No. 16. 1 cask, 185 juniper-berry, at.....	150.....	27,750
In same, cask 56 lbs. magnes., at..	320.....	17,920
No. 17. 1 bottle, in a barrel, 71 lbs. argent vivum, at.....	750.....	53,250
No. 18. 1 tin canister, in a box, 61 lbs. oil almonds, at.....	300.....	18,300
No. 20. 1 cask, 920 lbs. magnes., at.....	320.....	294,400
No. 22. 1 box, 12 reams fine paper, at.....	2,400.....	28,800

1,146,440

Charges..... 86,882

Rials..... 1,233,322

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Ulster* County, in answer to theirs of the 4th instant, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Harlem, August 16, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 4th instant, directed to the Members of *Ulster* County, has been laid before this Convention, in answer to part of which the enclosed resolutions have been passed, and are now sent for your direction.

"The Convention has further directed me to acquaint you that no fees have been ordered by the Convention for the Treasurers appointed by the County Committees, and, as far as hath come to our knowledge, no fees have been demanded by the Treasurers in the other Counties. It is therefore hoped that the Treasurer of *Ulster* County will not be singular in demanding fees for the payment of so small a sum.

"The intention of the Convention on passing the Resolutions for raising the Rangers was that they should be mustered by each commissioned officer of the Company, and each of the said officers to return a muster-roll of the Company to which he belongs, on his oath of office, and under the penalty in the said resolutions mentioned.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant.

"By order.

"To the Chairman and Members of Committee of *Ulster*."

Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A. M., August 17, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President *pro tem*.

NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Bancker*, Colonel *Scott*, Captain *Denning*, *Mr. Dunscomb*, *Mr. Beekman*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. A. Yates*, *Mr. Adgate*, *Mr. Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—*Mr. William Smith*, *Mr. Tredwell*, *Mr. Hobart*.

DUTCHESS.—*Mr. Schenck*, *Mr. Sackett*, *Mr. Platt*.

ORANGE.—*Mr. Wisner*, *Mr. Jo. Smith*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Mr. Morris*, General *Morris*.

QUEEN'S.—Colonel *Blackwell*, *Mr. James Townsend*, *Mr. William Smith*, Colonel *Lawrence*.

TRYON.—*Mr. Harper*, *Mr. Newkirk*.

ULSTER.—*Mr. Contine*, *Mr. De Witt*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Mr. Duer*.

CUMBERLAND.—*Mr. Stephens*.

Captain *Platt* informed the Convention that Colonel *Van Cortlandt* and himself are much in want of cash to defray charges accrued for the support of the Militia which have been called to service on the banks of *Hudson's River*, and also to supply Brigadier-General *Clinton's* Brigade with tents, huts, provisions, and other necessities.

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Convention of this State, advance to Colonel *Van Cortlandt* and Captain *Platt* the sum of £1,000 on account, for the purposes above-mentioned, taking the receipt of either of those gentlemen for that sum.

General *Morris* informed the Convention that *Mr. David Dan*, under his direction, has raised the greater part of a Company, to serve in Colonel *Thomas's* Regiment, and he, with *Mr. Morris*, recommended the said *David Dan* as a very fit person to be appointed Captain of a Company, and requested that a Captain's Commission be issued to the said *David Dan*, as a Captain in that Regiment.

Ordered, That a Commission be issued to him immediately.

General *Morris* further informed the Convention that his present Brigade-Major is now employed as an Aid-de-Camp to a General Officer, and is now in actual service, and the General recommended Captain *Pell* to be the Brigade-Major of the Militia of *Westchester* County.

Resolved, unanimously, That the said Captain *Pell* be appointed a Major of Brigade of the Militia of *Westchester* County, and that a Commission issue to him for that purpose.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the consideration of the Letter from the Committee of *Kingston*, report, that they are of opinion that it will conduce much to the relief of the inhabitants, as well as to the safety of the prisoners of war now at *Kingston*, to remove the said prisoners with all possible despatch to *Morris-Town*, in the County of *Morris*, *New-Jersey*; that the Committee of the Township of *Kings-*

*ton* be directed to cancel the old paroles given by the said prisoners, and to engage them under new paroles to proceed to said place; that blank printed powers be sent to the Committee of *Kingston* for this purpose, that they may be taken with more accuracy, and that the said Committee be directed to send a guard with the said prisoners to *Morris-Town* aforesaid, and to enclose to the Chairman of the Committee of *Morris-Town* aforesaid a certified copy of the paroles given by these prisoners; that the Committee of the Township of *Kingston* be, and they are hereby, authorized to remove the Tories now in their Jail, or those whom they conceive the most dangerous, to such place of safety as they shall think proper; that a letter be wrote to the Committee of *Kingston*, enclosing those resolutions.

WM. DUER, Chairman.

Which said Report, being read and changed in the form of Resolutions, was agreed to.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Ulster* County was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, Harlem, August 17, 1776. }

"GENTLEMEN: You'll perceive by the enclosed resolutions that the prisoners residing among you are to be sent to *Morris* County. With regard to the difference of construction to that part of their paroles which respects the latitude intended to be given them therein, the Convention give it as their opinion that the prisoners are entitled to the privilege of passing and repassing within six miles in every direction from your Court-House; which I am directed to request you to communicate to the prisoners, and also to transmit a copy of this letter, with the other papers, to the Committee of *Morris* County.

"I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant. By order.

"The Chairman and Members of the Committee of *Ulster* County."

Whereas it is of the utmost consequence to the safety of the City of *New-York* and the security of the Continental Army now on *Long-Island* that the communication between that City and Island should not be obstructed by the enemy's ships:

Resolved, That Captain *Rutgers* and *Patrick Dennis* be requested and empowered by this Convention to stop up the channel between the Grand Battery and *Governour's Island*, in case they shall deem the same practicable, and that this Convention will defray all the charges incident to the execution of this design.

Resolved, That General *Morris* be empowered to purchase a Sloop belonging to *Jesse Hunt*, at *New-Rochelle*, and to order the same to be immediately delivered to the above-named gentlemen at *New-York*, loaded with Stone.

A draft of a Letter to General *Washington*, to enclose the above Resolution, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Harlem, August 17, 1776.

"SIR: *Mr. Denning* hath made the Convention acquainted with your Excellency's sentiments upon obstructing the navigation of the *East-River*, between the Grand Battery and *Governour's Island*. We now take the liberty of enclosing the copy of our resolution for that purpose, which, together with the letter, will be handed to your Excellency by the gentlemen of the Committee, to whom, we make no doubt, sir, that you will afford every assistance in your power.

"I have the honour to be, &c."

Ordered, That Captain *James Stewart*, with such part of his Company as is already inlisted, join Colonel *Malcom's* Regiment, as a part thereof, until further order; and that Colonel *Malcom* be requested to exert his usual care and diligence in having that Company properly provided and trained in the military art.

The Petition of several inhabitants of *Queen's* County, respecting the release of Doctor *David Brooks*, was read.

Therefore, Resolved, That the said Petition be referred to his Excellency General *Washington*, in consequence of whose orders the said *David Brooks* was apprehended.

Ordered, That Major *Lawrence* and *Mr. Js. Townsend* wait upon his Excellency with the said Petition.

Ordered, That *Reuben Weed* be First Lieutenant of Captain *Dennis's* Company.

An Account of *John Dunlap* against the Secret Committee and the Committee for trying disaffected persons and those of equivocal characters, &c., as their Doorkeeper, from 19th June to 19th August, was read and examined, in which he states his whole account..... £24 8

And credits by cash of *John McKesson*.... £2 16  
by cash of *John McKesson*, at  
another time..... 6 00  
by cash received of *Abm.*  
*Depeyster*..... 4 16

Balance due..... £10 16

Ordered, That the said Account of *John Dunlap* be delivered to the Auditor-General, to audit the same to this 17th day of August only, and that the said *John Dunlap* be, and he is hereby, discharged from the service of the said Committee and of this Convention.

Ordered, That *Mr. Wm. Smith*, *Mr. Harper*, and *Mr. Tredwell*, *Mr. Adgate*, *Mr. Sacket*, *Mr. Stephens*, and *Mr. Contine*, or any five of them, be a Committee of Safety for this State from the adjournment of this Convention on this day until their next meeting; that every member who shall attend have a vote or voice, and that the said Committee be, and are hereby, empowered to take such measures and exercise such powers during that time as shall appear to them necessary for the safety of the State.

The Report of *John McDonald*,\* of the progress he had made in opening the Lead Mine at *Nine-Partners*, in *Dutchess* County, and the accounts and papers accompanying the same, were read.

Ordered, That the above Committee of Safety take into consideration the accounts and other papers delivered in by *Mr. John McDonald*, and that they report on Monday morning.

*Mr. Hobart* and *Mr. Duer*, a Committee to consider the case of Lieutenant *Bleecker*, and others in like circumstances.

*Mr. Harper* to be furnished with £25, on account of *Tryon* County, on his receipt, on behalf of *Tryon* County, the County to be accountable for the same.

Resolved, That *Peter Van B. Livingston*, Esquire, as Treasurer of this Convention, advance to *Wm. Harper*, a member of this Convention, for the County of *Tryon*, the sum of £25; and that the said sum be charged to the said *Wm. Harper* and the said County, to be repaid to the said Treasurer by the said *Wm. Harper*, or the said County, when either shall be thereunto required.

\*GENTLEMEN: In compliance with the commands of the honourable Provincial Congress, on the 13th June, 1776, I repaired, with all possible diligence, to the *Great Nine-Partners*, in *Dutchess* County, and there conducted myself and labourers with all endeavouring to work and open the pits or shafts of the mine. After concluding the repairing and clearing out the rubbish, considered on *Mr. Moses Harris's* information relative to this mine, which at large is in report drawn by me in March last, under the declaration of *Jonathan Landon*, Esq., to which may compare this report of its circumstances, as in the manner following:

Beginning at the northeast end of the hill, where have cleared two pits, and discovered in the first a small quantity of lead ore, lying in three different places, about three inches diameter; and in the second pit found ore in four sundry spots, in proportion equally to the first pit, about four foot distant from one appearance to another, their bottoms being examined, and appeared disagreeable to the least prospect. Thirdly, beginning to the southwest, about the middle of said hill, there cleared two pits which appeared equally in quantity and quality agreeable to the situation of the first and last pit cleared at the foresaid northeast end of the hill. The vein of sparr appears three inches broad; and where *Mr. Harriss* undertook to make an advantageous discovery, have digged eighteen foot length, and about three foot deep; there I found a vein of ore containing two inches broad, at which spent four days, and raised near three or four hundred weight of lead ore; but it appears to be sometimes decreasing and increasing, which being the usual case in the former trials done, I remarked that it is possible to procure a little quantity of ore in east vein or branches in this bounds; therefore, if your Honours incline to prosecute, peradventure in expectation to face into a body, the method is, to open and search the ground where supposed such do most frequently lie. As I have in my former report described at large the dimension and situation of the mine hill, I'll proceed no farther concerning adventuring for the publick purpose, but leave it to your Honours' serious consideration.

Gentlemen, I am your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN McDONALD, Miner.

GENTLEMEN: *Ezra Thomson*, Esq., was very punctual looking and providing anything wanted to the mine. He surveyed four times each week, sometimes inspected three times in a day, when occasion offered, and assisted us with his horses, by which attendance spent much of his harvest employment. I am yours, &c., JOHN McDONALD, Miner.

GENTLEMEN: In compliance with the desire of the Congress, I super-

Ordered, That the papers belonging to *Isaac Ketcham*, now in the hands of the Secretary of this Convention be delivered to the said *Isaac Ketcham*; and that Captain *Jeremiah Wool* be, and he is hereby, directed to obtain and transmit to this Convention, with all convenient speed, the whole expense which has occurred, by apprehending, securing, and keeping, and maintaining, *Israel Youngs*, *Isaac Youngs*, *Philip Youngs*, *Isaac Ketcham*, and *Henry Dawkins*, and the summoning witnesses against them, rendering the said accounts as particular as possible. That Captain *Wool* therewith transmit an account of the moneys by him taken or received from the said *Isaac Ketcham*, and what disposition has been made thereof, together with any part of such money as remain in his hands.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, recommending the removal of the women and children from *New-York*, was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Head-Quarters, New-York, August 17, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: When I consider that the City of *New-York* will, in all human probability, very soon be the scene of a bloody conflict, I cannot but view the great number of women and children and infirm persons remaining in it with the most melancholy concern. When the men-of-war passed up the river the shrieks and cries of those poor creatures running every way with their children, was truly distressing, and I fear will have an unhappy effect on the ears and minds of our young and inexperienced soldiery. Can no method be devised for their removal? Many, doubtless, are able to remove themselves, but there are others in a different situation. Some provision for them afterwards would also be a necessary consideration. It would relieve me from great anxiety if your honourable body would immediately deliberate upon it, and form and execute some plan for their removal and relief, in which I will coöperate and assist, to the utmost in my power. In the mean time, I have thought it proper to recommend to persons under the above description to convey themselves without delay to some place of safety, with their most valuable effects.

"I have the honour to be, with much regard, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant.

"GO. WASHINGTON."

The same being read and considered,

Resolved, That the women, children, and infirm persons, in the City of *New-York*, be immediately removed from the said city, agreeable to General *Washington's* request of this House, in his Letter of this date.

Resolved, That Colonel *Lott*, *Mr. James Beekman*, *Mr. Berrian*, Chairman of the Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, and *Mr. John Campbell*, a member of the

intend *Mr. John McDonald's* proceedings of the mines, and he carefully conducted himself and labourers in working to satisfaction, and that, preceding to the 13th of August, 1776, and kept regular accounts of the same, and has drawn a report of the appearances, the truth of which, as far as I could judge, may be depended on. As to the old *Irishman*, one *Higgins*, who, I understand, formerly applied to your Honours several times, with a sample of lead ore, proposing to be from an advantageous prospect discovered by himself, which sample of ore I found, by examination, he got from other persons, and that he had no discovery of his own, therefore do not give the least dependance to what he says relative to mines, &c.; also, he is very disagreeable to the neighbours. I was under the necessity to employ him as a labourer, owing to the scarcity of workmen here.

I also send the account of the labourers' work, which is one hundred and nine days. Also what money I have advanced, which is £7 11s. 6d. I also advanced £2 to *Mr. McDonald*.

I have taken all the tools and ore, for which I gave my receipt, and shall wait your order for the delivery of them. *Mr. McDonald's* behaviour was very agreeable to all the neighbours.

Gentlemen, I am, with respect, your very humble servant,

EZRA THOMSON.

I, *Ezra Thomson*, Esq., at the *Great Nine-Partners*, *Dutchess* County, do hereby acknowledge to have received from the honourable Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*, by the hands of *John McDonald*, inspector and accountant of the mine, the following inventory of mining tools which hath been used in clearing and repairing the pits or shafts, &c., of the mines here, from the 25th June, 1776, and preceding the 13th of August thereafter, 1776, for which tools I become under the obligation to keep safe in my possession, waiting their further instruction relative to this mine, or until the same is delivered to any having their punctual orders, as witness my hand this day of August, 1776.

EZRA THOMSON.

Viz: 1 iron maul, hammer or sledge, weighing ; 2 spades or shovels; 2 iron picks; 4 iron wedges; 1 broad-faced axe; 1 wimple or auger, of one inch diameter; 1 hand-saw; 10 fathom rope, with one iron hook; 1 windlass wheel, for the use of drawing rubbish from pits or shafts; 2 buckets, eighteen inches deep, with iron hoops and handles, and which are left full of lead-ore, supposed to weigh about three or four hundred weight; and after it is well dressed, supposing to be three hundred weight.

said Committee, be empowered to remove such persons to such place or places in this State as they shall think proper, and that this Convention will pay the expense incurred by such removal and maintenance of such persons as the said Committee shall think in such indigent circumstances as not to be able to remove and subsist themselves.

*Resolved*, That the General Committee of the City of *New-York* be earnestly requested to give all possible assistance to the above gentlemen in carrying into execution the above resolutions in the most humane and expeditious manner possible.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Convention, advance to Colonel *Lott* and Mr. *James Beekman*, or either of them, the sum of £200, to enable them to carry into execution certain resolves of this Convention, of this day, for removing the women and children and infirm persons out of the City of *New-York*, and take a receipt to account for the same.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the Committee appointed this day for the removal of the women, children, and infirm persons from the City of *New-York*, do immediately report to this Convention the names of all such indigent and infirm persons whom they think entitled to the charitable exertions of this State, together with the number of each family, the maladies under which they may labour, and the place or places to which they are removed, to the end that this Convention may discharge the duty of faithful guardians of the publick interest and happiness, by relieving the complaints of the infirm and the wants of the indigent in the most humane and economical manner possible.

A draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington*, communicating the preceding Resolution, was read and approved, and is as follows:

"Harlem, August 17, 1776.

"SIR: I am directed to inform your Excellency that immediately upon the receipt of your favour of this morning, respecting the women and children and infirm persons remaining in the City of *New-York*, the Convention appointed a Committee for the purpose of removing and providing for such persons. I enclose a copy of the Resolves for that purpose, and hope you will soon be relieved from the anxiety which their continuance in town has occasioned; and have the honour to be, with very great respect, your most obedient, humble servant. By order.

"To General *Washington*."

A Letter from his Excellency General *George Washington*, in answer to the Letter respecting the obstructing the navigation of the *East River*, was received and read, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"New-York, August 18, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I have been honoured with your letter of the 17th, with the resolution of your honourable body for obstructing the channel betwixt the *Grand Battery* and *Nutten-Island*. Having gone into a considerable expense for stopping that of the *North River*, and such as I am not certain I shall be justified in, and the obstructions there being far from complete, it will not be in my power to engage in the business you propose, or undertake to advance any part of the money which will be necessarily expended in the execution. At the same time give me leave to assure you, gentlemen, that I shall most readily afford you such assistance as may be derived from the labour of the troops here, that can be spared from other service, to facilitate the design, which will be of great importance, if it can be executed. I have been also honoured with your favour and resolution of the same date, and am exceedingly obliged by the ready attention you have paid to my recommendation for the removal of the women and children and infirm persons from this city.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON."

#### COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Die Lunæ, 9 ho. A. M., August 19, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met: Present: *William Smith*, Esq., Chairman; Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Thomas Tredwell*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Jos. Smith*, Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Stephens*, Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Sands*.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

Captain *Woodhull*, of the *Orange County Troop*, appearing in the Committee for a line to General *Clinton*, signifying their approbation of discharging that Troop:

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to General *Clinton* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: Application has been made to us as a Committee of the Convention, in their adjournment from *Saturday* last, by Captain *Woodhull*, of the *Orange Troop*, with your permission, as he says, to request a dismissal from present service at *Hudson's River*. If you should be of opinion that they may return home, consistent with the publick safety, you will no doubt give them permission, as it will certainly be a benefit both to them and the State if they can be allowed to give some attention to their farms even for a short time. This matter we, however, submit entirely to your judgment, as you can form the best opinion what men you can relieve from duty, and at what time their services may be dispensed with. We are, &c.

"To General *Clinton*."

The case of Captain *John Wisner*, stated, is as follows, to wit:

That he had inlisted about twenty Riflemen in *Orange County*, and about twenty at *Susquehannah*; that the men in *Orange County*, through means of the Committee, have inlisted in the Militia; that he has been ordered by the Field-Officers of the Militia of *Orange County*, with a Lieutenant, to raise thirty-eight men of the Militia for the present service; that he has inlisted upwards of forty men; that by a letter from *H. Wisner*, Esq., he has permission to fill up that Company, but that without part of the bounty he cannot supply his men with arms.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sacket* and Mr. *Tredwell* be a Committee to report thereon, with all convenient speed.

The Committee took into consideration Accounts and papers of *John McDonald*, presented on *Saturday* last; and

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that *John McDonald*, Miner, should be authorized to prosecute the exploring the Lead Mine in the *Great Nine-Partners* of *Ezra Thomson*, Esq., till further orders from this Convention or a future Legislature of this State, on the same condition he was before employed to work in said Mine; and that he report his proceedings monthly to the Convention or Legislature of this State.

The Committee took into consideration the apparent advantage to the safety of this State to have the obstructions<sup>s</sup> of the navigation of *Hudson's River* fully completed.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Duer* be, and is hereby, authorized and requested immediately to consult with his Excellency General *Washington* on the subject of aiding him to obstruct the navigation of *Hudson's River*, opposite to *Mount Washington*, and, if the General shall approve of the measure, that he be authorized to coöperate with his Excellency, and pursue such measures as may be necessary for that purpose; and if Mr. *Duer* think it necessary, he may despatch *S. Dyckman*, the Messenger, to any place where he shall think proper.

A Letter from General *Morris*, dated yesterday, at *New-Rochelle*, was read.\* He signifies his opinion that it would be most prudent to discharge the Militia of his Brigade at present, with orders to hold themselves in readiness to march on the first notice.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Jos. Smith* inquire of his Excellency General *Washington* whether the discharge of that Brigade at present will interfere with any plan which he has laid, or directions which he may have given, for the defence of that

\*NEW-ROCHELLE, August 18, 1776.

SIR: I have the pleasure to inform that, agreeable to direction of Congress, the Militia of the County have turned out with great cheerfulness. As there is no enemy in the *Sound*, and considering the present season to the farmer, I take the liberty to recommend the dismissing the Militia for the present, ordering the Captains to parade and discipline their men once a week, and that they hold themselves in readiness to march on the shortest notice. I am particularly inclined to the measure, as the five days' provision will be out to-morrow, and no Commissary of Provisions provided. The arms have been examined—the greatest part in good repair, and such as wanted are put in the hands of armourers, so that I am in hopes the major part of the Militia will be tolerably well armed.

A soldier having misbehaved, is confined, and I shall order a Court-Martial for his trial to-morrow. An officer is also charged with misbehaviour, and I shall direct an inquiry into that matter; being determined, while I am honoured with the command, to use my best endeavours to preserve strict discipline. I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

LEWIS MORRIS.

To *Abraham Yates*, Esq.



part of the County, and if their discharge will not interfere with such plan or direction, that they be discharged.

## CONVENTION.

Tuesday Afternoon, August 20, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President *pro tem*.  
 NEW-YORK.—Col. *Broome*, Mr. *Duncomb*, Mr. *Bancker*;  
 Mr. *Jay* and Mr. *Roosevelt* absent on duty.  
 DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sacket*, Mr. *Schenck*, Mr. *Landon*.  
 ALBANY.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Mr. *Adgate*.  
 QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Townsend*, Major *Lawrence*,  
 Colonel *Blackwell*, Mr. *Samuel Townsend*.  
 SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Tredwell*.  
 WESTCHESTER.—General *Morris*.  
 CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.  
 KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*. TRYON.—Mr. *Newkirk*.  
 ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*, Col. *Pauldine*.  
 CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stephens*.

*Resolved*, That Dr. *John Cregier* be authorized to act as Surgeon to Colonel *Levy Pauldine's* Regiment, in General *Clinton's* Brigade, until another Surgeon shall be appointed to said Regiment by this Convention.

Colonel *Jacobus Swartwout*, attending, was admitted. He brought in the Muster-Rolls of ten Companies of his Regiment now in service near *King's Bridge*, in General *Clinton's* Brigade. The said ten Muster-Rolls were annexed together, under seal, in the Convention; and thereupon the said *Jacobus Swartwout*, Esq., being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, did depose and swear, that he hath, according to the best of his knowledge, truly mustered the ten Companies, now in service under his command as Colonel; that the said ten Muster-Rolls contain the names and rank of the Officers, non-commissioned Officers and Privates of the said Regiment, as the different Companies appeared at the time of mustering each Company respectively; and that the said Regiment is near *King's Bridge*, as a part of General *Clinton's* Brigade. Colonel *Swartwout's* affidavit is endorsed on the back of the said Muster-Rolls, subscribed by himself, and by *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President *pro tempore*.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Josiah Smith* be, and he is hereby, authorized to provide a Surgeon for his Regiment, and to procure a Hospital for the reception of the sick.

A Letter from *William Miller*,\* Deputy Chairman of the Committee of Safety for *Westchester* County, dated August 17, 1776, concerning some Prisoners of War brought from *Bedford* to *White-Plains*, and Tories lately confined in their Jail, was read; and also a Letter from said Prisoners, requesting subsistence money.

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That *John McKesson* and *Robert Benson* be the Commissioners in this State to dispose of and provide for all Prisoners of War within the same, agreeable

\* IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY FOR THE COUNTY OF }  
 WESTCHESTER, August 17, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: The officers who were confined to *Bedford* as prisoners of war, upon the Militia of that place being called away, have been sent to this Committee, and this Committee have limited them within the *White-Plains*. As they came from *Bedford* indebted for their subsistence there, and must become indebted here also, they are solicitous that the money engaged to them by the Convention be paid, in order to defray their expenses.

We further inform you, that a large number of dangerous and disaffected persons are apprehended and now in jail, and many more will soon be brought to us. We find our jail greatly burdened, and beg that your honourable House will take them under consideration, and direct what must be done with them.

As we are frequently at a loss for the resolutions of Convention to proceed upon, we earnestly desire your honourable House will order your Secretary to furnish us with the same, which will greatly advance the good of the country and our safe conduct. Be pleased to let Mr. *Frederick Jay* have them, who is one of our Committee.

By order of Committee: WM. MILLER, Deputy Chairman.  
 To his Excellency Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, at *Huerten*.

WHITE-PLAINS JAIL, August 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Our confinement at present is the cause of our troubling your honourable House with this our imperfect petition. We have conversed with the Deputy Chairman of the General Committee of this our County, who we have desired to wait on you, and will, if called on, deliver our sentiments fuller than we are able to set forth with ink and paper. Gentlemen, as we are convinced we are confined on no other principle than for the safety of the States of *America*, we rather applaud than blame you for it; we have not been wise enough to associate with you, still we are not unwise enough not to consider that self-preservation is the first law of nature. Still, gentlemen, we flatter ourselves that what we say here (joined to what the person we send will add) will convince your honourable House that our enlargement will in nowise endanger the States of *America*, which being done to the full satisfaction of your House, we doubt not (trusting in the goodness of the members that com-

to the Resolutions of the honourable the Continental Congress, of 21st May last, in that case made and provided; and also to dispose of and provide for such other Prisoners within this State as may from time to time be committed to their care; that the said Commissioners do keep a regular account or journal of their transactions and disbursements; and that this Convention will make them, the said Commissioners, a reasonable compensation for their trouble and services in that department.

A Letter from *Jonathan G. Tompkins*,\* dated August 18, 1776, relating to *Josiah* and *Isaac Brown*, imprisoned at *White-Plains*, was received and read.

The Petition of fifteen Prisoners confined in the Jail at *White-Plains*, presented by Mr. *Miller*, Deputy Chairman of *Westchester* County, wherein they represent that they are confined as persons dangerous to the safety of the State, and being desirous of being enlarged, they are willing to bind themselves either to aid in repelling the enemies of the State when necessary, or surrender themselves into the custody of any Jailer, as this or any future Convention or Legislature may direct, was read.

Whereupon Mr. *Miller* was called in and examined as to the said fifteen Prisoners, and testified in regard to them respectively, as follows, viz: *Joshua Purdy* has never been friendly to the *American* cause, is a man of influence, and towards whom lenity would be advisable. *Gabriel Purdy* has acted unfriendly to the cause of *America*. *Caleb Morgan* he does not know, but has heard he is a Tory. Of *Wm. Barker*, *John McCord*, *John Bailey*, *Bartw. Haynes*, and *Joseph Purdy*, he knows nothing favourable. *Gilbert Horton* is a man of no influence. *Isaac Browne* has been neutral. *Josiah Browne* says he will join in the defence of the State, and has generally understood that he was a Whig. *Edmund Ward* he don't know. *Samuel Merrit* has been active against, and *Jonathan Purdy* has been publicly inciting others to act against us. And as to *Philip Fowler*, he is reputed a bad man. Which information being considered, the question was put, "Shall any of the Prisoners be released?" and passed in the negative, in manner following, that is to say:

For the Negative.

4 Ulster.  
 2 Charlotte.  
 6 Albany.  
 8 New-York.  
 2 Cumberland.

22 votes.

For the Affirmative.

4 Westchester.  
 4 Queen's.  
 —  
 8 votes.

Suffolk only 2 Members, no vote.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of *Westchester* County be empowered, if they shall think it consistent with the safety, or conducive to the advantage of the State, to release *Joshua Purdy*, *Isaac Browne*, and *Josiah Browne*.

The Credentials of *King's* County was again taken into consideration and read, and the further consideration thereof deferred till the morning.

pose your body, and that the safety of the State is the only motive of your confining us) but that we may have our enlargements. Our proposal is, first, that we will in nowise resist or oppose the authority of the States of *America*; secondly, that whenever an attack shall be made on the said States, if we cannot find a resolution sufficient to join our brethren and neighbours in repelling force by force, then and in such case we will repair immediately to the common jail of our County, or to such other place as you in your wisdom shall think proper; and thirdly, for the performance of said propositions we are willing to bind ourselves under the ties of bonds or solemn oaths. So, gentlemen, we rest it here, only referring you to Mr. *Miller*, and desiring you to take our case into mature consideration; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

EDMUND WARD,	JOSIAH BROWN,
JOSEPH PURDY,	BARTHW. HAINS,
SAMUEL MERITT,	JOSHUA PURDY,
JONATHAN PURDY,	GABRIEL PURDY,
PHILIP FOWLER,	CALEB MORGAN,
JOHN BESLEY,	WILLIAM BARKER, JUN.,
GILBERT HORTON,	JOHN MCCORD.
ISAAC BROWN,	

\* HEAD-QUARTERS, MAMARONECK, August 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I having been informed that a petition has or is likely to be sent to your Board by a number of persons now confined in this County jail as suspected persons, many of which I shall not take upon me to say anything in favour of, but only in two of the *Browns*, the names of which are *Josiah* and *Isaac Brown*, I having had some opportunity of knowing their political sentiments, and am fully of the opinion that they may have their liberty; and I make no doubt that if they have an opportunity, will be able to convince the publick they are not enemies to this State. And I flatter myself that I am such a well-wisher to the *United States of America*, that I would not speak well of one who did not deserve it. From your very humble servant,

JONATHAN G. TOMPKINS.

To the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., August 21, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President *pro tem*.  
NEW-YORK.—Col. *Broome*, Mr. *Dunscomb*, Mr. *Bancker*,  
Major *Van Zandt*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abm. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *W. Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Hobart*.

WESTCHESTER.—Judge *Graham*, Mr. *Morris*, Gen. *Morris*,  
Mr. *Haviland*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sacket*, Mr. *Schenck*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*.

ORANGE.—Dr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Jo. Smith*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *James Townsend*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Newkirk*. CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

Mr. *Tredwell* informed the Convention that Captain *John Wisner*, of *Orange County*, appointed to command a Company of the Militia of that County, ordered into actual service, has been, and now is, attending for money to discharge the bounty of his men, in order to enable them to purchase arms.

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer, advance to Captain *John Wisner* £580, to enable him to pay one-half of the bounty to the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of his Company, as part of the Militia of *Orange County*, raised, or to be raised, agreeable to the Resolutions of this Convention of the day of *July* last. Captain *Wisner* to be accountable to this Convention or their order, and to the Colonel of the Regiment to which he belongs, for the disposition of that money.

And whereas the Colonel of the Regiment to which Captain *Wisner* belongs is at present on duty in General *Clinton's* Brigade:

Ordered, That Colonel *Allison* and Colonel *Hawthorne*, or either of them, be, and are hereby, empowered, authorized, and requested, to muster the men of Captain *Wisner's* Company previous to their receiving one-half of their bounty.

The Credentials of the Member from *King's County* were read and considered, and the question put, Whether the said Credentials are sufficient; which was decided unanimously in the negative.

Thereupon, Resolved, Whereas it appears by the Credentials produced from the Committee of *King's County* to this Convention that the election for Representatives in Convention was not held at the time mentioned in the Resolution of the late Congress for holding such election, nor in conformity to the said Resolutions:

Resolved, therefore, That the said election was unlawful, and all and singular the matters and things thereby transcribed, merely void.

Whereas it is just and necessary that all the inhabitants of this State should be represented in this Convention at this very important crisis, when matters of the greatest moment to the present generation and to all posterity are now immediately in agitation; and whereas by reason of the irregularity of holding the election in *King's County*, and of sundry defects in the Credentials of the Representatives of the said County chosen, the said Representatives could not be received into this Convention:

Resolved, therefore, That the Committee of the said County be required to hold an election according to the true intent and meaning of the Resolution of the 31st day of *May* last, on *Saturday* next, the 24th instant.

Resolved, further, That the Committee of *King's County* be resolved, that the Credentials, by them made and delivered to this Convention, bearing date 19th instant, are materially defective, in that it does not appear from the said Credentials whether any or what powers are given to the Representatives therein named, when, in fact, the said Representatives ought to be expressly authorized to assist in forming and establishing a new form of Government, and consequently of agreeing, on the part of their constituents, to the general independency of *America*.

Ordered, That the foregoing Resolves be immediately transmitted to the Committee of *King's County*.

The Committee to whom was referred the papers presented by *John McDonald*, on the subject of the Lead Mine in *Dutchess County*, reported; which being considered, was recommitted to the same Committee, with the addition of Mr. *Landon*.

The Committee to whom the Report on the papers of *John McDonald* was recommitted, reported the following Resolution, which was agreed to:

Resolved and Ordered, That the Treasurer of this State do advance to *John McDonald*, Miner, the sum of £6, to enable him to advance to *Donald Morrison* 12s. a week, for the term of ten weeks, unless the said *Donald Morrison* shall sooner be able to labour; that the said *Donald Morrison* do repay the money so lent to him, either in money or labour, to the said *McDonald*, and the said *John McDonald* to be accountable to this Convention for the said sum of £6, provided the said *Donald Morrison* does not debase before he shall be able by his labour to earn or pay the whole or any part of that money; in which case, the said *John McDonald* shall be liable to refund so much only of the said money as the said *Donald Morrison* has or might have earned by his labour.\*

Mr. *Duer* moved a resolution as to the Prisoners in *Westchester*. After many debates, Mr. *Jay* moved for the previous question, which was carried.

Thereupon, Resolved, That Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Morris*, and Mr. *Duer*, be a Committee to report upon the mode of confining, securing, or otherwise disposing of the Prisoners now taken up and confined in the Jail of *Westchester* by order of this Convention.

On motion of Mr. *Duer*,

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius*, as Commissary of this State, be ordered to pay to Colonel *William Malcom*, or his order, the sum of £60 5s., being the purchase money of sixteen Muskets and five Bayonets, disbursed by Captain *Jonathan Blake* for the use of his Company in Colonel *Malcom's* Battalion; and the said Colonel *Malcom* do, on the receipt of this money, give a receipt to Colonel *Curtenius* for sixteen Muskets and five Bayonets, specifying their marks and quality, that the said Guns and Bayonets may hereafter be paid for or returned to the publick store of this State by the said Colonel *Malcom*.

Whereas it has been represented to this Convention that Colonel *Josiah Smith's* Regiment, lately ordered to General *Greene's* encampment on *Nassau-Island*, are destitute of camp equipage:

Ordered, That Mr. *Hubbard* and Mr. *James Townsend* be a Committee to inform the Continental Quartermaster of the state of that Regiment, and to request of him, without delay, to furnish them with proper camp equipage; and in case the said Quartermaster should not be able or willing to afford them the said necessary supplies, that then the said Committee take the most speedy and effectual means for obtaining them, and this Convention will defray the expense thereof, and add it to their Account against the General Congress.

Ordered, That the said Colonel *Smith* be, and he hereby is, authorized to appoint an Adjutant and Quartermaster to his Regiment, and that he recommend to this Convention a Surgeon for the same.

A Letter, dated the 12th instant, from *Abraham C. Cuyler*, *John Duncan*, *Stephen De Lancey*, *John Monier*, and *Benjamin Hilton*,† prisoners sent and confined in *Hartford*

\*I have received of Mr. *Bancker* £54 6s., the amount expense of cleaning the pits or shafts, &c., of the mine in the *Great Nine-Partners*, *Dutchess County*, including this day, August 21, 1776.

JOHN McDONALD.

To *John McKesson*, Esq., Secretary.

†HARTFORD, August 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On our arrival here the 19th of *June* last, we requested our friend Colonel *V. Cortlandt* to lay our very disagreeable situation before you, and in consequence requesting relief; but learning from him that the proceedings of the Committee of *Albany* had not been transmitted to Congress, notwithstanding that Board had been wrote to for that purpose, an answer not being received, has caused this delay. We then furnished Mr. *Cortlandt* with a letter containing our accusation from that Board to his Honour Governor *Trumbull*, which we beg leave to observe is couched in general terms, without anything specific. Nevertheless finding no relief, we, on the 29th ultimo, renewed our request to you by letter through Colonel *Cortlandt*, who informs us a further reference to the Committee of *Albany* is yet thought needful, which causes a further delay to our relief. We could hope this reference might be dispensed with, as our respective cases must be well known, as some members of your House were in the Committee at the time we suffered transportation, unheard and unquestioned; therefore earnestly request your giving us such relief as you judge our disagreeable situation requires. And are, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

ABRAM C. CUYLER, STEPHEN DE LANCEY,  
JOHN DUNCAN, JNO. MONIER,  
JNO. MONIER FOR BENJN. HILTON.

To the Hon. *John Woodhull*, Esq., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Harlem*.

Jail, by order of the Committee of *Albany*, praying to be released from their disagreeable situation, was read.

Also, a Letter from the said *A. C. Cuyler*,\* of the same date, requesting permission to return home to visit his sick wife, whom he represents as unable to take care of his children and large family, and in the mean time to settle some of his private affairs, was read.

Also, a Letter from *Henry Van Schaack*, another prisoner, sent to and confined at *Hartford*, declaring his innocence, and complaining of the injustice of his being transported thither under appearances of guilt, and praying to be suffered to appear before the Convention to be heard, and condemned or acquitted, was read.†

A copy of a Letter from the said *Henry Van Schaack*, *Andrew*, and *Munro*, to the Committee of *Albany*, referred to in the preceding Letter, was read.‡

\* *HARTFORD, August 12, 1776.*

GENTLEMEN: Should your House not think proper to grant us immediate relief on our application of this day, I beg leave further to trouble you with a request to return home for a few days, to visit a sick wife, who is at present unable to take care of my children and large family, and in the mean time to settle some of my private affairs, which, on my sudden removal, were left unsettled, where I also may have an opportunity of removing that jealousy which is now entertained against me. I flatter myself that when you consider the many inconveniences myself and friends suffer, and that only on a supposition of guilt, of which I am at any time ready to exculpate myself, you'll at least grant this request.

I remain, gentlemen, your very humble servant, *A. C. CUYLER.*  
To the Hon. Members of the Convention of the State of *New-York.*

† *HARTFORD, August 12, 1776.*

GENTLEMEN: As you preside over the State of *New-York* at this critical and very alarming juncture, for the safety and welfare of its inhabitants, it gives me a right to inform you that I have been transported hither unheard, unquestioned, and contrary to the principles of the Bill of Rights published by the honourable the Continental Congress in *February, 1776*, as well as subsequent resolves by that Board. As the post is at this moment going off, I have no time to state at large the grievances I labour under. I shall, therefore, be brief, and acquaint you that I am conscious to myself that I have neither said or acted in opposition to the measures pursued by the United Councils of the Continent, or those recommended by the Provincial Councils. It therefore appears hard that the most sacred rights I hold in society should be violated. I have been sent hither under every appearance of guilt, without being allowed an opportunity of knowing the crimes for which I have suffered transportation. That I may not be charged with neglecting to apply for a knowledge of my supposed crimes to that power which inflicted the punishment, I take the liberty of enclosing a copy of a letter wrote to the *Albany* Committee, signed by myself and others in the same situation.

As I have suffered a long confinement, torn from my family and friends, my affairs going to ruin, and obliged to maintain myself at a very great expense in this State, and now under order to go to *New-London*, what punishments will follow them *God* knows; but proceedings so vague and loose promise nothing but indefinite punishments. To you, gentlemen, as the guardians of those rights which are held valuable in society, I now appeal for a stop to further punishment, by suffering me to appear before you, there to be condemned or acquitted. As I am known among many of you, gentlemen, I hope this can be granted without any apprehensions of my deviating from my parole. Should there, however, be any doubts, I will readily be at the expense of a guard to conduct me to you.

I remain, with great respect, gentlemen, in haste, your most obedient, humble servant,  
*HENRY VAN SCHAAK.*  
To the Honourable the Members of Convention for the State of *New-York.*

‡ *ALBANY TORY JAIL, August 1, 1776.*

GENTLEMEN: We have just now received your letter of this date, by which we find that, contrary to the most reasonable expectations, we are forced to go off to-morrow morning. The reasons for our expectations are so forcibly pointed out in our former letters, that we shall forbear to recapitulate them now; and only observe, that although we are forced to leave this in the morning, the same severities are still exercised respecting admittance of those who have business with us, so that at this hour we are in no situation to do anything. As this probably will be the last time you will be troubled with letters from us, we hope you'll excuse us for requesting to know whether we are to go with or without a guard from here to *Colonel Hoffman's Landing*, as we purpose to go by land from here, provided there is no objection. Should there be any, on account of sending a guard with us, and you are disposed to take sufficient security, (we conceive, as we are to maintain ourselves,) the Board will have no objections to our transporting ourselves in the cheapest manner, so that our persons are delivered according to the tenor of your orders. If this be refused, can we have a pass for a couple of men to take our horses down to *Redhook*?

As we have been confined for a long time, and, for some time past, treated like malefactors, Christian charity obliges us to believe that your Board have received information concerning us of a very criminal nature indeed; and as we are entirely to guess from whence such information proceeded, we now request our crimes may be stated, the accusers' names mentioned, that we may have opportunity, as well in *Connecticut* as here, to clear our characters of any aspersions that may be before your Board. Should the crimes of which we are supposed to be guilty or stand accused of justify the unremitting severities with which we have been treated in our confinement, we dread the reception we are to meet with in a country where we are strangers and friendless: we mean should we be transported unheard and unquestioned.

We are, &c.,

*H. VAN SCHAAK,*  
*JOSEPH ANDERSON,*  
*JOHN MUNRO.*  
&c.

Ordered, That the three Letters last mentioned lie on the table for the perusal of the Members.

By a Letter from the Committee of *Newtown*, in *Queen's County*, it appears that Captain *Richard Lawrence*, Commander of the Troop of Horse in said Town, has, through infirmity, resigned.

Thereupon, Ordered, That Commissions be immediately sent to *Daniel Lawrence* as Captain, *Samuel Riker* as First Lieutenant, *Jonathan Lawrence* Second Lieutenant, *Thomas Betts* Cornet, pursuant to the recommendation of said Committee.

—  
Thursday Morning, August 22, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, and at ring of bell.

Present: *Abm. Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.  
*NEW-YORK.*—*Mr. Bancker*, Colonel *Broome*, Major *Van Zandt*, Colonel *Brasher*; Colonel *Lott* on service, *Mr. Beekman* on service.

*ALBANY.*—*Mr. A. Yates*, *Mr. Adgate*, *Mr. Bleecker*.

*SUFFOLK.*—*Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Tredwell*; *Mr. Hobart* on service.

*ULSTER.*—Colonel *De Witt*, *Mr. Contine*.

*CUMBERLAND.*—Colonel *Marsh*.

*DUTCHESS.*—*Mr. Landon*, *Mr. Sacket*, *Mr. Schenck*.

*WESTCHESTER.*—*Mr. Haviland*, Judge *Graham*, General *Morris*.

*ORANGE.*—*Dr. Outwater*, *Mr. Joseph Smith*.

*TRYON.*—*Mr. Newkirk*.

*CHARLOTTE.*—*Mr. Duer*.

*QUEEN'S.*—*Mr. S. Townsend*, *Mr. Sands*; *Mr. Joseph Townsend* on service.

A Letter from Adjutant-General *Reed*, dated yesterday,\* enclosing, by direction of General *Washington*, for the perusal and advice of the Convention, a Letter from Governour *Martin* to the General, dated on board the *Sovereign* transport, on the 16th instant, wherein he requests that his wife and children, and all or any of his father-in-law's family, with whom they reside at *Rockaway*, may be permitted to go on board the fleet, and with great confidence expects a favourable answer, with such passports as General *Washington* shall judge expedient to enable him to open an immediate intercourse with his family, and to provide them the necessary facilities for going on board, were respectively read.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to Colonel *Reed*, in answer to his of yesterday, was read and approved, and is in the words following, viz:

“August 22, 1776.

“SIR: I have laid your letter of 21st instant, enclosing another from the late Governour *Martin*, before the Convention of this State. The Convention are of opinion that no great detriment can arise to the publick cause in suffering the late Governour *Martin's* wife and children to go to *Staten-Island*, and therefore cheerfully concur with his Excellency's inclination to grant this indulgence. With respect to his father-in-law and family, they do not conceive them entitled to the same favour, unless Lord *Howe* should be disposed to liberate *Mr. Bancker*, late a Member of this Convention, and at present a prisoner upon his parole at *Staten-Island*, together with his family and *Dr. Martin*, a brother-in-law to it, particularly, as the gentleman who has made the application is at present a prisoner of this State, upon his parole at *Rockaway*. I am, therefore, desired to entreat the favour of you to lay this matter before General *Washington*, and to entreat the favour of him to propose this exchange to Lord *Howe*. Should a refusal be given to this exchange, the Convention are of opinion that none of the family should be permitted to depart, as they may be exchanged hereafter for more valuable citizens, whom the fortune of war may deliver into the enemy's power.

“I am, sir, your very obedient servant. Per order.  
“To General *Reed*.”

\* *HEAD-QUARTERS, NEW-YORK, August 21, 1776.*

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by his Excellency General *Washington* to forward the enclosed letter for your perusal and advice. The General is inclined to grant the request it contains, if it shall not appear to you, who, from your situation, must be better able to judge what consequences will follow it, do not advise him against it. The messenger will go on to *King's Bridge*, and has orders to call on return, and wait for an answer. You will please to return the letter at the same time.

I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
*JOS. REED.*



The Letter or Report of *Abm. W. De Peyster, Esq.*, relative to the disposition of the Prisoners in *Connecticut*, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Harlem, August 21, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: In obedience to the orders received from the President of the honourable Convention, I waited upon Governour *Trumbull*, at *Lebanon*, to take his directions for the disposition of the thirteen prisoners left at *Litchfield*; when his Honour was pleased to order that *Gilbert Forbes* and *William Forbes* should remain in *Litchfield* Jail, in the custody of *Lynde Lord, Esq.*, the Sheriff of that County; that *D. Mathews, Esq.*, should be removed from thence to *Hartford* Jail, to the care of *Williams, Esq.*, Sheriff of *Hartford* County; and that *John L. C. Broome, Esq.*, *Nathl. Gyre, Lazarus Gyre, Jonathan Baker, James Mason, Isaac Young, Israel Young, Thomas Coyne, John Clark*, and *Thomas Vernon*, be committed to the County, (say custody of *Prosper Whetmore, Esq.*, Sheriff of the County of *New-London*;) to be confined in the Jail in the town of *Norwich*, in the said County. The Governour, at same time, wrote letters of instruction to the Sheriffs, respectively, advising them of the manner in which the prisoners were to be treated. The one to the Sheriff of *Hartford* County, respecting Mr. *Mathews*, the Governour informed me contained a permission to let Mr. *Mathews* walk about the town in the daytime, with some person as his guard, who he was to be at the expense of, and who was every evening to see him safely in his lodgings in Jail, where, I understand, he was to have his quarters.

"As soon as the Governour dismissed me, I set out for *Litchfield*. When I arrived there I found that the Committee of that town, in my absence, had permitted all the prisoners, who had been put in close confinement, (except *Gilbert Forbes*;) to go at large about the town, as the keeping them shut up in jail would have endangered their lives. The Sheriff had taken the two *Youngs* at his own house. *Broome* had his quarters in the Jailer's apartments, adjoining the Jail. The others were at work in different places, some in harvest, and others at their respective trades, as journeymen. Mr. *Mathews*, during my absence, I understand, had, agreeable to his promise, strictly confined himself to Captain *Seamour's* house, in which I had left him. This change in the prisoners' situation from that in which they were when I left *Litchfield*, made the account I brought them of their removal very unwelcome; and they now, to a man, solicit as much to remain at *Litchfield* as they had before to be conveyed to some other place. The Mayor was very desirous indeed to remain at *Litchfield*, and urged as a reason, among many others, for his being left there, that he was not in very affluent circumstances, and he was apprehensive that living at *Hartford* would be very expensive; that he boarded at Captain *Seamour's* at a moderate rate; that the expense of travelling was very high; that he did not know how long he would remain a prisoner, and therefore he was desirous to live at as little expense as possible; and as the Convention had been pleased to order that he should maintain himself at his own expense, he thought it not unreasonable that he should have liberty to live where he would be at the least expense; that Captain *Seamour* would be his security, and undertake to keep him safe in his own house. *Broome* was equally anxious to remain at *Litchfield*, and offered the same reasons. At length, at the request of Captain *Seamour*, and by consent of the Committee of that place, I agreed to leave the above two gentlemen in the custody of Captain *Seamour*, who engaged to be security for their safe custody, and to see them safe, at their own expense, to the places respectively assigned them by the Governour, in case either the Governour or the Convention, upon their being informed of what I had done, disapproved of their remaining at *Litchfield*; for which purpose I left in Captain *Seamour's* hands Mr. *Mathews's* warrant of commitment, together with the above-mentioned letter to the Sheriff of *Hartford*, to be delivered by him to the said Sheriff, in case the Mayor should be ordered to *Hartford*. As the two *Youngs* were likewise to live at their own expense, the Sheriff of *Litchfield*, at whose house I found them, thought it not amiss that they be also left, especially as they would be immediately under his eye, and kept by him confined within the walls of his house, unless when he (the Sheriff) thought proper to let them take a little air in the streets, when he would attend to them himself. Upon this, and with approbation of the Committee, I agreed to leave the two *Youngs* also, upon the same con-

dition as above-mentioned, that they repair to *Norwich*, under a guard, at their own expense, in case the Governour or Convention insisted on their removal; which the Sheriff promised me to see performed by them. I however directed Sheriff *Lord* to take bond for them in the penalty of £500, to be executed by them and their brother *Joseph*, who was expected at *Litchfield* the next day, with condition that they repair to *Norwich*, as aforesaid, as soon as advised thereof; that they, in the mean time, demean themselves as good subjects of the States; and, lastly, that they strictly conform themselves to the directions of the said Sheriff as to their behaviour; which bond I prepared before I left *Litchfield*. As a further security, I caused the *Youngs* to deposite into the hands of the Sheriff all the money they had with them, which, I was told by the Sheriff, amounted to about £200.

"Soon after this I set out for *Norwich*, with *Nathan Gyre, Lazarus Gyre, James Mason, Jonathan Baker, Thomas Coyne, John Clarke*, and *Thomas Vernon*, under a guard of three men besides an officer; but we had not proceeded more than two miles from the town of *Litchfield*, before I was under a necessity to leave old *Gyre* upon the road, so very sick that had I conveyed him a mile farther the jolting of the wagon, over such rough and stony roads as we had to travel, would inevitably have deprived him of what little life he had left. The other six I conveyed safe to *Norwich*, and delivered into the custody of the Sheriff of the County of *New-London*.

"In my way down to *Norwich* I again called on the Governour, and acquainted him with my leaving the Mayor, *Broome*, and the two *Youngs*, at *Litchfield*. He replied, it was very well; for his part, he had no objections, provided the Convention of this State approved of it. He added, that the Jails at *Hartford* and *Norwich* were small. Indeed, I found the Jail at *Hartford* pretty full of prisoners, and *Norwich* but barely large enough to contain the six I left there.

"Upon my return again through *Lebanon*, the Governour made out a new warrant for old *Gyre* to be kept in custody of the Sheriff of *Litchfield*, which was delivered to the said Sheriff on my arrival there, and he accordingly took charge of him; so very ill, however, that it is more than probable he is now dead.

"Before I left *Litchfield* the last time, I discharged the Sheriff's demands against the Convention for the support of the prisoners up to August 6th, for which I took his Jailer's receipt. I have only to add, that the Sheriff of *New-London* begged I would request the Convention of this State to send some money to *Norwich* for the support of the six prisoners I left with him, as soon as they conveniently could.

"I am, gentlemen, with the utmost respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"A. W. DE PEYSTER.

"To the Hon. the Convention of the State of *New-York*."

Ordered, That the said Report be referred to the same Committee to whom was referred the Letter of *David Mathews* to his wife, and the Letter of the Committee of *Litchfield*.

A Letter from *Andrew Bostwick*,\* dated at *Goshen*, the

\*GOSHEN, August 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: In consequence of my unfortunate situation, I have enclosed a petition to the President of the Convention, praying for that relief which the tumults and convulsions of the times have hitherto prevented me from getting. Suffer me, therefore, my friend, to request your influence with the members, that I may have redress. I request no more than that freedom which will enable me to be serviceable to my creditors, my family, and my country. I doubt not your willingness to assist me, in doing which you'll ever oblige, dear sir, your most unfortunate friend,

*Robt. Benson, Esquire, at Harlem.*

ANDW. BOSTWICK.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the State of *NEW-YORK* in Convention assembled: The Petition of *ANDREW BOSTWICK*, an insolvent debtor, now confined in the Jail of the County of *ORANGE*, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, through sundry losses and disappointments in trade, is rendered incapable of making full payment to his creditors, by which means he has been in actual confinement for near seventeen months; that your petitioner has no desire to be discharged from the payment of his just debts, without making all the satisfaction to his creditors that is in his power; and is apprehensive that a resolve of the honourable Convention, permitting the Sheriff to release him from confinement on such conditions as they shall deem meet and proper, cannot, in the least, injure the creditors, but, on the contrary, will better enable him to settle his affairs with them more to their mutual advantage than he could do while continued in confinement. Your petitioner, therefore, most humbly prays this honourable Convention that they would take his case into their consideration, and grant such speedy relief as the nature and necessity of the case requires. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

ANDW. BOSTWICK.



15th instant, enclosing a Petition to the Convention "praying for that relief which the tumults and convulsions of the times had hitherto prevented him from getting," was received, and the Petition read.

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the Committee appointed for the relief of Prisoners imprisoned for Debt.

The Petition of *Abel Noble* and *Peter Townsend*, proprietors of *Sterling* Iron Works, praying that one hundred and fifty workmen employed at their Works may be exempt from serving in the Militia, was read.

Mr. *Outwater*, from the Committee appointed to confer with Captain *Benson*, reported, that Captain *Benson* says he has made a thorough search for the articles ordered by the Committee of Safety for fitting out the vessels preparing for *Hudson's River*; that he requested to borrow the articles directed to be bought out of the Continental store at *Poughkeepsie*; that the sloops will be of no use but in the river, the beams of their decks not being substantial or strong enough to go to sea.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of said Report be deferred until Mr. *John Jay* is present.

A draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington*, relative to a report that the City of *New-York* was to be burnt if the Troops left it, was read and approved, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of }  
New-York, Haerlem, August 22, 1776. }

"SIR: The Convention of this State have received information from one of the Deputies of the City and County of *New-York* of a report prevailing amongst the Army, 'that if the fortune of war should oblige our troops to abandon that city, it should be immediately burnt by the retreating soldiery, and that any man is authorized to set it on fire.'

"The Convention will cheerfully submit to the fatal necessity of destroying that valuable city whenever your Excellency shall deem it essential to the safety of this State or the general interest of *America*. Yet the duty which they owe to their constituents obliges them to take every possible precaution that twenty thousand inhabitants may not be reduced to misery by the wanton act of an individual. They therefore entreat your Excellency to take such measures in preventing the evil tendency of such a report as you shall deem most expedient.

"I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant. By order:

"*ABM. YATES, President.*

"His Excellency General *Washington*."

Die Jovis, 8 ho. P. M., August 22, 1776.

The Convention met on a summons of the Members and ring of the bell. Present:

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Broome*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Jay*; Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Rutgers*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, on duty.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *W. Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Hobart*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Mr. *De Witt*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sacket*, Mr. *Schenck*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townsend*, Mr. *Jos. Townsend*, Mr. *Ben. Sands*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Zeb. Mills*, General *Morris*, Mr. *Gouv. Morris*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Jos. Smith*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

*Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., being absent, and the Convention suddenly and unexpectedly convened, *William Smith*, Esq., was chosen President for the evening.

Mr. *James Townsend* and Mr. *Hobart* delivered a copy of a Letter from Brigadier-General *Livingston*, of *New-Jersey*, to his Excellency General *Washington*, which was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: In the utmost haste I must inform you that very providentially I sent a spy last night on *Staten-Island*, to obtain intelligence of the movements of the enemy, as many things, apparently new, were seen from our lines. He has this moment returned in safety. The substance of his information I must give you in short: He went on *Staten-Island* about midnight, and got, undiscovered, to the house of the person to whom he was

sent, who informed him that the whole force of the enemy, of every kind, was thirty-five thousand men, fifteen thousand of whom were left on the Island, but all the rest embarked; that they expected to attack every hour, he thinks this night at farthest; it was to be on *Long-Island* and up the *North-River*; that the fifteen thousand men were to land and attack on *Bergen-Point*, *Elizabethtown-Point*, and at *Amboy*. He has heard the orders read, and heard the Generals talk of it. The wagons are all laid out and ready; that they appear very determined, and will put all to the sword. They are in great want of provisions; pork tolerably good, but flour exceedingly bad. They have eat up all the cattle, and are now killing and barrelling up all the horses they meet with. All the field-pieces are taken on board except two. The information may be depended on. Ten pounds have been given for a cow, and ten dollars for a sheep. That the Tories on the Island are very ill-treated lately, so that the inhabitants, who at first were so pleased, would now be willing to poison them all. They take from them everything they choose, and no one has anything they can call their own.

"I am, with great respect, &c., &c.,

"*WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.*

"*Elizabethtown, August 21, 1776.*"

Mr. *Hobart* further informed the Convention that the enemy are landed on *Nassau-Island*; that the Rifle Regiment are retreated to the lines; that the enemy have landed a party of Light-Horse, and between thirty and forty pieces of Artillery.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Morris*, General *Morris*, and Mr. *Benjamin Sands*, be a Committee to take the said Letter and intelligence into consideration, and report thereon to-morrow morning, and to write to General *Washington* to know whether he desires General *Morris's* Brigade to be called out.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer remove the Treasury and Papers and Accounts near to the Church in *Harlem* to-morrow morning.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerard Bancker* remove all the Books and Papers of the late General Assembly of this State to *Harlem* to-morrow morning.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., August 23, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Colonel *Broome*, Major *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Dunscomb*, Colonel *Brasher*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*.

DUTCHESS.—Major *Schenck*, Mr. *Sacket*, Mr. *Landon*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stephens*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townsend*, Mr. *James Townsend*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*.

WESTCHESTER.—Judge *Graham*, Mr. *Haviland*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Jos. Smith*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Newkirk*.

Die Veneris, 3 ho. P. M., August 23, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Broome*, Mr. *Dunscomb*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Bancker*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Hobart*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Schenck*, Mr. *Sacket*, Mr. *Landon*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Samuel Townsend*, Mr. *James Townsend*, Mr. *Benjamin Sands*, Major *Lawrence*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Haviland*, Judge *Graham*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Contine*, Colonel *De Witt*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Jos. Smith*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stephens*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

Mr. *Duer*, from the Committee appointed to consider of and report on the Letter from Brigadier-General *Livingston* to his Excellency General *Washington*, brought in the Report of the said Committee, which was read.

The same being read a second time, and some time spent therein,

Mr. *William Smith* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *James Townsend*, that the said Report of the Committee on the said Letter be postponed for further consideration.

Debates arose thereon, and the question being put, it was carried in the negative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Negative.

6 Albany.  
2 Cumberland.  
8 New-York.  
3 Orange.  
2 Charlotte.  
5 Dutchess.  
4 Ulster.  
4 Suffolk.

For the Affirmative.

4 Queen's.

34 votes.

Therefore the said motion was rejected.

After much time spent on said Report,

On motion of Mr. *William Smith*,

Ordered, That the said Report be committed to the Deputies from *Suffolk* and *Queen's*, and that they report to-morrow morning.

Mr. *Duer*, for *Charlotte* County, dissented.

Ordered, That Mr. *Duncomb* and Mr. *Robert Harper* be added to the Committee for removing the women, children, and infirm persons, out of the City of *New-York*.

Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A. M., August 24, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *R. Harper*, Mr. *Bancker*, Col. *Broome*; Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Duncomb*, Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Rutgers*, Captain *Denning*, on duty.

ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *W. Smith*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Contine*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Newkirk*, Mr. *Harper*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Gouverneur Morris*, Mr. *Haviland*, Judge *Graham*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Wisner*.

DUTCHESS.—Major *Schenck*, Mr. *Sacket*, Mr. *Landon*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*, Colonel *Marsh*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *S. Townsend*, Mr. *James Townsend*, Mr. *Benjamin Sands*.

On motion of Mr. *Hobart*,

Resolved and Ordered, That the Members of *Suffolk* and *Queen's* Counties now present join the other Members from those two Counties, now sitting as a Committee to reconsider the Report of the Committee on the Letter of Brigadier-General *Livingston* to his Excellency General *Washington*; and the President and other Members proceed as a Committee of Safety on all business relating to this State, or on which this Convention might proceed, until Members sufficient to form a Convention come in.

The Committee consisting of the Members of *Queen's* and *Suffolk*, came into the Convention without delay, and reported, in substance, the following Resolutions; which being read, and unanimously agreed to, are in the words following:

Resolved and Ordered, That Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, or, in his absence, Lieutenant-Colonel *Potter*, march without delay one-half of the western Regiment of Militia of *Suffolk* County, with five days' provisions, into the western part of *Queen's* County, and that the officers of the Militia in *Queen's* County immediately order out the whole Militia of that County, together with their Troop of Horse, and that the said officers of Militia and Troop of Horse use all possible diligence to prevent the stock and other provisions in *Queen's* County from falling into the hands of the enemy, either by removing them out of their way, or if that cannot be effected, by destroying them, until they shall receive more particular directions from this Convention.

And Ordered, further, That the Captain of the Troop of Horse in *King's* County, with his Troop, join the said Militia, and that the inhabitants of *Queen's* County, not of the Militia, do assist in executing the above orders whenever they shall have notice from the commanding officer of the Militia that their assistance is necessary.

Ordered, That the Secretaries prepare several copies of these Resolutions, and send them to Brigade-Major *Lawrence*, in *Queen's* County, and to Lieutenant-Colonel *Potter* and General *Woodhull*, in *Suffolk* County, by *Samuel Dyckman*, the Messenger.

The Members of *Westchester* and *Charlotte* Counties

having come into the Convention while the last resolutions were considering, there were Members sufficient to form a Convention, which prevented the necessity of proceeding as a Committee of Safety, and abrogated their power.

The President informed the Convention that Dr. *Treat*\* has sent a quantity of Medicines and Hospital Stores belonging to the publick to his (the President's) chamber in *Harlem*.

Thereupon, one of the Members informed the Convention, that four of the Members had directed them to be sent to the President at *Harlem*, as Dr. *Treat* thought they were not safe in the City, and a justification of their conduct in this matter. The Convention approves and justifies their conduct in this matter.

A Letter from the Committee at *Monmouth* County, in the State of *New-Jersey*, in answer to one addressed to them by this Convention, was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Committee, *Monmouth* County, Freehold, August 17, 1776.

"SIR: We have received yours of the 26th ultimo, enclosing the examination of *Balthazar De Hart*, and have much reason to expect and believe the contents truly stated. It has been, and still continues our misfortune, that many parts of this County are exceedingly infested with Tories of the most inveterate disposition, owing, we suspect, in a great measure, to the malign influence of our late Attorney-General and his execrable junto.

"The township of *Shrewsbury*, from the bad disposition of a great proportion of its inhabitants, from its vicinity to the shore, and consequent aptitude for dealing and corresponding with the enemy, and all this under the patronage of such a Committee as you may justly suppose a disaffected majority would naturally constitute, must as naturally offer itself as an asylum to refugee Tories from any other quarter, and hence you will easily account for so many disaffected persons from your city having seated themselves there, who by means of a kind of stage or post established between that town and *New-York*, have, we fear, given the enemy intelligence of all your measures, and may, perhaps, continue to do so, if passes from that Committee are admitted at or near your city.

"We have the pleasure to inform you that, having had a notification of almost every article contained in Mr. *De Hart's* examination, we had, previous to the receipt of your letter, entered fully into the affair, and taken such steps as we hope will cut off the communication with the enemy, bring some offenders to justice, and perhaps return you some of your late inhabitants. Particularly a guard had been already posted, by order of General *Mercer*, upon the whole *Shrewsbury* and *Middletown* shores, who have orders to seize and detain all craft belonging to said shores, and to apprehend every suspicious person who may be found within their respective districts. There had been also apprehended a number of the inhabitants of *Shrewsbury*, against whom proofs of disaffection were proffered, some of whom we have bound in heavy bonds, and another, a person of first property in the town, is now under confinement, and we expect will take his trial upon the Treason Act, as soon as our new Legislature shall be established.

"Persons, by order of your Convention, and under appointment of this Committee, have inventoried and appraised a number of estates in that and our other townships, which lately belonged to a set of refugees who, finding the country too hot for them, have fled and joined the Ministerial Army, which wicked and traitorous step, some scores of our inhabitants have taken, though they were chiefly persons of the most abandoned characters and desperate fortunes.

"We have cited the three persons mentioned in your letter to have been at General *Howe's* camp, and although they went by Colonel *Taylor's* permission, who granted them a flag, yet, as they had not been qualified, we have put them under oath, but have not been able to make any very important discoveries. Not choosing to trust the business to the Town Committee, for reasons before hinted, we

\* *New-York*, August 19, 1776.

SIR: By order from Messrs. *William Denning*, *Charles De Witt*, *James Beekman*, and *John Sloss Hobart*, I send to your care all the medicines, sheets, lint, &c., now in my possession belonging to the Congress of the State of *New-York*, which you will receive by one *Demerter*, a carman.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

MALACHY TREAT.

To the Hon. *Abraham Yates*, Jr., Esq.

had also, before the receipt of your favour, constituted a Sub-Committee from our own body, who were authorized to cite every inhabitant of *New-York* then within the township of *Shrewsbury*, to appear before them, and show cause why they should not be immediately removed whence they came, agreeable to a late requisition from your State, and an express ordinance of our own, respecting persons deserting the place of their abode, when in danger of being attacked; who have cited them accordingly, and give them till the 24th instant to procure, if practicable, from *New-York*, such certificates as may satisfy the friends of freedom here.

"A number of armed vessels have frequently been, for days together, at anchor and hovering near the coast, and we doubt not have had frequent intercourse with, and received some supplies from, the disaffected in this County. But they have not as yet been able to effect anything to purpose; and as our guards are now on the spot, and we have given peremptory orders that all the stock be immediately driven from all the beaches and adjacent meadows, we flatter ourselves that the enemy will be disappointed in any future attempt they may make to procure provisions.

"Our maritime situation, at the same time that it has been favourable to the pernicious designs of our inveterate enemies, has subjected the Committee of this County to almost innumerable difficulties from the beginning of these troubles, and we believe we may justly say we have spent more time and undergone more vexation and fatigue than any other Committee in this State, as on every extraordinary occasion our members were to be convened from an extent of seventy or eighty miles. However, blessed be *God*, we hope we have almost completed a victory over them, and we humbly confide on his Almighty aid for a universal conquest over every other enemy to *American* freedom.

"We heartily thank you for your friendly communications, and shall, with the utmost cheerfulness, concur with you in every measure for the publick safety.

"And now, that the same all-wise Director and powerful supporter of true civil and religious liberty may bless the Convention of the State of *New-York* with unanimity, wisdom, and fortitude, in the arduous task assigned them, and that they may speedily obtain the desirable end of all their patriotick exertions, is in sincerity and truth the most ardent wish of their friends, brethren, and humble servants, the Committee of *Monmouth* County.

"Signed by order: JOHN HOLMES, *Chairman*.

"To the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*."

*Ordered*, That it be referred to a Committee to consist of Colonel *Broome* and Colonel *De Witt*.

A Letter from the Committee of the County of *Cumberland* was received and read, and is in the words following, that is to say:

Province of *New-York*, }  
Cumberland County, } ss.

To the Honourable Gentlemen of the  
Provincial Congress of this Province:

"Upon the handbills from you sent to us, purporting the expediency of instituting civil government according to the exigencies of the County, the major part of whom have agreed thereto and elected their Delegates, and empowered them with their authority to agree with you in forming a mode of government independent of the Crown, in the most mild, just, and equitable manner possible, for the regulating their internal police, and the preservation of the rights, liberties and property of the people; all which subjected, nevertheless, to those regulations, conditions, and restraints, herewith transmitted you by the hands of the Delegates of this County; to all which they are, by their constituents in the premises, limited and restrained in such manner, that if they break over and violate those sacred instructions herewith sent you, in behalf of us and our constituents, in matters of such infinite importance and delicacy, the County Committee declare, in behalf of the few patriotick people thereof, that they mean to, and hereby resolve to reserve to themselves the full liberty of an absolute disavowance thereof, and of every clause, article, and paragraph, of such an institution.

"Also, it is hereby acceded to, and fully meant and intended by the good people of this County, that they, notwithstanding this compliance with the requisition of the said

handbills above-mentioned, so directed to us for the purposes aforesaid, have fully and absolutely reserved to themselves and their heirs, &c., the full liberty of pursuing their former petition in behalf of the people included and specified therein some years ago, and referred to the Great and General Assembly of the ancient, ever-respectable, and most patriotick Government of the *Massachusetts-Bay* Province, that the whole district described in said petition may be hereafter remitted to that Province, and reserving to themselves also the right of offering their pleas, arguments and proofs in full, to induce a reunion thereof to that ancient jurisdiction, for those important reasons to be adduced, when, where, and before whom the parties concerned shall be admitted to offer the same. As in duty bound shall ever pray.

"The whole whereof, so as offered to your ever-respectable gentlemen, submitted with due congratulation of all the good people of said County.

"By order of the County Committee:

"JAMES CLAY, *Chairman of said Committee*.

"Copy compared with the original, and extracted therefrom.

"Attest: ELK. DAY, *Clerk of said Committee*.

"Protests instantly entered.

"ELKANAH DAY,

"JOHN BRIDGNOR, Esq.,

"JOHN NORTON.

} Test: ELK. DAY, *Clerk to said Committee*.

"Westminster, June 21, A. D. 1776."

*Ordered*, That the said Letter be referred to a Committee, to consist of Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Hobart*, and Mr. *Schenck*.

Die Sabbati, 4 ho. P. M., August 24, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abm. Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *R. Harper*. Five members absent on business.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *W. Smith*, Mr. *Hobart*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackct*, Mr. *Schenck*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

WESTCHESTER.—Gouverneur *Morris*, Mr. *Haviland*, General *Morris*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *S. Townsend*, Mr. *J. Townsend*, Mr. *Ben. Sands*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Wisner*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stephens*, Colonel *Marsh*.

*Hugh Doyle*, late a soldier in Captain *Palmer's* Company, in one of the Regiments of this Colony, attending, was admitted. He informed the Convention that he had lately been taken by the enemy on *Staten-Island*, and detained a prisoner in irons twenty-five days; that by inlisting in the enemy's regiment of volunteers, he had a dangerous opportunity, and made his escape on *Wednesday* last. He gave such information as he had to communicate.

*Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Convention, advance to *Hugh Doyle* eight Dollars, to support him in his return to his family at *New-Haven*.

*Resolved, and Ordered*, That *Peter Van B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Convention, advance to Colonel *Isaac Nicoll* £72, to enable him to pay the one moiety of the bounty due to eighteen Privates of his Regiment, and muster the said men; Colonel *Nicoll* to be accountable to this Convention for the disposition of that money.\*

And *Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Clinton* be, and is hereby, requested to give out in orders, that the Colonels

\* GENTLEMEN: There is great complaints among the troops concerning their bounty, many of them having no money to purchase necessaries, having left at home what little they had for the use of their families, expecting to have received the remainder of their bounty agreeable to your first resolution. I can but think the good of the service and honour of the Convention is concerned. Hope you will take it into consideration, and afford speedy relief in the premises. Am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,  
ZEPHA. PLATT.

To the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

[An order was made immediately (in pursuance of this letter) that the Colonels return their Muster-Rolls; but no notice is taken of this letter in the Minutes.]

of the respective Regiments in his Brigade, who have not returned the Muster-Rolls of their Regiments to this Convention, do return the same immediately, in order that they may be mustered by a Continental Mustermaster, and receive the other moiety of their bounty money.

Captain *Benson* having attempted, by order of the Committee for the obstructing the navigation of *Hudson's River*, to purchase Sails and Rigging for two armed Sloops, which cannot be purchased,

*Resolved*, That the Committee for stopping the channel in the *East River* be requested to furnish Captain *Henry Benson*, on account of this State, with such Rigging and other articles as he may want, and which are now in their possession, taken from the Vessels by them employed in stopping the channel aforesaid.

A Request of Major *Hendrick Van De Linde Verbruyck*\* to Brigadier-General *Clinton*, requesting a dismissal from the present service, on account of his ill state of health, was read and filed.

General *Clinton's* Letter to Major *Van Bryck*,† submitting his application to this Convention, was also read and filed.

*Resolved*, That this Convention consent to the dismissal of Major *Van Bryck* from the present service, on account of his ill state of health, agreeable to his request.

*Barrent Miller*, Esq., came into the Convention and took his seat, as a Deputy for *Suffolk County*.

The Committee, consisting of the Deputies from *Suffolk* and *Queen's* Counties, appointed yesterday evening, to reconsider the Report of the former Committee on the Letter of General *Livingston* to his Excellency General *Washington*, brought in their Report. Eight paragraphs thereof, with the recital, being read, amended, and agreed to, paragraph by paragraph, is in the words following, that is to say:

Whereas the enemy's troops have landed on the western shore of *Nassau-Island* and penetrated into the heart of *King's County*, and this Convention have received intelligence that they are in extreme want of provisions and refreshments; and whereas it will be extremely difficult, if not impracticable, to prevent them from ravaging and plundering the southern part of the said Island, whereby their present necessities may be greatly relieved: Inasmuch, therefore, as it is the duty of this Convention to prefer the general cause of *America* to the interest and convenience of individuals:

1st. *Resolved*, That all the Horses, Horned Cattle, and Sheep, belonging to the south side of the ridge of hills in *Queen's County*, be forthwith removed, and put into the fields at the east end of *Hempstead Plains*, there to be and remain, under a sufficient number of keepers, at the discretion of Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, until he shall judge it necessary to remove them farther eastward; and when he shall think the same necessary, that he do direct them to be drove into such part of *Suffolk County* as he shall think proper: *Provided, notwithstanding*, That nothing in this resolve shall extend to prevent each large family from retaining four milch Cows, each middling family three, and each small family two; nor each farmer from retaining one pair of Horses.

2d. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of *Queen's County*, residing to the south of the ridge of hills, immediately to remove all their Grain now in the barns and barracks, to some convenient place, at a distance

\* KING'S BRIDGE, August 23, 1776.

To GEORGE CLINTON, Esq., sheweth:

That whereas I was appointed by the State of *New-York* a Major in Colonel *Isaac Nicoll's* Regiment, at which time I was not well, and should have declined accepting had I not been persuaded to it. And as I still continue unwell, and think myself not able for the service, hope your Honour will be so good as to get me a dismissal; and by so doing you will greatly oblige your petitioner.

H. V. D. L. VERBRUYCK, Major.

† KING'S BRIDGE, August 24, 1776.

SIR: It would be a high piece of presumption in me to dismiss any gentleman from the service of the State who is intrusted with an office in my Brigade by the Convention, especially one of such importance as that of a Major of a regiment. Your application, therefore, ought to be to that body who gave you your appointment. And I doubt not, upon a representation of the state of your health, which I am convinced is really such as to render you unfit for service, they will readily grant you a dismissal from the same. I could wish it suited you to continue with us, in which case I would endeavour to make your duty as easy as the nature of your office and the times would admit of. At the same time I cannot advise you in a matter of so delicate nature.

I am your most obedient servant,

GEO. CLINTON.

To Major *Verbruyck*.

from the buildings, that the same, without endangering the buildings, may be burnt, whenever it shall be impracticable to prevent the enemy from getting possession of it.

3d. *Resolved, unanimously*, That whenever Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, or the commanding officer for the time being, shall judge that it is the design of the enemy to possess themselves of such Grain, he do send a sufficient number of men to burn and destroy the same; and that the said General or commanding officer at the same time cause all the Horses and Cows which were left with the different families to be driven away or killed; and that all the Mills at the same time be dismantled by taking and carrying away the upper stone.

4th. *Resolved, unanimously*, That Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, with the Troops under his command, take post on the high ground running through *Nassau-Island*, as near the enemy as he may think expedient, for the purpose of opposing their incursions; and that whenever it shall appear probable to him that the enemy will gain possession of those heights, and of the country to the northward and eastward of the same, he retreat, removing or destroying the stock and the grain, and dismantling the Mills, in manner above directed.

5th. *Resolved, unanimously*, That such of the Militia of General *Woodhull's* Brigade as are, or shall be, in actual service, shall be entitled to Continental pay and rations agreeable to their respective ranks.

6th. *Resolved, unanimously*, That *Robert Townsend* be a Commissary to supply the Brigade with Provisions, till such time as General *Washington* shall give further orders for that purpose; and that Mr. *William Smith* and Mr. *Samuel Townsend* be a Committee to wait on General *Washington* with a copy of these Resolutions, and submit the expediency and necessity of the same to his consideration and advice.

And whereas it will be extremely difficult, if not impracticable to effect the good purposes of these Resolutions without an additional force to the Militia, ordered out by a Resolve of this morning for calling out a part of General *Woodhull's* Brigade:

*Ordered*, That said Committee submit to his Excellency's consideration the propriety of ordering Col. *Smith's* and Col. *Remsen's* Regiments of Militia to join the said Brigade.

*Ordered*, That the said Committee do request General *Washington's* opinion relative to the propriety of calling forth further detachments of the Militia of this State into action; and if called out, to what place.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing Resolutions be immediately transmitted to the Delegates of this State in the General Congress.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, contradicting the report that *New-York* was to be abandoned and burnt, was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, August 23, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I am favoured with yours of the 22d, acquainting me with a report now circulating 'that if the *American Army* should be obliged to retreat from this city, any individual may set it on fire.' I can assure you, gentlemen, this report is not founded upon the least authority from me; on the other hand, I am so sensible of the value of such a city, and the consequences of its destruction to many worthy citizens and their families, that nothing but the last necessity, and that such as should justify me to the whole world, would induce me to give orders for that purpose.

"The unwillingness shown by many families to remove, notwithstanding your and my recommendation, may, perhaps, have led some persons to propagate the report with honest and innocent intentions; but as your letter first informed me of it, I cannot pretend to say by whom or for what purpose it has been done. As my views with regard to the removal of the women and children have happily coincided with your sentiments, and a Committee appointed to carry them into execution, I submit it to your judgment whether it would not be proper for the Committee to meet immediately in this city, and give notice of their attendance on this business. There are many who anxiously wish to remove, but have not the means.

"I am, with much respect and regard, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"GO. WASHINGTON.

"To the Hon. Convention of the State of *New-York*."



Die Solis, 8 ho. A. M., August 25, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abm. Yates*, Jun., Esq., President, *pro tem.*

NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Bancker*, *Mr. R. Harper*; *Mr. Roosevelt*,  
*Mr. Dunscomb*, Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Denning*, Captain  
*Rutgers*, on duty.

ALBANY.—*Mr. Yates*, *Mr. Adgate*, *Mr. Bleecker*.

SUFFOLK.—*Mr. Miller*, *Mr. Tredwell*, *Mr. Hobart*.

WESTCHESTER.—*G. Morris*, *Mr. Haviland*, Gen. *Morris*.

TRYON.—*Mr. Newkirk*, *Mr. Harper*.

ORANGE.—*Mr. Outwater*, *Mr. Wisner*.

ULSTER.—*Mr. Contine*.

DUTCHESS.—*Mr. Schenck*, *Mr. R. R. Livingston*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Mr. Duer*.

QUEEN'S.—*Mr. J. Townsend*, *Mr. Benjamin Sands*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, *Mr. Stevens*.

The Committee, consisting of the Members of *Queen's* and *Suffolk* Counties, brought in the residue of the Report of the Committee on the Letter of Brigadier-General *Livingston*, of the 21st instant, to General *Washington*, which was adjourned over last evening for want of time. The Convention took the same into consideration, and the following paragraphs thereof being read, amended, agreed to, and resolved on, are as follows, to wit:

Whereas by reason of the cruel and unnatural invasion now made upon this State, many of the inhabitants thereof may be compelled to abandon their peaceful habitations, and be exposed to all the miseries of want and the horrors of war; and whereas the same regard to the rights of human nature which leads mankind to brave every danger and endure every distress in the great cause of freedom, teaches them to behold with pity, and with generosity to relieve the distresses of their fellow-creatures; and since it is most (say more) especially the duty of those who are called on to superintend the general welfare of the State, to lighten as far as possible the burden of calamity which oppresses their constituents:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the several Committees throughout this State be, and they hereby are, authorized and required to quarter upon the inhabitants of their respective Counties and Districts all such unfortunate persons as may, in consequence of the aforesaid invasion, be driven away from their places of abode, paying all possible regard to the conveniences of such inhabitants, and that they do assess moderate prices to be paid to such inhabitants, for the persons so quartered on them.

*Resolved, also*, That such persons whom circumstances will admit, do maintain themselves and their families; and that this Convention will provide ways and means to defray the expenses of maintaining the indigent: *Provided always*, That no person shall be deemed entitled to the publick benevolence for more than ten days, unless he or she shall within that time produce a certificate of indigence from the Chairman of the Committee of the County or District where he or she formerly resided. And also, that no person, by virtue of their removal as aforesaid, shall be construed to gain a residence in the place to which they shall remove.

*Resolved*, That the several Committees above mentioned do return monthly to this Convention an exact account of such indigent persons as shall appear to be entitled to the publick benevolence, together with the names of the persons on whom they are quartered, and the contracts made for their maintenance, in order that this Convention, or a future Legislature, may make immediate provision for fulfilling such agreements.

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries prepare a copy of these Resolutions, to be immediately despatched to the Chairman of the Committee of *Flushing*.

Monday Morning, August 26, 1776

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abm. Yates*, Jun., Esq., President *pro tem.*

NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Bancker*, *Mr. Harper*, General *Scott*,  
Colonel *Remsen*, *Mr. Beckman*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. Yates*, *Mr. Bleecker*, *Mr. Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—*Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Tredwell*, *Mr. Gelston*, *Mr.*

*Dearing*, *Mr. Miller*, *Mr. L'Hommedieu*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Mr. Morris*, Judge *Graham*, *Mr. Haviland*, General *Morris*.

ULSTER.—*Mr. Contine*, Colonel *Paulding*.

DUTCHESS.—*Mr. R. R. Livingston*, *Mr. Landon*, Major  
*Schenck*.

TRYON.—*Mr. Harper*, *Mr. Moore*, *Mr. Veder*, *Mr. Newkirk*.

ORANGE.—*Dr. Outwater*, *Mr. Wisner*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Mr. Duer*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, *Mr. Stephens*.

QUEEN'S.—*Mr. Samuel Townsend*, *Mr. James Townsend*,  
Colonel *Blackwell*.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Tredwell*, *Mr. William Smith*, and  
*Mr. James Townsend*, be a Committee to draw up and report  
Instructions for Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, and that they  
report with all convenient speed.

*Mr. Gouverneur Morris*, from the Committee appointed  
on the , brought in their Report, which, being read  
and amended, and unanimously agreed to, is in the words  
following, that is to say:

Whereas divers persons who had been represented to this  
Convention as notoriously disaffected to the *American* cause,  
and whose going at large ought to be restrained, have, by order  
of this Convention, been arrested, and now remain confined  
in the Jails of some of the Counties of this State:

And whereas justice and the publick safety demand that  
the degrees of restraint should be proportionate to the dan-  
ger arising from the disaffection, evil disposition, and influence  
of the said Prisoners:

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the General Committees of  
the Counties in which they are so confined, being possessed  
of more knowledge of the characters and principles of each  
of the said Prisoners than this Convention can readily ac-  
quire, be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed so  
to dispose of the said Prisoners as that no undue and unne-  
cessary severity be shown them on the one hand, and the  
safety of the publick against their machinations provided for  
on the other: *Provided, always*, That the said Committees  
shall not have power to tolerate any person or persons who  
already have been, or may hereafter be, confined in Jail for  
treasonable practices against the State.

*Ordered*, That copies thereof be sent to the County Com-  
mittees, and published in all the newspapers.

On the application of *Samuel Mabbit*, of *Dutchess* Coun-  
ty, who assures that he is about to erect a Flaxseed Mill in  
that County:

*Resolved*, That an exemption from military duty be  
granted to six persons, who shall be employed in erecting a  
Flaxseed Mill and carrying on the business of said Mill when  
the same shall be erected: *Provided*, That the names of  
such persons be registered with the Brigadier-General of the  
County of *Dutchess*, and that he be furnished with a copy  
of this Resolution.

On reading the Petition of *Charles Shaw*,\* the Conven-  
tion came to the following determination:

\*To the Honourable the gentlemen of the Convention of the State of NEW-YORK, in Convention assembled: The Memorial of CHARLES SHAW, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist has, in conjunction with his partner, an insurance made in *England* to the amount of £2,100 sterling now depending unrecovered, owing to the present unhappy disputes, as he is unable to transmit the necessary proofs; that he is also equally interested with his partner in bills of exchange to the amount of £1,100 sterling, now in litigation before the Court of Chancery in *England*; that he has also an inheritance in *England* to the value of £1,200 or upwards; that your memorialist is a native of *Great Britain*; that he left there numerous connexions; that he is married in this country, and has children, which he sincerely wishes, with their posterity, may remain freemen, and in order thereto, he has with cheerfulness contributed, and never, directly or indirectly, either by act or deed, given aid or comfort to the enemies of *America*; that he acted as a committee-man for the City and County of *New-York*, in which capacity he flatters himself he gave satisfaction to his constituents—he is confident he acted honestly; that he loves this country, and wishes to spend his days in it, and hopes to see his offspring happy in it; that he has stood clear even of the suspicion of being unfriendly to it in any instance whatsoever, and flatters himself the above reasons will justify him in the minds of the gentlemen of the Convention, when he prays they will exempt him from appearing with the sword drawn and in the field of action, and therefore begs the honourable gentlemen of the Convention will exempt him from the militia duty that may be exacted from him by the Captain of the district in which he now resides; that your memorialist has hired a small house and eight or ten acres of land in the borough-town of *Westchester*, where he has placed his family; that he should wish to remain there, but that nevertheless if his being an *Englishman* should create any fears of the members of the community in which he resides, (confident they have no other,) he is ready to go to such place as the gentlemen of the Convention shall direct, though should prefer *Claverack*, where his wife has some connexions; and hereby solemnly declares to the gentlemen of the Convention that he loves this country and the freedom of its inhabitants; that he never has, directly or indirectly, by act or deed, taken any step to injure either, and never will, and is ready to ratify this declaration in whatever solemn manner the Convention shall think proper.

CHAS. SHAW.

WESTCHESTER, August 22, 1776.

Whereas *Charles Shaw* hath, by his Memorial presented to this Convention, averring his attachment to the *American* cause, shown sufficient cause why he ought not be compelled to actual service in the Militia: Upon consideration of the said Memorial:

*Resolved*, That the said *Charles Shaw* be exempted from said service.

General *Morris* suggested sundry reasons to the Convention for his attendance at *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That General *Morris* attend at Congress at *Philadelphia*, and return with all possible despatch.

The Convention were informed that the Committee, who were appointed for that purpose, cannot proceed in the removal of the Poor from the City of *New-York* without a supply of cash.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of this State advance to *James Beekman*, Esq., one of the members of the Committee appointed to remove the indigent women and children and infirm persons out of the City of *New-York*, the sum of £1,000, to enable the said Committee to complete the business for which they were appointed.

A Letter from General *Woodhull*, dated at *Jamaica*, 25th August, was read.

*Ordered*, To be referred to the Committee for drawing Instructions for General *Woodhull*.

The Committee appointed to wait on General *Washington* with the Resolutions for calling out the western *Suffolk* Regiment and *Queen's County* Militia, to prevent the stock falling in the enemy's hands, do report, that, according to order, they waited on his Excellency, and conferred with him on the subject above-mentioned, and that he seemed well pleased, but said he was afraid it was too late. Your Committee told him the Convention had sent an express to General *Woodhull*, on *Saturday* morning, to embody the western Regiment of *Suffolk*, and all the remaining part of the Militia of *Queen's*, and march to the high grounds on the western part of said Counties; but as the said Convention was apprehensive that General *Woodhull* would not have a sufficient force to drive off the stock and repel the ravaging parties of the enemy, thought it most conducive to the publick welfare that the Regiments above-mentioned should be applied for, that he might thereby be enabled more effectually to carry the resolves of the Convention into execution; upon which General *Washington* appeared well satisfied with the proceedings of the Convention, and said that he should at all times, when he had it in his power, be ready to give them any assistance consistent with the publick good, and that he would immediately give orders that Colonels *Smith's* and *Remsen's* Regiments should march into *Queen's County*, to join General *Woodhull*; and as to calling out any more of the Militia, he asked what time we thought it would take to have the Militia of *Westchester County* embodied; we told him we thought at least four or five days; upon which he made no reply. Your Committee do further report, it was the General's opinion, that our Commissary should continue to supply the troops under Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, and that he consult with the Commissary-General, that they might not interfere with one another in purchasing provisions.

SAML. TOWNSEND,  
WILLIAM SMITH.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* be, and he hereby is, requested to contract with proper persons for making two thousand Pouches with Belts, without delay, and at the cheapest rate he can procure the same, and that he send five hundred of them, as soon as finished, to General *Clin-ton's* encampment, for the use of his Brigade.

A Letter from *Gilbert Livingston* and *Christopher Tappen*,\* Commissioners for building vessels at *Poughkeepsie*,

\* *POUGHKEEPSIE, August 24, 1776.*

SIR: Mr. *Van Zandt*, one of the Commissioners for building ships for the Continental Congress, now carrying on in this place, is unwilling to take the blacksmiths off from their work at the ships, unless he has a warrant from the Continental Congress. As our Convention, before we left it, had resolved to apply to Congress for such warrant, we have long expected it; and if it is come to hand, beg it may be sent us by this conveyance, as our stay here will be fruitless, unless we can have the assistance of the smiths at the ship-yard.

We find, by a resolve of your honourable House, that the 26th current is appointed for the day on which a Committee of the House is to report a form of Government for this State, and that three of our Committee are members of the same; and as Mr. *Poudding* has lately been appointed to a post which requires his presence at a distance from us, we wish your

dated the 24th instant, wishing to be permitted to take their seats in Convention before the Committee report a form of Government, and suggest, as their opinion, that it would be well to secure a State to govern, before they discussed a form to govern it by, was read, and committed to Mr. *R. R. Livingston* and Mr. *L'Hommedieu*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *L'Hommedieu* be added to the Committee to draw Instructions to General *Woodhull*.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. *Joseph Treat* continue his services as Chaplain to Colonel *Lasher's* and Colonel *Malcom's* Battalions, in Brigadier-General *Scott's* Brigade, and that the Rev. Mr. *John Eliot* be Chaplain to Colonel *Samuel Drake's* and Colonel *Humphrey's* Regiments—Mr. *Treat's* pay to commence from the time of calling the said Brigade into service, and Mr. *Eliot's* pay from the 7th instant.

*Ordered*, That General *Scott* be, and he is hereby, authorized to receive, out of the store of this State, such Cots and half Cots now in store as he may find necessary for the use of the Surgeons for dressing the wounded of his Brigade, or as he may find otherwise necessary for the use of the sick, General *Scott* giving a receipt for the same; and that General *Scott* make such disposition of those Cots in his Brigade as he may think proper.\*

*Ordered*, That fifty blank Commissions be sent to the Committee of the County of *Albany*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Bleecker*, and Mr. *Duer*, be a Committee to nominate a suitable character for Major of a Regiment of the Militia in the County of *Albany*.

*Ordered*, That the nomination of the Officers for the *Albany Rangers* be committed to the same Committee.

It was moved that three hundred stand of Arms be forwarded for the use of the Militia of *Gloucester*. Being considered, it was referred to Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Hobart*, and the others of the Committee appointed to hear their Government application.

A Letter from *John Sleight*, Chairman of *Kingston*, was received and read, stating that the women surround the Committee Chamber, and say if they cannot have tea their husbands and sons shall fight no more, was received, and referred to the Members attending from *Ulster County*.

Whereas the Convention have reason to suspect that a correspondence is carried on between the enemy's Army, now on *Nassau-Island*, and the family of Colonel *Josiah Martin*, at *Rockaway*, on said Island; and whereas it is the duty of this Convention diligently to watch over and suppress every intercourse which may endanger the publick good or safety:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Woodhull* be, and he is hereby, requested and authorized to cause the house of the said Colonel *Josiah Martin* immediately to be searched for papers, by a discreet and spirited officer, who shall engage, upon his word of honour, to General *Woodhull*, not to divulge any matters which may be contained in letters of a private nature, and to transmit to the Convention of this State every paper which may concern the publick weal.

And whereas Dr. *Samuel Martin*, son of the said Colonel *Martin*, is at present a prisoner upon his parole at *Rockaway*, on *Nassau-Island*; and whereas, on account of the vicinity of the enemy's Army in which the said Dr. *Martin* has frequent and intimate connection, it would be inconsistent

honourable House would give us leave to take our seats in Convention, (though we are convinced the works carrying on here are of the utmost importance to this State,) as it gives us great pain to think, that notwithstanding the sense of the House appeared to be, at the time we left it, first to endeavour to secure a State to govern, before we established a form to govern it by, yet that a day is fixed to take up this important business, when a part of its body is absent by the command of the House.

We are, sir, with great respect, your very humble servants,  
CHRISTOPHER TAPPEN,  
GILBERT LIVINGSTON.  
To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

\* *NEW-YORK, August 26, 1776.*

GENTLEMEN: I am under the necessity of applying to you, that I may have the privilege of drawing some cots for the use of the sick of my Regiment, as I find there is a number in store belonging to this State which cannot be delivered without your particular order; therefore, must request the favour that the necessary order may be sent, as the sick suffer much for the want of them, and they are not to be had elsewhere at present, &c. I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

SAMUEL DRAKE, Colonel.

To the Provincial Congress.

with good policy to suffer the said *Samuel Martin* to remain any longer on his parole at said place:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Brigadier-General *Woodhull* be, and he is hereby, requested and authorized to cause the said *Dr. Samuel Martin* immediately to be apprehended and conveyed to this Convention, in order that he may be sent to reside in some more secure and distant place.

Whereas considerable expenses have accrued to this State in suppressing the designs of evil-minded and disaffected persons against the liberties of *America*; and whereas the publick economy requires that such expenses should be ascertained in the most exact manner, in order that such means may be devised for reimbursing the same as justice and sound policy may hereafter dictate:

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of this Convention do keep a distinct and accurate account of all sums of money which already have been, and may hereafter be, disbursed by order of the Convention for the purpose of apprehending, securing, and subsisting disaffected persons, and of quelling insurrections within this State.

A draft of a Letter to General *Woodhull*, in answer to his received yesterday, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"August 26, 1776.

"SIR: Yours of yesterday is just come to hand; in answer to which, we would inform you that *Robert Townsend*, the son of *Samuel Townsend*, Esq., is appointed Commissary for the troops under your command, of which we beg you would give him the earliest notice; and that we have made application to General *Washington* for the Regiments under the command of Colonels *Smith* and *Remsen* to join you. He assured our Committee that he would issue out orders immediately for that purpose, and we expect that they are upon the spot by this time.

"You have enclosed some resolutions and orders for your more particular direction. Confiding in your known prudence and zeal in the common cause, and wishing you the protection and blessing of Heaven, we are, with respect, your very humble servants.

"To Brigadier-General *Woodhull*.

"P. S. General *Washington* desires that Mr. *Townsend* may consult with the Commissary-General, that they may not interfere in their purchases."

The Committee appointed to draw Instructions to General *Woodhull* reported a draft which was agreed to, and are in the words following, that is to say:

"You are hereby ordered, with the troops under your command, to take post on the heights, near the western boundaries of *Queen's* County, or in such other place or places in the Counties of *Queen's*, *King's*, or *Suffolk*, as you shall think most convenient for preventing the incursions and depredations of the enemy. And you are hereby empowered and directed to order out the whole or any further part of the Militia, and other inhabitants of said Counties, when and where you shall think them necessary, to protect the inhabitants, removing or destroying the stock and other provisions, and for the other purposes mentioned in the resolutions herewith sent you. You are also to do all in your power to prevent all intercourse with the enemy, by securing and sending to this Convention all such persons as shall be any way aiding or assisting them, or opposing any measures which have been, or shall hereafter be, directed by this Convention; and to search the houses of such persons for papers, as you shall suspect to have had intelligence from the enemy; and you are also at liberty to mount on horseback any number of the Militia that you may think necessary."

#### COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Tuesday Morning, August 27, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met.

Present: Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Wm. Smith*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *James Townsend*, Mr. *Duer*, and Mr. *R. R. Livingston*.

Mr. *Hobart* was unanimously chosen Chairman.

Present: Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Wm. Harper*, Major *Parks*, Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Wisner, Jr.*, Mr. *Bleecker*, Mr. *Yates*, who went to Church, Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *Lockwood*, and Colonel *Van Cortlandt*.

A Letter from General *Woodhull* was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Jamaica, August 27, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I am now at *Jamaica*, with less than one hundred men, having brought all the cattle from the westward and southward of the hills, and have sent them off with the Troops of Horse, with orders to take all the rest eastward of this place to the eastward of *Hempstead Plains*, and to put them into the fields, and set a guard over them. The enemy, I am informed, are intrenching from the heights, near *Howard's*, southward.

"I have now received yours, with several resolutions, which I wish it was in my power to put in execution, but unless Colonels *Smith* and *Remsen* (mentioned in yours) join me with their Regiments, or some other assistance, immediately, I shall not be able, for the people are all moving east, and I cannot get any assistance from them.

"I shall continue here as long as I can, in hopes of a reinforcement, but if none comes soon I shall retreat, and drive the stock before me into the woods. Colonels *Smith* and *Remsen*, I think, cannot join me. Unless you can send me some other assistance, I fear I shall soon be obliged to quit this place. I hope soon to hear from you.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

"NATHL. WOODHULL.

"To the Hon. the Convention of the State of *New-York*."

Major *Lockwood* informed the Committee that the enemy's ships are at *White-Stone*.

Thereupon, *Resolved and Ordered*, That Mr. *Hobart* and Mr. *R. R. Livingston* be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and confer with him relative to the state of *Nassau-Island*, and what measures may be necessary for distressing the enemy thereon, or defending or removing the inhabitants; and that they report the result of their deliberations thereon to this Committee or the Convention of this State.

A Letter from Captain *Denning* was read, dated this day.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Rutgers* be requested immediately to proceed to the City of *New-York*, and afford all possible aid, attention, direction, and assistance, in stopping or impeding the navigation of the *East-River*, and that he employ all such persons as he shall think proper, to give him aid.

Mr. *Dearing* chosen Chairman unanimously, in the room of Mr. *Hobart*.

*Ordered*, That copies of the Resolution and Letter of yesterday, to General *Woodhull*, be made and sent by the express going to *Long-Island*.

On motion of Mr. *Duer*,

*Resolved, unanimously*, That Colonel *Drake*,\* or the next commanding officer of the *Westchester* Militia, do immediately call out as many of the Militia, with five days' provisions, as he shall think sufficient to watch the motions of the enemy's ships now in the *Sound*, and to prevent all communication with the disaffected inhabitants in said County; and that he send notice, from time to time, to the Convention of every remarkable occurrence; and for that purpose, that he is hereby empowered to press Horses when he shall think it necessary.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary enclose a copy thereof in a Letter to Colonel *Drake*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Newkirk* take that Letter and show it to the Commanding Officer at *Horn's Hook*.

The application of Mr. *Jonathan Platt*, for some Commissions for Officers in Colonel *Thomas's* Regiment, was read.

An Express arrived from *New-London*, and communicated a copy of a Letter from *Erastus Wolcott* to the Committee of *Saybrook*, and is in the words following:

"New-London, August 24, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Yesterday in the morning appeared at the east end of *Fisher's Island* two of the enemy's armed frigates and a brig, and this morning they passed by this harbour, standing to the westward. I thought it best to give you this intelligence by express, that you may keep a good look-out, and take what measures your prudence will suggest,

\* NEW-ROCHELLE, August 27, 1776.

SIR: I have but just time to inform you that two men-of-war are now anchored between *Hart* and *City Islands*; they have but just come to an anchor. I thought best first to rally as many of the Militia as possible; there is one more that is gone past *Frog's Point*. In a hurry, from yours,

JOSEPH DRAKE.

To Brigadier-General *Morris*.

and must leave to you whether or not to forward this from town to town by express, if no direct opportunity offers; this may much depend on what is already known of their being in the *Sound*, and by observing their motions.

"I am, gentlemen, with esteem and regard, your obedient humble servant,

ERASTUS WOLCOTT.

"To the Committee at *Saybrook*."

Mr. *L'Homedieu* moved, and was seconded, that his Excellency General *Washington* be acquainted that the Committee of *Southold*, at the east end of *Nassau-Island*, have mounted four cannon\* as field-pieces, viz: three six-pounders and one three-pounder, to prevent depredations of the enemy along the *Sound*, and to enable the inhabitants to make a stand at certain passes; and that his Excellency be requested to send a sufficiency of powder, ball, and cartridge-paper, for the said cannon, to the care of Colonel *Livingston*; and that Colonel *Teircy* be directed to except such number of men from the common militia duty as will be sufficient to manage said cannon, they keeping a number of horses ready to remove the said cannon to such places as shall be necessary.

The said motion was unanimously agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Schenck*, Colonel *Broome*, Colonel *Remsen*, and Mr. *Duer*, be added to the Committee of this morning, to whom was referred the Letter from *Kingston*, received and read this morning.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *L'Homedieu*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *W. Smith*, Mr. *Van Wyck*, and Mr. *Samuel Townsend*, be a Committee to report ways and means for the sale of fat Cattle on *Nassau* and *Shelter Islands*.

A Letter from Captain *Crigier*, dated the 23d instant, about his Privateer, was read.

Ordered, That a copy of the Letter from *Erastus Wolcott*, dated *New-London*, August 24, 1776, be immediately transmitted by express to Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, and that he be requested to cause all the Stock on the sea-coast of *Long-Island*, which are most exposed to the enemy's depredations, to be drove with all possible despatch so far into the interior part of the country as to be out of danger from the enemy.

Ordered, That Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *W. Smith*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *James Townsend*, Mr. *Dearing*, and Mr. *Tredwell*, or any five of them, be a Committee of Safety until the next adjournment, or until there shall be members sufficient to form a Convention, and that all members who attend be members and have votes.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to report a form of Government postpone their Report until *Wednesday* next.

Tuesday Afternoon, August 27, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met.

Present: Mr. *Dearing*, Chairman. Mr. *Duer*, Major *Parks*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Adgate*, Col. *Hoffman*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *L'Homedieu*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Miller*.

Mr. *Abraham Van Rants*, of *Brunswick*, from whence he is just arrived in a boat, with his family, says that he understood that last night fifteen hundred men surrounded the house of Mr. *Duryee*, (who lives about a mile to the southward of his house;) that they took his arms, horses, and wagon; that two Captains (say Companies) of the Militia in the neighbourhood of *Bedford* were disarmed and perhaps taken prisoners.

Mr. *Berrien*, Chairman of the *New-York* Committee, and Mr. *Campbell*, applied for more money to enable them to remove the Women, &c.; and also for money to be sent to the places where they are sent, to wit: *New-Windsor*, *Mamaroneck*, *New-Rochel*, *Rye*, —

It being suggested that it would be proper to have a guard over the Records this night,

Ordered, That Captain *Sampson Dyckman* be requested to attend the Convention immediately.

\*IN COMMITTEE, *SOUTHOLD*, August 19, 1776.

These certify that the Committee of *Southold* have expended £24 17s. 4d. in mounting four cannon as field-pieces, for the protection of the east end of *Long-Island*.

By order:

ROBERT HENPSTED, Chairman.

Resolved, That the Records and Papers belonging to the Convention of this State, as also the Chest belonging to the Receiver-General's Office, be immediately conveyed to General *Clinton's* encampment at or near *King's Bridge*.

And Ordered, That one of the Secretaries do see them safely conveyed to the said encampment, and remain with them till further orders.

Ordered, That Mr. *Isaac Willet* be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered to procure and impress as many Boats as he possibly can, and proceed with them up the *Sound* to General *Clinton*, and put them under his direction; and this Committee does hereby engage that the Convention of this State will bear and defray any expense or damage that may accrue thereby.

Ordered, That Colonel *Hoffman* and Mr. *L'Homedieu* call on Captain *Shaw* and request him to spare as many men as he can, to assist in taking the Boats up to General *Clinton*.

Ordered, That Captain *Benson* procure a guard of twenty men of his Company to guard the Store, and to watch if any of the enemy's Boats should attempt to land at *Harlem*, and that he post a proper guard at the house of Mr. *Bogart*, wherein the Records of the Convention of the said State are kept.

Whereas the Committee of Safety have reason to suspect that *Nicholas Covenhoven*, Esq., has given intelligence to the enemy of the Resolutions of this Convention:

Resolved, That Captain *Benson* be, and he is hereby, authorized immediately to apprehend the said *Nicholas Covenhoven*, and him safely convey to the Convention of this State, in order that he may be examined on such matters as to them shall appear necessary.

Resolved, That Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt* be, and he is hereby requested and authorized to examine all papers in the custody of *Nicholas Covenhoven*, Esq., and to transmit to the Convention of this State all such papers as may in anywise concern the publick weal.

A Letter from General *Woodhull* was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Westward of *Queen's County*, August 27, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Enclosed I send you a copy of a letter from Colonel *Potter*, dated the 26th instant, who left me yesterday at eleven o'clock, after bringing about one hundred men to me at *Jamaica*. Major *Smith* has, I expect, all the rest that was to come from *Suffolk County*. There has about forty of the Militia joined me from the Regiment in *Queen's County*, and about fifty of the Troop belonging to *King* and *Queen's County*, which is near all I expect. I have got all the cattle southward of the hills, in *King's County*, drove to the eastward of the cross-road between the two Counties, and have placed guards and sentries from the north side to the south side of the Island, in order to prevent the cattle going back, and to prevent the communication of the Tories with the enemy. I am within about six miles of the enemy's camp; their Light-Horse has been within about two miles, and unless I have more men, our stay here will answer no purpose. We shall soon want to be supplied with provision if we tarry here.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"NATH'L WOODHULL.

"To the Hon. Convention of the State of *New-York*."

CONVENTION.

Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abm. Yates*, Jun., Esq., President *pro tem*.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Major *Abcel*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Jay*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Beckman*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr.

*L'Homedieu*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Gelston*.

ULSTER.—Col. *De Witt*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Parks*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Drake*, Mr. *Mills*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Morris*.

ORANGE.—Dr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Little*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Veder*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *Van Wyck*, Mr. *Samuel Townsend*, Mr. *James Townsend*, Major *Lawrence*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.



The Convention were informed that *Mr. Z. Mills* stands in need of a further supply of cash, to enable him to remove the Military Stores of the State, agreeable to a late order of this Convention.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of this Convention advance to *Zebediah Mills*, Esq., the further sum of ten Dollars, to enable him to complete the order of this Convention for removing the Military Stores belonging to this Convention from the City of *New-York* to *Westchester* County, and take his receipt, to be accountable for the same.

The Proceedings of the Committee of Safety on yesterday were read to the Convention, approved of, and confirmed.

*Robert Harper* returned from *Flushing*, and produced a receipt\* from *John Talman*, Esq., Chairman of *Flushing*, for £200, for supporting the poor and indigent persons sent thither from the City of *New-York*.

*Ordered*, To be filed.

General *Woodhull's* Letter received yesterday afternoon by the Committee of Safety, was again read and taken into consideration.

Major *Lawrence* gave the following intelligence: that *Dr. Riker* told him that a number of scattering troops had posted themselves on the ridge of hills between *New-Town* and *Jamaica*; that they had been in many of the houses, had taken victuals and drink, but had not plundered, as he understood.

*Ordered*, That Major *Lawrence* wait on General *Washington*, with a copy of General *Woodhull's* Letter, and inform him that Colonels *Smith* and *Remsen's* Regiments may be sent to join General *Woodhull*, by the way of *Flushing*, and by what means.

A draft of a Letter to General *Washington*, to be sent by Major *Lawrence*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

"Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1776.

"SIR: I am commanded by the Convention to enclose to your Excellency the copy of a letter they received last evening from General *Woodhull*. The Convention are of opinion that the enemy may be prevented from getting the stock and grain on *Long-Island*, if the Regiments under the command of Colonels *Smith* and *Remsen* be sent to join General *Woodhull*. That this junction may be effected, and how, Major *Lawrence* (who is a member of this Convention, and the bearer hereof) will inform your Excellency.

"I have the honour to be, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant. By order.

"To His Excellency General *Washington*."

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Van Wyck* do repair immediately to *Flushing*, to gain intelligence of the situation of the enemy, and what places are now occupied by General *Woodhull*; that he do, with all possible expedition, despatch a boat to the Convention with the information he can collect, at the same time pointing out the most suitable place for the reinforcement to join General *Woodhull* to land, and that he be empowered to impress boats, men, and horses, for carrying this order into execution.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Van Wyck* and Major *Lawrence* have leave to employ *Sa. Dyckman*, the express, for a few hours.

Whereas the Convention has received information that *John Rogers*, a servant of Brigadier-General *Morris*, has manifested a disposition extremely inimical to the rights and liberties of *America*, and that there is room to suspect that he will take the first opportunity to join the enemy:

*Ordered, therefore*, That Captain *Benson*, of *Harlem*, be requested and directed to apprehend the said *John Rogers*, or cause him to be apprehended and brought before this Convention.

The Committee to consider the Letter from *Robert Yates* and *Gilbert Livingston*,\* members of the Committee to obstruct *Hudson's River*, dated at the instant, reported a draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this State at Congress, which was read and approved of, and is in the words following, that is to say:

\**FLUSHING, August 26, 1776.*

Received from *Robert Harper* the sum of £200, ordered by the honourable Convention of the State of *New-York* to defray the expenses of such poor families as have been sent here from *New-York* by order of the said Convention.

JOHN TALMAN.

"Harlem, August 28, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The Convention of this State consider the fortification of *Hudson's River* and the obstructing of its passage in the Highlands, of the last importance, and have reason to believe that the Congress view it in the same light. They have appointed a Committee to superintend that work, who inform them that they are greatly delayed for the want of smiths, unless they may be permitted to employ those that are now engaged in building the Continental frigate at *Poughkeepsie*, which therefore they desire you immediately to request of them. The Convention hope that you will succeed in your application, since the finishing of the ships is of far inferior importance to the security of the river; and even were it otherwise in itself, then it must doubtless be so now, when the former will, in all probability, depend upon the latter. They beg that you will urge this matter as soon as possible, since you need not be informed that delay will work the same effect as a refusal.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant. By order.

"To the Delegates of the State of *New-York*, at Congress."

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. L'Homedieu*, Colonel *De Witt*, and *Mr. Wisner*, be a Committee further to consider and report on the said Letter from the said Committee at *Poughkeepsie*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Rutgers* and *Mr. Landon* be, and they are hereby, requested and authorized to direct and manage the transportation of Colonel *Smith's* and Colonel *Remsen's* Regiments in the best and most convenient manner, to join Brigadier-General *Woodhull*; and for that purpose that they be hereby authorized to impress Boats and Craft of any kind which they shall think proper.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Tredwell*, *Mr. Wisner*, and *Mr. John Moore*, be a Committee to consider and report whether any and what further means can be devised for supplying the Troops raised in this State with Clothing and Blankets.

A Letter from General *Woodhull*, dated this day, was received and read, and is as follows, that is to say:

"Jamaica, August 28, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I wrote two letters to you yesterday, one by express and another by *Mr. Harper*, and also sent my Brigade-Major to you to let you know my situation; and I expected an answer to some of them last night, but my express informed me he was detained till last night for an answer. I have now received yours of the 26th, which is only a copy of the last, without a single word of an answer to my letters, or the message of my Brigade-Major.

"I must again let you know my situation. I have about seventy men, and about twenty of the Troop, which is all the force I have or can expect, and I am daily growing less in number. The people are so alarmed in *Suffolk*, that they will not, any more of them, march; and as to Colonels *Smith's* and *Remsen's* Regiments, they cannot join me, for the communication is cut off between us.

"I have sent about eleven hundred cattle to the great fields of the plains yesterday. About three hundred more are gone off this morning to the same place, and have ordered a guard of an officer and seven privates. They can get no water in those fields. My men and horses are worn out with fatigue. The cattle are not all gone off towards *Hempstead*. I ordered them yesterday, but they were not able to take them along. I brought yesterday about three hundred from *New-Town*. I think the cattle are in as much danger on the north as on the south side, and have ordered the inhabitants

\**POUGHKEEPSIE, August 26, 1776.*

SIR: Captain *Hazelwood*, who came up to us by request of Convention, has fitted a fire-vessel, as we conceive, in a masterly manner, and given such instructions to some persons we have here employed, with respect to mixing fire combustible, &c., that we think we can now carry on our works without further assistance. He has, in general, been very assiduous, and of very much use to us. We are unhappy at this time not to have a quorum of our Committee present; therefore must beg leave to submit to your honourable House the consideration of any reward this gentleman may have reason to expect from this State for his extraordinary expense and trouble in this business.

We are, with respect, your very humble servants,

CHRIS'R TAPPEN,  
GILBERT LIVINGSTON.

To *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

to remove them. If you cannot send me an immediate reinforcement, I am afraid I shall have no men with me by to-morrow night, for they consider themselves in an enemy's country; and if I can have no reinforcement, I beg you will send very particular directions what I shall do with the stock: whether I shall kill them or leave them, for I shall not be able to get them all together, and tend them, if the men I have will all stay with me. I beg you would immediately send at least two members, as a Committee, that I may have their advice, for unless you do, I must quit, for I hope the Convention does not expect me to make brick without straw.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"NATHL. WOODHULL."

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hobart* and Mr. *James Townsend*, as a Committee of this Convention, be, and hereby are, directed to repair to General *Woodhull* with such instructions as the Convention shall think proper to give, and to assist him with their advice.

And *Ordered*, That General *Woodhull* and the said Committee be, and hereby are, instructed that they cause all such Stock and all such Grain in *Queen's County* and the western part of *Suffolk County* as may be in danger of falling into the enemy's hands, and cannot be removed to places of safety, to be destroyed.

*Ordered*, That the said Committee be, and they hereby are, empowered to impress horses, boats, and persons to convey themselves to General *Woodhull* with the utmost despatch.

And *Resolved*, That the Convention will defray the expenses of the said Committee in the premises.

A Letter from *D. Mathews*, received by Mr. *De Peyster*, was read, and is as follows:

"Litchfield, August 12, 1776.

"SIR: I did myself the honour of addressing you by letter when I was brought to the *White-Plains*, and have since taken the liberty of writing to Mr. *Morris* relative to my treatment, the answer to both which letters I now enclose you, it being a commitment issued by Mr. *Trumbull*. If this is to be my treatment, the Lord deliver me. I have been a Crown officer upwards of twenty years, and was Chief Magistrate of the city of *New-York*, and a subject of the King of *Great Britain* when I was taken, (independence not being then declared,) and I am thought to believe that my rank was equal to any prisoner taken by the King's troops during this unhappy contest, and I believe you will not find such a commitment issued against any one of them that sustained the character of a gentleman. I had some hopes that the acquaintance you had in the family would at least have obtained here the treatment of a gentleman, but it seems I have nothing to expect but what is due to the worst of felons, and had it not been for the kind interposition of Mr. *De Peyster*, (for whom I shall ever entertain the highest esteem,) I should in all probability have been in the land of spirits ere this.

"It amazes me to think that the State of *New-York* should send me to be dealt with as Mr. *Trumbull* should think proper. I was in hopes after independence was declared, that nothing savouring of the extension of that ancient statute, so justly complained of, would have found the least footing in *America*. I conceive I was as much entitled to bail in the State of *New-York* as Mr. *Sayre* lately was in *London*, for I believe his crime, and the witnesses to prove them were much alike. I offered any security; even some of the warmest Whigs would have been bail for my appearance whenever demanded. But it seems prison was the word, and every commitment sticks close to it.

"I assure you, sir, if I could have entertained the least idea of receiving the treatment I have received, I should have embraced the opportunity of giving that kind of bail which is commonly called leg-bail, which I had frequent opportunities of doing after I was seized; but as I never could reconcile it to myself either to leave my family or join the King's Army, and knowing at the same time that my departure would give my enemies every advantage they wished for, I rejected every proposal of that kind, in full expectation that I should be done by as those gentlemen would wish to be done by were they so unfortunate as to be taken prisoners; but it seems I expected too much. I have only now to make myself as contented as possible, for it would

seem that I am fixed here for life, as I am only to be delivered by due course of law.

"I should not have troubled you, sir, with another letter, had I not been requested to inform you of my treatment; and as this will be the last I shall presume to trouble you with, I shall ask one favour, which is, that if I am not suffered to go to my family, I may be permitted to reside at *Hartford*, on giving security (for my word of honour, it seems, is of no validity in my own State,) to remain there, as I have some friends there who would accommodate me with the comforts of life, and I might there have an opportunity of seeing Mrs. *Mathews*. If this is thought unreasonable I shall say no more about it, and shall still remain one of those who wish that *America* may never lose her liberties, nor her sons meet with oppression.

"Am, sir, your very humble, obedient servant,

"D. MATHEWS.

"General *Woodhull*."

The copies of his Commitment, a Letter to Mrs. *Mathews*, and a Letter from *Moses Seymour*, Sheriff of *Litchfield County*, therein enclosed, were also read.\*

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to the said *David Mathews* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

\*To the Keeper of the common Jail in *HARTFORD*, in the County of *HARTFORD*, greeting:

Whereas *David Mathews*, Esq., of the City, County, and State of *New-York*, is sent into this Government by the Provincial Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*, being accused in that State of treasonable practices against the States of *America*, with request that he may be safely kept and confined in this State until he may be brought to trial for said crime, which, from the particular circumstances of said State of *New-York*, cannot at present be done:

These are, therefore, in the name of the Governor and Company of the State of *Connecticut*, to command and require you to receive the said *David Mathews*, Esq., of the hands of *Abraham De Peyster*, Esq., of said State of *New-York*, within said prison, and him safely to keep until delivered in due course of law. Hereof you may not fail.

Dated in *Lebanon*, the 1st day of *August*, A. D. 1776.

*JONTH. TRUMBULL*, Governor.

*LITCHFIELD*, August 12, 1776.

DEAR SALLY: I received yours by Mr. *Chapman*, who was so kind as to come and see me, and I never was more rejoiced to see a friend, he being the only person I have seen since my arrival here that I had seen before. I shall always esteem him for his great goodness. He stayed with me the greatest part of the day, although the Committee here wanted to have sent him away immediately; and if I had not told them I would leave their town instantly, if I was denied the pleasure of conversing with a friend, they would have taken him away. He has given me an invitation to his house, at *Stratford*, and I have wrote to the Congress for leave to reside there, but don't expect they will comply with it, as they don't seem inclined to deal by me as I would wish to deal with all men. I was extremely glad to hear that you and children were well, and that Mr. *Chapman* had seen you.

When I first came to this place I was very much dissatisfied, and wrote to the Congress that they had fixed me in a place where I never could hear from my family, and that I was also deceived in my expectations; for I was told by some of the Congress that, on my arrival here, I was to be indulged with my liberty as far as the town extended. The letter was addressed to *Gouverneur Morris*. On their receipt of that letter they were pleased to deliver me over to the Governor of this Colony, to whom they sent Mr. *De Peyster* for orders what was to be done with me.

On Mr. *De Peyster's* arrival here from the Governor, and showing me the enclosed commitment, I found that I had no favour to expect from the Congress. I therefore prevailed on him to let me remain here, until he could go back to the Governor and get his consent for that purpose, and this day he returned with the Governor's leave for me to remain here. Mr. *De Peyster* has behaved to me like a gentleman and a Christian, and I beg if ever you meet with him you will show him every civility, and recommend him to all my friends. He has done more than I could have expected. May God reward him!

Ever since my arrival here I have been at the house of Captain *Moses Seymour*, who, together with his wife, have behaved in the most genteel, kind manner, and have done everything in their power to make my time as agreeable as possible. They have nothing of the *Yankee* about them. He is a fine, merry fellow, and she is a warm *Protestant*, and if it was not that the thoughts of home were continually in my mind, I might be happy with my good landlord and his family, to whom I wish you could send some tea, if it were possible, as there is none to be bought here.

I have sent you the enclosed commitment, in order that you may forward it by the first opportunity, to let some folks see how I am treated, and that the very thing which the Congress complained of as a grievance, which was that of sending persons abroad for trial, is now put in execution by themselves.

Tell my good friend Mr. *Bache*, I received his letter, by the hands of Mr. *Sheldon*, who desired to know the contents, which being read to him, he took up his bed and walked, and I never expect to see him again. I only mention this for his diversion, for I am under the same obligations to him, but he little knows how times have altered men here, for if he had wrote in favour of the angel *Gabriel*, it would have been the same thing. If I should be so happy as to get to *Stratford*, I shall immediately let you know of it. Give my love to Messrs. *Bache*, *Sherry*, and *Cortlandt*, and their wives. Kiss all the children for me, and be of good cheer, for I hope my deliverance is at hand.

I am, dear Sally, yours, affectionately,

D. MATHEWS.

To Mrs. *Mathews*, at *Flatbush*.

The Congress were much afraid I should run away if I had my liberty; but this good man, with whom I lodge, and who never heard of me

"Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1776.

"SIR: The Convention direct me to inform you that they have received yours to the President, and that they have examined also your letter to Mrs. *Mathews*; that you never was taken up as a *British* subject, nor to be considered as a prisoner of war. Your rank, therefore, is immaterial; you well know the cause of that treatment which you deem so cruel. You well know that you stand charged with being concerned in a deep conspiracy against the rights and liberties of *America*; and however innocent you may be, it is the duty of the Convention that you be secured for trial: that you were privy to it, in a great measure, your own examination evinces. The Convention direct me to remind you, that you are not sent to *Connecticut* for trial, but for security; that they never heard of bail being taken in similar cases; that your fellow-citizens would, most probably, upon your going at large, have been their own avengers; that you shall have a fair and candid trial, when the exigencies of the State will permit, and that they have too great respect for the liberties of mankind to make any unnecessary inroads upon that sacred ground. What opportunities you may have had to escape, and what reasons to stay, the Convention do not know; but they know the charges against you, and their duty to the publick.

"The Convention do further direct me to assure you, sir, that they have not the least objection to inform not only the *British* Government, (say Governours and Generals,) but all mankind, that they have taken precautions for their own safety, and confined persons accused of treasonable designs and conspiracies; and they do sincerely wish with you, that *America* may never lose her liberties, nor her sons meet with oppression. By order.

"To D. *Mathews*, Esq."

Ordered, That the same be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

A Letter to Governour *Trumbull*, on the same subject, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, viz:

"Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1776.

"SIR: The Convention direct me to return your Honour their sincere thanks for the attention you have been pleased to pay to the prisoners we have been under the necessity of sending into your State. We now take the liberty of enclosing to your Honour the copy of an intercepted letter from D. *Mathews*, Esq., to his wife, from which it appears that he deeply resents the treatment he received from the Convention. It is with the utmost regret that we feel ourselves under the necessity of requesting your Honour to secure that gentleman in such manner as to prevent his escape and all improper correspondence. The troubling you with our prisoners is a matter for which necessity alone can apologize. This State has suffered so much from disaffected persons, that a greater degree of severity towards them would be justifiable, especially as all lenity hath been by them attributed to fear. Notwithstanding such high provocation, we have in no instance invaded the rights of humanity, it might therefore be expected that we should be surprised to see such a designed misrepresentation of our conduct, but nothing of this kind is new. The crime of which Mr.

before, has such an opinion of me that he has wrote to them he will be answerable for me whenever they shall call for me. A prophet has no honour in his own country. It is possible times may change.

LITCHFIELD, August 12, 1776.

SIR: Upon the second arrival of Mr. *De Peyster* here, Messrs. *Mathews* and *Roome*, upon finding that they could not be suffered to be nearer home, were so desirous of remaining prisoners in this town, that I prevailed upon Mr. *De Peyster* to consent to leave them in my custody, provided our Committee had no objection, and it should not be disapproved of by Governour *Trumbull*. The Committee's consent was accordingly obtained before Mr. *De Peyster* left town with the other prisoners, and since his return from *Lebanon* he tells me the Governour has no objection to their remaining here. For the satisfaction, therefore, of the honourable Convention of your State, I take this opportunity to assure you, sir, that I shall keep the above-mentioned gentlemen safe within certain limits in this town, under my particular direction; and shall either surrender them to the respective places assigned by Governour *Trumbull* at any time whenever your honourable Convention demand their appearance, either before them, or before any other court, have them forthcoming and ready to be delivered into the custody of such person as shall be sent for them by the said Convention. I hope, sir, what I have done will meet with your approbation and the approbation of the other members of your House, who, I suppose, meant no more by sending the above gentlemen into *Connecticut* than their being put into safe custody, and at a distance from *New-York*, the present seat of war.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

MOSES SEYMOUR.

To Nathaniel Woodhull, Esq.

*Mathews* stands charged, is no less than treason against the rights of *America*, and yet it seems he considers his confinement as unjust. We are confident, sir, that in committing him to prison, you will avoid every circumstance of unnecessary rigour; but the instance we enclose you of his unfriendly intentions demands that great care should be taken to prevent the character of these States from being unjustly stigmatized by such willful misrepresentations.

"I have the honour to be, sir, &c. By order.

"To Governour *Trumbull*," &c.

A Letter from *Joseph Drake*, at *New-Rochell*, dated this day, was received and read, in the words following, to wit:

"New-Rochell, August 28, 1776.

"SIR: I received the resolve of the Committee of Safety yesterday, enclosed to me by *John McKesson*, Esq. Pursuant to my directions, I have ordered a party to guard from *Rye-Neck* to *Rodman's Neck*, of the Militia of this County. Colonel *Graham's* Regiment is at present stationed at *Frog's Neck*. The enemy lay yesterday and all last night by *Hart-Island*; this morning they removed a little to the southward of *Miniford's Island*, where they at present lay. They have not been able to plunder much. They got from *Mineford's Island* four horned cattle and some poultry, which is all we have been able to learn they have plundered. I immediately sent Captain *Hunt*, with about fifty men, from *New-Rochel*, who, with the help of a part of Colonel *Graham's* Regiment, drove off all the cattle from the Island, to the amount of thirty-odd head. I should be glad to be informed if Colonel *Graham's* Regiment is to remain on *Frog-Neck*, if that is not improper it will be a very great ease to the County at this season, especially as it will take almost all the Militia to guard the whole. I conceive it will take nigh half of my Regiment to guard from *Rodman's Point* to the snuff mills. Colonel *Budd* is to send one hundred men, and to guard from there to *Rye-Neck*. I find it very difficult for the men to provide five days' provisions at this time of the year; therefore, I thought it proper to appoint *Theophilus Barlow* Commissary for the time being. I am apprehensive, if ever I should come to an engagement with the enemy, we should be in great want of powder, as we have not above six rounds a man for all the Militia. You may rely on my utmost vigilance to frustrate the intentions of the enemy in all their motions while here.

"From your very humble servant,

JOSEPH DRAKE."

Ordered, To be referred to Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Jay*.

On motion, Resolved, That the Governour of *Connecticut* be requested to send into *Suffolk* County one thousand Troops for the protection of the Inhabitants and security of the Stock on *Nassau-Island*, as the strength of *Long-Island* is now within his Excellency General *Washington's* lines, and cannot be had.

A draft of a Letter to several Towns in *Connecticut*, requesting their assistance in removing the Stock from *Long-Island*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Wednesday Morning, August 28, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The Convention of the State of *New-York* are under the melancholy necessity of again calling upon their sister States for their assistance, in a matter in which not only they, but the whole continent, are interested. The enemy, who have landed upon *Long-Island*, will, we fear, have it in their power to possess themselves of the whole stock, which amounts to between eighty and one hundred thousand of cattle and as many sheep, as our forces are confined to their lines. These articles will doubtless be of the greatest use to the enemy; for the want of some of them we know they are already distressed. We must therefore request you immediately to afford all the assistance in your power to forward the removal of the stock from the Island, and to provide for them in your State, till some further direction can be given with respect to them, and to lend your aid to each of the inhabitants that may wish to remove. The importance of these objects need not be enlarged upon, nor need arguments be urged to induce you to every necessary exertion. The readiness and publick spirit which the Committees in *Connecticut* have ever shown in carrying into execution all measures of publick utility, leave us no room to doubt but that they will exert themselves on this occa-

sion, which is of the utmost importance to the general cause of *America*.

"To the Chairman of Stonington, New-London, Groton, Lyme, Seabrook, Guilford, New-Haven, Stratford, Fairfield, Milford, Norwalk, Stamford, and Harseneck, in the State of Connecticut; who are directed to forward the same."

A draft of a Letter to Governour *Trumbull*, on the same subject, was read and approved, and is as follows, to wit:

"Harlem, Wednesday morning, August 28, 1776.

"SIR: I enclose you a copy of a letter which the Convention of this State have directed to the several Committees of your State, requesting their assistance in removing the inhabitants and stock from *Long-Island*. The Convention are sensible that their first application should have been to your Excellency, but necessity has obliged them to dispense with form, which they doubt not you will consider as a sufficient apology. The Convention, therefore, find themselves under a necessity of applying to your Excellency for one thousand men, or any greater force which can be speedily obtained, who, they conceive, may greatly contribute to the security of the Island, and at the same time, in some measure, coöperate with our Army in the lines, or at least greatly weaken the attack of the enemy. The Militia of *Long-Island* are, for the most part, shut up within the lines, so that nothing can be done for its defence without your assistance.

"I have the honour to be, &c. By order.

"To His Excellency Governour *Trumbull*, of the State of Connecticut."

Ordered, That Mr. *Gelston* proceed to Connecticut, with the Letter to Governour *Trumbull* and the Committees, and that this Convention will bear his expenses.

Wednesday, 5 o'clock, P. M., August 28, 1776.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Bancker*, Major *Abeel*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Colonel *Rensselaer*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Dearing*, Mr. *Gelston*.

ULSTER.—Col. *De Witt*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Parks*.

QUEEN'S.—Mr. *S. Townsend*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *R. R. Livingston*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Morris*, Col. *Van Cortlandt*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Drake*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Outwater*, Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Wisner*.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *Marsh*, Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Scssions*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Veder*.

Mr. *Jay* and Mr. *Morris* reported two Resolutions and the draft of a Letter to Colonel *Drake*, relative to the Militia, and the appointment of *Theodosius Bartow* as Commissary *pro tem.*; were read, and are in the words following, that is to say:

"Thursday morning, August 29, 1776.

"SIR: I am directed by the Convention to inform you that they approve of your conduct relative to the defence of the coast, and refer the whole of that business (in General *Morris's* absence) to your discretion. They confirm your appointment of Mr. *Bartow* as Commissary, and have enclosed an order on the Treasurer for one thousand dollars. As to powder, they are much at a loss, but have ordered General *Clinton* to afford you all the supply which the store of this State will admit of.

"I am, very respectfully, sir, yours, &c. By order.

"To Colonel *Joseph Drake*."

"Resolved, That *Theos. Bartow*, Esq., be empowered to act as Commissary, till further order, to the Militia employed to defend the coast of *Westchester* County, on the *Sound*; that he have an order on the Treasurer of this Convention for one thousand Dollars, and that he account for the same to this Convention, or the Legislature of this State for the time being.

"Resolved, That General *Clinton* do furnish Col. *Joseph Drake* with such a quantity of Cartridges, or Powder and Lead, out of the store of this State, in his possession, as he may think necessary to the defence of the coast of *Westchester*."

Ordered, That the Treasurer of this Convention advance to *Theodosius Bartow*, Esq., the sum of one thousand Dollars, to enable him to execute the order of this day appointing him to act as Commissary to the Militia employed to defend the coast of *Westchester* County, and take his receipt to be accountable for the same.

The Examination of Colonel *Covenhoven* was read, as follows:

"Harlem, August 28, 1776.

"Left *Lang-Island* on Sunday morning; came last from *Wepelmus Stathoof's* Island. On the day that the enemy landed, as he was returning from the lines, he was taken by a party of the enemy; they treated him roughly, took from him his sword and cockade, and carried him to Head-Quarters; was politely received by General *Howe*, who asked him if he would stay home and send his produce, which he promised to do. He understood from the officers that eight thousand men had landed the first day. They sent for him the second time on the same day; ordered him to get fowls, &c.; under pretence of which he went off, got a horse, and went to General *Washington*; asked him what part he should take; who directed him to go back, and he was to collect information, and send it to General *Washington*; which he did, and got back without having been missed; they never questioned him further. He afterwards met with some *Hessians*, who took him with them to get cows, and agreed among themselves to put him to death after he had showed them the cows, as they were forbid to kill any cattle; they spoke this in the *Hessian* language; showed them a cow, and he left them; most of the stock had been driven off before. He then went to the *Flatlands*, where he saw many Regulars; saw Governour *Tryon*, but did not speak to him; Generals *Howe*, *Clinton*, and *Peckett*, were on the Island; the enemy were joined by few people from the Island; saw many people from *Staten-Island*, not armed. Left it on Sunday, with design to come to Congress; when got to *McGowen's* was arrested. Does not think it safe Congress should continue here; they talked in the camp of landing above this. The party that carried him to General *Howe* carried also his sword and cockade, but it was not noticed by the General. Heard at the *Flatlands* that seventeen sail of transports were going round in order to land at *Morisania*; the enemy proposed to attack the line the day after they landed, but were repulsed, and seventeen *Hessians* killed."

Mr. *Morris* read two Letters, whereby the Convention is informed that Captain *Berrien* refused to pay any attention to the order of this Convention exempting Mr. *Chs. Shaw* from military service, or the order which in like manner exempts *R. Morris*, Esq.

Ordered, That Captain *Berrien* do attend this Convention immediately, to show the cause of his conduct in the premises.

A Letter from General *Washington*, received by Major *Lawrence*, was read, and is as follows:

"Long-Island, August 28, 1776.

"SIR: I was just now honoured with your favour of this date, with General *Woodhull's* letter, and should esteem myself happy were it in my power to afford the assistance required; but the enemy having landed a considerable part of their force here, and at the same time may have reserved some to attack *New-York*, it is the opinion not only of myself, but of all my General Officers I have had an opportunity of consulting with, that the men we have are not more than competent to the defence of these lines, and the several posts which must be defended. This reason, and this only, prevents my complying with your request.

"I shall beg leave to mention, in confidence, that a few days ago, upon the enemy's first landing here, I wrote to Governour *Trumbull*, recommending him to throw over a body of one thousand men on the Island, to annoy the enemy in their rear, if the state of the Colony would admit of it. Whether it will be done, I cannot determine. That Colony having furnished a large proportion of men, I was, and still am doubtful whether it could be done. If it could, I am satisfied it will, from the zeal and readiness they have ever shown to give every possible succour. I am hopeful they will be in a condition to do it, and, if they are, those troops I doubt not will be ready and willing to give General *Woodhull* any assistance he may want. But cannot the



Militia effect what he wished to do? They, I believe, must be depended on in the present instance for relief.

"I have the honour to be, in great haste, sir, your most obedient servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

"The Hon. Abraham Yates."

Mr. Duer moved the following Resolution, that is to say:

*Resolved*, That whereas, from the vicinity of the enemy's Ships of War now in the Sound, and the situation of their Army on Nassau-Island, it would be very practicable for a small party of men to surprise this defenceless town, and to remove all its inhabitants; and whereas, from the present invasion of this State, thereby cause the communication between this Convention and their constituents to be cut off:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Convention of this State will forthwith adjourn from hence to

Mr. Jay moved that it be postponed until to-morrow.

The previous question being put, (whether it be postponed until to-morrow,) it was carried in the negative, in manner following, to wit:

For.	Against.	
2 Cumberland.	4 Ulster.	8 New-York.
4 Westchester.	2 Charlotte.	4 Queen's.
	3 Orange.	4 Suffolk.
6 votes.	6 Albany.	
	3 Tryon.	34 votes.

Mr. Livingston then moved that they would adjourn, to meet at Fishkill; and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.	For the Negative.	
6 Albany.	4 Westchester.	Mr. Morris dis-
3 Orange.	4 Suffolk.	senting.
4 Ulster.	4 Queen's.	
3 Tryon.	2 Charlotte.	
8 New-York.	2 Cumberland.	
24 votes.	16 votes.	

Thursday Morning, August 29, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present. Abm. Yates, Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. Bancker, Mr. Harper, Mr. Abeel.

ALBANY.—Mr. Abm. Yates, Mr. Adgate, Colonel Rensselaer.

ULSTER.—Colonel De Witt, Mr. Wisner, Major Parks.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. Smith, Mr. Miller, Mr. L'Homedieu, Mr. Dearing, Mr. Tredwell.

ORANGE.—Dr. Outwater, Mr. Little, Mr. Wisner, Jun.

WESTCHESTER.—Major Lockwood, Mr. Tompkins, Colonel Cortlandt, Colonel Drake, Mr. Morris.

QUEEN'S.—Major Lawrence, Mr. Samuel Townsend.

DUTCHESS.—Colonel Hoffman, Mr. R. R. Livingston, Mr. Landon, Major Schenck.

CUMBERLAND.—Colonel Marsh, Mr. Sessions, Mr. Stephens.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. Duer.

TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. Harper, Mr. Veder.

A Letter from Mr. Van Wyck,\* at Flushing, who was sent yesterday from Congress to inquire whether the communication between this and Jamaica is open and safe by the way of Flushing, was received. He mentions that the Troops may pass safely that way, if they can be got there this evening; that the enemy's ships lie between Thorne's Point and Great-Neck. Referred to Mr. Smith, Colonel Hoffman, and Mr. Tredwell.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of this Convention advance to Z. Platt, Esq., the further sum of £700, to enable him to execute the order of this Convention, appointing him Commissary for the time being, to provide Provisions for the Troops under the command of Brigadier-General Clinton, and to pay for a quantity of Boards purchased by virtue of said order, and take his receipt for the same.

\* FLUSHING, August 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am informed by Thomas Thomas, a member of the Committee, who just came from General Woodhull, that he was at Jamaica, and that he just came from Whight Stone. The ships of war lay between Thorne's Point and Great-Neck; that there can be no danger of bringing up our men to this place, if can get them up this evening. I think it will be proper to send this intelligence off as soon as possible by the same boat, as I cannot get any other.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

CORNS. VAN WYCK.

P. S. I am just going to Jamaica to the General.

To Henry Yates, Esq., Member of Convention of the State of New-York.

Mr. Tompkins came into Convention, and informed that Mr. Lounsbury was come into Westchester County with a commission from General Howe to raise Rangers; that a party of Rangers (say Militia) went in pursuit of him, and were under the necessity of killing him, as he would not surrender; another was wounded and four were taken prisoners, all his recruits. The commission from Lord Howe, and other papers found on him, were read and filed.

Committed to Colonel De Witt, Mr. Livingston, and Mr. Tompkins.

On motion, *Resolved*, unanimously, That Mr. John McDonald, employed as a Miner by this Convention, be directed to proceed upon a further discovery, for the space of twenty days, in exploring the Lead Mines in the Nine Partners, in Dutchess County, then to return and report to this House; and that he be allowed eight shillings per day while so employed; and that he be allowed to employ two men besides himself; and that he be furnished with one-quarter hundred weight of Powder.

Carried unanimously.

The Committee to whom was referred the Letter from Mr. Van Wyck, brought in their Report, as follows:

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the consideration of the letter from Mr. Van Wyck, and several letters from General Woodhull, do report, that there would be danger of a letter falling into the enemy's hands, and therefore they think it best that a member be sent to him to give him an account of our proceedings upon the subject of his letters, and in confidence of the substance of the letter we received from General Washington."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Samuel Townsend be requested to proceed to Long-Island on the above business.

The Committee, to whom was referred the Papers, &c., received from Mr. Tompkins, found upon Mr. Lounsbury, killed by a party of Militia in Westchester County, report as follows:

"That the prisoners be kept in close custody till they are examined. That the Chairman of the Committee of Westchester County be requested to take the examination of the prisoners, and transmit them to the Convention of this State."

*Ordered*, That Bloomer Nelson, Samuel Haines, Josiah Disberry, and Jacob Schureman, be committed to the Jail at Kingston, in Ulster County, and there kept in close and secure custody till further orders.

And, *Ordered* further, That Colonel Joseph Drake be directed to provide a proper Guard, and to see this order executed.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of this Convention pay to Jonathan Tompkins, Esq., the sum of twenty Dollars, to be by him delivered to Mr. Flood, as a reward for his spirited conduct in apprehending William Lounsbury, (a notorious enemy to the cause of America,) in Westchester County.

Mr. Harper, agreeable to notice given last night, moved for a reconsideration of the determination of the House last night for removing the Convention to Fishkill.

Debates arose, and the question being put, it was as follows, that is to say:

For reconsidering.	Against it.
4 Suffolk.	6 Albany.
4 Westchester.	2 Charlotte.
4 Queen's.	4 Westchester.
2 Cumberland.	8 New-York.
14 votes.	3 Tryon.
	3 Orange.
	26 votes.

*Resolved*, That the Convention will meet in the English Church at Fishkill, on Monday next, at nine o'clock; that a Committee of Safety, to consist of Mr. Duer, Colonel Cortlandt, Colonel Van Rensselaer, Mr. Robert Livingston, and Major Schenck, with Mr. Yates, the President, be appointed to act for this State till the Convention meet.

The Convention having been informed by their Secret Committee of the services of Captain Hazlewood, in preparing Fire-Rafts and giving useful information relative to the obstructing the navigation of Hudson's River, think him entitled to the thanks of this House; and, as a compensation for his expenses and trouble,

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of this Convention pay to

said Captain *Hazlewood* the sum of £300, out of the Treasury of this State, for his services as aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to consider what number of the Militia can be speedily called out for the defence of this State.

Colonel *Hoffman*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Colonel *De Witt*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, and Mr. *Duer*, were appointed the said Committee.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of *Long-Island* to remove as many of their Women, Children, and Slaves, and as much of their Stock and Grain, to the Main, as they can, and that this Convention will pay the expenses of removing the same.

*Ordered*, That *John Rogers*, a servant man of General *Morris*, apprehended by order of this Convention as being notoriously disaffected, be conveyed under a proper guard to the Jail in *Westchester* County, to be kept in close custody till further orders; and that Captain *Benson* cause this order to be duly executed.

A Letter from *Peter T. Curtenius*, with a list of articles such as he contracted for by order of this Convention, was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

“Harlem, August 28, 1776.

“GENTLEMEN: I am in advance, on account of the Convention, above £4,000, and have engaged clothing and other articles to the amount of at least as much more. Should be glad this honourable House would be pleased to give an order on the Treasurer for £10,000, that I may be enabled to make good my engagements.

“I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

“PETER T. CURTENIUS.

“P. S. Mr. *Roosevelt* has about £2,800, which he told me I could have, if the Convention would give me an order on him.

“A list of Articles which I have contracted for, and have in store, viz:

“1500 pair buckskin breeches, 3000 shirts, and 200 dozen *Germanstown* stockings, at *Philadelphia*; the last article something doubtful whether the whole quantity will be got.

“1000 yards linen, given out to be made in shirts at *Hackensack*.

“45 pieces *osnaburgh* at old Mr. *Paulling's*, about three thousand yards; may do to make shirts.

“150 pair leather breeches in my store.

“600 pair shoes in ditto, and can get about 2000 pair more.

“348 dressed deer-skins at *Hackensack*; about 500 pair buckskin breeches engaged in different parts of the country, and believe I can get more at *Bethlehem*.”

*Resolved*, That *Peter T. Curtenius* be empowered to borrow the sum of £10,000, and that the Convention of this State pledge the publick faith to the persons of whom he may borrow this sum for the repayment of the same, and that the receipt or receipts of the said *Peter T. Curtenius* shall be vouchers to the person or persons of whom the whole or any part of this sum may be borrowed, and to the Treasurer of this Convention for payment of the same.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of this State, and the Secretaries of the Convention, do immediately remove, with the Treasury and Records of this State, to *Fishkill*, in *Dutchess* County, and that they there join the Convention at nine o'clock, on *Monday* next.

#### COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Harlem, August 29, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met. Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President, Colonel *Cortlandt*, Colonel *Van Renselaer*, Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

Colonel *Phineas Fanning* waited on the Committee with a Letter from Colonel *Josiah Smith*, Colonel of the Draughts of the Militia of *Suffolk*, *Queen's*, and *King's* Counties, stationed at *Brookland*, in *King's* County, informing the Committee that his Regiment is ordered by General *Washington* to withdraw from *Long-Island* and wait the further orders of the Convention of this State.

Thereupon, it was *Ordered*, That Colonel *Josiah Smith* do, with all possible despatch, march his Regiment to *Horn's Hook*, there to receive further orders from Mr. *Samuel Townsend* and Major *Lawrence*, and that he apply to the Commissary-General for five days' provisions, and to the Quartermaster-General for baggage-wagons, it being of the

utmost consequence that this Regiment should march without delay.

And *Resolved*, That Mr. *Samuel Townsend* and Major *Lawrence* be requested and authorized to attend the Regiment commanded by Colonel *Smith*, in order to supply the said Regiment with provisions, and to devise the most safe and expeditious means of transporting the said Regiment from *Long-Island*; and that they be authorized and empowered to impress horses, wagons, boats, vessels, &c., for that purpose; for the payment of which, and every other necessary expense, this Committee pledge the publick faith.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of this State pay to Mr. *Samuel Townsend* and Major *Lawrence* the sum of £100, to be by them accounted for to the Convention of this State.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That the Brigadier-General or Commanding Officers of the Militia in the Counties of *Orange*, *Ulster*, *Westchester*, and *Dutchess*, do hold their Militia in readiness to march at a moment's warning, with five days' provisions, and as much ammunition as possible; there being the greatest reason to imagine that the whole force of this State may in a few days be wanted to repel the invasion of our merciless and tyrannical enemy.

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries transmit certified copies of the foregoing Resolution to the Brigadiers of the Counties therein mentioned, with the utmost despatch.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That Captain *Sickles* and twelve men keep guard this night at such places as the motions of the enemy can be best watched, and that he make return to this Committee of all such persons who shall refuse to obey.

King's Bridge, August 30, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met. Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., Chairman, Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Bleecker*.

The Committee were informed that the Continental Troops, with all the Militia, had, by order of General *Washington*, left *Long-Island* and come over to the city.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to General *Washington* was read, approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

“SIR: In our way to *Fishkill*, agreeable to an adjournment of the Convention, we are informed that the Army on *Long-Island* is removed to the City of *New-York*; and anxiety to know the fact, as well as to be informed whether you think any measures necessary for us to take, induces us to trouble your Excellency at this time for an answer hereto. We have ordered, last night, all the Militia of the Counties of *Ulster*, *Dutchess*, *Orange*, and *Westchester*, to be ready on a minute's warning, with five days' provisions. We shall wait the return of our messenger at this place; and are, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant. By order.

“His Excellency General *Washington*.”

*Ordered*, That the same be copied, and transmitted by express.

A Letter from Brigadier-General *Clinton*, dated at *King's Bridge*, August 30, 1776, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

“GENTLEMEN: The Brigade under my command murmur extremely for want of the remaining bounty due to them. It is my opinion that when they are mustered by the Continental Mustermaster, that there will be no deficiency in the Muster-Rolls sworn to by the Colonels of the respective Regiments, and returned to your Convention. I therefore wish most earnestly that the Convention would dispense with that part of the resolution with respect to the levies that relate to the mode of mustering my Brigade, as it is very uncertain when they can be mustered agreeable to the manner therein prescribed. As, from the present situation of our military operations, it is extremely probable that our Army will make the grand stand at the post I occupy, and as it is of the utmost consequence that harmony should prevail amongst the troops, I flatter myself the Convention will have no scruple in complying with my request. I shall desire General *Washington* to have my Brigade mustered as

soon as possible, and shall make a regular return to the Convention of the whole Brigade.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"GEO. CLINTON, *Brigadier-General*.

"To the Honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*."

The said Letter being immediately taken into consideration,

*Resolved and Ordered*, That the Treasurer of this State pay to General *Clinton*, or his Order, the sum of £7,000; and that General *Clinton* account for the same to the Convention or a future Legislature of this State.

Colonel *Thomas* informed the Committee that he had in his hands the sum of £251 12s., being part of the interest of the Loan-Office money due from the County of *Westchester*, and prays to know the opinion of the Committee with respect to the disposal of it.

Thereupon, *Resolved and Ordered*, That the said Colonel *Thomas* pay the above sum into the hands of the President of this Committee, and that the President give his receipt and pay the same to the Treasurer of this State; and that this order shall be considered by the Supervisors of *Westchester* County as a voucher for the sum so paid, in as full and ample manner as if the same had been paid to *Abraham Lott*, Esq., the late Treasurer of this State.

General *Clinton* informed the Committee that a considerable number of the Cartridges which were lately ordered from *Norwood's Store*, in *New-York*, to his encampment, were damaged by the rain in coming up the river to *King's Bridge*, and prayed to know the sense of the Committee with respect to the disposal of them.

*Ordered*, That General *Clinton* be requested to send the damaged Powder contained in the said Cartridges to the Powder-Mills of *John R. Livingston*, Esq., in *Dutchess* County, who is desired to remanufacture the same, and that this Committee pledge the publick faith for the defraying the contingent expenses.

Captain *Brinton Payne's* Examination relative to *John Woolly* being taken, is as follows, to wit:

"The examinant having observed that a boat went from the house of one *Woolly*, on *Long-Island*, to the ships of the enemy, took with him a party of men on the night of the 29th of *August* instant, and crossed the *Sound* to the house of the said *Woolly*; that having paraded his men, as they were going toward the river they were met by *John Woolly*, who is the owner of the above-mentioned boat, as this examinant has been informed, and another person, whose name he has forgot; that he imagines from their conduct they mistook him for persons belonging to the ships; that he charged him with having been on board; that *Woolly* owned he had been on board, but alleged that he had been taken by the barge of the enemy's ships; that they refused to give to this examinant any information of the state of the shipping.

"BRINTON PAYNE."

*Resolved*, That General *Clinton* be requested to cause further examinations to be taken relative to the capture of *John Woolly* and his companions; and that he cause the said *John Woolly*, and the person apprehended with him, to be sent under a sufficient guard to *Poughkeepsie Jail*, in *Dutchess* County; and that a copy of this Order, sent by General *Clinton*, shall be a sufficient mittimus to the Jailer of the said County.

Mr. *Ebenezer Hazard*, Deputy Postmaster for the *New-York* Department, waited on the Committee, and requested their opinion on the most proper place of safety and convenience to the publick to which he should remove his office, as an invasion of the City of *New-York* is hourly expected:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee of Safety that Mr. *Hazard*, Postmaster for the District of *New-York*, should immediately remove his office to some convenient place near *Dobbs's Ferry* till further orders from the Postmaster-General.

Whereas the Convention have granted an exemption from military duty to Mr. *Charles Shaw*; and whereas *Richard Morris*, Esq., is exempt therefrom by his commission, agreeable to the regulation of the Militia of this State; notwithstanding which, as this Committee are informed, Captain *Varian* insists on their serving in the Militia, this Commit-

tee are of opinion that Captain *Varian* should, agreeable to the Resolution of the Convention of this State, consider the said *Charles Shaw* and *Richard Morris* as exempt from military duty, and that a contrary conduct will be considered as a high contempt of the authority of this State, and punished as such.

At the House of Mr. Odell, in Philipse's Manor, }  
August 31, 1776. }

The Committee met. Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Mr. *Duer*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, Colonel *Renselaer*.

A Letter from General *Washington*, dated yesterday, was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"August 30, 1776.

"SIR: Your favour of this date is just come to hand. Circumstanced as this Army was in respect to situation, strength, &c., it was the unanimous advice of a council of General Officers to give up the *Long-Island* and not, by dividing our force, be unable to resist the enemy in any one point of attack. This reason, added to some others, particularly the fear of having our communication cut off from the main body, (of which there seemed to be no small probability,) and the extreme fatigue our troops were laid under in guarding such extensive lines, without proper shelter from the weather, induced the above resolution.

"It is the most intricate thing in the world, sir, to know in what manner to conduct one's self with respect to the Militia. If you do not begin many days before they are wanted, to raise them, you cannot have them in time; if you do, they get tired and return, besides being under very little order or government whilst in service. However, if the enemy have a design of serving us at this place, as we apprehend they meant to do on *Long-Island*, it might not be improper to have a body in readiness to prevent or retard a landing of them on the east of *Harlem River*, if need be.

"In haste, and not a little fatigued, I remain, with great respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,  
"GO. WASHINGTON.

"The Hon. *Abraham Yates*, Esq., President of the Congress of the State of *New-York*."

The said Letter was immediately taken into consideration, and the Committee came to the following Resolution, to wit:

Whereas, from the operations of the enemy and the intelligence received, there is strong reason to think that their Army intend to make a landing at or near *King's Bridge*, in order to cut off the communication betwixt *New-York* Island and the Main:

*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of *New-York* Island and those parts of *Westchester* County which are most exposed to the depredations of the enemy, do forthwith drive their Horned Cattle, Horses, Hogs, and Sheep into the interior part of this State, and that General *Washington* be requested to make this order publick, and to give all possible assistance in carrying it into execution when he shall think necessary.

A draft of a Letter to General *Washington*, in answer to his received this day, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"August 31, 1776.

"SIR: We had the honour of your Excellency's letter of yesterday, and see the weight of the reasons which induced you to quit the lines on *Long-Island*. We acknowledge the difficulty of managing the Militia so as to render them useful, which is in some measure owing to their being ill-appointed and unused to camps, and of consequence suffering more than those who have got into a regular way of providing against inconveniences. We are so fully satisfied of the enemy's design to land above *New-York*, and of the mischiefs that will result therefrom, that we cannot, by any means, advise your Excellency to trust for its prevention to any Militia which we can at this time call out, who, after the great draughts we have already made, cannot be expeditiously collected well, ill armed, and we fear some of them not so well affected as we would wish. We know no country so capable of being defended as that above the bridge. Should the enemy once occupy it, we have reason to dread the consequences. We take the liberty to hint these things to your Excellency, though we are persuaded they have not

escaped your observation, in order to convince our constituents and the rest of the Continent engaged in the same cause that we are willing to make any sacrifices which the general interest demands.

"We enclose a resolution for the removal of the cattle from the Island of *New-York*, which your Excellency will cause to be executed if you think it necessary, as we have no force that we can trust with its execution. We cannot but hope that the Commissary will give every relief to the inhabitants by purchasing from them all the stock that are fit for the use of the Army

"We have directed Colonel *Smith* to go to *Long-Island*, in order to destroy the cattle, which will otherwise serve as a supply to the enemy.

"If by calling in the outposts the force of an Army is so much concentrated that any part of them could safely be spared, we are fully persuaded that three thousand Rangers could be very usefully employed on *Long-Island*, and not only harass the enemy but prevent their foraging parties from ever getting beyond the *Cross-Plains*, which extend quite across the Island, and by that means save at least two-thirds of it from the enemy. Your Excellency knows how to pardon, on the score of our sincerity for the general welfare, our stepping somewhat out of the regular line, and suggesting such ideas as our knowledge of the country induces us to believe useful. We have the honour to be.

"His Excellency General *Washington*."

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and, together with the foregoing Resolutions relative to the driving the Cattle from *New-York* Island, be immediately transmitted by express.

Colonel *Jeromus Remsen* followed the Committee from *Harlem*, and requested to know the sense of the Committee relative to the disposition of the Regiment of Militia under his command, and lately come from *Long-Island*.

After mature deliberation, the Committee came to the following Resolutions, to wit:

Whereas Colonel *Remsen's* Regiment is composed of the inhabitants of *King's* and *Queen's* Counties, which said Counties are at present occupied by the enemy; and whereas it is the duty of the Representatives of this State diligently to watch over the safety of their constituents, and to prevent their falling into the hands of a tyrannical enemy, who may compel them to bear arms against their country:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to such of the said Militia who are attached to the cause of this invaded country, to form themselves into Companies, consisting of one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Ensign, three Sergeants, three Corporals, one Drum, one Fife, and fifty Privates.

*Resolved*, That these Companies be commanded by the same Colonel, Captains, and Subalterns, under whom they have hitherto served; and in case any Officer or Officers should decline accepting his or their commissions, the same should be tendered to the next commissioned Officers in rank, till the whole Companies are properly officered; and that in case, from the decline of a sufficient number of Officers to accept commissions, there should be any vacancies, the Company where such vacancy may be shall nominate an Officer, to whom the Convention of this State will grant a commission, whenever the said nomination shall be approved of by Brigadier-General *Woodhull* and Colonel *Remsen*.

*Resolved*, That these Troops, when raised, shall be entitled to Continental pay and rations, with a bounty of £4 to each man on passing muster, and that they continue in service till the last day of *December* next; and that if any men should choose to enlist for the space of three years, or during the war, they shall receive a bounty of twenty dollars per man on passing muster.

*Resolved*, That each man furnish himself with a good Gun or Musket, Cartouch-Box or Bullet-Pouch, a Blanket or Knapsack, and every six men with a Pot or Camp-Kettle.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That Colonel *Remsen*, with his Regiment of Militia, join General *Clinton*, at *King's Bridge*, till further order from the Convention or Committee of Safety of this State; and that he be authorized to grant furloughs to such of his Militia of whose attachment to the *American* cause he is well assured, to visit or remove their families from

*Long-Island*: Provided always, That no man obtaining such furlough be permitted to carry his arms with him.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That the President pay to Colonel *Remsen* the sum of £251 12s., in payment of the pay due to his Regiment of Militia, taking his receipt for the same.

Which said sum the President immediately paid to Colonel *Remsen*, in presence of the Committee.

A Letter from *Robert G. Livingston*, dated at *Newark*, August the 27th, 1776, setting forth that Captain *Anthony Rutgers* refuses to receive from him in payment Continental money, was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That the said Letter be referred to the Convention.

The Committee proceeded to *Croton River*.

Croton River, at the house of Jno. Blagge.

The Committee, taking into consideration the necessity of having the earliest intelligence, came to the following Resolution, to wit:

As, in the present alarming situation of affairs, it is necessary that the Convention of this State should have the earliest intelligence from the Northern and Southern Armies:

*Be it Resolved*, That Mr. *Hazard*, Postmaster for the *New-York* Department, be requested to direct the Post, between *New-York* and *Albany*, to ride for the present time on the east side of *Hudson's River* weekly; and that a Letter be written to the Postmaster-General on this subject, informing him of the reasons on which this Resolution is founded.

Colonel *Van Cortlandt* introduced a Letter from *James Teller*, which was read.

Thereupon, it was *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that Mr. *James Teller* is entitled to the rank of Captain; and

*Ordered*, That he join General *Clinton's* Brigade, with all possible despatch; and that he apply to Colonel *Thomas* for the first moiety of bounty due to his men, showing him this Resolution.

Fishkill, in Dutchess County, September 2, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., the President.

Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Duer*, Colonel *Renselaer*, Committee members. Mr. *Duane*, Colonel *Livingston*, Mr. *Cuyler*, General *Ten Broeck*.

Colonel *Renselaer* informed the Committee that he had received intelligence that the garrisons in Forts *Constitution* and *Montgomery* were ill armed, and otherwise in a situation ill calculated to annoy the enemy. The Committee taking the same into consideration, came to the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, That General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Cuyler*, and Colonel *Livingston*, be a Committee to visit Forts *Constitution* and *Montgomery*, and that they report with all possible despatch the state of the works, the number and health of the soldiers, the condition and number of their arms, the quantity of ammunition, ball, &c., the number of gunners, matrosses, &c., and every other matter which may tend to give to the Convention of this State a full and clear view of these important fortresses.

*Resolved*, That the said Committee show General *Clinton* a copy of the above Resolution; and that they request him to give all possible assistance in carrying the same into execution.

Fishkill, P. M., September 2, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *Duer*, of the Committee; Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Sessions*, members for *Cumberland County*; Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Veder*, for *Tryon County*; Mr. *Tenbroeck*, Mr. *Adgate*, for *Albany County*; Colonel *Williams*, Mr. *Webster*, for *Charlotte County*.

A member informed the Committee that a number of indigent infirm persons, who had been sent out of the City of *New-York* by the Committee for that purpose appointed, have been on board a sloop at *Fishkill* Landing eight or nine days, and that they complained much of their distressed situation.

Whereupon, it was *Resolved and Ordered*, That Mr.



*Peter Murford*, acting Chairman of the Committee of *Rumbout* Precinct, be requested to attend this Committee at nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Ordered, That the Secretaries furnish him with a copy of this order.

Fishkill, Tuesday, A. M., September 3, 1776.

The Committee met.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

Mr. *Duer*, Colonel *Renselaer*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Schenck*, of the Committee. Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Contine*, Colonel *Williams*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Webster*, Mr. *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Sessions*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Sacket*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Smith*, Colonel *De Wit*.

Mr. *Murford*, the Deputy Chairman of *Rumbout* Precinct, pursuant to the order of yesterday, attended. He informed the Committee of Safety that by reason of his absence, the said Committee had not met till yesterday; that they have proceeded to the consideration of devising means to provide for the indigent persons now at Captain *Bush's* Landing, and lately sent from *New-York* by order of that Committee, and that some part of the Committee of *Rumbout* are to meet this afternoon on that service.

Ordered, That Major *Schenck* give his aid to the said Committee in placing the said Poor, agreeable to their merits, and a maintenance supplied to them.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of this State pay to *Peter Montfort*, Esquire, Deputy Chairman of the Committee of *Rumbout* Precinct, on his receipt, the sum of £100, on account, to be applied to the maintenance of the Poor lately sent from the City of *New-York* to *Fishkill* Landing, the Committee to be accountable, and render an account of the disposition and expenditure of that money.

A Letter from General *Washington* was received and read, to wit:

"New-York, September 1, 1776.

"SIR: I was yesterday honoured with your favour of that date, and should have answered it by the return of the person who brought it, had I not been engaged then in a multiplicity of business, which occasioned me to forget it till he was gone.

"In respect to the cattle on this Island, I shall desire the Commissary to purchase as many of them from the inhabitants as he can conveniently, and will afford every assistance the situation of affairs will admit of to have the remainder secured; but as to those on *Long-Island*, it is impossible for me to take any measures or give any assistance to prevent their falling into the enemy's hands. I am persuaded the number of Rangers you mention, were they to exert themselves, might be of service, and annoy the foraging parties of the enemy not a little; but, sir, I cannot spare any men for that purpose. Though our force is called in from the outposts, and collected upon this Island, yet it will not be more than competent to the defence of the several kinds necessary to be maintained; nor is it perhaps so great by any means as common estimation and report make it.

"I am extremely obliged by your opinion on the defensible state of the grounds above *King's Bridge*, though they had not escaped my observation. Their importance I am fully sensible of; and, as far as the critical situation of things will allow, their defence shall be attended to, to prevent, if possible, the enemy from possessing them.

"I have the honour to be, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

"P. S. As the posts at *King's Bridge* are of such great importance, I think it will be well and extremely necessary to be favoured with your friendly exertions, in affording every aid in your power for their defence. Cannot some more Militia be prevailed on to give their assistance, and in whom you can confide? I will not enlarge, being fully assured you will do all you can."

Ordered, That Major *Lockwood* proceed immediately to *Westchester* County, or elsewhere, and endeavour to see Colonel *Smith* and Colonel *Rensen*, in order to obtain intelligence from them of the state of their respective Regiments, and that he be empowered to order the said Regiments to repair to General *Clinton's* encampment, at *King's Bridge*, in case Colonel *Smith* finds it impracticable, from the disposition of his troops or other circumstances, to transport them

to *Long-Island*; and that he inform Colonel *Smith*, in confidence, that means have been devised, and are now actually carrying into execution, to give him assistance in opposing the enemy on *Long-Island*.

And Resolved, That Major *Lockwood* be empowered to impress Horses, wherever he may have occasion for the same, to expedite his journey.

Whereas the Committee of Safety have received information that the Regiments of levies commanded by Colonel *Smith* are either dispersed or have been disbanded without the permission of this State, and that sundry men in Colonel *Rensen's* Regiment of *King's* and *Queen's* County Militia have been suffered to disperse and take their arms with them, contrary to an express order from this Committee:

Therefore, Resolved, unanimously, That General *Clinton* be requested to inquire into the truth of such intelligence, and that in case he finds the same true, that he be authorized to use the most effectual means of apprehending and detaining as many of the said levies and Militia as possible, even if they produce passes, till further order of the Convention or the Committee of Safety of this State; it being of the utmost consequence to the publick safety that so large a number of armed men should not be added to the enemy's power on *Long-Island*.

Resolved, unanimously, That it be recommended to the Committees of *Westchester*, *Horse-Neck*, *Stamford*, and *Norwalk*, diligently to watch all boats passing from the main to *Long-Island*, and to suffer no soldier belonging to any Regiment in the service of this State to pass over to *Long-Island* armed, even though he should produce an officer's pass; and that Major *Lockwood* be requested and authorized to forward copies of this Resolve to the said Committees respectively, by express, if he finds that Colonels *Smith's* and *Rensen's* Regiments are either dispersed or disbanded, and have received no orders to rendezvous on *Long-Island*.

Mr. *Gerardus Bancker* informed a Member of the Convention that on *Saturday* last, at the *White-Plains*, he heard *Manning Bull* say that Brigadier-General *Woodhull* was taken prisoner on *Long-Island*, and that soon after, on the same day, he heard Dr. *Robert Graham* say the same. In consequence of the said information, suspicion arose in the minds of the Members whether a correspondence is not kept up between some person or persons in *Westchester* County and the enemy on *Long-Island*.

Thereupon, a Letter was written to the Committee of *Westchester* County, in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: This Committee have been informed that Doctor *Graham* and *Manning Bull* had very early intelligence of General *Woodhull's* being taken prisoner on *Long-Island*. We are apprehensive that a correspondence is kept up between those persons, or some other in your County, and the enemy. You are therefore earnestly requested to make strict inquiry into this matter, by inquiring of whom they had their information, and report your proceedings with all possible despatch. You'll be pleased likewise to transmit to this Committee or the Convention your proceedings in the affair of *Lownsbury*, as also the commission and other papers found upon him. We are, &c.

"To the Chairman of Committee of *Westchester* County."

A Letter from *Philip Livingston*, Esq., one of our Delegates at Continental Congress, was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, August 30, 1776.

"SIR: Your favour, dated 28th, came to hand by the post, who returned before we had any opportunity to apply to Congress, as you desired. The application was immediately agreed to, and their resolve to employ the blacksmiths (who are now engaged in building the frigates) for the purpose of obstructing the navigation of *Hudson's River*, is here enclosed. We wish much to hear from you what is done in that affair, and what more is proposed to be done. The advices from *New-York* respecting the attack of the *British* troops on our Army on *Long-Island* are very various and uncertain. We could wish to hear from you as often as time will permit; our anxiety, as you may easily judge, is not small, and particular accounts, as often as possible, would be very agreeable. Many particulars that most chiefly concern us, as Members of your State, and are more interesting now than ever, we are not informed of. We know you are much engaged in affairs of the greatest moment, but

perhaps one of your Secretaries may find time to despatch us a few lines every day or two. A considerable number of troops have, since *Tuesday*, marched from here to *Amboy*, say about three thousand, and as many more will probably be despatched within one week more. Mr. *Lewis* and Colonel *Floyd* beg to assure you that they are as well as the subscriber. Sir, your most obedient servant,

"Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Jun."

"*PHIL. LIVINGSTON.*"

A Resolution of Congress, enclosed in and of the same date with the foregoing, was also read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Continental Congress, August 30, 1776.

"The Convention of *New-York* having represented that for want of Blacksmiths they are greatly delayed in obstructing the passage of *Hudson's River*, which is an object of great importance:

"Resolved, That the Convention of *New-York* be empowered to employ, for the purpose aforesaid, the Blacksmiths that are now engaged in building the Continental Frigates at *Poughkeepsie*.

"Ordered, That the Secretaries transmit a copy of the said Resolution to the Secret Committee without delay."

P. M., September 3, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abm. Yates*, Esq., President.

Mr. *Ducr*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, Colonel *Rensselaer*, Major *Schenck*, of the Committee of Safety.

FOR *NEW-YORK*.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Harper*.

FOR *ALBANY*.—Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Ten Broeck*.

FOR *SUFFOLK*.—Mr. *Smith*.

FOR *DUTCHESS*.—Mr. *Sackett*, Colonel *Hoffman*.

FOR *WESTCHESTER*.—Judge *Graham*.

#### CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Friday, July 5, 1776.

A Letter from Captain *Crawford*, a prisoner of the 26th Regiment, was read, requesting leave to visit the Prisoners in the several places where they are confined.

Resolved, That, in the present situation of affairs, such leave be not granted.

The Committee on Ways and Means brought in a Report, which was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table.

The Account and Vouchers of Mr. *Price* being laid before Congress,

Resolved, That they be referred for adjustment to the Board of Treasury.

The Board of War brought in a Report:

Whereupon, Resolved, That a Regiment be raised out of the Officers who served in *Canada*, on the same terms on which the Regiment to be commanded by Colonel *Dubois* is to be raised; and that the following persons be appointed Officers of the said Regiment: *Seth Warner* Colonel, *Samuel Safford* Lieutenant-Colonel, *Elisha Painter* Major. *Wait Hopkins*, *John Grant*, *Gideon Brownson*, *Abiather Angel*, *Simeon Smith*, *Joshua Stanton*, — *Seely*, *Jacob Vorsboroug*, Captains; *John Allen*, — *Fusset*, — *Walbridge*, — *Deane*, *James Gold*, — *Sill*, *Ebenezer Hide*, *Gamaliel Painter*, First Lieutenants; *Ebenezer Beaumont* Adjutant.

Resolved, That the President write to Governour *Cooke*, requesting him to order fifty Ship-Carpenters to be engaged, on the best terms, at the expense of the Continent, and sent to General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*, as soon as possible, in order to build Vessels for the defence of the Lakes.

The Committee of Congress, appointed to confer with the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, and the Field Officers of the five Battalions of the said City, reported, that they have had a meeting with the Committees and Officers aforesaid, and have agreed to the following Resolutions, viz:

That all the Associated Militia of *Pennsylvania*, (excepting the Counties of *Westmoreland*, *Bedford*, and *Northumberland*,) who can be furnished with arms and accoutrements, be forthwith requested to march, with the utmost expedition, to *Trenton*, (except the Militia of *Northampton* County, who

FOR *TRYON*.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*.

FOR *ULSTER*.—Colonel *De Wit*.

FOR *CHARLOTTE*.—Major *Webster*, Colonel *Williams*.

FOR *CUMBERLAND*.—Mr. *Stephens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

It being suggested that the Military Stores of Lead, &c., belonging to this State, and which were lately, by order of the Convention, sent to the *White-Plains*, in *Westchester* County, are in danger, from the number of disaffected persons in that County, of being destroyed:

Thereupon, the Committee came to the following determination, to wit:

Whereas this Committee have reason to think that the Stores belonging to this State, which are stored in *Westchester* County, are by no means secure from the designs of our open or secret enemies:

Therefore, Resolved, That the Chairman of the Committee of *Westchester* County deliver to the bearer hereof, Mr. *John Cregier*, all the Stores belonging to this State, and lately sent to be stored in the said County by order of the Convention of this State; and Mr. *Cregier* is hereby requested and authorized to convey the same to the landing at *Tarry-Town*, and from thence by water to the *Fishkill-Landing*.

Resolved, further, That the said Committee be requested to furnish a proper guard over the said Stores until the arrival thereof to the *Fishkills* as aforesaid; and also that they afford Mr. *Cregier* all the aid in their power in the execution of this business.

And Ordered, That the Treasurer of this Convention advance to Mr. *John Cregier* the sum of sixty Dollars, to enable him to pay the expenses of transporting the Stores belonging to this State from *Westchester* County to the *Fishkill-Landing*, and take his receipt to account for the same.

are to march directly for *New-Brunswick*,) in *New-Jersey*; and that the said Militia continue in service until the Flying-Camp of ten thousand men can be collected to relieve them, unless they shall be sooner discharged by Congress:

That the Militia march by Companies to the place of rendezvous:

That the said Militia be taken into the Continental pay, and receive the same pay, allowances and rations with the Continental Troops, from the time they begin their march until they return to their respective homes:

That those of the three Battalions of the *Pennsylvania* Troops now remaining in the Province, be ordered to march immediately for *New-Brunswick*, in *New-Jersey*:

That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* provide as many tents as they can for said Militia:

That the Committee of Inspection and Observation in the several Counties furnish a good kettle to every six men, and give all the assistance in their power, that the said Militia be well armed and equipped, and march with the greatest expedition:

That the Committees of Inspection for the several Counties of *Pennsylvania* be desired to order such Troops as they may raise for the Flying-Camp to be marched to *Trenton*; the Resolve of Congress passed yesterday to march them to *Philadelphia* to the contrary notwithstanding.

Whereupon, Resolved, That this Congress highly approve the foregoing Resolutions, and recommend it to the good people of *Pennsylvania* to carry the same into execution with the same laudable readiness which they have hitherto manifested in supporting the injured rights of their country.

Resolved, That Colonel *Hazlet*, of the Battalion in *Delaware* Government, be ordered to station one Company at *Lewistown*, and to march the remaining seven to *Wilmington*, and there remain until further order of this Congress.

Resolved, That the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Southern Department, while on actual service, receive four Dollars a day.

The Committee on the Treasury reported that there is due to *John Walker*, Esquire, one of the Commissioners of *Indian* Affairs in the Southern Department, the sum of 869 67-90 Dollars, for several Horses, a Wagon and Geers, and expenses in travelling two thousand five hundred miles.

Ordered, That the said Account be paid.

The Committee appointed to consider the state of *Georgia*, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That for the defence of *Georgia* there be an addition of two Battalions, (one of them to consist of Riflemen,) to be raised on the same terms on which other Continental Battalions are now ordered to be raised:

That blank Commissions for the Field-Officers be sent to the Convention of *Georgia*, to be filled up with the names of such persons as the said Convention shall judge proper:

That it be recommended to the Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils of Safety, of *Virginia*, *North* and *South-Carolina*, to permit the raising Troops, for the purpose aforesaid, within their respective States; and, if requested, to afford their advice and assistance with regard to suitable persons for Captains and Subalterns, and that blank Commissions be delivered to the Delegates:

That four Gallies be built at the expense of the *United States*, under the direction of the Convention of *Georgia*, for the further defence of the said State.

And whereas the Delegates of *Georgia* have represented the necessity of erecting two Forts, one at *Savannah* and the other at *Sunbury*;

*Resolved*, That two Companies of Artillery be raised, consisting of fifty men each, Officers included, for the purpose of garrisoning such Forts, in case they shall be erected, by and at the expense of *Georgia*; and that blank Commissions be delivered to the Delegates, for the Officers, to be filled up by the Assembly or Convention of the said State.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be empowered, if he shall judge it advisable, to order three of the fullest Regiments, stationed in *Massachusetts-Bay*, to be immediately marched to *Ticonderoga*; and that an equal number of the Militia of that State be taken into pay, and imbodyed for its defence, if the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay* judge it necessary.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Mr. *John Coburne*, who acted as an Assistant Conductor of Military Stores in *Canada*, and has produced certificates of his having done his duty in that station, be allowed Lieutenant's pay, from the first day of *March* to the first day of *June* last:

That a Chaplain be appointed to each Regiment in the Continental Army, and that their allowance be increased to thirty-three Dollars and one-third of a Dollar a month:

That immediate steps be taken in the several Colonies to procure Lead:

That the Postmaster-General be directed immediately to have Expresses established between this City and *New-York*; and that General *Washington* be desired to send off Despatches to Congress every day.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to send forthwith to General *Lewis*, at *Williamsburgh*, five tons of Powder, for the use of the Troops in the Southern Department, part of which is to be forwarded to *South-Carolina*:

That the *British* Officers and Soldiers who are Prisoners, and now in *New-Jersey*, be sent from thence to the Town of *York*, in *Pennsylvania*; and that the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey* be requested to carry this Resolve into immediate execution:

That four Companies of the Militia be directed to remain in *Philadelphia*, to guard the Continental Stores in that City.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Saturday, July 6, 1776.

A Letter of the 5th, from the Convention of *New-Jersey*, was received and read.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That *Carpenter Wharton* be appointed Commissary to supply with Rations the Militia who are immediately to march from *Pennsylvania* to *New-Jersey*, until the Commissary-General shall order otherwise:

That *William Sherman*, Jun., be appointed Paymaster of Colonel *Warner's* Regiment:

That Major *Rogers* be sent to *New-Hampshire*, to be disposed of as the Government of that State shall judge best.

Sundry Letters were received and read, viz:

One from General *Washington*, of the 4th and 5th *July*;

One of the 1st, from General *Schuyler* to General *Washington*; and

One of the 24th of *June*, from Brigadier-General *Sullivan* to General *Schuyler*:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the Board of War.

*Resolved*, That the Agents in *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Rhode-Island* be directed to send the Arms taken out of the *Scotch* Transports to General *Washington*, at *New-York*.

*Resolved*, That a copy of a Letter received from *T. Green* be forwarded to General *Washington*, and that he be desired to send for such parts of the Stores therein mentioned, as he shall think proper.

Application being made by *William Kelsay*, who has raised a Company in *New-Jersey*, for a sum of Money to defray the expenses of said Company to *New-York*:

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Mease* advance one month's Pay to Captain *Kelsay*, for the use of his Company; he to be accountable.

The Congress proceeded to the election of Members for the Committee on *Indian* Affairs, in the room of those absent; and, the ballots being taken, Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *P. Livingston*, and Mr. *Huntingdon*, were chosen.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Floyd*, Mr. *Rodney*, and Mr. *Clark*, be added to the Committee to inquire into the miscarriages in *Canada*.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver one ton of Powder to the Convention of *New-York*; they to be accountable:

That General *Schuyler* be directed to collect and audit the publick Accounts of the late General *Montgomery*, and to include his pay and the allowance for his table in the adjustment.

The Board of Treasury laid before Congress an Account of *James Warren*, Esq., late Paymaster-General of the *United Colonies*:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the following allowances be made, viz:

For Assistants from 27th *July*, 1775, to 4th *May*, 1776, the sum of 276 Dollars:

For sundry articles purchased for the use of the Office in *New-York*, 3 Dollars and 49-72 parts of a Dollar:

For Horse hire to *William Wythrop*, Esq., and for his attendance and expenses in *Philadelphia*, 100 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Warren* pay the balance in his hands to *Ebenezer Hancock*, Esq., Deputy Paymaster-General for the Eastern Department.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, July 8, 1776.

A Letter of the 4th, from General *Washington*, and one of the 6th, from the Convention of *New-Jersey*, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to send four tons of Powder, and a sufficient quantity of Cartridge-Paper, to General *Mercer*, for the use of the *Flying-Camp*.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *James Mease*; he to be accountable.

A Letter of this day, from Mrs. *Connolly*, was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, and that it be recommended to said Committee to make proper provision for Mrs. *Connolly* till further order of Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer of the Military Associators of *Philadelphia* be directed not to order Captain *Peters* out of the City, as his service and attendance is necessary in the War Office.

*Resolved*, That the Postmasters, while in office, be excused from all military duty.

A Letter of the 4th, from the Convention of *Maryland*, enclosing Resolutions for raising three thousand four hundred men for the Flying-Camp, was received and read.

*Resolved*, That Major-General *Gates* be informed that it was the intention of Congress to give him the command of the Troops whilst in *Canada*, but that they had no design to vest him with a superior command to General *Schuyler* whilst the Troops should be on this side *Canada*; and that the President write to Major-General *Schuyler* and Major-General *Gates*, stating this matter, and recommending to them to carry on the military operations with harmony, and in such a manner as shall best promote the publick service.

That a copy of the foregoing Resolution be transmitted to General *Washington*.

The Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, having recommended *Daniel Burkhard*, *George Hubley*, *Jacob Bunner*, and *Benjamin Weiser*, to be Captains of the four Companies of *Germans* to be raised in that State:

*Resolved*, That they be approved, and that Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That General *Washington* be vested with discretionary power to call to his assistance, at *New-York*, such of the Continental Regiments in the *Massachusetts-Bay* as have not already received orders to march to *Ticonderoga*, and that the General Court of that State be requested to supply their places with Militia, if they think it expedient:

That General *Washington* have permission to call forth and engage in the service of the *United States* so many *Indians* of the *St. John's*, *Nova-Scotia*, and *Penobscot* Tribes as he shall judge necessary; and that he be desired to write to the General Court of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, requesting their aid in this business, and informing them that Congress will reimburse such expenses as may be necessarily incurred in consequence of the foregoing Resolution:

That the Commissary-General have full power to supply both Armies, that upon the Lakes as well as that at *New-York*, and also to appoint and employ such persons under him and to remove any Deputy-Commissary as he shall judge proper and expedient, it being absolutely necessary that the supply of both Armies should be under one direction.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of a Deputy Quartermaster-General for the Flying-Camp; and, the ballots being taken, *Clement Biddle* was elected Deputy Quartermaster-General for the Flying-Camp and for the Militia of *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*, ordered to rendezvous at *Trenton*.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for the election of a Deputy Mustermaster-General for the Flying-Camp and Militia aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the Committee for providing Medicines be directed to supply the Militia aforesaid with a sufficient quantity of suitable Medicines.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 60,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Delegates of *Georgia*, for the use of the Continental Battalions, the State of *Georgia* to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be empowered to appoint suitable places of rendezvous for the new Battalions raising for *Canada*, and communicate the same to the Assemblies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Connecticut*, and *New-York*; also, to issue his orders for supplying the men with Rations, Tents, a month's Pay advance, and other necessities.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Mease* be directed to advance one month's Pay to such of the Militia as will engage to serve in the Flying-Camp.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 5,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. *George Evans*, Contractor for supplying the *Delaware* Battalion, he to be accountable.

A Letter of the 5th, from the Committee of Safety of *Sussex*, in *Delaware* Government, with sundry papers enclosed, was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the Delegates of *Maryland* and *Delaware*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. I.

Tuesday, July 9, 1776.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That *Abraham Sheppard* be appointed Captain, *Samuel Finley* First Lieutenant, *William Kelly* Second Lieutenant, *Henry Bedinger* Third Lieutenant, of the *Virginia* Rifle Company; and that the Delegates of *Virginia* be empowered to write to the several County Committees in that State where they think it most proper and probable for the men to be raised, requesting the said Committees to recommend Officers for the appointment of Congress, to fill up Colonel *Stevenson's* Regiment, the Officers so recommended to have power immediately to enlist their men, and Commissions be sent them as soon as possible, and that 7,000 Dollars be paid into the hands of Colonel *Stevenson*, for bounty money and other regimental expenses:

That a further sum of 5,000 Dollars be paid into the hands of said Colonel *Stevenson*, and 2,500 Dollars to the Delegates of *Maryland*, for the use of the said Regiment, they to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Palfrey*, late Aid-de-Camp of General *Washington*, have the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Continental Army.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a Deputy Mustermaster-General for the Flying-Camp and Militia ordered to rendezvous at *Trenton*; and, the ballots being taken, *Jonathan B. Smith* was elected.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 10,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of the Committee of Secret Correspondence, for the purchase of two Vessels, they to be accountable.

The Committee to whom the Petition of *William Poole* was referred brought in their Report:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That 20 Dollars be paid to the said *William Poole* for his present support, till regulations are made for the relief of disabled Soldiers.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. *Duché* be appointed Chaplain to Congress, and that he be desired to attend every morning, at nine o'clock.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* release *Allan McDonald*, of *Kingsborough*, a prisoner in the Jail of *Philadelphia*, on his parole, and that upon signing the parole he be treated agreeable to former Resolutions of Congress.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to settle a cartel for exchange of Prisoners.

The Members chosen: Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *Harrison*.

*Resolved*, That such of the Militia as are employed in making Gun-Locks, and such as are employed in making Cannon and Powder, be detained from marching on the present occasion to *New-Jersey*.

*Resolved*, That five of the Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada* be a quorum to proceed to business.

The Committee on the Treasury, to whom the claims of *John Walker* and *Willie Jones*, Esqs., Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Southern Department, were referred, reported that there is due—

To *John Walker*, Esq., for one hundred and thirty-nine days he was employed in the Southern Department, at the rate of 4 Dollars a day, 556 Dollars:

To *Willie Jones*, Esq., for his expenses attending *Indian* affairs at *Salisbury*, and travelling to sundry places, 250 Dollars; and for ninety-five days on duty, at 4 Dollars a day, 380 Dollars:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

A Memorial from *Ludwick Karcher* was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Board of War.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Wednesday, July 10, 1776.

*Resolved*, That one month's Pay be advanced to the Militia of *Pennsylvania* ordered to march to *Trenton*; the same to be paid after the men are mustered.

That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to deliver to Mr. *C. Bid-*



*dle*, the Deputy-Quartermaster-General for the Flying-Camp and Militia, such Tents and other articles as he has belonging to the Continent, and which may be wanted for the Militia and Flying-Camp.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration :

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Committee of *Lancaster* be empowered and directed to keep a guard over the Prisoners in the Barracks of that Borough, and to surround the said Barracks with a stockade fort :

That the Privates, who are prisoners in the Town of *Reading*, be removed to the Borough of *Lancaster*.

A Letter from *Ephraim Anderson* was laid before Congress and read :

*Resolved*, That the President write to General *Washington* on the subject, enclosing Mr. *Anderson's* Letter, and that Mr. *Anderson* be referred to the General.

The Committee appointed to draw up Rules and Orders for the government of the House, brought in their Report, which was read :\*

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The Standing Committee for *Indian Affairs* brought in a Report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the Committee for providing Medicines be directed to furnish Dr. *Allison* with a set of Instruments, and that the Director-General be directed to supply him with proper Medicines.

The Committee to whom the Cartel between Brigadier-General *Arnold* and Captain *Forster*, and the several papers thereto relating, were recommitted, brought in their Report, which was read, as follows :

That, having made diligent inquiry into the facts, they find that a party of three hundred and ninety Continental troops, under the command of Colonel *Bedel*, was posted at the *Cedars*, about forty-three miles above *Montreal*; that they had there formed some works of defence, the greater part of them picketed lines, the rest a breastwork of earth, with two field-pieces mounted :

That on *Wednesday*, the 15th of *May*, Colonel *Bedel* received intelligence that a party of the enemy, consisting of about six hundred Regulars, *Canadians*, and *Indians*, were on their way to attack his post, and were then within nine miles of it; that Colonel *Bedel* thereon set out himself for *Montreal*, to procure a reinforcement; whereupon, the command of the *Cedars* devolved on Major *Butterfield* :

That on *Thursday*, a reinforcement, under the command of Major *Sherburne*, marched from *Montreal* for the *Cedars*, while a larger detachment should be getting ready to proceed thither with Brigadier-General *Arnold* :

That on *Friday*, the 17th, the enemy, under the command of Captain *Forster*, invested the post at the *Cedars*, and for two days kept up a loose, scattering fire; that Major *Butterfield* proposed, from the very first, to surrender the post, and refused repeated solicitations from his officers and men to permit them to sally out on the enemy :

\* Report of the Committee on the Rules and Orders of the House, brought in JULY 10, 1776. *Ordered to lie on the table.*

The Committee appointed to draw up Rules and Orders for the government of this House, have agreed to the following Report :

1st. No Member shall read any printed paper in the House during the sitting thereof, without leave of Congress.

2d. No Member shall speak more than twice in any one debate, without leave of the House.

No motion shall be debated until the same be seconded. When a motion shall be made and seconded, it shall be reduced to writing, if desired by the President or any Member, delivered in at the table, and read by the President, before the same shall be allowed to be debated.

When a motion is made and seconded, the matter of the motion shall receive a determination by the question, or be laid aside by general consent, or postponed by the previous question, before any other motion be received.

When the House is sitting, no Member shall speak (or whisper) to another so as to interrupt any Member who may be speaking in the debate.

When two Members rise together, the President shall name the person to speak.

No Member shall depart from the service of the House without permission or order from his constituents.

No person shall be appointed to any office of profit, unless he shall have the consent of seven Colonies, nor shall any ballot be counted, unless the person for whom the ballot shall be given be first named to the House before the balloting be gone into.

If a question in a debate contain more parts than one, any Member may have the same divided into as many questions as parts.

That so soon as nine Colonies are present in the House, the Congress proceed to business.

That on *Sunday* afternoon, a flag being sent in by the enemy, Major *Butterfield* agreed to surrender the fort and garrison to Captain *Forster*, capitulating with him, whether verbally or in writing does not appear, that the garrison should not be put into the hands of the Savages, and that their baggage should not be plundered :

That at the time of the surrender, the enemy consisted of about forty Regulars, one hundred *Canadians*, and five hundred *Indians*, and no cannon; the garrison had sustained no injury from their fire, but the having one man wounded; they had twenty rounds of cartridges a man, thirty rounds for one field-piece, five for another, half a barrel of gunpowder, fifteen pounds of musket-ball, and provisions sufficient to have lasted them twenty or thirty days: Major *Butterfield* knew that a reinforcement was on its way, and moreover, was so near the main body of the army that he could not doubt of being supported by that :

That immediately on the surrender, the garrison was put into the custody of the Savages, who plundered them of their baggage, and even stripped them of their clothes :

That Major *Sherburne*, having landed on *Monday*, the 20th, at *Quinze Chenes*, about nine miles from the *Cedars*, and marched on with his party, consisting then of one hundred men, to within four miles thereof, was there attacked by about five hundred of the enemy: that he maintained his ground about an hour, and then, being constrained to retreat, performed the same in good order, receiving and returning a constant fire for about forty minutes, when the enemy, finding means to post advanced parties in such a manner as to intercept his farther retreat, they also were made prisoners of war :

That they were immediately put into the custody of the Savages, carried to where Major *Butterfield* and his party were, and stripped of their baggage and wearing apparel :

That two of them were put to death that evening, four or five others at different times afterwards, one of whom was of those who surrendered on capitulation at the *Cedars*, and was killed on the eighth day after that surrender; that one was first shot, and, while retaining life and sensation, was roasted, as was related by his companion now in possession of the Savages, who himself saw the fact; and that several others, being worn down by famine and cruelty, were left exposed in an island naked, and perishing with cold and hunger :

That while Major *Sherburne* was in custody of the enemy, Captain *Forster* required of him and the other officers to sign a cartel, stipulating the exchange of themselves and their men for as many of equal condition of the *British* troops in our possession; further, that notwithstanding the exchange, neither themselves nor men should ever again bear arms against the *British* Government; and for the performance of this, four hostages were to be delivered, which they, being under the absolute power of the enemy, did sign :

That on *Sunday*, the 26th, the prisoners were carried to *Quinze Chenes*, when it was discovered that General *Arnold* was approaching, and making dispositions to attack them :

That Captain *Forster*, having desired Major *Sherburne* to attend a flag, which he was about to send to General *Arnold*, for confirmation of the cartel, carried him into the council of *Indians*, then sitting, who told him that it was a mercy never before shown in their wars, that they had put to death so few of the prisoners; but that he must expect, and so inform General *Arnold*, that they should certainly kill every man who should thereafter fall into their hands :

That Captain *Forster* joined in desiring that this bloody message should be delivered to General *Arnold*; and moreover, that he should be notified, that if he rejected the cartel, and attacked him, every man of the prisoners would be put to instant death :

That General *Arnold* was extremely averse from entering into any agreement, and was at length induced to do it by no other motive than that of saving the prisoners from cruel and inhuman death, threatened in such terms as left no doubt it was to be perpetrated, and that he did in the end conclude it, after several flags received from Captain *Forster*, and a relinquishment by him of the unequal article restraining our soldiers from again bearing arms :

That the prisoners, so stipulated to be given up to the enemy, were not in the possession of General *Arnold*, nor under his direction, but were, at that time, distributed in various parts of the Continent, under the orders of this House :

That four hostages were accordingly delivered to Captain *Forster*, who were immediately plundered and stripped by the Savages; and on his part were delivered one Major, four Captains, sixteen Subalterns, and three hundred and fifty-five Privates, as specified in a certificate of Captain *James Osgood* and others, of whom no specification by their names or numbers has yet been transmitted; that he retained twelve *Canadians*, alleging, in his justification, express orders so to do; and that, living in a military Government, they were to be considered even in a worse light than deserters from his Majesty's armies; these he carried away in irons, but afterwards released: that he permitted the *Indians* to carry into their countries several other natives of the *United States*, for purposes unknown:

That, during the time of their captivity, not half food was allowed the prisoners; they were continually insulted, buffeted, and ill treated by the Savages; and when the first parties of them were carried off from the shore to be delivered to General *Arnold*, balls of mud were fired at them, and at the last parties, musket balls.

The Congress, taking into consideration the foregoing Report, came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That all acts contrary to good faith, the laws of nature, or the customs of civilized nations, done by the officers or soldiers of his *Britannick* Majesty, or by foreigners or Savages taken into his service, are to be considered as done by his orders, unless indemnification be made, in cases which admit indemnification, and in all other cases, unless immediate and effective measures be taken by him, or by his officers, for bringing to condign punishment the authors, abettors, and perpetrators of the act:

That the plundering the baggage of the garrison at the *Cedars*, stripping them of their clothes, and delivering them into the hands of the Savages, was a breach of the capitulation on the part of the enemy, for which indemnification ought to be demanded:

That the murder of the prisoners-of-war was a gross and inhuman violation of the laws of nature and nations; that condign punishment should be inflicted on the authors, abettors, and perpetrators of the same; and that, for this purpose, it be required that they be delivered into our hands:

That the agreement entered into by General *Arnold* was a mere sponson on his part, he not being invested with powers for the disposal of prisoners not in his possession, nor under his direction; and that, therefore, it is subject to be ratified or annulled, at the discretion of this House:

That the shameful surrender of the post at the *Cedars* is chargeable on the Commanding Officer; that such other of the prisoners as were taken there, showed a willingness and desire to fight the enemy; and that Major *Sherburne*, and the prisoners taken with him, though their disparity of numbers was great, fought the enemy bravely for a considerable time, and surrendered at last, but on absolute necessity; on which consideration, and on which alone, it is resolved, that the said sponson be ratified; and that an equal number of captives from the enemy, of the same rank and condition, be restored to them, as stipulated by the said sponson:

That, previous to the delivery of the prisoners to be returned on our part, the *British* Commander in *Canada* be required to deliver into our hands the authors, abettors, and perpetrators of the horrid murder committed on the prisoners, to suffer such punishment as their crime deserves; and also to make indemnification for the plunder at the *Cedars*, taken contrary to the faith of the capitulation; and that, until such delivery and indemnification be made, the said prisoners be not delivered:

That, if the enemy shall commit any further violences, by putting to death, torturing, or otherwise ill treating the prisoners retained by them, or any of the hostages put into their hands, recourse be had to retaliation, as the sole means of stopping the progress of human butchery; and that, for that purpose, punishments of the same kind and degree be inflicted on an equal number of the captives from them in our possession, till they shall be taught to respect the violated rights of nations:

That a copy of the above Report and Resolutions be transmitted to the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Forces, to be by him sent to Generals *Howe* and *Burgoyne*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, July 11, 1776.

Sundry Letters were received and read, viz:

One of the 9th, from the Convention of *New-Jersey*;

One of the same date, from the Committee of *Easton*; three from Officers, (prisoners,) desiring leave to come to *Philadelphia*.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from the Convention of *New-Jersey* be referred to the Board of War, who are desired to report thereon as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *T. Matlack* be directed to deliver to Mr. *C. Biddle*, Deputy Quartermaster-General for the Flying-Camp, such of the Continental stores in his possession as may be necessary for said Flying-Camp.

The General having recommended the following gentlemen to be Officers of the two remaining Rifle Companies of Colonel *Stevensou's* Battalion at *New-York*, viz: *Philemon Griffith* Captain, *Thomas Hussey Luckett* First Lieutenant, *Adamson Tannehill* Second Lieutenant, *Henry Hardman* Third Lieutenant; *Richard Davis* Captain, *Daniel Crescop* First Lieutenant, *Nieman Tannehill* Second Lieutenant, *Henry Hardman* Third Lieutenant:

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and Commissions granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 213 Dollars and one-third be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Delegates for *Maryland*, to defray the expenses of transporting Powder to *Maryland*, they to be accountable.

Three Petitions, one from Major *Melchior*, one from *John Doyle*, and one from *Benjamin Flower*, were presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the Board of War.

A Petition from *John Cox* was presented to Congress, and read.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to sell Mr. *Cox* half a ton of Powder, for the use of the private vessel of war by him fitted out.

A Petition from *Cox*, *Ferman*, and others, was presented to Congress, and read, together with a Memorial from the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, recommending their case to the notice of Congress.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Petitioners have leave to dispose of the goods mentioned in their Petition.

A Letter of the 10th, from General *Washington*, and five Letters, of the 5th and 6th, from Governour *Trumbull*, were laid before Congress, and read.

The Board of War, to whom the Letter from the Convention of *New-Jersey* was referred, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a Letter be written to the Convention of *New-Jersey*, informing them, that as they have not enclosed to Congress copies of General *Washington's* and Brigadier-General *Livingston's* Letters, no judgment can be formed by Congress concerning the contents of them, until copies are sent; that measures are taking in *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland* for forming the Flying-Camp; that, in the mean while, the associated Militia are marching, in great numbers, from *Pennsylvania*, for the defence of *New-Jersey*; that ammunition has been, and will be, supplied by this Congress, for the defence of *New-Jersey*; that, with regard to the pay of the Militia, Congress will observe the same rule of conduct towards *New-Jersey* as towards other Colonies.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report from the Standing Committee for *Indian* Affairs, and thereupon came to the following Resolutions:

The Congress are so fully persuaded of the necessity of protecting the frontiers of *New-York* from the incursions of the enemy, that they recommend that business to General *Schuyler's* immediate attention, and direct that if the situation of affairs will admit of it, he take proper steps for erecting a Fort at *Oswego*, and building Gallies on Lake *Ontario*, and pursue such other measures as may be best fitted to answer the views of Congress.

That Posts be taken and Forts erected at *Presque Isle*, *Le Beuf*, and *Kittaning*, and a Battalion be raised to erect and garrison the same.

That the Commissioners of *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department be directed to inquire what Naval force on Lake *Erie* will be necessary to secure to the *United States*

the command of the navigation of that Lake, and report the result of their inquiry as soon as possible to Congress.

That it be notified to the Convention of *Virginia* that the Congress are willing to take into Continental possession the Forts at the mouths of *Wheeling* and the *Great Kan-haway*, and the Fort at *Pittsburgh*, now in possession of that Colony; and also to receive, on the Continental Establishment, the Garrisons in these Forts, if the said Convention shall desire it.

The Marine Committee reported that, in pursuance of the order of Congress, they have called before them divers of the inferior officers belonging to the ships *Alfred* and *Columbus*, and having heard their complaints against the Captains, *Saltonstal* and *Whipple*, in their presence, are of opinion that the charge against Captain *Saltonstal* does not appear to the Committee to be well-founded, and that the charge against Captain *Whipple* amounts to nothing more than a rough, indelicate mode of behaviour to his Marine officers:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be directed to order the Captains, *Saltonstal* and *Whipple*, to repair to their respective commands; and that it be recommended to Captain *Whipple* to cultivate harmony with his officers.

Doctor *Franklin*, one of the Commissioners to *Canada*, laid before Congress an account of his expenditures.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the Board of Treasury.

The President acquainted Congress that last evening information was given to him of a conspiracy or plot carrying on for liberating the Prisoners in the Jail of *Philadelphia*, and other evil designs;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That a Committee of five be appointed, and that they, together with the President, be directed to make strict inquiry into the truth of the matter; and, if they find the information well grounded, to take such steps as they shall judge prudent and effectual for defeating the machinations of the conspirators; and, in case of necessity, to call upon the Brigadier-General, or Commanding Officer of the Associators, for the aid of the Military.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *Stockton*, Mr. *Guinnett*, Mr. *Morris*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

A Letter from Mr. *Mease* was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 40,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Mr. *Mease*, to enable him to advance a month's Pay to the Military Associators of *Pennsylvania*, ordered into *New-Jersey*, and to those who engage to form the Flying-Camp; he to be accountable.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due—

To *Thomas Amor*, for boarding General *Lee's* Guard the sum of 34 22-90 Dollars:

To Colonel *Nelson*, for expenses of an Express, the sum of 4 84-90 Dollars:

To *Casper Miller*, for Provisions, &c., for General *Lee's* Guard, the sum of 33 27-90 Dollars:

To *Thomas Dundas*, for Rifles supplied Colonel *Irvine's* Battalion, the sum of 313 78-90 Dollars, and that the same ought to be charged to said Battalion:

To *Joseph Hewes*, Esq., for expenses paid for the carriage, guard, &c., of Gunpowder to *North-Carolina*, the sum of 660 34-90 Dollars:

To *Timothy Matlack*, on account, 200 Dollars:

To *William Trickett*, for Stationery, the sum of 204 51-90 Dollars;

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee, to whom the Letter from *John Macpherson*, of the 31st of *May*, was referred, reported, that they have examined Mr. *Macpherson* respecting the contents of his Letter, who alleged, that he had a promise of being appointed Commander-in-Chief of the *American* Navy, by Messrs. *Randolph*, *Hopkins*, and *J. Rutledge*, a Committee of Congress to whom he communicated an important secret, but that he produced no evidence in support of such allegation; that they inquired of Mr. *Hopkins* about this promise, in the presence of Mr. *Macpherson*, and that Mr. *Hopkins* declared he recollected nothing of the kind:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the application and request of Mr. *Macpherson* is unreasonable.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, July 12, 1776.

Sundry Letters were laid before Congress and read, viz: One of the 11th from Brigadier-General *Wooster*; one from Mrs. *Conolly*; and one of the 10th, from the Convention of *New-Jersey*.

*Resolved*, That the last be referred to the Board of War.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed on the 8th of *May* last, on the Instructions given to Commodore *Hopkins*, be discharged; and that the matters to them referred be committed to the Marine Committee, who are invested with the same powers as the Committee now discharged were at their appointment; and that the said Marine Committee be directed to proceed to inquire, as well how far the said Commodore has complied with the instructions given him by the Naval Committee, as into the complaints reported by the Marine Committee on the 13th of *June*, to have been exhibited against him.

The Committee appointed to examine the claims of Mr. *Charles Walker*, for the hire and expenses of his Sloop *Endeavour*, and the damages he has sustained in consequence of her being taken into the service of the *United Colonies*, and brought from *New-Providence* to *New-London* by Commodore *Hopkins*, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the said Sloop *Endeavour* be restored to the said *Charles Walker*, with all her Stores and Materials, as she came from sea, and now lies at *New-London*:

That the sum of 2,000 Dollars be paid to the said *Charles Walker*, for the hire of her, and in lieu of all losses, damages, premiums of insurance, and expenses whatever:

That the said *Charles Walker* be permitted to invest the balance of the said 2,000 Dollars, or what remains, after defraying his expenses, and paying for the repairs of the outfit of his vessel, in produce, and export the same.

The Committee appointed to prepare articles of Confederation brought in a draft, which was read:

*Ordered*, That eighty copies, and no more, of the Confederation, as brought in by the Committee, be immediately printed and deposited with the Secretary, who shall deliver one copy to each Member:

That the Printer be under oath to deliver all the copies which he shall print, together with the copy sheet, to the Secretary, and not to disclose, either directly or indirectly, the contents of the said Confederation:

That no Member furnish any person with his copy, or take any steps by which the said Confederation may be reprinted; and that the Secretary be under the like injunction.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Memorial of the Director-General of the *American* Hospital, brought in their Report, which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Hopkinson* be added to the Marine Committee.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be empowered to employ an Assistant Clerk.

The Committee on the Treasury, to whom the Account of Dr. *Franklin*, one of the Commissioners to *Canada*, was referred, reported, that there is due to said Dr. *Franklin* the sum of 1221 18-90 Dollars; of which—

560 Dollars to be charged to Brigadier-General *Arnold*;

124 Dollars advanced to *Charles Carroll* of *Carrollton*, Esq.;

164 Dollars and 78-90ths, paid for Bedding, &c., for the use of the Commissioners, and which now remain deposited with the Commissary of Stores at *Albany*; and

372 Dollars and 30-90ths, expended by Messrs. *Franklin* and *J. Carroll*, in their journey to, and from, and in, *Canada*:

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, on *Monday* next.

The Congress being called together on

Sunday, July 14, 1776.

Two Letters from General *Washington*, dated 11th and 12th, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Colonel *Clement Biddle*,

Deputy Quartermaster-General, for the use of the Flying-Camp and Militia ordered to the *Jerseys*, he to be accountable:

That Colonel *Biddle* be directed to use every method to forward the Flour at *Trenton*, to the places where it is wanted:

That he be empowered to appoint an Assistant:

That he be directed to furnish Tents, Camp-Kettles, and Canteens, for an Army of twenty thousand men, including such of those articles as he has received from Mr. *James Mease*:

That Colonel *Biddle* be directed to employ one or more Armourers for the Army in *New-Jersey*:

That application be made to the Convention of *New-Jersey* to supply all the Lead they possibly can for the Flying-Camp and Militia:

That application be made to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, desiring them to supply the Flying-Camp and Militia, in the *Jerseys*, with as many Musket Cartridges, well ballled, as they can possibly spare:

That the Secret Committee be directed to supply the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, with a quantity of Powder, equal to that spared to the Continent in Cartridges.

That an Express be sent to overtake the Powder-Wagons gone to *Virginia*, with a Letter to Colonel *F. Lewis*, desiring him to send in the return Wagons all the Lead he can collect at *Fredericksburgh*:

That the Committee, or Council of Safety of *Virginia*, be requested to send to *Philadelphia*, by the return of the Wagons, as much of the Lead they now have at *Williamsburgh* as they can spare, and to order from the Mines fifteen or twenty tons more of Lead to *Philadelphia*, as soon as possible:

That a Letter be written to the Commanding Officer in the *Jerseys* to march such of the Militia and Flying-Camp to *Brunswick*, or other places in the *Jerseys*, as he may judge necessary, and most conducive to the publick service; provided that this does not interfere with any prior directions of General *Washington*:

That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be requested, immediately, to order to the several places of their destination all the *British* Officers, prisoners in this City; their wives not to be desired to go until the weather is more suitable:

That the Commanding Officer in *Pennsylvania* be desired to issue fresh orders, and exert himself, to forward the immediate march of the Militia to *New-Jersey*; the service requiring their being immediately imbodyed, as appears by the advices received by express from General *Washington*:

That the Deputy Quartermaster-General be directed to request the use of some house of publick worship, to cover the Troops during their short stay in this City.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Monday, July 15, 1776.

Sundry Letters were laid before Congress, and read, viz:

One from Mr. *J. Jay*, of the 6th, enclosing a Memorial from *Samuel Tredwell Pell*, of the Manor of *Pelham*;

One from the Committee of *Lancaster*, of the 11th;

One from the Committee of *Reading*, of the 13th; and

Two from the Convention of *New-York*, of the 11th, with sundry Papers enclosed; among which were the following Resolutions:

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }  
White-Plains, July 9, 1776. }

"Resolved, unanimously, That the reasons assigned by the Continental Congress for declaring the *United Colonies* Free and Independent States are cogent and conclusive; and, that while we lament the cruel necessity which has rendered that measure unavoidable, we approve the same, and will, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, join with the other Colonies in supporting it.

"Resolved, That a copy of the said Declaration and the foregoing Resolution be sent to the Chairman of the Committee of the County of *Westchester*, with orders to publish the same, with beat of drum, at this place, on *Thursday* next, and to give directions that it be published with all convenient speed in the several Districts of the County; that copies also be sent to the Chairnan of the several Counties within the State of *New-York*, with orders to cause the

same to be published in the several Districts of their respective Counties.

"Resolved, unanimously, That the Delegates of this State, in the Continental Congress, be, and they hereby are, authorized to concert and adopt all such measures as they may deem conducive to the happiness and welfare of the *United States of America*.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"ROBERT BENSON, Secretary."

Resolved, That the Letters from the Convention of *New-York*, with the papers enclosed, be referred to the Board of War:

That the General's Letters, of the 10th, 11th, and 12th, be referred to the Board of War.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be empowered to pay to the Officers ordered from *New-Jersey* to *Pennsylvania* the money ordered by Congress to be advanced for Subsistence.

Resolved, That the case of the Officers ordered from *New-Jersey* to *Pennsylvania*, be referred to the Board of War, and that they be directed to examine into the conduct of said Officers and their Servants; and to order them to such places, and to be disposed of in such manner, as they shall think proper.

Resolved, That the sum of 55 Dollars be paid to Major *Henry Sherburne*, for his expenses from the 6th of *June*, the time he left *Canada*, to this day; with a further allowance of eight days' expenses to join his Regiment.

Resolved, That two Members be elected for the Board of Treasury, in the room of two who are absent.

The Members chosen, Mr. *P. Livingston* and Mr. *Read*.

A Letter from an Officer of Colonel *Hazen's* Battalion was laid before Congress, and read:

Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada*.

A Petition and Memorial of Captain *James Ross* was received and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee of Claims.

Resolved, That it be recommended to *Patrick Henry*, Esq., Governour of *Virginia*, to give orders for manning and sending to sea, under convoy, the Brigantine *Fanny*, Captain *Tokely*, which is loaded on account of the Continent.

Resolved, That a Committee, to consist of a Member from *Virginia*, *Maryland*, *Delaware*, *Pennsylvania*, and *New-Jersey*, be appointed to consider the propriety and means of augmenting the Flying-Camp:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *Stone*, Mr. *Read*, Mr. *Morton*, and Mr. *Stockton*.

Resolved, That the Battalion which is to garrison the Posts of *Presque Isle*, *Le Beuf*, and *Kittaning*, be raised in the Counties of *Westmoreland* and *Bedford*, in *Pennsylvania*, in the following proportions, to wit: seven Companies in *Westmoreland*, and one Company in *Bedford*:

That the Commissionsed Officers of the several Companies be appointed by the Committee of the County in which they are to be raised.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned for electing the Field Officers of the *German* Battalion.

Resolved, That a Chief Physician be appointed for the Flying-Camp, and that his pay be four Dollars a day.

The ballots being taken and examined, Doctor *William Shippen*, Jun., was elected.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned for electing a Commissary of Military Stores, and a Deputy Adjutant-General for the Flying-Camp.

Resolved, That *Thursday* morning be assigned for taking into consideration the Report of the Committee of Ways and Means.

Resolved, That *Alexander McDonnald*, son of Captain *McDonnald*, be liberated on his parole, and allowed to reside with his father.

A Petition from *John Hannum* was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved, That the same, together with the papers accompanying it, be referred to the Secret Committee.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.



Tuesday, July 16, 1776.

Sundry Letters were laid before Congress and read, viz:

One from General *Washington*, of the 14th;

One from Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, of the 2d, from *Crown-Point*;

One from the Committee of *Lancaster*, of the 13th;

One from *Samuel Blackden*, of the 16th;

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Washington* be referred to the Board of War:

That *Samuel Blackden* be referred to the Deputy Paymaster and Deputy Commissary-General in the Northern Department.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be desired to lodge Powder with such persons as he may think proper, for the use of such parts of the State of *New-York* as he may apprehend exposed to danger, and that the Commanding Officer in *New-Jersey* do the same in that Colony; and that General *Washington* and the said Commanding Officer in *New-Jersey* be empowered to draw from the Mills of Messrs. *Wisner*, *Livingston*, and *Ford*, any Powder which may be requisite for these purposes, or for the use of their respective Camps.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That there be appointed, by the Commanding Officer of each Regiment in the Continental Army, a Sergeant-Major, Quartermaster Sergeant, Drum-Major and Fife-Major, who shall respectively hold no other appointment but those before-mentioned, and that their pay be one Dollar a month each more than that allowed to a Sergeant, Drum, or Fife, in said Regiment:

That a Beating Warrant be made out to *John Doyle*, to be a Captain of a Company of Riflemen, to be raised for three years, unless sooner discharged by Congress; his commission to be given him as soon as his Company is full:

That a Paymaster be appointed to each Regiment in the Army of the *United States*, with a salary of 26 Dollars and two-thirds a month:

That the application to Congress from Mr. *Rowland Chambers*, desiring to be appointed Paymaster to the *New-Jersey* Troops at *New-York*, cannot be complied with, as such an appointment would interfere with the duty of the Paymaster-General, within whose department it properly lies:

That half a Dollar a week be allowed to each of the *Connecticut* Light-Horse, who have joined the Army at *New-York*, for the maintenance of his Horse, for so long time, only, as the General shall think it necessary for such Horse to continue in the service:

That General *Schuyler* be directed to take every possible precaution to cleanse the Army under his command from the infection of the small-pox:

That it be recommended to the Convention of *Pennsylvania*, now sitting, to take such measures as they may judge proper and necessary for procuring as much Lead, within that State, as can be obtained for the supply of the Flying-Camp:

That three Commissioners be appointed by Congress to repair, as soon as may be, to *New-York*, there to audit the Accounts of the Commissary-General, Quartermaster-General, and Director-General of the Hospital, and all other Accounts of the Army; the said Commissioners to take an oath for the faithful execution of their trust:

That three Commissioners be appointed, for the like purposes, in the Northern Army:

That General *Washington* be informed that the Bounty granted by the Resolution of Congress, of the 26th of *June*, was intended as a general regulation, and to extend to all such men, now in the Continental service, and all others who will enlist for the term of three years, to be computed from and after the expiration of the term of their present enlistment.

*Resolved*, That Monsieur *Kirmovan* be appointed an Engineer in the Continental service, with the pay of sixty-Dollars per month, and the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel:

That he be ordered immediately to repair to *New-Jersey*, and put himself under the command of the Officer commanding the Flying-Camp.

*Resolved*, That *Richard Humpton* be employed in the Continental service, with the rank and pay of Lieutenant-Colonel:

That *Samuel Dawson* be employed in the Continental service, with the rank and pay of Captain:

That they be ordered to repair immediately to *New-Jersey*, and put themselves under the command of the Officer commanding the Flying-Camp.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be desired to call to his assistance, at *New-York*, two thousand of the men who have marched into *New-Jersey* to form the Flying-Camp; and that the Convention of *New-Jersey* be requested immediately to supply their places with an equal number of the Militia of that State: that Letters be written to the States of *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Connecticut*, and *New-Jersey*, setting forth the situation of our affairs in the *New-York* Department, and pressing them immediately to comply with the requisition of Congress of the 3d of *June*:

That the situation of our Army at *New-York* be pointed out to the State of *Connecticut*; and that it be earnestly recommended to that State immediately to send all the Militia thereof which can be spared into *New-York*, to reinforce the Army there, and continue in service until the proportions requested of the several States shall arrive.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a Commissary of Military Stores for the Flying-Camp; and, the ballots being taken, *Benjamin Flower*, Esq., was elected.

A Letter from *S. Chase*, Esq., of the 8th, was laid before Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That the same, together with the Petition of Mr. *Mentges*, read the 12th, be referred to the Delegates of *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland*.

A Petition from Captain *Benedict* was presented to Congress and read;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That a copy of said Petition be sent to General *Schuyler*, and that he be desired to order the Accounts of Captain *Benedict* to be settled and paid, or to inform Congress of the reasons why payment ought to be withheld.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Wisner* be empowered to employ a proper person to manufacture Gun-Flints.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

— Wednesday, July 17, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed immediately to deliver to Mr. *J. Mease* half a ton of Saltpetre, to be by him forwarded to Colonel *Moylan*, Quartermaster-General.

Sundry Letters were laid before Congress, and read, viz:

One from the Convention of *New-York*, dated the 12th, with sundry papers enclosed: which were referred to the Board of War;

One from Brigadier-General *Wooster*;

One, of the 11th, from *Richard Ellis*; and

One, of the 15th, from *Carpenter Wharton*.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 15,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Carpenter Wharton*; he to be accountable.

The Board of War, to whom the Letter of General *Washington*, of the 14th, was referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That General *Washington*, in refusing to receive a Letter said to be sent from Lord *Howe*, addressed to "George *Washington*, Esq.," acted with a dignity becoming his station; and therefore this Congress do highly approve the same, and do direct that no letter or message be received, on any occasion whatsoever, from the enemy, by the Commander-in-Chief or others the commanders of the *American* Army, but such as shall be directed to them in the characters they respectively sustain.

*Ordered*, That the above be published.

The President informed Congress that he had been under the disagreeable necessity of committing Captain *Gamble* to prison, on account of his ill behaviour;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Board of War be directed to inquire into the conduct of Captain *Gamble*, since he was made prisoner of war, and report specially to Congress.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Memorial of the Director-General of the *American* Hospital;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the number of Hospital Surgeons and Mates be increased in proportion to the augmentation of the Army, not exceeding one Surgeon and five Mates to every five thousand men, to be reduced when the Army is reduced, or when there is no further occasion for so great a number:

That as many persons be employed in the several Hospitals, in quality of Storekeepers, Stewards, Managers, and Nurses, as are necessary for the good of the service, for the time being, to be appointed by the Directors of the respective Hospitals:

That the several Regimental chests of Medicines and Chirurgical Instruments which now are or hereafter shall be in the possession of the Regimental Surgeons, be subject to the inspection and inquiry of the respective Directors of Hospitals and the Director-General; and that the said Regimental Surgeons shall, from time to time, when thereto required, render account of the said Medicines and Instruments to the said Directors, or if there be no Director in any particular department, to the Director-General; the said accounts to be transmitted to the Director-General, and by him to this Congress; and the Medicines and Instruments not used by any Regimental Surgeon to be returned when the Regiment is reduced to the respective Directors, and an account thereof by them rendered to the Director-General, and by him to this Congress:

That the several Directors of Hospitals in the several departments, and the Regimental Surgeons, where there is no Director, shall transmit to the Director-General regular returns of the number of Surgeons' Mates and other Officers employed under them, their names and pay; also, an account of the expenses and furniture of the Hospital under their direction; and that the Director-General make report of the same, from time to time, to the Commander-in-Chief and this Congress:

That the several Regimental and Hospital Surgeons, in the several departments, make weekly returns of the sick to the respective Directors in their departments:

That no Regimental Surgeon be allowed to draw upon the Hospital of his department for any stores except Medicines and Instruments; and that when any sick person shall require other stores, they shall be received into the said Hospital, and the rations of the said sick persons be stopped, so long as they are in the said Hospital; and that the Directors of the several Hospitals report to the Commissary the names of the sick, when received into, and when discharged from the Hospital, and make a like return to the Board of Treasury:

That all extra expenses for Bandages, old Linen, and other articles necessary for the service, incurred by any Regimental Surgeon, be paid by the Director of that department, with the approbation of the commander thereof:

That no more Medicines belonging to the Continent be disposed of till further order of Congress:

That the pay of the Hospital Surgeons be increased to one dollar and two-thirds of a dollar by the day; the pay of the Hospital Mates to one dollar by the day; and the pay of the Hospital Apothecary to one dollar and two-thirds of a dollar by the day; and that the Hospital Surgeons and Mates take rank of Regimental Surgeons and Mates:

That the Director-General and the several Directors of Hospitals be empowered to purchase, with the approbation of the Commander of the respective departments, Medicines and Instruments, for the use of their respective Hospitals, and draw upon the Paymaster for the same, and make report of such purchases to Congress.

*Resolved*, That the second paragraph in the third page of the Report be recommitted.

*Resolved*, That *Nicholas Hauseigger* be Colonel, *George Stricker* Lieutenant-Colonel, *Ludowick Weltner* Major, of the *German Battalion*.

*Resolved*, That another Company be added to the *German Battalion*:

That *David Welper* be appointed Captain of said Company.

*Resolved*, That *Samuel Brady* be First Lieutenant, *William McMurray* Second Lieutenant, *Henry Fortney* Third Lieutenant, of Captain *Doyle's* Independent Rifle Company.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a Deputy Paymaster-General for the Flying-Camp; and the ballots being taken,

*Richard Dallam*, Esq., was elected.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Smallwood*, from *Maryland*, be ordered to repair, as soon as possible, with the Troops under his command, to *New-York*, and put himself under the command of the General:

That the General be informed that these Troops are to be considered as part of the two thousand which he was empowered to call to his assistance from the Flying-Camp, by the Resolution passed yesterday.

*Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to the Convention of *New-Jersey* to cause all the Stock on the sea-coast, which they shall apprehend to be in danger of falling into the hands of the enemy, to be immediately removed, and driven back into the country to a place of security.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to revise the Journals, and direct what parts ought to be published:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *Lynch*, Jun., and Mr. *Hopkinson*.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed on the 11th of this month, to make strict inquiry, &c., be directed to apply to the Convention of *Pennsylvania*, now sitting, and request them to appoint a Select Committee of their body to confer with them on a matter of importance relating to that State.

A Petition from *Jean Baptista de Vidal*, of *Canada*, was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a Committee of five, and that they be directed to inquire into the character of the Petitioner, and all others in similar circumstances, applying for relief, and report thereon to Congress:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Rush*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *Heyward*, Mr. *Chase*, and Mr. *Walton*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *Morris*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolution for subjecting to confiscation the property of the subjects of the Crown of *Great Britain*, and particularly of the inhabitants of the *British West-Indies*, taken on the high seas, or between high and low water mark.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Rules and Orders for the government of the House;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the following Rules be observed:

1. So soon as nine States are present, the Congress proceed to business.

2. No Member shall depart from the service of the House, without permission of the Congress, or order from his constituents.

3. No Member shall read any printed paper in the House, during the sitting thereof, without leave of the Congress.

4. When the House is sitting, no Member shall speak to another, so as to interrupt any Member who may be speaking in the debate.

5. Every Member, when he speaks, shall rise from his seat, and address himself to the Chair, and when he has finished, shall sit down again.

6. No Member shall speak more than twice in any one debate, without leave of the House.

7. When two Members rise together, the President shall name the person to speak.

8. No motion shall be debated, until the same be seconded.

9. When a motion shall be made, and seconded, it shall be reduced to writing, if desired by the President or any Member, delivered in at the table, and read by the President, before the same shall be allowed to be debated.

10. When a motion is made and seconded, the matter of the motion shall receive a determination by the question, or be laid aside, by general consent, or postponed by the previous question, before any other motion be received.

11. If a question in a debate contain more parts than one, any Member may have the same divided into as many questions as parts.

12. No person shall be appointed to any office of profit, unless he shall have the consent of seven States, nor shall any ballots be counted, unless the person for whom the ballots shall be given be first named to the House before the balloting be gone into.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, July 18, 1776.

The Delegates from *Maryland* laid before Congress the Credentials of a new appointment made by their Convention, which were read, as follows:

"In Convention, Annapolis, July 4, 1776.

"Resolved, That the Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., and *Thomas Johnson*, Jun., *William Paca*, *Samuel Chase*, *Thomas Stone*, *Charles Carroll* of *Carrollton*, and *Robert Alexander*, Esqs., or a majority of them, or of any three or more of them, be Deputies to represent this Colony in Congress, in as full and ample manner as the Deputies of this Colony might have done under any appointment heretofore made, until the next Convention shall make further order therein.

"Extract from the Minutes: G. DUVALL, Clerk."

A Letter from General *Washington*, of the 15th, was laid before Congress, and read; also, sundry intercepted Letters from Lord *Howe* to Governours *Franklin*, *Penn*, *Eden*, *Dunmore*, *Martin*, and *Wright*, together with sundry Letters to several private persons.

The several Letters being opened by order of Congress:

Resolved, That the Letters from Lord *Howe*, with the Proclamations enclosed, be referred to a Committee of three, and that they be directed to examine the private Letters, and deliver to the persons to whom directed, such of said Letters as contain nothing but private matters.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *Payne*, and Mr. *Carroll*.

A Letter of the 17th, from General *Washington*, enclosing sundry Despatches from General *Schuyler*; also, a Letter of the 16th, from Brigadier-General *Mercer*: were received and read:

Resolved, That these be referred to the Board of War.

A Letter of the 14th, from the Committee of Inspection for the County of *Cumberland*, was read:

Whereupon, Resolved, That the sum of 2,600 Dollars be sent to the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the County of *Cumberland*, for the use of the Troops raising in that County for the Flying-Camp; the said Committee to be accountable.

Resolved, That a Member be added to the Board of War.

The Member chosen, Mr. *Carroll*.

The Committee appointed to prepare a plan of Treaties to be entered into with Foreign States or Kingdoms, brought in their Report, which was read:

Ordered, To lie on the table.

Resolved, That the draft of *Ephraim Blaine*, for two thousand Dollars, on account of Blankets, purchased by order of Congress for the Continental Troops in *Virginia*, be paid, and charged to the account of said *Ephraim Blaine*.

Resolved, That the Convention of *Pennsylvania* be informed that the Congress have agreed to the raising a Battalion in the Counties of *Westmoreland* and *Bedford*, for the defence of the Western Frontiers, and that they be requested immediately to recommend proper persons to Congress for Field Officers for said Battalion.

Resolved, That two Members be added to the Committee appointed to contract for the making Cannon:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Chase* and Mr. *Heyward*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, July 19, 1776.

Resolved, That two months' Pay be advanced to Colonel *Kirmovan*; he to be accountable.

Resolved, That an Order for 400 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *David S. Franks*, in full of Brigadier-General *D. Wooster's* draft, in his favour, on *Jonathan Trumbull*, dated at *Chambly*, the 30th of *May*, 1776.

Resolved, That the Subaltern Officers of the *German* Battalion do not rank from the dates of their Commissions, but that their ranks be established hereafter by Congress.

The Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* having recommended *Frederick Rowhagen*, *Peter Boyer*, *William Rice*, and *Jacob Bower*, for First Lieutenants; *George Shaffer*, *George Hawbecker*, *John Landenberger*, and *Frederick Yeiser*, for Second Lieutenants; *John Weidman*, *Christian Helm*, *Christian Godfried Swartz*, and *Jacob Cramer*, for Ensigns, of the four *German* Companies raising in *Pennsylvania*:

Resolved, That they be accepted, and that Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

Resolved, That the Declaration, passed on the 4th, be fairly engrossed on parchment, with the title and style of "The Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen *United States of America*," and that the same, when engrossed, be signed by every Member of Congress.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, Resolved, That General *Schuyler* be desired to inquire into the complaints of the Soldiers under his command, and give strict orders that no higher price be charged for the goods furnished to the Soldiers, than the first cost of them, and five per cent. for charges:

That the Resolution of Congress prohibiting any officer from holding more offices than one be sent to General *Schuyler*:

That a Letter be written to General *Schuyler* requesting him to recommend, in the strongest terms, harmony between the Officers and Troops of the different States; to discountenance and suppress all Provincial reflections and ungenerous jealousies of every kind, and to promote, by every possible means, discipline, order, and zeal, in the publick service.

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the Convention of *Pennsylvania* to hasten, with all possible expedition, the march of the Associators into *New-Jersey*, agreeable to a former request of Congress.

Resolved, That the Delegates of *Maryland* be directed to inform the Commanding Officer of the *Maryland* Troops that Congress expect he will immediately march with his Troops to *New-York*.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Resolution for subjecting to confiscation the Property of the Subjects of *Great Britain*, &c., brought in the same, which was read:

Ordered, To lie on the table, and that the same be taken into consideration on *Monday* next.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a Deputy Adjutant-General for the Flying-Camp; and the ballots being taken, *Samuel Griffin*, Esq., was elected.

Resolved, That Mr. *Griffin*, as Deputy Adjutant-General, have the rank of Colonel.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be empowered to contract with Mr. *Mirtle* for the importation of goods to the amount of £30,000 sterling, at his risk, and £15,000 sterling at the risk of the *United States of America*, for the publick service:

That the Marine Committee be empowered to purchase a swift sailing Vessel, to be employed by the Secret Committee in importing said goods.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada*, brought in a Report, which was read:

Ordered, To lie on the table.

Resolved, That the Committee have leave to sit again.

The Committee to whom the Letters from Lord *Howe* to Mr. *Franklin*, &c., were referred, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, Resolved, That a copy of the Circular Letters, and the Declarations enclosed from Lord *Howe* to Mr. *William Franklin*, Mr. *Penn*, Mr. *Eden*, Lord *Dunmore*, Mr. *Martin*, and Sir *James Wright*, late Governours, which were sent to *Amboy* by a flag, and forwarded to Congress by General *Washington*, be published in the several Gazettes, that the good people of these *United States* may be informed of what nature are the Commissioners, and what the terms, with the expectation of which the insidious Court of *Britain* has endeavoured to amuse and disarm them, and that the few who still remain suspended by a hope founded either in the justice or moderation of their late King, may now, at length, be convinced, that the valor alone of their country is to save its liberties.

The Congress proceeded to the election of Commissioners for settling the Accounts at *New-York*; and, the ballots being taken, Mr. *William Denning*, Mr. *Thomas Smith*, and Mr. *James Stevenson*, were elected.

A Letter of the 2d, from General *Lee*, at *Charleston*, enclosing sundry papers, was laid before Congress and read:

Ordered, That an extract of General *Lee's* Letter be published.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to contract for

the making Cannon, be empowered to contract with Messrs. *Hughes* for one thousand tons of Cannon, on the terms by them proposed.

*Resolved*, That the Paper-makers in *Pennsylvania* be excused from proceeding with the Associators to *New-Jersey*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Saturday, July 20, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Lee*, with the papers enclosed, which were received and read yesterday, be referred to the Board of War.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the *United States of America* be given to Major-General *Lee*, Colonel *William Moultrie*, Colonel *William Thompson*, and the Officers and Soldiers under their command, who, on the 28th of *June* last, repulsed, with so much valor, the attack which was that day made on the State of *South-Carolina* by the Fleet and Army of his *Britannick* Majesty:

That Mr. President transmit the foregoing Resolution to General *Lee*, Colonel *Moultrie*, and Colonel *William Thompson*.

A Petition and Memorial of Monsieur *Pelissier* was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Board of War.

The Committee appointed to settle a Cartel for the exchange of Prisoners, brought in their Report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, and that the same be taken into consideration on *Monday* next.

The Convention of *Pennsylvania* having directed the common Prisoners to be removed from the new Jail to the old, and the said new Jail to be given up to the Congress for the use of the State Prisoners,

*Resolved*, That *Robert Jewel* be appointed Keeper of the said new Jail, and that he take the custody of the Prisoners committed to his charge.

*Resolved*, That the plan of Treaties be printed for the use of the Members, under the restrictions and regulations prescribed for printing the plan of Confederation; and that in the printed copy, the names of persons, places, and States, be omitted.

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Lewis* be directed to forward to *South-Carolina* the whole five tons of Powder sent to him for the use of *Virginia* and *South-Carolina*.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 3,000 Dollars, part of the 10,000 Dollars voted for the Commissioners of *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, be advanced to Mr. *J. Wilson*, to be by him forwarded to the Commissioners appointed to attend the treaty at *Pittsburgh*.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 210 Dollars be advanced to the Captain of the Guard who is to escort the Prisoners from *New-Jersey* to the place of their destination, in order to defray expenses; he to be accountable.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That a Brevet commission of Lieutenant-Colonel be granted to Monsieur *Jaque Antoine de Franchessin*, a Knight of the order of *St. Louis*, an experienced officer in the *French* service, and who is well recommended in letters from abroad; and that he be ordered to join the Flying-Camp.

*Resolved*, That Doctor *Senter* be recommended to Doctor *Morgan*, who is desired to examine him, and if, upon examination, he be found qualified, to employ him in the Hospital as a Surgeon.

A Letter of the 19th from General *Washington*, enclosing sundry papers; and

A Letter of the 13th from Governour *Trumbull*, with a list of the Cannon at *New-London*, were laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That the Deputy Quartermaster-General for the Flying-Camp be directed to deliver to Colonel *Smallwood*, for the use of the *Maryland* Troops, such necessaries in his possession, belonging to the Continent, as the said Troops may want.

The Delegates of *Pennsylvania* produced Credentials of a new appointment, which were read, as follows:

"In Convention for the State of *Pennsylvania*, }  
Saturday, July 20, 1776. }

"The House met according to adjournment; when, according to the order of the day, they immediately proceeded to the election of Delegates to serve in the Continental Congress, and chose for that service Dr. *Benjamin Franklin*, Colonel *George Ross*, *George Clymer*, Esq., *Robert Morris*, Esq., Colonel *James Wilson*, *John Morton*, Esq., Doctor *Benjamin Rush*, Colonel *James Smith*, and *George Taylor*, Esq.

"Truc extract from the Minutes:

"*JOHN MORRIS*, Secretary."

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Haslet* be ordered to march immediately with his Battalion to *Philadelphia*, and there wait the further orders of Congress.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 200,000 Dollars be sent to the Deputy Paymaster-General for *Virginia*; he to be accountable.

The Convention of *Pennsylvania* having recommended gentlemen for Field-Officers of the Battalion ordered to be raised for the defence of the Western Frontiers, Congress proceeded to the election; when,

*Eneas M<sup>c</sup>Coy* was elected Colonel; *George Wilson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Richard Butler*, Major.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 12,500 Dollars be advanced to Colonel *M<sup>c</sup>Coy*, for the Bounty and expense of raising said Battalion; he to be accountable.

*John Boyd* was elected Paymaster to said Battalion.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due—

To Captain *Dundee*, for his Subsistence, to the 19th instant, and for carriage of Baggage, 86 Dollars:

To Dr. *Beaumont*, to the same date, 85 22-90 Dollars:

To Ensign *McLeod*, to the 20th instant, 110 6-90 Dollars:

To *Finley Miller*, Surgeon's Mate of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, to the 19th of *July*, instant, 79 Dollars:

To *Arthur Wadman*, Lieutenant of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, to the 22d of *July*, instant, 162 60-90 Dollars:

To *James Gill*, Surgeon of Artillery, to the 19th of *July*, instant, 74 Dollars:

To *Jacob Shalets*, Lieutenant of Artillery, to the 19th of *July*, instant, 74 Dollars:

To Lieutenant *Ibbetson Hamar*, to the 19th of *July*, instant, 40 Dollars:

To Captain *Hesket*, for carriage, 75 30-90 Dollars; and that the same ought to be paid, agreeable to their request, to *Peter Dundee*, Captain of the Royal Fusileers:

That there is due to *Michael Brecht*, for Provisions and attendance of sick Soldiers at *Reading*, the sum of 17 42-90 Dollars:

To *Bryan Lefferty*, a hostage sent by General *Schuyler*, from *Tryon* County, for his subsistence and expenses from thence to *Philadelphia*, 41 30-90 Dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That Dr. *Franklin* may, if he thinks proper, return an answer to the Letter he received from Lord *Howe*.

The Committee appointed to devise ways and means for increasing the Flying-Camp, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Lewis* be directed to order two Battalions of the Continental Troops, in *Virginia*, to march, with all possible despatch, to the Flying-Camp, in *New-Jersey*, under the command of Brigadier-General *Mercer*; and that if the Governour and Privy-Council of *Virginia* shall have reason to apprehend an invasion of that State, and shall call to its defence an equal number of Minute-Men or Militia, the same, while in service, shall be on the pay and support of the Continent:

That the Convention of *Pennsylvania* be requested to augment their quota for the Flying-Camp, with four Battalions of Militia; and the Convention of *New-Jersey* to raise, for the said Flying-Camp, three Battalions of Militia, in addition to those formerly desired by Congress, and to send the same, with all possible despatch, to the said Flying-Camp. And that these several Battalions be officered, paid, and provided, as directed by the former Resolutions for forming the Flying-Camp.

*Resolved*, That in case Mr. *Heyman Levy* order any Money to be paid in *Albany* to the Deputy Paymaster-



General for the Northern Department, the same shall, upon advice of such money so paid, be repaid to him or his order in *Philadelphia*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, July 22, 1776.

A Letter of the 20th, from the Convention of *New-Jersey*, and one of the 19th, from *Ephraim Anderson*, and a Petition from *Levy Allen*, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Washington*, received and read on *Saturday* last, be referred to the Board of War.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee respecting an exchange of Prisoners;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Commander-in-Chief in each department be empowered to negotiate an exchange of Prisoners, in the following manner: one Continental officer for one of the enemy of equal rank, either in the land or sea service; soldier for soldier, sailor for sailor, and one citizen for another citizen:

That each State hath a right to make any exchange they think proper for Prisoners taken from them, or by them.

*Resolved*, That the several Commanders-in-Chief in each department be directed to exchange any Officer in the *British* service, now a prisoner in any of these States, of or under the rank of Colonel, for Colonel *Ethan Allen*.

*Resolved*, That the persons taken prisoners with Colonel *Ethan Allen*, be put upon the same footing as those in the Continental service, and exchanged accordingly, as opportunity presents.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Ways and Means; and, after debate, the same was disagreed to.

The Committee appointed to contract with Messrs. *Hughes*, for one thousand tons of Cannon, for the use of the *United States*, reported that they have executed the contract, in which is a covenant to advance the said Messrs. *Hughes* 8,000 Dollars.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 8,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Daniel* and *Samuel Hughes*, they to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Board of Treasury be directed to make immediate preparation for striking a further sum of five millions of Dollars, in Bills of Credit.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Joy* have liberty to employ eight of the Prisoners in the business of casting Cannon.

The Board of Treasury reported, that they have examined the Account of the Committee of *Lancaster*, for preserving the peace of the Borough, keeping the Prisoners in order, and for the protection of the Magazines, and find, that there is due, for the pay of the Guard, as follows:

39 days to Captains, at 26 2-3 Dollars per month, 34 60-90ths Dollars;

76 days to Lieutenants, at 18 Dollars per month, 45 54-90ths Dollars;

27 days to Ensigns, at 13 1-3 Dollars per month, 12 Dollars;

143 days to Sergeants, at 8 Dollars per month, 38 12-90ths Dollars;

421 days to Corporals, Fifers, and Drums, at 7 1-3 Dollars per month, 102 60-90ths Dollars;

1470 days to Privates, at 6 2-3 Dollars per month, 326 60-90ths Dollars; the whole amounting to 559 66-90ths Dollars:

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that the Committee have made some progress in the matter to them referred; but, not having come to a conclusion, desire leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Articles of Confederation.

The Marine Committee having recommended the following gentlemen for Officers of the *Rawleigh*, namely, *Peter Shores*, *John Wheehwright*, *Josiah Shackford*, Lieutenants; *George Jerry Osborne*, Captain of Marines; *Stephen Meads*, First Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Thwing*, Second Lieutenant;

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and that Commissions be granted them accordingly.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, July 23, 1776.

Sundry Letters were received and read, viz:

Two from General *Washington*, of the 21st and 22d, with three papers enclosed in the latter:

One of the 16th, from Governour *Cooke*:

Two from Brigadier-General *Mercer*, of the 20th and 22d, with two papers enclosed in the latter:

*Resolved*, That the Letters from General *Washington* and Brigadier-General *Mercer*, be referred to the Board of War.

*Resolved*, That the Report of the Committee on the Cartel entered into between Brigadier-General *Arnold* and Captain *Forster*, and the Resolutions passed thereon, be published.

*Resolved*, That twenty Dollars be advanced to *Isaac Manes*, a wounded soldier, of Captain *Cheeseman's* Company, and that he be sent to the General Hospital.

The Board of War reported, that they have heard and considered the several matters alleged against the arrangement made in the Regiment ordered to be raised under Colonel *Dubois*, and are of opinion, that no good purpose would be answered by making any alteration therein; and although many worthy Officers who served in *Canada* are yet unemployed, the Board can only lament that they are not in the service, but hope something will, in future, turn up to enable Congress to place them in stations equal to their merit:

The same being again read, was agreed to.

On the remainder of the Report from the Board of War, the Congress came to the following Resolutions:

That General *Washington* be informed that Congress have such an entire confidence in his judgment, that they will give him no particular directions about the disposition of the Troops, but desire that he will dispose of those at *New-York*, the Flying-Camp, and *Ticonderoga*, as to him shall seem most conducive to the publick good:

That the Congress approve of General *Washington's* having lent to the Convention of *New-York*, the sum of Money mentioned in his Letter of the 19th instant:

That Monsieur *St. Martin* be appointed an Engineer, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and that he be directed to repair to *New-York*, and put himself under the command of General *Washington*.

*Resolved*, That Dr. *David Griffith* be appointed to the stations of Chaplain and Surgeon in the Third *Virginia* Battalion, he being a person of uncommon merit, and there being very few Surgeons of abilities who will enter into the Army in that State: this appointment not to be drawn into precedent:

That Mr. *Griffith* draw pay in both these capacities, for the time he has served in the Regiment.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due—

To *Dennis Lefferty*, for 26 weeks' Board, the sum of 52 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Timothy Matlack*:

To *William White*, for boarding General *Lee's* Guard, the sum of 40 60-90 Dollars:

To *George Haas*, for carrying Money to *New-York*, the sum of 26 60-90 Dollars:

To *William Bradford*, for the expenses of a Guard escorting Money to *New-York*, the sum of 88 57-90 Dollars:

To *Rachel Evans*, for boarding a sick Soldier, the sum of 3 Dollars:

To *Robert Owen*, Jun., for Provisions furnished several Rifle Companies, 64 86-90 Dollars:

To *Peter Grosels*, for Provisions to several Rifle Companies, the sum of 61 46-90 Dollars; and that this ought to be paid to *Robert Owen*, Jun.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That in order to hasten the march of the Troops, the several Committees of *Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Berks*, and *Northampton* Counties, in *Pennsylvania*, be empowered to muster the Troops that shall march from their respective Counties, and to draw for one month's Pay on Mr. *James Mease*, Paymaster; and that they certify the Muster-Rolls, and send to the Paymaster the Receipts for the Moneys that shall be so advanced.

*Resolved*, That a Member be added to the Board of Treasury, in the room of one absent:

The Member chosen, Mr. *G. Clymer*.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Articles of Confederation; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that the Committee have made further progress in the matter to them referred, but not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Articles of Confederation.

A Petition from a number of inhabitants of *Chester* County, in *Pennsylvania*, was presented to Congress and read, praying that *John Griffith*, a soldier in the Continental Army, an experienced artificer in making and dressing fullers' shears, may be released from the Army, and ordered to return home, to follow his trade:

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted.

A Petition from sundry *Canadians* was presented to Congress, and read;

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the *Canada* Committee.

The Marine Committee having recommended *Richard Palmes* to be Captain of Marines:

*Resolved*, That he be accepted, and that a Commission be granted to him accordingly.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

—  
Wednesday, July 24, 1776.

A Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel *William Allen* was laid before Congress, and read, requesting leave to resign his Commission:

*Resolved*, That leave be granted.

The Marine Committee having recommended *Benjamin Thompson* to be a Lieutenant of Marines in Captain *Palmes's* Company:

*Resolved*, That he be accepted, and that a Commission be granted to him accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to revise the Journal be empowered to employ a proper person to make an Index thereto.

The Board of Treasury reported, that the pay of Brigadier-General *Wooster*, commencing the 22d day of *June*, 1775, and calculated to the 22d day of *July*, 1776, being thirteen months, at 125 Dollars per month, amounts 1,625 Dollars; out of which is to be deducted 173 Dollars and 24-72 parts of a Dollar, paid him by *John Winslow*, Esq., the Paymaster; the residue due to the General is 1,451 Dollars, and 48-72 parts of a Dollar:

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 100 Dollars be advanced to Captain *Robert Johnson*, to be deducted out of his pay on the settlement of his Account.

A Petition from *George Kitts* was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Board of War.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee appointed to prepare a Resolution for confiscating the Property of the Subjects of the Crown of *Great Britain*:

Whereas the *United States* have, by a long series of oppressions, been drawn into a war with *Great Britain*, and at last to the necessity of declaring themselves free and independent States; and, as it is impossible to distinguish among the Subjects of the same Sovereign between those who are friends and such as are enemies to the rights of *America* and mankind, it is become necessary to consider as enemies all the Subjects of the King of *Great Britain* and

all others who aid, abet, adhere to or in anywise assist him in his unjust and cruel designs against these States;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That all the Resolutions of this Congress, passed on the 23d day of *March* last, and on the 3d day of *April* last, relating to Ships and other Vessels, their Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture, and all Goods, Wares, and Merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of *Great Britain*, taken on the high seas, or between high and low water mark, be extended to all Ships and other Vessels, their Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture, and to all Goods, Wares, and Merchandises, belonging to any subject or subjects of the King of *Great Britain*, except the inhabitants of the *Bermudas* and *Providence* or *Bahama* Islands, or to any other person or persons who adhere to him, or in anywise aid or abet him in his unjust war against these States.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Regiment of Rangers, now in the pay of the State of *South-Carolina*, be placed upon Continental establishment, and that it consist of a Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant, a Major, ten Captains, twenty Lieutenants, a Surgeon, a Paymaster, twenty Sergeants, and five hundred Privates:

That the pay of the Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of Rangers, be the same as that of a Colonel of Foot; the Major's pay, that of a Lieutenant-Colonel; a Captain's that of a Major; the Lieutenant's that of a Captain; and the Sergeant's that of an Ensign of Foot of the Continental Forces: that the Surgeon be allowed 33 Dollars and 1-3d a month; the Paymaster 26 Dollars and 2-3ds; and the Privates 12½ Dollars per month, to provide themselves with Horses, Guns, and Provisions, for themselves and Horses:

That the said Rangers be liable to act on horseback or foot, as occasion may require:

That the like number of Rangers be raised in the State of *Georgia*, and put upon Continental establishment:

That these be entitled to the same pay, and subject to the same duties as the *Carolina* Rangers:

That the Rangers raised in the State of *South-Carolina* be subject to the articles formed by the Convention of that State for the government of the forces raised therein.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Knox's* plan for raising another Battalion of Artillery be approved, and carried into execution as soon as possible:

That General *Washington* be desired to recommend proper Officers to compose this Corps.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be empowered to agree to the exchange of Governour *Skene* for Mr. *James Lovell*:

That General *Washington* be authorized to take into Continental pay the Horse proposed by Mr. *Lary*, upon the terms by him mentioned.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Report of the Committee on Gold and Silver Coins be recommitted:

That Mr. *Jefferson* be added to that Committee.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to take into consideration, and report their opinion, on the proposal made by the President of *South-Carolina*, and communicated to the House by a Delegate of that State, respecting General *Lee*:

The Members chosen, Mr. *S. Adams*, Mr. *Rutledge*, and Mr. *Hall*.

Agreeable to order, the Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Articles of Confederation; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that the Committee have made further progress in the matter to them referred; but, not having finished, desire leave to sit again:

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Articles of Confederation.

A Letter from General *Washington*, of the 23d, with sundry Papers enclosed, among which was a Letter from Mr. *Fraesh* to Lord *Stirling*; also,

A Letter from the Council of Safety of *North-Carolina*, being received, were laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from Mr. *Fraesh* to Lord

*Stirling* be referred to the Committee appointed to contract for casting Cannon:

That the General's Letter, with the other papers enclosed, be referred to the Board of War.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, July 25, 1776.

*Resolved*, That two months' Pay be advanced to Mons. *Jaque Antoine de Franchessin*; he to be accountable.

A Memorial of *Samuel Holden Parsons*, of *Lyme*, in *Connecticut*, was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a Committee of three:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *Sherman*.

A Memorial from sundry Officers who served in *Canada*, and are now unemployed, was laid before Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Board of War.

Agreeable to order, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Articles of Confederation; after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported that the Committee have made further progress in the consideration of the Articles of Confederation; but, not having gone through, desired leave to sit again.

A Letter of the 23d, from General *Washington*, enclosing a Letter from Governour *Trumbull* to the General; also,

A Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, of the 19th, with sundry Depositions; and,

One of the 16th, from the Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire*, were laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Washington* be referred to the Board of War.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due—

To *Francis Gurney*, for expenses of himself and others, escorting Money to *Cambridge*, in *February* last, the sum of 162 Dollars and 84-90ths, over and beside the moneys advanced to him:

To *Henry Wisner*, Esq., for the expenses of an Express paid by him, the sum of 20 Dollars:

To *Thomas Dewees*, for boarding Prisoners of State, 437 Dollars and 68-90ths:

To *David Lennox*, for expenses in going after Deserters, the sum of 31 Dollars and 86-90ths, to be paid to *David Sproat*:

To *William Trickett*, for Stationery, the sum of 43 Dollars and 76-90ths:

To *Philip Nolan*, for ferriages of General *Lee's* Guards, 4 Dollars and 12-90ths:

To *Elizabeth Slaving*, for boarding and nursing a sick Soldier, 4 Dollars:

To *John Piling*, for Chairs for the War Office, the sum of 12 Dollars:

To *John Kerling*, for Provisions for General *Lee's* Guards, 4 Dollars and 54-90ths.

To *Isaac Cooper*, for his attendance as a guard over Powder, the sum of 11 Dollars:

To *Furman* and *Hunt*, for necessities furnished the Prisoners at *Trenton*, the sum of 47 Dollars and 87-90ths:

To *John Bates*, for Camp-Kettles, the sum of 98 Dollars and 60-90ths.

The Committee of Treasury also reported, that there is due—

To *Elijah Bennet*, Post-Rider in the service of the *United States*, from *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*, to various places, the sum of 1,331 Dollars and 66-90ths, deducting 819 Dollars and 86-90ths, which he has received from the Colony of *Connecticut*, the balance being 511 Dollars and 70-90ths:

To *Michael Philips*, employed by Brigadier-General *Wooster* in making sundry repairs in the Citadel and Hospital in *Montreal*, carting, &c., 397 Dollars and 75-90ths, deducting the sum of 96 Dollars and 7-90ths, which he received from Major *Nicholson*, the balance being 301 Dollars and 68-90ths:

To *James Budden*, for the expense of a detachment of the Troop of Light-Horse escorting 300,000 Dollars to *New-York*, the sum of 82 Dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve

itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into further consideration the Articles of Confederation.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, July 26, 1776.

Congress proceeded to the election of three Commissioners to liquidate and settle the Accounts in the Northern Department; and the ballots being taken,

Mr. *James Milligan*, Mr. *John Carter*, and Mr. *Wells*, were elected.

The Committee on the Treasury laid before Congress the Account of Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood*, with the balance due to them:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the substance of the conference between General *Washington* and Adjutant-General *Patterson*, which was transmitted to Congress by General *Washington*, be published.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into further consideration the Articles of Confederation; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Morton* reported, that the Committee have made further progress; but, not having concluded, desire leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into further consideration the Articles of Confederation.

A Letter from Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, with sundry Papers enclosed, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 2,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Dr. *W. Shippen*; he to be accountable.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, July 29, 1776.

Sundry Letters were laid before Congress, and read, viz: Three from General *Washington*, of the 22d, 25th, and 27th:

One from General *Schuyler*, of the 17th, and one from General *Gates*, of the 16th;

One, of the 25th, from *J. Reed*, Adjutant-General, and one from Brigadier-General *Mercer*, of the 26th;

One, of the 20th, from Governour *Trumbull*;

One, of the 25th, from the Convention of *New-Jersey*, and one from the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*;

One from Mons. *Kirmovan*, Engineer, with a plan and draughts, and one, in *Latin*, without signature;

One from Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, of the 29th, desiring to recall his Petition for leave to resign his commission:

Also, two Petitions, one from *George Nicholson*, and one from *James Livingston*.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be empowered to appoint another Aid-de-Camp:

That the Letters from General *Washington*, General *Schuyler*, and General *Gates*, and the Letter from Mons. *Kirmovan*, be referred to the Board of War.

That the Letter from the Convention of *New-Jersey* be referred to the Committee on the ways and means of augmenting the Flying-Camp; and that Mr. *Clark* be added to the said Committee:

That the Letter from the Adjutant-General be referred to the Committee appointed to revise the Articles of War:

That the Petition of *James Nicholson* be referred to the Commissioners who went to *Canada*:

That the Petition from *George Nicholson* be referred to the Committee on *Canada* Affairs:

That the *Latin* Letter be referred to the Marine Committee.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 47 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Josiah Fessenden*, in full for services, expenses, and horse-hire.

A Letter, of the 20th, from the Council of *Virginia*, was received and read.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That General *Washington* be empowered to order the Regiment lately raised in *Connecticut*, under the command of Colonel *Ward*, wheresoever he shall think the service requires it:

That Mons. *Jean Artur de Virmonet*, who appears to be a young gentleman of merit, and has held a Lieutenant's commission in the service of *France*; be appointed a Brevet Captain; and that Mons. *Marie Fidel Dorre* be sent as a volunteer, to be employed by General *Washington* as he shall think proper:

That Mons. *Christopher Pelliser*, who has suffered considerably by warmly espousing and taking an active part in the cause of *America*, in *Canada*, be appointed an Engineer in the service of the *United States*, with the pay of 60 Dollars a month, and rank of Lieutenant-Colonel; and that he be directed to repair to *New-York*:

That the Returns of Colonel *Elmore's* Regiment, made into the War Office by Brigadier-General *Wooster*, be transmitted to General *Washington*, with blank Commissions for the Officers; and that General *Washington* be directed to order the said Regiment to join him, and that he fill up the said Commissions with the names of such Officers as appear with their respective Companies in the said Regiment.

That *John Brown* be commissioned as Lieutenant-Colonel, and that *Robert Cockran*, now acting as eldest Captain in the said Regiment, be commissioned as Major of the same, in the room of Major *Israel Curtis*, deceased.

*Resolved*, That a Lieutenant-Colonel be appointed for the Second *Pennsylvania* Battalion, in the room of *William Allen*, who has resigned:

The ballots being taken, *Joseph Wood*, Esq., was elected.

Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their consideration the Articles of Confederation; and after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Morton* reported, that the Committee have made further progress in the Articles of Confederation; but not having finished, desire leave to sit again.

A Petition from *Samuel Morris* was presented to Congress, and read.

The Committee on Spies brought in a further Report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the Jailer be directed to allow the Prisoners from *North-Carolina* the use and benefit of the yard, under the inspection of the Guard, provided it may be done with safety.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Articles of Confederation.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, July 30, 1776.

A Letter of the 28th, from Brigadier-General *Mercer*, was laid before Congress and read, requesting six Light-Horse may be sent to him:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the President write to *S. Morris*, Esq., Captain of the Light-Horse, and request him to send six of his Company to Brigadier-General *Mercer*.

Congress being informed, by a Letter from the President of *South-Carolina*, that the *Cherokees* have commenced hostilities against that State, and that he has ordered a body of men to march against them, and has applied for assistance to the neighbouring States of *North-Carolina* and *Virginia*:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the States of *Virginia*, *North-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, to afford all necessary assistance to the State of *South-Carolina*, and to coöperate with that State in prosecuting the war against the *Indians* with the utmost vigor:

That the President write to the Governour and Council of *Virginia*, the Council of Safety of *North-Carolina*, and the President of *Georgia*, relative to the above subjects.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the State of *North-Carolina*, and report thereon to Congress.

The Members chosen: Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *S. Adams*, and Mr. *Lynch*.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the miscarriages in *Canada*, wherein they represent as their opinion—

"That the short inlistments of the Continental Troops in *Canada* have been one great cause of the miscarriages there, by rendering unstable the number of men engaged in military enterprises, by making them disorderly and disobedient to their officers, and by precipitating the commanding officers into measures which their prudence might have postponed could they have relied on a longer continuance of their troops in service:

"That the want of hard money has been one other great source of the miscarriages in *Canada*, rendering the supplies of necessaries difficult and precarious, the establishment of proper magazines absolutely impracticable, and the pay of the Troops of little use to them:

"That a still greater and more fatal source of misfortunes has been the prevalence of the small-pox in that Army, a great proportion whereof has thereby been usually kept unfit for duty."

With this the Congress concurred.

On the further consideration of the Report, Congress came to the following Resolutions:

That Col. *Bedel* be tried by a Court-Martial for leaving his command at the *Cedars*, and for declining to return to the same with Major *Sherburne's* reinforcement:

That Major *Butterfield* be tried by a Court-Martial for surrendering to the enemy the post at the *Cedars*, and also such other Officers as were with him and consented to that surrender.

The Committee having further reported, that in the course of their inquiries they had reason to believe that General *Prescott's* Baggage was plundered by some licentious persons, in violation of the faith of the capitulation:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That General *Schuyler* be desired to make strict inquiry into the same, that the persons guilty thereof may receive due punishment, and ample indemnification be made to General *Prescott*:

That Colonel *Bedel*, Dr. *Fay*, and Lieutenant *House*, be subjected to this inquiry.

That so much of the Petitions of Colonel *Easton* and Major *Brown* as prays that the charges against them of having been concerned in plundering the Officers' Baggage taken at *Sorel*, be submitted to a Court of Inquiry, is reasonable, and that General *Schuyler* be desired to order Courts of Inquiry on them as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That General *Montgomery's* promise, to give to the Troops concerned in taking the Vessels on the *Sorel*, "all the publick Stores, except Ammunition and Provisions, on board thereof," be confirmed, and that General *Schuyler* be directed to cause an inquiry to be made into the particulars and value of the said publick Stores, (Ammunition and Provision excepted,) and to certify the same to Congress, with the names of the Officers and Soldiers entitled thereto:

That so much of Major *Brown's* Petition as prays that an allowance be made to him for extraordinary services, be referred to General *Schuyler*, who is desired to certify Congress whether any and what reward may, with justice, be demanded by him:

That Major *Brown's* Accounts be settled by the Commissioners appointed to adjust Accounts in the Northern Department.

*Resolved*, That the Committee be discharged from proceeding on so much of the Petition of Colonel *Easton* as prays a continuance of his rank and pay; and so much of Major *Brown's* Petition as prays an examination into his rank and pay, and that they be referred to the Board of War.

That General *Schuyler* be desired to inquire into the conduct of Colonel *Hazen*, who is charged with having beaten and ill-treated *François Guilot de la Rose*, a Continental Captain of *Canadian* Militia, and also to have ill-treated *Charles Robert de la Fontaine*, a *Canadian*, at *Chambly*, and put such conduct into a proper channel for trial and punishment.

That it be recommended to General *Schuyler*, whenever the pay of Officers or Soldiers is stopped on account of any charge against them, to have such charge determined by trial as speedily as possible, that there may be no delay of justice.

*Resolved*, That General *Wooster* acted properly in stopping the Goods of *Bernard & Wadden*, who were carrying the same, without permission, to the *Indians* in the upper country.



*Resolved*, That the Committee have leave to sit again, and that they be instructed to inquire in what manner the Goods of *Bernard & Wadden* were disposed of.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply the three Rifle Companies, now in town from *Lancaster*, with eleven pounds of Powder and forty-four pounds of Lead.

*Resolved*, That 500,000 Dollars be sent to the Paymaster-General.

That 60,000 Dollars be sent to *R. Dallam*, Deputy Paymaster-General, for the use of the Flying-Camp.

Congress proceeded to the election of a Clerk or Assistant to the Auditor-General, when *William Govet* was elected.

*Resolved*, That *William Govet* be allowed the salary of 533 Dollars and 1-3d per annum.

*Resolved*, That all publick Claims and Accounts that are at this time unsettled be referred to the Committee of Treasury, and that the Committee of Claims be discharged from proceeding further upon any Claims or Accounts, and that all the Books and Papers in the hands of the Committee of Claims be delivered to the Auditor-General.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Resolution of the 17th of *January* last, allowing to Officers 1 Dollar and 1-3d for every man they enlist, be extended to Officers who enlist for the new Army for three years:

That General *Mercer's* Letter, relative to the building of Boats, be referred to General *Washington*, with direction to give such orders therein as he shall judge necessary, and that he be desired to avail himself of the Shipwrights and other Artificers now in the Flying-Camp.

That General *Mercer* be allowed a Secretary while he has a separate command:

That a number of Four and Six-pounders, not exceeding ten of each, be immediately sent to General *Mercer*, to be mounted on the Works he is now erecting; and that the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be requested to forward them to *Amboy*, in *New-Jersey*:

That Congress approve of General *Schuyler's* intention to publish such parts of the Treaty with the *Six-Nations* as may have a tendency to dispel the apprehensions of the frontier inhabitants:

That the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs*, in the Middle Department, be instructed to thank *Cayashuta*, in the name of the great Council-fire, for his friendly conduct at *Niagara*, communicated by *Peter Richman*, (whose *Indian* name is *Queda*,) and to inform him that it would be very agreeable to Congress to receive a visit from him.

A Letter of the 29th, from General *Washington*, and one from the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*; also, a Letter of the 23d, from Governour *Cooke*, with sundry Papers enclosed; being received, were read.

*Resolved*, That the two first be referred to the Board of War.

The Board of War laid before Congress a Letter received from General *Washington*.

*Ordered*, That they return an answer.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Morton* reported that the Committee, not having yet finished, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Wednesday, July 31, 1776.

*Resolved*, That 20,000 Dollars be advanced to Mr. *Mease*, he to be accountable:

That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to pay *John Pollock* 2,666 Dollars and two-thirds, and that the same be charged to the Account of the Committee of Inspection of *Cumberland*, who are to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Medical Committee be directed to provide and send forward such a quantity of Medicines as may be necessary for the Hospital in the Northern Army:

That the said Committee be directed to procure and forward such a quantity of Medicines as may be necessary for the Hospital in the Southern Department.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That five tons of Musket Powder be sent immediately to General *Washington*, at *New-York*:

That the Commissary-General be directed to furnish with Rations, and the Deputy Paymaster-General, in the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, be ordered to pay, any Militia which the General Assembly of that State shall think proper to call in, to replace the Continental Troops ordered from thence.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada*, brought in a further Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the conduct of Colonel *Nicholson*, who commanded the post at *Point Levi*, and who, after the determination of the Council of War to retire from before *Quebeck*, is said to have deserted his said command, and left the party to shift for themselves, be submitted to a Court of Inquiry:

That the Committee be discharged from so much of Colonel *Easton's* Petition as prays a settlement of his Accounts, and that the same be referred to the Board of Treasury.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the State of *North-Carolina*, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That four tons of Gunpowder and six Four-pounders, or such others as can be procured, of the weight proper for Field-pieces, be immediately sent to *North-Carolina*:

That the Delegates of that State employ some proper person, as a Commissary, to purchase in this City or the neighbourhood thereof, Clothing for the Troops raised in that State for the Continental service:

That the three Independent Companies of Rangers raised in that State, be taken upon the Continental pay and establishment, and that their pay and appointment be as already resolved by the Convention of that State, and that they rank as the Rangers raised in *South-Carolina* and *Georgia*.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 266 2-3 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Colonel *James Easton*, to be accounted for by him on the final settlement of his Accounts:

That two months' Pay be advanced to Monsieur *St. Martin*, he to be accountable.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Morton* reported that the Committee, not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, August 1, 1776.

A Letter, of the 30th of *July*, from Brigadier-General *Mercer*, and one of the same date, from Brigadier-General *Roberdeau*, and sundry others, were laid before Congress, and read.

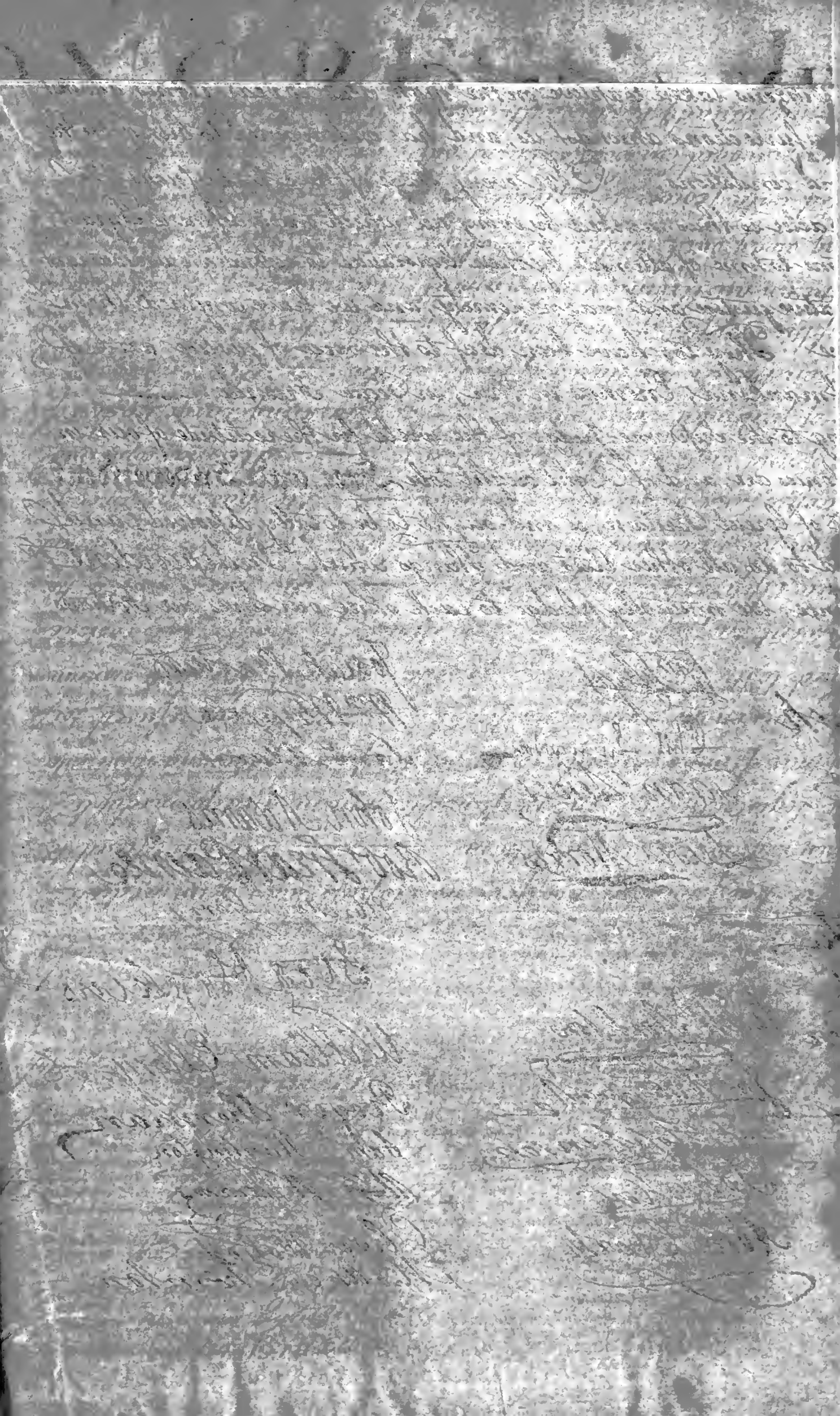
*Resolved*, That the two first be referred to the Board of War.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Morton* reported that the Committee have made further progress, but, not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation.

A Letter of the 30th of *July*, from General *Washington*, with sundry Papers enclosed; also, one from General *Schuyler*, of the 20th, and one from Colonel *Dubois*, of the 17th, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the Board of War.



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The Board of War reported the draft of a Letter to General *Washington*, in answer to his directed to them; and the same being agreed to,

*Ordered*, That it be transcribed, signed by the President, and forwarded.

The said Board brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Colonel *John Brown* be allowed the rank and pay of a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Continental Army, from the 20th day of *November* last, to this time:

That *James Easton* is entitled to the rank of a Colonel in the Continental Army, from the first day of *July*, 1775, and to the pay of a Colonel from that day until he shall be discharged, which ought to be done as soon as a Court of Inquiry shall report in his favour, or a Court-Martial shall determine upon his conduct, and their sentence is carried into execution, there being no vacancy to which he can be appointed; but should he be honorably acquitted, his past services will recommend him to the confidence of Congress for future employment.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 2,666 2-3 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Ludwick Karcher*, for victualing the Militia passing through *Philadelphia* to the Flying-Camp, he to be accountable.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, August 2, 1776.

The Declaration of Independence being engrossed and compared at the table, was signed by the Members.

*Resolved*, That two months' Pay be advanced to *Mon-sieur Pellisier*, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee and Marine Committee be discharged from fitting out Vessels with Cargoes to *Bermudas*.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That 200,000 Dollars be sent to *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Deputy Paymaster-General in the Northern Department:

That General *Washington* be instructed to employ in the service of the States as many of the *Stockbridge Indians* as he shall judge proper:

That one hundred old Arms, belonging to Congress, be delivered to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, to be repaired at the Continental expense, and put into the hands of the soldiers destined for the Flying-Camp, the said Council to be accountable:

That the Paymaster-General, and the several Deputy Paymasters-General, in the service of these States, be directed to make Weekly Returns to Congress of the state of the Military Chests under their direction:

That *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Deputy Paymaster-General in the Northern Army, be directed to transmit to Congress, as soon as possible, an account of all the Moneys which have passed through his hands since his appointment to that office:

That the Commissary-General and Deputy-Commissaries in the several departments, be directed to transmit to Congress, weekly, an account of the sums of Money they may respectively receive from the Paymasters:

That the Quartermaster-General, and Deputy Quartermasters-General, in the several departments, be directed to transmit, weekly, to Congress, an account of the Moneys they respectively receive from the Paymaster-General, or Deputy Paymasters-General:

That the Commissary-General, Quartermaster-General, Deputy-Commissaries, and Deputy Quartermasters-General, be directed to make Monthly Returns, at least, of the stores under their direction, and the distribution of them:

That the Commanding Officer in each department be directed to make Returns, once a month, to Congress, of the drafts made by him upon the Paymaster in his department.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Walton* be appointed a Member of the Marine Committee, in the room of Mr. *Gwinnett*, who is absent.

*Resolved*, That 100 Dollars be advanced to *Thaddeus Sturges*, to be accounted for by him, and deducted out of

his pay on the settlement of his Accounts; that the Board of Treasury be discharged from proceeding on his Accounts, and that they be referred for settlement to the Commissioners appointed to settle the Accounts in the Northern Department.

The Marine Committee, to whom it was referred to inquire into the conduct of Commodore *Hopkins*, brought in their Report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, to be taken into consideration on *Monday* next.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Morton* reported that the Committee, not having finished, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—  
To *Benjamin Thompson*, for 131 days' service, viz: from the 1st of *December* to the last of *May* inclusive, as Clerk of the Hospital at *Montreal*, at the rate of 2-3ds of a Dollar per day, 122 Dollars:

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Saturday, August 3, 1776.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—  
To *Thomas Whitbeck*, for carrying Money from *Philadelphia* to *Ticonderoga*, in *October* last, the sum of 75 1-4 Dollars:

To *Samuel Johnson* for 209 meals of Victuals, 20 Dollars and 81-90ths:

To *George Hoffnagle* 1 Dollar and 45-90ths:

To *Michael Saddelman*, for 708 meals of Victuals, 70 Dollars and 72-90ths:

To *Richard Chiney*, for 540 Meals furnished the Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 54 Dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee on the miscarriages in *Canada* brought in a further Report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, to be taken into consideration on *Monday* next.

A Letter from *Neil McClean* was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Board of War.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, August 5, 1776.

Two Letters from General *Washington*, of the 31st of *July* and 2d of *August*; one from the Council of *Virginia*, of the 27th of *July*, with copies of sundry Letters from *North-Carolina* and *South-Carolina*, enclosed; one from *E. Anderson*, of the 31st of *July*; and sundry Resolutions passed by the Convention of *Pennsylvania*, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the Board of War.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Commanders of all Ships of War and Armed Vessels in the service of these States, or any of them, and all Letters of Marque and Privateers, be permitted to enlist into service on board the said Ships and Vessels, any Seamen who may be taken on board any of the Ships or Vessels of our enemies, and that no such Seamen be entitled to receive the wages due to them out of the said Prizes, but such as will so enlist, and that all other Seamen so taken, be held as Prisoners of War, and exchanged for others taken by the enemy, whether on board of Vessels of War or Merchantmen, as there may be opportunity:

That Lieutenant-Colonel *Rufus Putnam* be appointed an Engineer, with the rank of Colonel, and pay of 60 Dollars a month.

A Petition from *Essek Hopkins*, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Fleet, was presented to Congress, and read, setting forth, that "he has been informed that certain com-



IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

# The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. — We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world. — He has refused his assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. — He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them. — He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only. — He has called together legislative Bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures. — He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people. — He has refused for a long time after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within. — He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands. — He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his assent to Laws for establishing judiciary powers. — He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries. — He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance. — He has kept among us in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our Legislature. — He has endeavored to bring the Militia under his absolute and exclusive command, and to render them more dependent on him than on the Civil power. — He has endeavored

and payment of their salaries. — He has created a multitude of new Offices and sent infinite swarms of Officers to harass our people and eat out their substance. — He has kept among us in times of peace standing Armies without the Consent of our Legislatures. — He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power. — He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Agents full power to pretend Legislation: — For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us: — For depriving them by a mock trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States: — For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world: — For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent: — For depriving us in many cases of the benefit of Trial by Jury: — For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences — For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same mischievous spirit into these Colonies: — For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments. — For suspending our own Legislatures and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever. — He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us. — He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people. — He has now thus transported large Numbers of foreign Mercenaries to commit the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation. — He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands. — He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions. In every stage of these Oppressions We have petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British Brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of conciliation. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

William Gwinnett  
Lyman Hall  
Geo. Walton.

John Hooper  
Joseph Hewes  
John Penn

Edward Rutledge Jr.

Thos. Heyward Jr.  
Thomas Lynch Jr.  
Arthur Middleton

John Hancock  
Samuel Chase  
John Paine  
Thos. Paine  
Cyril Court of Brotherton

George Wythe  
Richard Henry Lee  
Thos. Jefferson  
Wm. Harrison  
Thos. Nelson Jr.  
Francis Lightfoot Lee  
Carleton Braxton

Robt Morris  
Benjamin Rush  
Benj. Franklin  
John Morton  
Geo. Clymer

Sam. Smith  
Geo. Taylor  
James Wilson  
Gt. Wm.  
Casar Rodney  
John Mifflin  
Thos. McKean

Richd. Bland  
Phil. Livingston  
Sam. Luther  
Lewis Morris

Richd. Stockton  
Jno. Witherspoon  
Jas. Claptonson  
John Hancock  
Abra. Clark

Josiah Bartlett  
N. Whipple  
Sam. Adams  
John Adams  
Robt. Treat Paine  
Nedridge Perry  
Step. Hopkins  
William Ellery  
Roger Sherman  
Sam. Huntington  
Wm. Williams  
Oliver Wolcott  
Nathaniel Tamworth

The Board of War reported the draft of a Letter to General *Washington*, in answer to his directed to them; and the same being agreed to,

*Ordered*, That it be transcribed, signed by the President, and forwarded.

The said Board brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Colonel *John Brown* be allowed the rank and pay of a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Continental Army, from the 20th day of *November* last, to this time:

That *James Easton* is entitled to the rank of a Colonel in the Continental Army, from the first day of *July*, 1775, and to the pay of a Colonel from that day until he shall be discharged, which ought to be done as soon as a Court of Inquiry shall report in his favour, or a Court-Martial shall determine upon his conduct, and their sentence is carried into execution, there being no vacancy to which he can be appointed; but should he be honorably acquitted, his past services will recommend him to the confidence of Congress for future employment.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 2,666 2-3 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Ludwick Karcher*, for victualing the Militia passing through *Philadelphia* to the Flying-Camp, he to be accountable.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, August 2, 1776.

The Declaration of Independence being engrossed and compared at the table, was signed by the Members.

*Resolved*, That two months' Pay be advanced to *Monsieur Pellisier*, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee and Marine Committee be discharged from fitting out Vessels with Cargoes to *Bermudas*.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That 200,000 Dollars be sent to *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Deputy Paymaster-General in the Northern Department:

That General *Washington* be instructed to employ in the service of the States as many of the *Stockbridge Indians* as he shall judge proper:

That one hundred old Arms, belonging to Congress, be delivered to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, to be repaired at the Continental expense, and put into the hands of the soldiers destined for the Flying-Camp, the said Council to be accountable:

That the Paymaster-General, and the several Deputy Paymasters-General, in the service of these States, be directed to make Weekly Returns to Congress of the state of the Military Chests under their direction:

That *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Deputy Paymaster-General in the Northern Army, be directed to transmit to Congress, as soon as possible, an account of all the Moneys which have passed through his hands since his appointment to that office:

That the Commissary-General and Deputy-Commissaries in the several departments, be directed to transmit to Congress, weekly, an account of the sums of Money they may respectively receive from the Paymasters:

That the Quartermaster-General, and Deputy Quartermasters-General, in the several departments, be directed to transmit, weekly, to Congress, an account of the Moneys they respectively receive from the Paymaster-General, or Deputy Paymasters-General:

That the Commissary-General, Quartermaster-General, Deputy-Commissaries, and Deputy Quartermasters-General, be directed to make Monthly Returns, at least, of the stores under their direction, and the distribution of them:

That the Commanding Officer in each department be directed to make Returns, once a month, to Congress, of the drafts made by him upon the Paymaster in his department.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Walton* be appointed a Member of the Marine Committee, in the room of Mr. *Gwinnett*, who is absent.

*Resolved*, That 100 Dollars be advanced to *Thaddeus Sturges*, to be accounted for by him, and deducted out of

his pay on the settlement of his Accounts; that the Board of Treasury be discharged from proceeding on his Accounts, and that they be referred for settlement to the Commissioners appointed to settle the Accounts in the Northern Department.

The Marine Committee, to whom it was referred to inquire into the conduct of Commodore *Hopkins*, brought in their Report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, to be taken into consideration on *Monday* next.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Morton* reported that the Committee, not having finished, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *Benjamin Thompson*, for 131 days' service, viz: from the 1st of *December* to the last of *May* inclusive, as Clerk of the Hospital at *Montreal*, at the rate of 2-3ds of a Dollar per day, 122 Dollars:

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow.

Saturday, August 3, 1776.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *Thomas Whitbeck*, for carrying Money from *Philadelphia* to *Ticonderoga*, in *October* last, the sum of 75 1-4 Dollars:

To *Samuel Johnson* for 209 meals of Victuals, 20 Dollars and 81-90ths:

To *George Hoffnagle* 1 Dollar and 45-90ths:

To *Michael Saddleman*, for 708 meals of Victuals, 70 Dollars and 72-90ths:

To *Richard Chiney*, for 540 Meals furnished the Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 54 Dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee on the miscarriages in *Canada* brought in a further Report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, to be taken into consideration on *Monday* next.

A Letter from *Neil McClean* was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Board of War.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, August 5, 1776.

Two Letters from General *Washington*, of the 31st of *July* and 2d of *August*; one from the Council of *Virginia*, of the 27th of *July*, with copies of sundry Letters from *North-Carolina* and *South-Carolina*, enclosed; one from *E. Anderson*, of the 31st of *July*; and sundry Resolutions passed by the Convention of *Pennsylvania*, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the Board of War.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Commanders of all Ships of War and Armed Vessels in the service of these States, or any of them, and all Letters of Marque and Privateers, be permitted to enlist into service on board the said Ships and Vessels, any Seamen who may be taken on board any of the Ships or Vessels of our enemies, and that no such Seamen be entitled to receive the wages due to them out of the said Prizes, but such as will so enlist, and that all other Seamen so taken, be held as Prisoners of War, and exchanged for others taken by the enemy, whether on board of Vessels of War or Merchantmen, as there may be opportunity:

That Lieutenant-Colonel *Rufus Putnam* be appointed an Engineer, with the rank of Colonel, and pay of 60 Dollars a month.

A Petition from *Eseck Hopkins*, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Fleet, was presented to Congress, and read, setting forth, that "he has been informed that certain com-

plaints, interrogatories, and report, charging him with sundry crimes and misdemeanors, had been exhibited to the honourable Congress; the purport of which complaints, &c., he is ignorant of; and praying that he may be furnished with copies thereof, and of all other proceedings against him, which are now before this honourable body; and that time may be allowed him to prepare for, and a day assigned for, his being heard before Congress in his own defence."

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted; and that *Friday* next be appointed for hearing *Commodore Hopkins*.

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be directed to order the Ships and Armed Vessels belonging to the Continent out on such cruises as they shall think proper.

*Resolved*, That *Monday* next be assigned for hearing and determining the appeal against the verdict and sentence passed on the Schooner *Thistle*.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to the *Delaware* Battalion as many of the Arms lately imported as will be necessary to arm them completely:

That they deliver to the Council of Safety of *Delaware* Government 193 of the said Arms, in lieu of so many had from them:

That the remainder of the said Arms be delivered to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, who are to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the *Delaware* Battalion, when armed, be ordered to *New-Jersey*, subject to the further orders and directions of the General.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *J. Symes*, a prisoner of the *Royal Highland Emigrants*, 28 Dollars, for fourteen weeks' allowance, from the 24th of *April* to the 30th of *July*.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

*Ordered*, That the Board of War furnish the Committee of Treasury with the names of the *British* Officers and other Prisoners who are entitled to the allowance made by Congress of two Dollars a week, with the times of their captivity, and the places where they are quartered.

*Resolved*, That the pay of an Assistant Clerk to the Board of War be 266 2-3d Dollars a year.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 1,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Francis Lewis*, Esq., and that the same be charged to the Account of the Paymaster-General, it being for so much received by him, by the order of *Mr. Lewis*.

Congress took into consideration the Report on Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood's* Accounts; and, after some debate,

*Resolved*, That the said Accounts be recommitted, and that the Commissioners to *Canada* be desired to attend the Board of Treasury at the examination of said Accounts.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 53 Dollars and 1-3d be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Monsieur Artur Vermonit*, it being two months' advance, for which he is to be accountable.

A Petition from *Lewis de Linkensdorff* was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred, with the papers accompanying it, to the Board of War.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada*; and, after debate,

*Resolved*, That it be recommitted.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, August 6, 1776.

A Letter of the 5th, from General *Washington*, enclosing copies of Letters between him and General *Howe*, respecting the exchange of Prisoners, and sundry other Letters and Papers; also, one from Brigadier-General *Mercer*, of the 4th, were laid before Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the Board of War.

*Resolved*, That the Medical Committee be directed to supply the Director-General of the Hospital with such Medicines as he may want.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to the Delegates of *North-Carolina* half a ton of Powder, for the use of the frontier inhabitants of that State.

*Resolved*, That General *Schuyler* be directed to apply to General *Burgoyne*, and propose a general exchange of Prisoners on the terms agreed to by Congress, and particularly the delivering Brigadier-General *Prescott*, in possession of the *United States*, in lieu of Brigadier-General *Thompson*, in the possession of the enemy.

A Letter from the Convention of *New-Jersey* to their Delegates, was laid before Congress, and read:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Convention of the State of *New-Jersey* be requested to make such provision for keeping open the communication between that State and *New-York*, by way of the Ferries over the Rivers *Passaick* and *Hackinsack*, as to them shall appear to be most effectual, and that this Congress will reimburse the expenses of such service to the State of *New-Jersey*:

That it be recommended, in the most earnest manner, to the Convention of *New-Jersey* to order their Militia immediately to march and join Brigadier-General *Mercer*.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Middle Department be directed to inquire and inform Congress whether it will be most for the publick good that the Troops raised and to be raised for the Garrisons on the *Ohio* and its waters should be supplied with Provisions by contract or by a Commissary; that if a Commissary be thought necessary, they recommend some proper person for that office to Congress, and in the mean time take such measures as they think best for victualling the said Troops.

*Resolved*, That a Member be added to the Committee appointed to inquire into and remedy the defects of the Powder made at the Mills.

The Member chosen: *Mr. Rush*.

*Mr. G. Clymer*, one of the Joint Treasurers, being appointed a Delegate to Congress by the Convention of *Pennsylvania*,

*Resolved*, That for the future there be only one Continental Treasurer.

*Resolved*, That an additional sum of 300 Dollars be given to each of the Continental Treasurers, on account of their extraordinary trouble and faithful service during the last year.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation; and after some time the President resumed the chair, and *Mr. Morton* reported, that the Committee not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* to stop *Mr. Wilmore* from proceeding to *New-York*.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Wednesday, August 7, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 5,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Committee of *Lancaster*, for the purpose of carrying into execution the Resolution of Congress respecting the Prisoners, the said Committee to be accountable:

That an Order for 30,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of *James Mease*, for the use of the Militia marching to *New-Jersey*, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That *James Brisben*, who is employed in the Post Office, be excused from military duty.

A Letter from Captain *N. Biddle* to the Marine Committee, was laid before Congress and read:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That General *Washington* be directed to propose an exchange of Lieutenant *Josiah* for a Lieutenant of the Navy of *Great Britain*, and that the General remonstrate to Lord *Howe* on the cruel treatment Lieutenant *Josiah* has met with, of which the Congress have received undoubted information.

*Resolved*, That *Dr. Rush* be added to the Medical Committee.



A Memorial from *George Measam* was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Board of War.

The Committee appointed to revise the Articles of War, brought in their Report.

The Board of War reported, that there is due—

To Messrs. *Giasson*, *Hertel*, and *De la Magdelaine*, *Canadian* prisoners, at *Bristol*, for their Board and Lodging, from the 15th of *November* to the 31st *July* last, being thirty-seven weeks, each at 2 Dollars a week, 222 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *John Green*, their Assignee:

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation; and after some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Morton* reported, that the Committee, not having yet finished, desired leave to sit again:

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Thursday, August 8, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 700 Dollars be paid to *Jonathan Meredith*, in full of *Ephraim Blaine's* Draft in his favour, for Shoes purchased from him for the use of the Continental Army, and that the same be charged to the Account of the said *Ephraim Blaine*.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 60,000 Dollars be advanced to the Delegates of *New-Hampshire*, for the use of that State, which is to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* to take proper measures for providing Quarters for the Troops passing through *Philadelphia* to the Flying-Camp, during their continuance in this City.

*Resolved*, That the Colonel, or Commanding Officer of the *Delaware* Battalion, and the Colonels, or Commanding Officers of the several Battalions of Militia now in *Philadelphia*, be ordered instantly to march to *Amboy*, in *New-Jersey*, and that such of the Militia as want Arms be left, under a proper Officer, till they can be provided therewith, and then marched without any further delay:

That the Board of War be directed to see this Resolution carried into immediate execution.

*Resolved*, That the Board of War be directed to take into immediate consideration the State of the Army in the Northern Department, and our Naval force on the Lakes; and that Mr. *Chase* be directed to attend the said Board, and give them all the information in his power; and that Mr. *Williams* be desired to furnish the said Board with an extract of the Letter he has received from Governour *Trumbull* relative to the said Army and Naval force, and that the said Board report thereon as soon as possible.

Two Letters from General *Washington*, with sundry Papers enclosed, one from General *Schuyler*, dated at the *German-Flats*, August the 1st; one of the 29th of *July*, from General *Gates*, with copies of two Letters enclosed, were received and read.

*Resolved*, That a Letter be written to General *Lee*, to inform him of the intelligence received, that the Troops from *Charleston* are arrived at *New-York*, and to direct him, in case the *British* Troops have left the Southern Colonies, to repair, with all possible expedition, to *Philadelphia*, and there wait the orders of Congress.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for electing four Major-Generals and six Brigadier-Generals.

*Resolved*, That the Post-Riders be exempted from Military duty.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply Colonel *Galbreath* with nine pounds of Powder and twenty-seven pounds of Lead, for the use of three Companies of his Battalion.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *George Kennedy*, for three Rifles purchased in *Fredrick* County, *Virginia*, for the use of Captain *Morgan's* Company of Riflemen, and to be charged to the said Company, the sum of 40 Dollars:

To *William Webb*, for services in, and articles purchased for, the use of the Treasury Office, 137 54-90 Dollars; to be charged to the account of Contingent Expenses:

To Captain *Thomas Haslet*, for Subsistence of thirteen men of his Company, on their march from *Chester* County to *New-Jersey*, 9 82-90 Dollars:

To Captain *Benjamin Wallace*, for Subsistence of his Company on their march from *Chester* County to *New-Jersey*, 32 20-90 Dollars:

To Captain *Matthew Boyd*, for Subsistence of fifty-three men of his Company, in Colonel *Moore's* Battalion, on their march from *Chester* County to *New-Jersey*, 27 42-90 Dollars:

To *Tobias Rudolph*, for the hire of two Horses and a Chair, by Captain *Alexander Graydon*, to conduct Money to *Ticonderoga*, and for one of the said Horses which was lost at *Albany*, 125 54-90 Dollars:

To Mr. *Smith*, at the City Tavern, for the expense of a Guard at his house over Prisoners of War brought from *Burlington*, 16 27-90 Dollars:

To *John Tomkins*, for the Subsistence of Capts. *Crowle's*, *Heister's*, and *Ludwig's* Companies of Militia, on their march to *New-Jersey*, 21 36-90 Dollars:

To Captain *James McCandless*, for Subsistence and Ferriages of his Company, of the Fourth Battalion of *York* County Militia, on their march to *New-Jersey*, 41 78-90 Dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 2,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of the Delegates of *Georgia*, for the use of the Continental Forces in that State; the said Delegates to be accountable.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation; and after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Morton* reported, that the Committee have made further progress in the matter referred to them; but not having yet come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Articles of Confederation.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Friday, August 9, 1776.

Congress having proceeded to the election of a Regimental Paymaster for the *Delaware* Battalion,

*John Yates*, Esq., was elected.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to devise a plan for encouraging the *Hessians* and other Foreigners, employed by the King of *Great Britain*, and sent to *America* for the purpose of subjugating these States, to quit that iniquitous service:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Jefferson*, and Mr. *Stockton*.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to the order of the Board of War such articles in their possession, belonging to the Continent, as, in the opinion of the said Board of War, are necessary for the *Delaware* Battalion:

That the said Committee be directed to send to General *Washington* thirty thousand Flints.

A Petition from *William Bell & Co.* was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee on Governour *Trumbull's* Letter.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Mease* be directed to supply the Captains now in *Philadelphia*, belonging to Colonel *Hand's* Battalion, with such sums of Money as will be sufficient to pay the Bounty voted to non-commissioned officers and soldiers who enlist for three years.

The Delegates of *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland*, to whom the Petition of *Lewis de Linkensdorf* was referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That *Lewis de Linkensdorf* be appointed Adjutant to the *German* Battalion ordered to be raised for the Continental service.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, Congress proceeded to the election of four Major-Generals; and the ballots being taken and examined,

*William Heath, Joseph Spencer, John Sullivan, and Nathaniel Greene, Esqs.,* were elected Major-Generals.

The Congress proceeded to the election of Brigadier-Generals; and the ballots being taken,

Colonel *James Read*, Colonel *John Nixon*, Colonel *Arthur St. Clair*, Colonel *Alexander McDougal*, Colonel *Samuel Holden Parsons*, and Colonel *James Clinton*, were elected Brigadier-Generals.

Resolved, That the hearing of Commodore *Hopkins* be postponed to *Monday* next, at eleven o'clock, and that Captain *Jones* be directed to attend at the same time.

Resolved, That 10,000 Dollars be advanced to Colonel *John Haslet* for the use of his Battalion, he to be accountable.

Resolved, That *William Brown*, Master-Carpenter, who is come from the Camp on furlough, be ordered not to return, his service being necessary at the yard.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Saturday, August 10, 1776.

Resolved, That *Isaac Cooper*, Ship-Joiner, be ordered not to go to *New-Jersey*, his service being wanted:

That *William Whiting*, a wounded soldier, be sent to the Hospital of *Pennsylvania*, and supported at the expense of the *United States*; and in case he dies, that the expenses of his funeral be paid by the *United States*.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *Jeremiah Dougan*, in part payment of his Account against the Continent, 319 Dollars and 60-90ths, with which he is to be charged:

To *Daniel Smith*, for the weekly allowance of the following prisoners of war, viz: *James Hughes*, Town-Major of *Montreal*, and Captain *Duncan Campbell*, from the 19th *January* to the 18th *July* last, twenty-four weeks and six days, at 2 Dollars a week, 99 Dollars and 38-90ths.

Major *Dunbar*, Major *Stopford*, Lieutenant *Harrison*, Lieutenant *Shuttleworth*, Lieutenant *McDonald*, and Captain *Algeo*, from the 26th *April* to 12th *July* last, eleven weeks each, at 2 Dollars a week, 132 Dollars:

To Colonel *Jacob Stroud*, for expenses of wagon-hire, in conducting *Canadian* Prisoners, and part of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, from *Walpeck*, in *New-Jersey*, to *Reading* and *Bristol*, in *Pennsylvania*, 219 Dollars and 54-90ths, out of which 84 Dollars and 12-90ths is a charge against the *British* Troops, and 135 Dollars and 42-90ths for the expense of the *Canadians*:

To *John Bates*, for one hundred and forty Camp-Kettles, delivered to Colonel *Matlack*, 186 Dollars and 60-90ths:

To *Thomas Nevill*, for the materials and making Traveling-Carriages for the Cannon sent to *North-Carolina*, 257 Dollars and 25-90ths:

To *William McGill*, for expenses of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, on their march to *Canada*, which is to be charged to *J. Shallus*, Quartermaster of the said Battalion, 14 Dollars and 45-90ths:

To *Joseph Haight*, for the allowance to Captain *Francis Stuart* and *John Leske*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, from the 26th *April* to 11th *July*, and to Dr. *Huddleston*, of the Seventh Regiment, from the 26th *April* to the 1st *July* last, as prisoners of war, 63 Dollars:

To Captain *Joseph Spur*, of Colonel *Moore's* Battalion, for the subsistence of his Company, of twenty-eight men, on their march from *Chester County* to *New-Jersey*, the sum of 25 Dollars and 18-90ths:

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Joseph Park*, for the subsistence of six men of Colonel *Moore's* Battalion, on their march from *Chester County* to *New-Jersey*, 16 Dollars:

To *Michael Gratz*, for *Indian* goods provided by him in *May* and *June* last, and delivered to the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Northern Department, 653 Dollars and 87-90ths:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee further reported that they have had under consideration the Accounts of Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood*,

which were recommitted to them, and having reexamined the same, find a balance due to them, amounting to 59,962 Dollars and 53-90ths, which they are of opinion ought to be paid in silver and gold.

Ordered, That the said sums be paid accordingly.

Resolved, That the Board of Treasury be directed to devise ways and means for paying Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood*, and report to Congress.

Resolved, That an Order for 3,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Delegates of *Delaware* Government, for the purpose of paying one month's advance to the Battalion of Militia marching from that Government to the Flying-Camp.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, Resolved, That Commissions be made out and sent to General *Washington*, to be delivered to the several Officers recommended in the list exhibited by the said Board, to fill the vacancies mentioned in the said list, excepting those persons recommended to fill the vacancies occasioned by Officers being in captivity, which ought not to be filled, but to be left open, until those Officers shall be redeemed, and excepting the case of Lieutenant-Colonel *Tyler*, who is to have a Commission for Colonel of the Regiment lately commanded by Colonel *Parsons*; promoted; and that Lieutenant-Colonel *Durkee* have a Commission of Colonel of the Twentieth Regiment, and that Major *Prentice* be made Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment in which he is now Major; and Major *Knolton* Lieutenant-Colonel of the Twentieth Regiment.

The Marine Committee brought in a Report, which was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table.

The Committee on the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada*, brought in a further Report, which was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table, to be taken into consideration on *Tuesday* next.

Resolved, That *John Hughes* be supplied with necessary Clothes, by the Managers of the *Pennsylvania* Hospital, at the expense of the *United States*.

Resolved, That *William Tudor*, Judge Advocate General, have the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army of the *United States*, and that he be ordered immediately to repair to the discharge of his duty at *New-York*.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to Colonel *J. Wilson*, for the use of three Companies of his Battalion, now in *Philadelphia*, eleven pounds of Powder, and forty-four pounds of Lead:

That the said Committee be directed to deliver to the order of the Marine Committee such quantity of Arms and Ammunition as may be necessary for the use of the Continental Frigates.

The Committee on sundry *Canadian* Petitioners, reported:

That the Rev. Mr. *Louis Lotbiniere* was, on the 26th of *January* last, appointed, by General *Arnold*, Chaplain to the Regiment under the command of Colonel *James Livingston*, and acted in that capacity until the retreat of the Army from *Canada*, and was promised by General *Arnold* the pay of £14 10s. per month, including Rations; and that there is now a balance of 124 Dollars 84-90ths due, and that the same ought to be paid to him, and he continued a Chaplain in the pay of the *United States*:

That *Jean Tisseul* ought to receive nine months' pay as a Private, and a present of 20 Dollars for particular service, the whole amounting to 80 Dollars, and that he be permitted to enlist in the Artillery at *New-York*:

That *Pierre du Calvert* ought to receive 106 Dollars and 2-3ds, for eight months' pay as an Ensign, and a Commission as a Brevet Lieutenant:

That *Alexander du Clos* ought to receive 33 Dollars and 1-3d, for five months' pay as a Private, and be discharged, with permission to enlist again in the service, at his election:

That *Jean Baptist du Vidal* ought to receive 56 Dollars for seven months' pay as a Sergeant, and be discharged, or continued in the service, at his election:

That *Louis Russe* ought to receive 32 Dollars for his services as a Nurse and Attendant on the sick, and a present of 40 Dollars on account of his humanity to them:

That *Just a Voir* ought to receive a present of 10 Dollars, and be discharged, or continued in service, at his election:

That *La Junesse* ought to receive a present of 40 Dollars, and be discharged:

That *John Hamptreneck* ought to receive 186 Dollars and 2-3ds, as Deputy-Commissary, from the 15th of September to the 5th of February, and 164 Dollars for his pay as a Captain from the 5th of February to this day, being six months and five days; the whole amounting to 350 Dollars and 60-90ths:

That *John Diamond* and *Walker Moody* ought to receive a present of 40 Dollars each:

That *Andrew Pepin* ought to receive 33 Dollars and 39-90ths, for five months' pay as a Private, for his services as a Volunteer, and be continued in pay as a Lieutenant:

That all persons who have acted as Volunteers in *Canada*, and retreated with the Army, be referred to General *Schuyler*; and that he be directed to inquire into their services and characters, and to order them such rewards and wages as shall appear to have been merited:

That 300 Dollars be advanced to Colonel *James Livingston*, and his general Account against Congress referred to the inspection and determination of General *Schuyler*.

*Resolved*, That the said Report be agreed to.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

— Monday, August 12, 1776.

A Letter from General *Washington* of the 8th, with sundry Papers enclosed, and one from General *Mercer*, with one enclosed to him from Colonel *Dickinson*, were read.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Washington*, with the Papers enclosed, be referred to the Board of War:

That the Letter from Brigadier-General *Mercer*, with the enclosed Letter from Colonel *Dickinson*, be communicated to the Convention of *Pennsylvania*.

Sundry Resolutions, passed by the Convention of *New-York*, were laid before Congress, and read.

A Letter from a gentleman at *Cape François*, in *Hispaniola*, dated *July* the 23d, was also read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Secret Committee.

That the Delegates of *North-Carolina* be empowered to send by water, at the risk of the Continent, the Military Stores necessary for that State.

On application of one of the parties,

*Resolved*, That the hearing the appeal against the sentence passed on the Schooner *Thistle*, be postponed to *Monday*, the 26th instant.

The Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* having recommended *Philip Schrauder*, as a Second Lieutenant of the Fifth Company of *Germans*, to be raised in that State:

*Resolved*, That he be accepted, and that a Commission be granted to him accordingly.

A Letter of the 3d, from the Council of *Virginia*, and one of the same date, from Brigadier-General *Lewis*, were read.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, Commodore *Hopkins* attended, and was admitted; when the Examination, taken before the Marine Committee, and the Report of the said Committee in consequence thereof, were read to him; and the Commodore being heard in his own defence, and having delivered in some further answers to the questions asked him by the Marine Committee, and two Witnesses being, at his request, introduced and examined, he withdrew.

Congress then took into consideration the Instructions given to Commodore *Hopkins*, his Examination and Answers to the Marine Committee, and the Report of the Marine Committee thereupon; also, the further defence by him made, and the testimony of the Witnesses; and, after some debate, the further consideration thereof was postponed.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Tuesday, August 13, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Eighth *Virginia* Battalion be taken into pay from the 27th day of *May* last, and the Seventh from the 17th day of *June* last.

The Marine Committee having recommended *William*

*Barnes* for First Lieutenant on board one of the Frigates built at *Philadelphia*, *Thomas Vaughan*, Second Mate of the Ship *Alfred*, to be Third Lieutenant of the *Washington* Frigate, commanded by *Thomas Reed*, Esq., and *Elisha Hinman* to the command of the *Cabot*:

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and that Commissions be granted to them accordingly; and that Captain *Saltonstall* be ordered to discharge Mr. *Vaughan*, that he may repair to the command to which he is now appointed.

Colonel *Mercer*, of the Third *Virginia* Battalion, being promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General, and *William Christian*, who was appointed Colonel of the First Battalion, having declined to accept his Commission, and Colonel *William Peachy*, of the Fifth Battalion, having resigned, Congress proceeded to the election of Officers to fill the vacancies occasioned thereby, and the ballots being taken, *Charles Scott*, *George Weedon*, and *Isaac Reade*, Esquires, were elected Colonels; *Alexander Spotswood*, *Thomas Marshall*, and *Robert Lawson*, Esquires, Lieutenant-Colonels; and *James Junis* and *John Green*, Esqs., Majors.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *Conrad Alster*, for two hundred and fourteen Meals supplied to the Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, the sum of 21 36-90 Dollars:

To *James Davis*, for seventy Meals supplied Captain *Clark's* Company of Militia, on their march to *New-Jersey*, 7 9-90 Dollars:

To Major *Blackden*, for the hire of a Sleigh and two Horses from *Albany* to *Quebeck*, Cash expended going express from General *Arnold* to *Sorel*, and for a Horse, Bridle, and Saddle, lost at *Dechambeau*, in the service of the Colonies, the sum of 153 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above Accounts be paid.

The Board of Treasury, to whom it was referred to devise ways and means for paying Messrs. *Price* and *Heywood*, brought in their Report:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That an Order be sent to General *Schuyler* and General *Gates*, to pay all the Specie that they may have in their hands, belonging to the *United States*, to Messrs. *Price* and *Heywood*, in part of the balance due to them from the said States, and transmit an Account thereof to Congress:

That the Committee of Treasury be directed to use their endeavours to procure Gold and Silver, as quickly as possible, to discharge the remainder:

That Messrs. *Price* and *Heywood* be allowed at the rate of five per cent. per annum interest, for the balance that may be due to them, after deducting the sum that shall be paid them by Generals *Schuyler* and *Gates*, from the time of such payment, until the said balance is paid.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to advance one month's Pay to the Officers and Men from *Maryland*, on their march to the Flying-Camp:

That the Deputy Quartermaster-General be directed to supply the Troops from *Maryland* with such articles as they may stand in need of, out of the Stores in his hands belonging to the Continent.

*Resolved*, That the 5,000,000 of Dollars, last ordered to be emitted, consist of the following numbers and denominations, viz:

76,923 Bills, of 30 Dollars each.....	\$2,307,690
76,923 Bills, of 8.....do.....	615,384
76,923 Bills, of 7.....do.....	538,461
76,923 Bills, of 6.....do.....	461,538
76,924 Bills, of 5.....do.....	384,620
76,923 Bills, of 4.....do.....	307,692
76,923 Bills, of 3.....do.....	230,769
76,923 Bills, of 2.....do.....	153,846
615,385 Bills.....	\$5,000,000

*Resolved*, That an Order for 2,666 2-3 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Ludwick Karcher*, for the purpose of victualling the Troops marching to the Flying-Camp, he to be accountable.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That General *Washington* be informed that Congress have not received the Treaty between the State of *Massachusetts-Bay* and the *St. John's* and *Micmac Indians*, and that he be requested to send a copy thereof:

That the Secret Committee be directed to furnish Colonel

*Wilson* with twenty-three Muskets, twenty-two pounds of Powder, and eighty-eight pounds of Lead, for the use of his Battalion of Militia.

The said Board having recommended *William Caldwell* to be Paymaster of Colonel *Baldwin's* Regiment of Continental Troops raised in *Massachusetts-Bay*, and *William Lawrence* to be Paymaster of Colonel *Shee's* Battalion of Continental Troops, raised in the State of *Pennsylvania*:

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and that Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 296 1-3 Dollars be paid to the Order of Messrs. *Simon and Campbell*, in full of a Draft in their favour by *George Morgan*, at *Pittsburgh*, June 3, 1776, and that the same be charged to the Account of the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Middle Department.

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be directed to deliver to *James Mease* the Sheetting, in their hands, for the use of the Continental Troops.

Congress being informed that *Alexander Ross* is detained at *Pittsburgh*:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* to inquire into this matter, and, if they find no new cause for detaining him since he was before the Committee of Congress, and they think it proper, that they permit him to pursue his journey into the *Indian* country.

*Resolved*, That a Member be added to the Committee appointed to consider the application of the Rev. Mr. *Leonard*.

The Member chosen, Mr. *Hall*.

A Letter of the 12th, from Brigadier-General *Mercer*, was read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Board of War.

Congress took into consideration the Articles of War, and, after some time spent thereon, the further consideration thereof was postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Wednesday, August 14, 1776.

A Letter of the 12th, from General *Washington*, with a General Return of the Army at *New-York*, and sundry other Papers enclosed, being received, was read:

Also, sundry Letters from *England* were read.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Washington*, with the Papers enclosed, be referred to the Board of War.

On request of the Delegates of *New-Jersey*,

*Resolved*, That the Tutors in *Princeton* College be detained from going to the Flying-Camp, and that the said Tutors be directed to continue in the said College exercising their several functions.

The Committee appointed to devise a plan for encouraging the *Hessians* and other Foreigners to quit the *British* service, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon, Congress came to the following Resolution:

Whereas it has been the wise policy of these States to extend the protection of their laws to all those who should settle among them, of whatever nation or religion they might be, and to admit them to a participation of the benefits of civil and religious freedom; and the benevolence of this practice, as well as its salutary effects, have rendered it worthy of being continued in future times:

And whereas his *Britannick* Majesty, in order to destroy our freedom and happiness, has commenced against us a cruel and unprovoked war; and unable to engage *Britons* sufficient to execute his sanguinary measures, has applied for aid to foreign Princes, who are in the habit of selling the blood of their people for money, and from them has procured and transported hither considerable numbers of foreigners: And it is conceived that such foreigners, if apprised of the practice of these States, would choose to accept of lands, liberty, safety, and a communion of good laws, and mild Government, in a country where many of their friends and relations are already happily settled, rather than continue exposed to the toils and dangers of a long and bloody war, waged against a people guilty of no other crime than that of refusing to exchange freedom for slavery; and that they will do this the more especially when they reflect

that after they shall have violated every Christian and moral precept, by invading and attempting to destroy those who have never injured them or their country, their only reward, if they escape death and captivity, will be a return to the despotism of their Prince, to be by him again sold to do the drudgery of some other enemy to the rights of mankind:

And whereas the Parliament of *Great Britain* have thought fit, by a late act, not only to invite our Troops to desert our service, but to direct a compulsion of our people, taken at sea, to serve against their country:

*Resolved, therefore*, That these States will receive all such foreigners who shall leave the Armies of his *Britannick* Majesty in *America*, and shall choose to become members of any of these States; that they shall be protected in the free exercise of their respective religions, and be invested with the rights, privileges and immunities of natives, as established by the laws of these States; and, moreover, that this Congress will provide, for every such person, fifty acres of unappropriated lands in some of these States, to be held by him and his heirs in absolute property.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing Resolution be committed to the Committee who brought in the Report, and that they be directed to have it translated into *German*, and to take proper measures to have it communicated to the foreign troops; in the meanwhile that this be kept secret.

*Resolved*, That Doctor *Franklin* be added to the said Committee.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—

To Captain *William Ross*, for Subsistence and Ferriage of his Company of 67 men, of Colonel *Smith's* Battalion, on their march from *York County* to *New-Jersey*, the sum of 52 Dollars and 49-90ths:

To *Daniel Smith*, for Captain *Gamble's* allowance, from 26th *April* to 10th *August* instant, being 15 weeks, at 2 Dollars a week, the sum of 30 Dollars:

To *John Davis*, for 33 days hire of a Wagon transporting the Baggage of Captain *Hay's* Company of Colonel *Irwin's* Battalion, from *Carlisle* to *New-York*, 110 Dollars, and for 41 Meals supplied Captain *Thomas Turbutt's* Company, of Colonel *Wilson's* Battalion, on their march from *Cumberland County* to *New-Jersey*, the sum of 4 Dollars and 9-90ths:

To *John Eshenbach*, for 19 Meals supplied Recruits of Captain *Cluggage's* Company, of Colonel *Hand's* Battalion, 1 Dollar and 81-90ths:

To Colonel *Clement Biddle*, for 150 Camp-Kettles, 200 Dollars:

To Dr. *John Coates*, for a set of Surgeon's Instruments, lost on his march with General *Arnold* from *Cambridge* to *Quebeck*, the sum of 26 Dollars and 60-90ths:

To *Sarah Campbell*, for nursing and boarding 7 sick men belonging to Captains *Beatty*, *Benezet*, and *Miller's* Companies, 30 Dollars and 7-90ths:

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

A Petition from *Elisha Swift* and *Adonijah Spanborough* was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Delegates from *Pennsylvania* and *Connecticut*.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Mons. *Weibert*, now serving in the Continental Army at *New-York*, as an Engineer, be appointed Assistant Engineer, with the rank and pay of Lieutenant-Colonel; and that his pay commence from the time of his engaging in the service.

That General *Mercer* be directed to discharge or grant furloughs to *Joseph Kerr*, hatter, a private of Captain *Will's* Company in the First Battalion, and to *Philip Mause*, stocking weaver, a Private in Captain *Kling's* Company of the Fourth Battalion of *Philadelphia* Militia: these two persons being applied for by Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, Commissaries, to whom their services are indispensably necessary in making and providing clothing for the Army.

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the Report be postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Thursday, August 15, 1776.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:



Whereupon, *Resolved*, That *James Livingston*, having been appointed a Colonel of a Regiment by General *Montgomery*, have a Colonel's Commission given him, with orders to enlist as many Companies of *Canadians* as are willing to engage in the service; and that the Commander-in-Chief, in the Northern Department, be directed to recommend to Congress proper persons for Officers under him.

The Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* having recommended Mr. *Bernard Hubley*, Jun., as First Lieutenant in the Fifth Company of the *German Battalion*,

*Resolved*, That he be accepted, and that a Commission be granted to him accordingly.

A Petition from *Return Jonathan Meigs*, in behalf of himself and others, was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Board of War.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 30,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *James Mease*, for the use of the Militia going to *New-Jersey*.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 500 Dollars be lodged in the hands of the Auditor-General, for the purpose of discharging small debts, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to Colonel *McCallister* eight stand of Arms, for the use of his Battalion, the said Committee taking security for the return of the said Arms:

That the said Committee be directed to deliver to the Delegates of *North-Carolina* five tons of Lead, for the use of the Troops in that State.

The Committee to whom the Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, of the 19th *July*, with sundry Depositions and Papers, was referred, brought in their Report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A Petition from *Jeremiah Dugan* was presented and read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Instructions given to Commodore *Hopkins*, his Examination and Answers, &c.; and, thereupon, came to the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, That the said Commodore *Hopkins*, during his cruise to the southward, did not pay due regard to the tenor of his Instructions, whereby he was expressly directed to annoy the enemy's Ships upon the coasts of the southern States, and that his reasons for not going from *Providence* immediately to the *Carolinas* are by no means satisfactory.

At the request of the Delegates from *Pennsylvania*, the further consideration of the Report was postponed till to-morrow.

A Letter of the 14th, from General *Washington*, one from General *Schuyler*, of the 7th, and one of the 5th, from General *Gates*, being received, were read.

*Resolved*, That 500,000 Dollars be sent to Mr. *Trumbull*, Deputy Paymaster-General, for the use of the Army in the Northern Department.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver, to the order of the Marine Committee, such Stores by them imported as are necessary for the Fleet.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—  
Friday, August 16, 1776.

A Letter of the 15th, from General *Washington*, was read.

The Board of Treasury, who were appointed to prepare Instructions for the Commissioners appointed to settle the Accounts of the Army at *New-York*, and in the Northern Department, brought in a draught, which was read and agreed to, as follows:

"To \_\_\_\_\_

"GENTLEMEN: You are appointed Commissioners by the Congress to liquidate the accounts of the Army in . . . You will, therefore, proceed immediately to \_\_\_\_\_, and apply to General \_\_\_\_\_ to direct all persons who have been engaged in transacting publick business, to lay their accounts before you. In your examination, you will observe the utmost exactness, taking care not to allow any accounts

for which proper vouchers are not produced. No officer is permitted to hold two commissions; consequently, is not to receive pay for two.

"Every Colonel of a battalion ought to produce muster-rolls, certified by the Mustermaster, or such other person as may have been appointed by the commanding officer to muster the men, of the number his battalion, from time to time, consisted of.

"No allowance of pay, or rations, is to be made to any officer for men who have not been actually in the Continental service.

"If, in the settlement of these accounts, you shall discover any frauds to have been practised, or abuses committed by misapplication of publick moneys, you shall take particular notice of them, and make especial report to the Committee of Treasury. When you have completed this business, you are to transmit a copy of your proceedings, with accounts, to the Committee of Treasury, to be by them finally adjusted and discharged."

*Ordered*, That a copy be made out, and delivered to the respective Commissioners.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 250,000 Dollars be sent to *Ebenezer Hancock*, Esq., Deputy Paymaster-General, for the use of the Army in the Eastern Department.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 1,000 Dollars be advanced to Captain *John David Whelper*, for the Bounty Money, &c., of his Company, he to be accountable.

A Petition from Dr. *Samuel Stringer* was presented, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Medical Committee.

*Resolved*, That the Medical Committee be empowered to purchase such Medicines as they judge proper and useful for the Army.

*Resolved*, That a Member be added to the Committee to whom were referred the Letters and Papers respecting the murder of Mr. *Parsons*.

The Member chosen, Mr. *J. Adams*.

The Committee to whom the Letter from General *Putnam*, in favour of the Rev. *Abiel Leonard*, was referred, reported,

"That it appears, from a further Certificate of General *Putnam*, that Mr. *Leonard* performed the duty of a Chaplain to other Regiments than that of the General's, for the space of eight months, for which he has had no compensation; and that it also appears that Mr. *Leonard's* services at that time in the Army were very necessary and useful."

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the sum of 300 Dollars be paid to the said Mr. *Abiel Leonard*, as a reward for his services.

*Resolved*, That the Letters received yesterday from General *Washington*, General *Schuyler*, and General *Gates*, be referred to the Board of War.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Instructions given to Commodore *Hopkins*, his Examination and Answers, &c., and, thereupon, came to the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, That the said conduct of Commodore *Hopkins* deserves the censure of this House, and this House does accordingly censure him.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the Resolutions passed against Commodore *Hopkins* be transmitted to him.

The Secret Committee having informed Congress that a quantity of Powder, about five tons, was arrived in *New-Jersey*:

*Resolved*, That the said Secret Committee be directed to send the said Powder to Brigadier-General *Mercer*, for the use of the Flying-Camp, under a proper guard.\*

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—  
Saturday, August 17, 1776.

A Letter of the 13th, from General *Washington*, was read.

The Delegates of *New-Jersey* laid before Congress a Resolution of their Convention, empowering any one of them to represent the said State, in these words:

\* Reconsidered, and ordered to the City of *Philadelphia*, it appearing to Congress that for the present there is a sufficient quantity of Powder in the *Jerseys* for the use of the Troops.

"In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, Burlington, }  
June 22, 1776. }

"Upon the question, whether one or more Delegates shall be a quorum to represent this Province in Continental Congress, it was carried in favour of one.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"WILLIAM PATTERSON, *Secretary.*"

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—  
To *John Bates*, for one hundred and eighty-seven Camp-Kettles, delivered to *Clement Biddle*, Deputy Quartermaster-General, 249 Dollars:

To *George Bunner*, for a Rifle purchased by Lieutenant *Moses Rawling*, from *John Piper*, in *Maryland*, for the use of Captain *Grier's* Rifle Company, and to be charged to said Company, 10 60-90 Dollars:

To Messrs. *Gibson* and *Aston*, for five Rifles furnished Captain *Morgan's* Company of Riflemen, by persons in *Frederick County, Virginia*, and certified by the Committee there, and to be charged to the said *Morgan*, 65 30-90 dollars:

To *James Mercer*, for five hundred and ninety-seven Meals furnished to the Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 59 63-90 Dollars:

To *William Clayton*, for 454 Meals supplied the Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 45 36-90 Dollars:

To *William Allibone*, for his expenses in search of Flint-Stones, by direction of the Board of War, 6 Dollars:

To *Joseph Hinzey*, for seven Chairs and a Stool, for the use of the Treasury Office, 15 80-90 Dollars:

To *William M<sup>c</sup>Carroll*, for the Passage of Prisoners taken by Captain *Barry* from *Egg-Harbour* to *Philadelphia*, with their maintenance on the road, 4 56-90 Dollars:

To Colonel *Henry Haller*, 425 39-90 Dollars, of which sum 20 Dollars are to be charged to Captain *Nelson*, for two Rifles delivered to him by *David Miers*; 14 54-90 Dollars to the Army, for Rations supplied Captain *Nelson's* Company; 24 Dollars for contingent expenses of three Expresses; and 366 75-90 Dollars for Provisions for the Prisoners at *Reading*, with Fire-Wood, Salt, Straw, &c., including 39 days' service of said *Haller*:

To *George Struylys*, for entertainment of the Militia, on their march to *New-Jersey*, 78 64-90 Dollars:

To *Robert Jewell*, for sundry bills for the repair of the Old Jail in *Philadelphia*, and work done at the New Jail, 178 53-90 Dollars:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee on *Indian Affairs*, to whom sundry Letters and Papers from *Pittsburg* were referred, having examined them, laid the same on the table, and desired they might be read, which was done.

Resolved, That an Order for 50 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of *George Morgan*, for the use of *Peter Long*, for his services in the *Indian* country.

Resolved, That the Accounts of *George Morgan, Esq.*, be referred to the Board of Treasury.

A Letter, of this day, from *Martin Johnson*, Lieutenant of Artillery, was laid before Congress and read; wherein he desires Congress to inquire into the circumstances of Mr. *Anstruther's* diamond ring, which he acknowledges he has; that he never made a secret of it; that he did not break open Mr. *Anstruther's* trunk; he found the ring some time after the garrison capitulated, and thought it to be a prize; and, for the truth of what he asserts, refers Congress to the Certificates of several principal Officers.

Resolved, That Lieutenant *Martin Johnson* be directed to deliver the Ring to the Secretary of the War Office, who is ordered to send the same to Mr. *Anstruther*, the owner.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee to whom was referred Brigadier-General *Wooster's* Letter, requesting an inquiry into his conduct while he had the honour of commanding the Continental Forces in *Canada*, which was read, as follows:

That Brigadier-General *Wooster* produced copies of a number of Letters which passed between him and General *Schuyler*, and of his Letters to Congress; from which it appears that he, from time to time, gave seasonable and due notice of the state of the Army under his command, and what supplies were, in his opinion, necessary to render the enterprise successful; that a number of Officers and other gentlemen from *Canada*, who were acquainted with his con-

duct there, and who happened occasionally to be in this City, were examined before the Committee; to which Letters, and the Minutes of the examination of the witnesses herewith exhibited, the Committee beg leave to refer Congress for further information, and report, as the opinion of the Committee, upon the whole of the evidence that was before them, that nothing censurable or blameworthy appears against Brigadier-General *Wooster*.

The Report, being again read, was agreed to.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, Resolved, That *Gustavus Risberg* be appointed Assistant to *Clement Biddle*, Deputy Quartermaster-General to the Flying-Camp, and that he reside at *Philadelphia*.

Resolved, That General *Washington* be desired to propose an exchange of his *Britannick* Majesty's Prisoners, captivated at *St. John's* and *Chamblee*, for those in the service of the *United States*, taken in *Canada*:

That Major *Meggs* be exchanged for Major *French*, and Captain *Henry Dearborn* for an Officer of his rank:

That in case a general exchange of Prisoners should not be agreed to, that provision be made for supplying our Prisoners in *Canada* with necessities, by procuring and sending bills of exchange, drawn by *British* Officers, prisoners in these States; or, if such cannot be obtained, that cash be sent to them.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Convention of *Maryland*, to raise and arm two Battalions upon the Continental establishment:

That the men for the said Battalions be inlisted to serve during the war, unless sooner discharged by Congress:

That the said Convention recommend to Congress suitable persons for Field Officers of the said Battalions, and appoint all the other Officers:

That the said Battalions be taken into Continental pay, so soon as they are armed and accoutred for service, and accordingly mustered:

That 20,000 Dollars be sent to the said Convention, to defray the expenses of raising the said Battalions; to be accounted for to Congress.

Colonel *Biddle* having, by order of General *Mercer*, applied for the following articles, viz: 500 Firelocks with Bayonets, and 500 Bayonets with scabbards of different sizes, 200 spare Ramrods, 4,000 Priming-Wires, and 20,000 Flints:

Resolved, That Mr. *J. Mease*, Commissary, be directed to provide and deliver to Colonel *Biddle*, or his order, the above articles, or as many of them as can be procured.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, August 19, 1776.

A Letter of the 12th, from General *Washington*, with the Proceedings and judgment of a Court-Martial against Colonel *Donald Campbell* enclosed, was read:

Resolved, That the Proceedings and judgment of the Court-Martial be sent to General *Schuyler*, for his approbation or disapprobation.

Another Letter, of the 14th, from General *Washington*, with Papers enclosed, relative to Mr. *Nubile*, a foreigner, was read:

Resolved, That this Letter, with the Papers enclosed, be referred to the Board of War.

A Letter of the 14th, from Commodore *Hopkins*, was read:

Whereupon, Resolved, That Commodore *Hopkins* be directed to repair to *Rhode-Island*, and take the command of the Fleet formerly put under his care.

A Letter of the 19th, from Lieutenant *Martin Johnson*, was read:

Whereupon, Resolved, That the stoppage of Lieutenant *Martin Johnson's* pay be taken off, and that he receive what is due to him.

A Letter of the 19th, from Brigadier-General *Wooster*, was read:

Ordered, To lie on the table.

The Board of War having recommended Captain *James*

*Chapman* to be Major of Colonel *Tyler's* Battalion, and Captain *Thomas Dyer* to be Major of Colonel *Durkee's*:

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and that Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the Board of Treasury be empowered to employ another Press to print the Bills of Credit, and that *Matthew Clarkson* and *Walter Shee*, Esqs., be appointed Superintendents of the Press, in addition to those already appointed for that service.

A Petition from *Chapman Ashur* was presented to Congress, and read.

The Committee on *Indian Affairs*, to whom the Letters from the Commissioners of *Indian Affairs* in the Middle and Southern Departments were referred, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That it be left to the discretion of the Commissioners in the Middle Department to postpone the holding the Treaty with the *Indians* in their department to such time as they think best; and that if, by continuing at *Pittsburgh* in the mean while, they are of opinion they shall be able to bring the *Indians* into a friendly disposition, and to render the Treaty more general, they be desired to continue there:

That the invitation given by the said Commissioners to such of the *Six Nations of Indians* as live on the waters of the *Ohio*, to attend the said Treaty, be approved:

That the said Commissioners be instructed to make diligent inquiry into the murder lately committed by *Indians* in the neighbourhood of *Pittsburgh*, on one *Crawford*; and that as soon as they discover by whom the same was committed, they demand due punishment on the offender or offenders, which being granted, this Congress will not consider the same as a national act:

That the said Commissioners invite such of the *Indian Chiefs* and Warriors of their Department as they think best, to visit Congress at *Philadelphia*, after the conclusion of the Treaty with them:

That the following extract from the speech of *Logan*, an *Indian Chief*, be transmitted to the Commissioners for the Middle Department, viz: "We still hear bad news. *Conneodico* and some of us are constantly threatened. And the *Bear-Skin*, a trader from *Pennsylvania*, amongst others, says, a great reward is offered to any person, who will take or entice either of us to *Pittsburgh*, where we are to be hanged up like dogs by the *Big-Knife*. This being true, how can we think of what is good? That it is true, we have no doubt; and you may depend on it, that the *Bear-Skin* told *Metopsica* every word of what I have mentioned." And that they be directed to do all in their power to remove every jealousy of the *United States*, or either of them, from the minds of the *Indians*. And, as it may possibly happen, that the persons concerned in the *Indian* trade, in order to engross to themselves or to the traders of their own State, the whole of the said *Indian* trade, may, by false suggestions, endeavour to poison the minds of the said *Indians*, and render them inimical to any other State, and to involve such State in an *Indian* war, that it be therefore recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions of the several States from which trade is carried on with the *Indians*, that they take the most effectual measures to prevent the traders of their respective States from pursuing a practice so dangerous to the peace of the *United States*:

That so much of the *Indian* speech as relates to the *Nanticoques*, be sent to the Convention of *Maryland*, and that they be requested to give Congress such information upon the subject as they can obtain:

That agreeable to the proposition from the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Southern Department, Mr. *Galphin* and Mr. *Ray* be desired to invite such of the Headmen of the *Creeks*, as they shall think expedient, to visit Congress at *Philadelphia*, and that Mr. *Galphin* or Mr. *Ray* be requested to attend them hither, and that Congress will defray the expenses of such journey.

*Resolved*, That the part of the Report respecting the neutrality of the *Indians*, be postponed.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 1,200 Dollars be advanced to the Commissioners appointed to audit and settle the Accounts of the Army at *New-York*, and in the Northern Department, they to be accountable.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Articles of

War, as revised by the Committee for that purpose appointed; and, after some time spent thereon, the further consideration thereof was postponed.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Archibald Hamilton* be permitted to reside at *New-Brunswick*, until the further orders of Congress.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition from *Elisha Swift*, &c., brought in their Report.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *Jacob Vanderheyden*, for Clothing supplied the Army in *Canada*, viz: to Captain *Ten Eyck's* Company, £256 15 5; to Captain *John Visher's* Company, £188 14 5; to Captain *John Visgar*, £34 6 6; to Captain *John Graim*, £52 0 7; to General *Arnold*, for the Army, £4 19 0; for Shoes purchased by order of the Commissioners of Congress, £21 12 0; the whole amounting to £595 7 11, lawful money of *Canada*, equal to 1,984 59-90 Dollars:

To *George Morgan*, Esq., for the balance of his Account for sundries supplied for the Middle Department, to be charged to the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the said department, 377 75-90 Dollars:

To *Robert Irwin*, for the hire of four Teams, and their Ferriage, to *New-York*, 162 20-90 Dollars:

To *Christian Voigt*, for one hundred and sixteen Meals supplied the Troops on their march to *New-Jersey*, 7 33-90 Dollars; and that the same be paid to *George Hufnagel*:

To *George Hufnagel*, for six hundred and sixty-six Meals supplied the Troops on their march to *New-Jersey*, 42 25-90 Dollars:

To Colonel *Jeremiah Dugan*, for the balance of his Account, for supplies to the Army in *Canada*, exclusive of sundry articles for which he has produced no vouchers, 693 45-90 Dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, August 20, 1776.

A Letter of the 18th, from General *Washington*, with sundry Papers enclosed, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a Committee of five:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *Rutledge*, Mr. *J. Adams*, and Mr. *Hooper*.

A Petition from *Harduin Mertlet*, was read, and referred to the *Canada* Committee.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition from Dr. *Stringer*, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration;

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Dr. *Morgan* was appointed Director-General and Physician-in-Chief of the *American Hospital*:

That Dr. *Stringer* was appointed Director and Physician of the Hospital in the Northern Department only:

That every Director of a Hospital possesses the exclusive right of appointing Surgeons and Hospital Officers of all kinds, agreeable to the Resolutions of Congress of the 17th of *July*, in his own department, unless otherwise directed by Congress:

That Dr. *Stringer* be authorized to appoint a Surgeon for the Fleet now fitting out upon the Lakes:

That a Druggist be appointed in *Philadelphia*, whose business it shall be, to receive and deliver all Medicines, Instruments, and Shop Furniture, for the benefit of the *United States*:

That a salary of 30 Dollars a month be paid to the said Druggist for his labour.

Congress proceeded to the election of a Druggist; and, the ballots being taken, Dr. *William Smith* was elected.

The Board of Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *Joseph Haight*, for sundry supplies of Provisions and Wood for the *British* Prisoners at *Burlington*, from the 10th *June* to the 18th *July* last, 277 36-90 Dollars;

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

A Letter from *Mease* and *Caldwell* was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a Committee of three:  
The Members chosen, Mr. *Walton*, Mr. *Morris*, and Mr. *Paine*.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Articles of Confederation; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Morton* reported that the Committee having had under consideration the Articles of Confederation, had gone through the same, and agreed to sundry articles, which he was ordered to submit to Congress.

The Report of the Committee being read,

*Ordered*, That eighty copies of the Articles of Confederation, as reported from the Committee of the Whole, be printed under the same injunctions as the former Articles were printed, and delivered to the Members under the like instructions as formerly.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Hamilton Young* be permitted to reside in *Pennsylvania*, until the further orders of Congress.

The Committee appointed to prepare a device for a Great Seal for the *United States*, brought in the same, with an explanation thereof:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A Letter of the 19th, from General *Washington*, was read.

Information being given to Congress that the crews of some of the *American* Vessels have risen against their Captains, and piratically seized the Vessels, and that one of them being carried into *England*, the Pirates have been publicly countenanced, and the Vessel and Cargo taken by Administration, and sent to victual their Fleet and Army in *America*:

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to inquire into the circumstances of the captures, and report thereon.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *Morris*, and Mr. *Jefferson*.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Wednesday, August 21, 1776.

A Petition from *Prudhomme la Junesse* was read, and referred to the Board of War.

The Committee to whom the Memorial of *Samuel Holden Parsons* was referred, brought in their Report, which was read.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That *Bazil Bouderot*, mentioned in the said Memorial, be sent to the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and there delivered to the Council of the said State, and that it be recommended to the said Council to proceed against the said *Bazil Bouderot* according to the laws of their State; but, if they have no law by which crimes committed out of their State may be tried within the same, that then they confine the said *Bazil Bouderot* until the situation of publick affairs will admit his being removed to *Nova-Scotia*, where the crime is alleged to have been committed, and there submitted to a fair trial, according to the ancient laws of that Province.

The Committee to whom part of the Report from the Committee on Spies was recommitted, having brought in a Report, the same was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That all persons, not members of, nor owing allegiance to, any of the *United States of America*, as described in a Resolution of Congress of the 24th of *June* last, who shall be found lurking as Spies in or about the Fortifications or Encampments of the Armies of the *United States*, or of any of them, shall suffer death, according to the law and usage of nations, by sentence of a Court-Martial, or such other punishment as such Court-Martial shall direct.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolution be printed at the end of the Rules and Articles of War.

*Resolved*, That 500,000 Dollars be sent to the Paymaster-General for the use of the Army at *New-York*.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Cannon Committee be directed to contract for the immediate casting of six Six-pounders, six Twelve-pounders, four eight-inch Howitzers, four six-inch Howitzers, and six cohorn Mortars, to be made

of brass, if a sufficient quantity of that metal can be procured; if not, to be cast of iron, and sent, as soon as possible, to General *Gates* for the use of the Northern Army, and that the said Committee provide also Carriages, and everything necessary to complete the said Artillery for service:

That Major-General *Ward* be authorized and requested, if his health will permit, to continue in the command of the Forces in the service of the *United States*, in the Eastern Department, until further orders:

That the Cannon Committee be authorized to possess themselves of the Copper said to be at *New-London*, belonging to the *United States*.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Henry Knox* be authorized to draw upon the Paymaster-General for Money sufficient to pay for any quantity of Copper that can be procured for the use of the *United States*, he to render an account of the sums drawn for, and the Copper purchased.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Washington*, read yesterday, and that of the 12th, with the Papers enclosed, be referred to the Board of War.

A Letter to the Committee of Secret Correspondence was read.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to revise the Resolutions of Congress, respecting the place where Prizes are to be carried into, and to bring in such further Resolutions as to them shall seem proper.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *Morris*, and Mr. *J. Adams*.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, August 22, 1776.

A Letter of the 20th, from General *Washington*, enclosing a copy of Major *Bigelow's* Journal, and General *Carleton's* Order of the 4th of *August*; also, a Letter of the 16th, from General *Schuyler*, were read.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Washington*, with the Papers enclosed, be referred to the Board of War:

That the Letter from General *Schuyler* be referred to the Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the mis-carriages in *Canada*.

The President laid before Congress a Warrant for apprehending *Thomas Reed*, *Patrick Ballantine*, and *Robert Gilmore*, and informed that, in consequence thereof, a party of Light-Horse have brought the prisoners to *Philadelphia*, where they are confined, under a guard, at the *Indian Queen Tavern*.

*Resolved*, That the Prisoners be sent for examination to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*.

*Resolved*, That 1,400 Dollars be paid to *Alexander Tod*, it being in full of an Order in his favour, drawn by *George Morgan*, for goods purchased for the Treaty at *Pittsburgh*, and that the same be charged to the Accounts of the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Middle Department.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 2,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of Colonel *Mark Bird*, who has contracted to cast Cannon for the *United States*, he to be accountable.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The Committee to whom the Letter from General *Washington*, of the 18th, was referred, brought in a Report, which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the form of a Treaty; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Nelson* reported that the Committee have had under consideration the matter to them referred; but, not having had time to go through the same, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the plan of Foreign Treaties.

A Letter of the 18th, from the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, was read:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That 26,666 2-3 Dollars be advanced to the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, for the use of



the Troops raised for the Flying-Camp, they to be accountable.

A Letter from Brigadier-General *Lewis*; also a Letter from the Committee of *Carlisle*, in *Cumberland County, Pennsylvania*, enclosing a Memorial from the Officers, prisoners there, were read, and referred to the Board of War.

The Marine Committee having recommended *Dudley Saltonstall* to the command of the Frigate *Trumbull*; *Jonathan Maltbay* First Lieutenant, and *David Phipps* to be Second Lieutenant of the said Frigate; — *Wilson* to be First Lieutenant of the *Washington*, and *John Nicholson* to be Second Lieutenant of ditto; *John Hodge* to command the *Montgomery* Frigate at *New-York*:

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and Commissions granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to Major *Nichols* a number of Muskets, sufficient to arm the Marines under his command, in this City.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *Robert Jewell*, for a Writing Desk, Stools, &c., for the Board of War, the sum of 31 60 90ths Dollars:

To *John Bates*, for 120 Camp-Kettles, delivered to Deputy Quartermaster-General *C. Biddle*, 160 Dollars:

To *John Bogart*, for the expenses of burying a Soldier of Captain *Harman's* Company, and for maintenance and nursing of him, and one other soldier, belonging to Captain *Willet's* Company, both of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, 19 30-90ths Dollars; and for the expense of Guards escorting Powder, &c., 5 31-90ths Dollars; both amounting to 24 61-90ths Dollars; and to be paid to *Joseph Burrell*:

To *Oswald Eve*, for surveying the Inlets to the northward of *Cape May*, by order of a Committee of Congress, 224 55-90ths Dollars:

To *Richard Bache*, *Stephen Pascall* and *Michael Hillegas*, for superintending the Press from *December* the 13th, 1775, to *February* the 3d, 1776, at printing the second emission of Continental Bills of Credit, and of the 10,000 Dollars struck for the purpose of exchanging torn and ragged Bills, 45 days each, at two Dollars, agreeable to a Resolve of Congress, 270 Dollars:

To *James Budden*, for hire of Wagons and expenses of Prisoners, &c., to *Reading* and *Carlisle*, 164 54-90ths Dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, August 23, 1776.

A Letter of the 21st, from General *Washington*, enclosing a copy of a Letter from him to Lord *Howe*, together with his Lordship's Answer, was read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the Board of War, with orders to publish the General's Letter to Lord *Howe*, and his Lordship's Answer.

A Petition from *William Holton* was read, and referred to the Marine Committee.

A Petition from *James McHenry* was read, and referred to the Medical Committee.

A Petition from *Lewis Prahl*, Gunsmith, was read, praying that the workmen in his Manufactory may be exempted from going to the Flying-Camp, and that two of his workmen who have enlisted may be discharged:

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted.

The Delegates from *Pennsylvania* and *Connecticut*, to whom the applications from the Convention of *Pennsylvania*, and the inhabitants settled under *Connecticut*, in the Town of *Westmoreland*, was referred, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That six Companies on the Continental Establishment be raised in *Pennsylvania*, and posted along the frontiers of the Counties of *Northampton* and *Northumberland*, and parts adjacent, till further orders of Congress:

That suitable persons be recommended to Congress by the Convention of *Pennsylvania*, for a Lieutenant-Colonel and Major, to command the said Forces, and that the said Convention appoint the Captains and Subalterns:

That two Companies on the Continental Establishment

be raised in the Town of *Westmoreland*, and stationed in proper places for the defence of the inhabitants of the said Town and parts adjacent, till further orders of Congress; the Commissioned Officers of the said two Companies to be immediately appointed by Congress:

That the pay of the Men to be raised as aforesaid, commence when they are armed and mustered, and that they be liable to serve in any part of the *United States*, when ordered by Congress:

That the said Troops be enlisted to serve during the war, unless sooner discharged by Congress.

*Resolved*, That any number of Troops, ordered into the service of the Continent by *Maryland*, above the quota of that State, be taken into Continental pay.

A Letter from Mrs. *Temple*, of *Charlestown*, in *Massachusetts-Bay*, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Hcyward*, and Mr. *Stone*.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 30,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of Mr. *James Mease*, for the publick service, he to be accountable.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Report from the Marine Committee:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be authorized and empowered to purchase materials, in all such parts of *America* as they may think proper, for building more Ships of War, and that the said Committee report to Congress a plan of the Ships that should be built in addition to the present Navy.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, August 26, 1776.

Three Letters of the 22d and 23d, from General *Washington*, with sundry Papers enclosed; a Letter from *William Finnie*, Deputy Quartermaster-General of the Southern Department, were read and referred to the Board of War.

A Letter of the 18th, from General *Schuyler*, was read; and the same, together with the Minutes of the Treaty held with the *Indians* at the *German-Flats*, were referred to the Standing Committee on *Indian Affairs*.

A Letter from *William Coxe* and others, owners of three Privateers fitting out in *Philadelphia*, was read, and referred to the Marine Committee.

A Petition from *George Measam* was read, and referred to the Board of War.

Congress proceeded to the election of sundry Officers, when *Jonathan Dayton* was elected Regimental Paymaster of Colonel *Dayton's* Battalion; *Robert Durkee* and *Samuel Ransom* were elected Captains of the two Companies ordered to be raised in the Town of *Westmoreland*; *James Wellis* and *Perin Ross* First Lieutenants, *Ashael Buck* and *Simon Spalding* Second Lieutenants, and *Heman Swift* and *Matthew Hollombach* Ensigns, of the said Companies.

On application from the Convention of the State of *Pennsylvania*,

*Resolved*, That 100,000 Dollars be lent to the said Convention of *Pennsylvania*, to be put into the hands of the Council of Safety, the said State to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to send to Captain *Durkee* 200 lbs. Powder, and a proportionable quantity of Lead, for the use of the two Companies to be raised at *Westmoreland*.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 500 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of Mr. *Philip Schuyler*, in full for 500 lbs. of Powder, purchased on the *Eastern-Shore*, for the use of the Continental Forces.

*Resolved*, That the President be empowered to give orders for the payment of the Bills drawn by the Treasurers of *North-Carolina*, for the use of the Continental Forces in that State.

On application of the parties,

*Resolved*, That the hearing and determining upon the appeal against the verdict and judgment passed upon the Schooner *Thistle*, be further postponed to *Monday*, the 9th of *September* next.

A Petition from sundry Paper-Makers was presented to Congress, and read, praying that *Nathan Sellers*, an Associator in Colonel *Paschall's* Battalion, and who was marched to *New-Jersey*, may be ordered to return, to make and prepare suitable Moulds, Washers, and Utensils, for carrying on the Paper Manufactory:

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted.

Congress resumed the Report of the Committee on disabled Soldiers and Seamen, and came to the following Resolutions:

Whereas, in the course of the present war, some Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers of the Army and Navy, as also Private Soldiers, Marines, and Seamen, may lose a limb, or be otherwise so disabled as to prevent their serving in the Army or Navy, or getting their livelihood, and may stand in need of relief:

*Resolved*, That every Commissioned Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, and Private Soldier, who shall lose a limb in any engagement, or be so disabled in the service of the *United States of America* as to render him incapable afterwards of getting a livelihood, shall receive, during his life, or the continuance of such disability, the one-half of his monthly pay from and after the time that his pay as an Officer or Soldier ceases; to be paid by the Committee as hereafter mentioned:

That every Commander of any Ship-of-War or Armed Vessel, Commissioned Officer, Warrant Officer, Marine or Seaman, belonging to the *United States of America*, who shall lose a limb in any engagement in which no prize shall be taken, or be therein otherwise so disabled as to be rendered incapable of getting a livelihood, shall receive, during his life, or the continuance of such disability, the one-half of his monthly pay, from and after the time that his pay as an Officer or Marine or Seaman ceases; to be paid as hereafter mentioned. But, in case a prize shall be taken at the time such loss of limb or other disability shall happen, then such sum as he may receive out of the net profits of such prize, before a dividend is made of the same, agreeable to former orders of Congress, shall be considered as part of his half-pay, and computed accordingly:

That every Commissioned Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, and Private Soldier, in the Army, and every Commander, Commission Officer, Warrant Officer, Marine or Seaman of any of the Ships-of-War or Armed Vessels belonging to the *United States of America*, who shall be wounded in any engagement, so as to be rendered incapable of serving in the Army or Navy, though not totally disabled from getting a livelihood, shall receive such monthly sum as shall be judged adequate by the Assembly or other representative body of the State where he belongs or resides, upon application to them for that purpose, provided the same doth not exceed his half-pay.

*Provided*, That no Commissioned Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, and Private Soldier, in the Army, Commander, Commission Officer, Warrant Officer, Marine or Seaman of any of the Ships-of-War or Armed Vessels, belonging to the *United States of America*, who shall be wounded or disabled as aforesaid, shall be entitled to his half-pay or other allowance, unless he produce to the Committee or Officer appointed to receive the same, in the State where he resides or belongs, or to the Assembly or Legislative Body of such State, a Certificate from the Commanding Officer, who was in the same engagement in which he was so wounded, or, in case of his death, from some other Officer of the same Corps, and the Surgeon that attended him, or a Certificate from the Commander of the Ship-of-War or Armed Vessel engaged in the action, in which any Officer, Marine, or Seaman, received his wound, and from the Surgeon who attended him, of the name of the person so wounded, his office, rank, department, regiment, company, ship-of-war, or armed vessel, to which he belonged, his office or rank therein, the nature of his wound, and in what action or engagement he received it:

That it be recommended to the several Assemblies or Legislative Bodies of the *United States of America*, to appoint some person or persons in their respective States, who shall receive and examine all such Certificates as may be presented to them, and register the same in a book, and also what support is adjudged by the Assembly or Legislative Body of their State, to those whose case requires but a partial support, and also of the payment from time to time of every half-pay and other allowance, and of the death of such dis-

abled person, or ceasing of such allowance, and shall make a fair and regular report of the same quarterly to the Secretary of Congress or Board of War, where a separate record shall be kept of the same:

That it be recommended to the Assemblies or Legislative Bodies of the several States, to cause payment to be made of all such half-pay or other allowances as shall be adjudged due to the persons aforesaid, on account of the *United States*.

*Provided*, That all such Officers and Soldiers that may be entitled to the aforesaid pension, and are found to be capable of doing guard or garrison duty, shall be formed into a Corps of Invalids, and subject to the said duty; and all Officers, Marines, and Seamen, of the Navy, who shall be entitled to the Pension aforesaid, and shall be found capable of doing any duty on board the Navy, or any department thereof, shall be liable to be so employed.

*Ordered*, That the above be published.

The Medical Committee, to whom Dr. *M'Henry's* Petition was referred, brought in a Report:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Congress have a proper sense of the merit and services of Dr. *M'Henry*, and recommend to the Directors of the different Hospitals belonging to the *United States*, to appoint Dr. *M'Henry* to the first vacancy that shall happen, of a Surgeon's birth in any of the said Hospitals.

A Letter of the 22d, from Colonel *James Wilson*, was read, and referred to Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *Franklin*, and Mr. *J. Adams*.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, August 27, 1776.

A Letter of the 23d, from General *Mercer*, was read, and referred to the Board of War.

A Petition from *Pelatah Webster*, was presented to Congress, and read, praying leave to sell the Sloop *Betsey*, belonging to *Abiel Wood*, of *Pownallborough*, in the Province of *Maine*, from selling of which he is restrained by the Committee of Inspection of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, on account of exceptions taken to the political character of the owner:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Petitioner have leave to sell the said Sloop; the money arising from the sale to be lodged in the hands of the Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and by them disposed of in the same manner as the other estate of the owner.

*Resolved*, That *Zebulon Butler*, Esq., be appointed to supply the two Companies ordered to be raised in the Town of *Westmoreland*, with Provisions; and that he be allowed therefor, at the rate of 1-12th part of a Dollar per Ration, until further order of Congress.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Legislature of the Commonwealth of *Virginia*, to provide Clothing for the Continental Troops raised in that State; the expense of the said Clothing to be paid out of the Continental Military Chest for the Southern Department, and deducted out of the soldiers' pay:

That Mr. *Measam*, who petitions to be provided for on the score of his having served in *Canada*, and also desires payment of an Account against the Continent, be referred to the Treasury Board, for a settlement of his Account.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to the *Maryland* Troops, such Arms as are in their possession, belonging to the Continent, and not already appropriated; the State of *Maryland* to be accountable for such Arms delivered to their Troops.

The Committee, to whom the Letter from Colonel *Wilson* was referred, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon, Congress came to the following Resolutions:

Congress proceeding to take into further consideration the expediency of inviting, from the service of his *Britannick* Majesty, such Foreigners as are engaged therein, and expecting that, among the Officers having command in the said Foreign Corps, there may be many of liberal minds, possessing just sentiments of the rights of human nature, and of the

inestimable value of freedom, who may be prompted to renounce so dishonourable a service, by the feelings of humanity, and a just indignation at the office to which they are devoted by an infamous contract between two arbitrary Sovereigns, and at the insult offered them, by compelling them to wage war against an innocent people, who never offended them, nor the nation to which they belong, but are only contending for their just rights; and willing to tender to them also, as they had before done to the soldiers of their corps, a participation of the blessings of peace, liberty, property, and mild government:

*Resolved*, That this Congress will give to all such of the said Foreign Officers, as shall leave the Armies of his *Britannick* Majesty in *America*, and choose to become citizens of these States, unappropriated lands, in the following quantities and proportions, to them and their heirs in absolute dominion: to a Colonel, 1,000 acres; to a Lieutenant-Colonel, 800 acres; to a Major, 600 acres; to a Captain 400 acres; to a Lieutenant, 300 acres; to an Ensign, 200 acres; to every Non-Commissioned Officer, 100 acres; and to every other officer or person employed in the said Foreign Corps, and whose office or employment is not here specifically named, in the like proportion to their rank or pay in the said Corps; and, moreover, that where any Officers shall bring with them a number of the said Foreign Soldiers, this Congress, besides the lands before promised to the said Officers and Soldiers, will give to such Officers further rewards, proportioned to the numbers they shall bring over, and suited to the nature of their wants; provided, that such Foreign Officers or Soldiers shall come over from the Armies of his *Britannick* Majesty, before these offers shall be recalled.

*Resolved*, That this Congress agrees to the proposition from General *Howe*, that in exchanges of Prisoners, the choice shall be made by the respective commanders for their own officers and men; provided the respective commanders shall also have a right to make choice what citizens shall be given in exchange by the other.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the plan of Foreign Treaties; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Nelson* reported, that the Committee have gone through the same, and made sundry amendments therein.

*Resolved*, That the plan of Treaties, with the amendments, be referred to the Committee who brought in the original plan, in order to draw up instructions pursuant to the amendments made by the Committee of the Whole.

That two Members be added to the said Committee:

The Members chosen, Mr. *R. H. Lee* and Mr. *Wilson*.

A Petition from the Deputy Commissary-General was read, and referred to the Board of War.

Sundry Members of the Committee, appointed to revise the Journals, and superintend the printing thereof, being absent,

*Resolved*, That four Members be added to the said Committee, and that any two be a quorum:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Heyward*, Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Williams*, and Mr. *Walton*.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Wednesday, August 28, 1776.

A Letter of the 26th, from General *Washington*, enclosing a copy of a Letter to him from Lord *Drummond*; also, a Letter of the 27th, from Captain *Wade*, were read:

*Resolved*, That the Letter from Captain *Wade* be referred to the Board of Treasury, and that they be directed to send him 100 Dollars, for which he is to be accountable.

A Petition from *Jacob Bankson*, and one from *Jean Langgay*, were read, and referred to the Board of War.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 500,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of the Marine Committee, who are to be accountable for the expenditure thereof.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 5,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of the Delegates of *Georgia*, for the purpose of purchasing Rifles for the Troops ordered to be raised for the defence of that State, and for defraying the expenses of their march to *Georgia*; and the said Delegates to be accountable for the expenditure thereof.

Congress being informed that one of the *Virginia* Battalions was on their march to *New-Jersey*, and that they intend to pass through *Yorktown* and *Philadelphia*,

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer of the said Battalion be directed to continue their march from *Yorktown*, by the nearest route, to *New-Jersey*, there to be subject to the orders of General *Washington*.

The Marine Committee having recommended *Joseph Greenway* to be Third Lieutenant on board the *Delaware* Frigate, commanded by *Charles Alexander*, Esq.,

*Resolved*, That he be accepted, and a Commission granted to him accordingly.

A Petition from *Jacob Fowler* was read, and referred to the Standing Committee for *Indian* Affairs.

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be directed to lend ten bolts of light Duck to the Delegates of *Maryland*, for the use of the Troops from that State, provided the same can be done without prejudicing the Marine service.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 312 Dollars and 24-90ths be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of the Medical Committee; the same being for a box of Rhubarb bought by them of *Pelatih Webster*.

The Delegates of *Virginia* produced new Credentials of their appointment, which were read, as follows:

“VIRGINIA, SCT. IN CONVENTION, THURSDAY, }  
June 20, 1776. }

“The Convention proceeded, according to the Order of the Day, to the appointment of Delegates to represent this Colony in General Congress; and, the Members having prepared tickets, and put the same into the ballot-box, Mr. Treasurer, Mr. *George Mason*, Mr. *Blair*, Mr. *Holt*, and Mr. *Henry Tazewell*, were appointed a Committee to examine the same, and report upon whom the majority falls; and it appearing, from the report of the Committee, that the majority was in favour of *George Wythe*, *Thomas Nelson*, *Richard Henry Lee*, *Thomas Jefferson*, and *Francis Lightfoot Lee*, Esquires:

“*Resolved*, therefore, That the said *George Wythe*, *Thomas Nelson*, *Richard Henry Lee*, *Thomas Jefferson*, and *Francis Lightfoot Lee*, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed Delegates to represent this Colony in General Congress, for one year from the 11th of *August* next.

“*Resolved*, That any three of the said Delegates be a sufficient number to represent this Colony in the said General Congress.

“A copy:

JOHN TAZEWELL, Clerk Conv.”

The Committee to whom the Letter from *Mease & Caldwell* was referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That five hundred pounds of Gunpowder be delivered to the said *Mease & Caldwell*, for the purpose of procuring Deerskins, to make Breeches for the Soldiery in the service of the *United States*, they to be accountable.

That the Secret Committee be directed to fall upon proper ways and means of procuring a further supply of Deerskins, for the like purpose, from *Georgia* and *South-Carolina*.

The Committee to whom was referred the Letter from *Harriot Temple* to the President of Congress, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That, upon the said *Harriot's* producing to the Quartermaster-General an account of the Trees which were cut down upon the Farm of *Robert Temple*, Esq., for the purpose of supplying the Continental Army with Wood for firing, or for the purposes of Fortifications, so far as from the nature of the circumstances such destruction can be ascertained by her, the Quartermaster-General of the Continental Army shall make her a just compensation for the same, in such manner as other persons have been paid who have supplied the Army with Wood for these purposes; and the Quartermaster-General, in his Accounts, shall be allowed for the same by this Congress.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee for inquiring into and rectifying the defects in the Powder manufactured for the *United States*:

And, thereupon, *Resolved*, That there be an Inspector or Inspectors sufficiently qualified to judge the goodness of Gunpowder, who shall examine every cask of Gunpowder

manufactured, or to be purchased on account of the *United States*, by the most approved method of ascertaining the quality of Gunpowder, the said Inspector or Inspectors to receive one-eighth part of a Dollar for every hundred weight of Powder he or they shall so examine:

That no Gunpowder be received into the publick Magazine for the use of the *United States of America*, or delivered from the Powder-Mills for that purpose, but such as has been approved of by the publick Inspector, as to its quickness in firing, strength, dryness, and other necessary qualities:

That the Inspector mark each Cask approved with the letters U. S. A., and such other marks as are necessary to distinguish the several sorts of Gunpowder:

That every maker of Gunpowder mark every Cask in which he shall pack his Gunpowder with the first letters of his name:

That Gunpowder be put into no Casks but such as are well seasoned and dry:

That it be recommended to the Legislatures of the several States of *America* to cause suitable Inspectors to be appointed, to examine and determine the quality of all Gunpowder manufactured within their jurisdiction, and that no person be allowed to vend any Gunpowder, manufactured in any of the States of *America*, unless the same, in the judgment of such Inspector, shall be of sufficient quality, and to make such laws for executing this or any other regulations for promoting the manufacture of good Gunpowder as to them may seem most convenient.

Ordered, To be published.

Congress then proceeded to the election of an Inspector of Gunpowder; and, the ballots being taken,

*Robert Towers* was chosen.

Resolved, That 500,000 Dollars be sent to the Paymaster-General at *New-York*.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Thursday, August 29, 1776.

A Letter of the 27th, from *R. H. Harrison*, the General's Secretary, and one of the 28th, from General *Mercer*, both giving an account of an action on *Long-Island* on the 27th, were read, and referred to the Board of War.

A Letter of the 28th, from *Richard Dallah*, Deputy Paymaster-General for the Flying-Camp, was also read:

Whereupon, Resolved, That an Order for 10,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of *Gustavus Risburg*, and that the same be charged to the Account of Mr. *Dallah*:

That the Letter from Mr. *Dallah* be referred to the Board of Treasury.

It being represented by Dr. *Franklin*, one of the late Commissioners to *Canada*, that Mons. *Bernard Mousac de la Marquisie* had a Commission given him by the said Commissioners, to be a Captain and Engineer in one of the Regiments to be raised there, and that he lost his Commission, with his Baggage, at *Chambly*:

It was, thereupon, Resolved, That a new Commission be granted to him.

A Letter of the 3d, from Lord *Stirling*, was read, and referred to the Cannon Committee.

The Marine Committee having recommended *Alpheus Rice* to be First Lieutenant of Marines, on Board the Brig *Hamden*, commanded by *Hoysted Hacker*, Esquire:

Resolved, That he be accepted, and a Commission granted to him accordingly.

The Committee appointed to consider the claims of *Canadians* who have been in the service of the Continent, reported,

That *Samuel Morrison*, who appears, by the Certificates of Lieutenant-Colonels *Williams* and *Brown*, to have been at the siege of *Quebeck* two months and six days, and to have rendered essential service in several capacities, and had been promised a Commission of Captain, which he never received, be allowed the sum of 40 Dollars, in full for his said services:

That the Petition of *Hardouen Merlet*, for a Pension, in consideration of his services, not being supported by any Certificate or Voucher relating to such services, no allowance can at present properly be made to him:

That there be paid to *Francis Bourignon* the sum of 45 1-3 Dollars, due to him for his service as a Private three months, and as a Sergeant four months, in Colonel *Hazen's* and Colonel *Brown's* Regiments.

The said Report being read, was agreed to.

A Letter of the 2d, from General *Lee*, at *Charlestown*, with an intercepted Letter enclosed, was read.

Resolved, That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to provide proper Clothing for the *German* Battalion, and also for the two *Virginia* Battalions, on their march to *New-York*, the cost of which Clothing to be deducted out of the pay of the men by stoppages.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to provide proper Arms for the *German* Battalion; and, in case they cannot otherwise provide Arms, that they be empowered to apply to this purpose those ordered to be put into the hands of the Marines:

That the said Committee be directed to deliver to Mr. *James Mease* the bale of Cloth in their possession, for the publick service, he to be accountable:

That the said Committee be directed to import the Medicines ordered by the Medical Committee.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *Joseph Sheerer*, for account of Captain *Cowden*, for six hundred and eight Rations due to his Company of Militia at the time of their march from *Lancaster* County, on their way to *New-Jersey*, 54 4-90 Dollars:

To *Joseph Sheerer*, for Account of Captain *James Murray*, for seven hundred Rations due to his Company of Militia, at the time of their march from *Lancaster* County, on their way to *New-Jersey*, 61 20-90 Dollars:

To *Richard Cheney*, for thirteen hundred and eleven Meals, supplied the Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 122 66-90 Dollars:

To *David Jones*, for his pay as Chaplain to the Third and Fourth *Pennsylvania* Battalions, from the 13th of June to the 29th of August, inclusive, 84 40-90 Dollars:

To *Josiah Fessenden*, for services as an Express, including horse hire and travelling expenses, 89 Dollars:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, Resolved, That *George Measam*, Esq., be continued in the office of Superintendent, Commissary of Stores, except Artillery Stores, for the Northern Army, with the pay of 33 1-3 Dollars per month.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means of regulating the Post Office, and of establishing Advice Boats between the Southern Colonies and *Philadelphia*, so as to facilitate and expedite the conveying of intelligence from one part of the Continent to another.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Heyward*, Mr. *Jefferson*, and Mr. *Morris*.

Resolved, That the Letter enclosed in that of General *Lee's*, of the 2d, and which was found on *Long-Island*, in *South-Carolina*, be published.

A Letter from Monsieur *Le Chevalier Saurelle*, was read, and referred to the Board of War.

Resolved, That the Committee to whom the plan of Treaties, with the amendments, was recommitted, be empowered to prepare such further Instructions as to them shall seem proper, and make report thereof to Congress.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Friday, August 30, 1776.

A Letter of the 29th, from General *Washington*, and one of the 22d, from Governour *Trumbull*, were read.

Resolved, That the Letter from Governour *Trumbull* be referred to the Board of Treasury.

Resolved, That the Duck, in the hands of Mr. *Green*, at *Rhode-Island*, be made up into Tents, and forwarded, with all possible expedition, to General *Washington*.

Resolved, That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to purchase all the Linen in this City, suitable for Tents, and have the same made up, as soon as possible, and report to Congress immediately the quantity that can be procured.



A Memorial from *David White*, of the County of *Somerset*, in *New-Jersey*, was presented to Congress, and read.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That, from the state of facts in the said Memorial, Congress have no objection to Mr. *White's* being excused from bearing Arms, but remit the same to the Assembly of *New-Jersey*, to whom the inquiry and determination properly belong.

A Memorial from Mr. *Kosciusko* was read, and referred to the Board of War.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on Governour *Trumbull's* Letter of the 19th of *July*, and, after debate, the Report was recommitted, for the purpose of stating the facts and circumstances which induced Governour *Trumbull* to stop the vessels going out of the *Sound*.

The Committee for regulating the Post-Office, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the communication of intelligence with frequency and despatch, from one part to another of this extensive Continent, is essentially requisite to its safety; that, therefore, there be employed on the publick Post-Roads a Rider for every twenty-five or thirty miles, whose business it shall be to proceed through his stage three times in every week, setting out immediately on receipt of the Mail, and travelling with the same by night and by day without stopping, until he shall have delivered it to the next Rider; and that the Postmaster-General be desired, either by the use of Way-Bills, or by such other means as he shall find most efficacious, to prevent delays in the Riders, or to discover where they happen, that such dilatory Riders be discharged.

And, as it is requisite that the Deputy Postmasters should attend with punctuality at their several Offices for the receipt and delivery of Letters,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions of these States, to consider how far it may be consistent with the policy and the good of their respective States, to excuse such Deputy Postmasters from those publick duties which may call them from attendance at their Offices, and to proceed therein as to their wisdom shall seem best.

*Resolved*, That three Advice Boats be established; one to ply between the State of *North-Carolina* and such Port as shall be most convenient to the place at which the Congress shall be sitting; one other between the State of *South-Carolina* and the said Port; and one other between the State of *Georgia* and the same Port; that such Advice Boats be armed, and put under the direction of the Secret Committee, who are empowered to freight them with such merchandises or commodities, as, without retarding their passage, may, together with the usual postage on Letters and other Papers transmitted by them, contribute to defray the expenses of the said Boats.

The Convention of *New-York* having represented that, for want of Blacksmiths, they are greatly delayed in obstructing the passage of *Hudson's River*, in the Highlands, which is an object of great importance:

*Resolved*, That the Convention of *New-York* be empowered to employ, for the purpose aforesaid, the Blacksmiths that are now engaged in building the Continental Frigates at *Poughkeepsie*.

The Committee to whom the Petition of *William Bell & Co.* was referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to Governour *Trumbull* to permit the Sloop *Freemason*, *Epaphros Mygat*, Master, with her Cargo, belonging to the Petitioners, to proceed on her voyage to the Island of *St. Eustatia*, so soon as the said Master shall judge she may sail without falling into the hands of the enemy on the coast.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the claims of sundry *Canadians*, report that there is due—

To *Andrew Pepin*, for two months' services as a Captain, and six months' services as a Lieutenant, together with Rations during the time of his said services, the sum of 201 Dollars and 1-3d:

To *James Pilleur*, for five months' services as a Private, and three months' services as a Lieutenant, together with one Ration a day, during the said three months, 99 Dollars and 1-3d.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee on the Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *Melchior Meng*, for Wagon and Horse-hire, carrying Money to *New-York*, escorted by Mr. *Fullerton* and others, the sum of 28 Dollars and 4-90ths:

To *John Bates*, for 150 Camp-Kettles, delivered to *Clement Biddle*, Deputy Quartermaster-General, 200 Dollars:

To *Jacob Hilzheimer*, for Expresses to *Albany*, *New-York*, *Boston*, *Burlington*, &c., between the 11th of *May* and 13th of *August*, 1776, and for keeping a Continental Horse, the sum of 537 Dollars and 60-90ths:

To Captain *John Thacher*, for the pay of his Independent Company, in the service of the *United States*, at *New-York*, under General *Lee*, 405 Dollars and 9-90ths:

To *George Haas*, for conveying Money to *Albany*, 21 days, at 2 Dollars, and expenses of himself, Horse-hire, and Ferriages, 100 Dollars and 71-90ths; and for carriage of Captain *Gamble's* Baggage from *Philadelphia* to *Reading*, 16 Dollars: the whole 116 Dollars and 71-90ths:

To *Robert Jewell*, 333 Dollars and 62 90ths, viz: for his Account for entertaining Prisoners in Jail, from the 23d of *July* to the 20th of *August*, inclusive, 234 Dollars and 60-90ths; for his Account for entertaining ten Deserters, from the 23d of *July* to the 20th of *August*, 42 Dollars and 85-90ths, and his Account for making three pine Tables, two pine Desks, a Book-case, Sign-board, &c., for Treasury Board, 61 Dollars and 69-90ths:

To *William Clayton*, for 303 meals of victuals supplied the Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 30 Dollars and 27-90ths:

To *Thomas Cheesman*, for carriage of 32 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 lb. Saltpetre, from *Egg-Harbour* to *Cooper's Ferry*, opposite to *Philadelphia*, 22 Dollars and 52-90ths:

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Saturday, August 31, 1776.

A Letter of the 25th, from Major-General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*, was laid before Congress, and read.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, September 2, 1776.

A Letter of the 31st of *August*, from General *Washington*, enclosing the determination of a Council of War, and the reasons for quitting *Long-Island*, and a copy of a Letter from Lord *Stirling*:

Also, one of the 23d, from General *Gates*, with sundry Papers enclosed; one from sundry Field-Officers in the Army at *Ticonderoga*, dated the 19th of *August*, with the proceedings between a Court-Martial and Brigadier-General *Arnold*:

Also, a Letter of the 23d, from Captain *John Nelson*, and one from *Benjamin Harrison*, Junior, Deputy Paymaster-General, with his Weekly Account, were read, and referred to the Board of War.

Congress being informed that General *Sullivan* was come to *Philadelphia*, with a design to communicate a message from Lord *Howe*,

*Ordered*, That he be admitted, and heard before Congress.

A Petition from *Michael Fitzgerald*, one from *John Weitzel*, and one from *James Paul Govert*, were read and referred to the Board of War.

A Petition from *Peter Diethery* was read, and referred to the Medical Committee.

A Letter from *William Bausman*, of *Lancaster*, was read; Whereupon, *Resolved*, That an Order for 1,333 1-3 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of the Committee of *Lancaster*, for defraying the expenses of the Barracks ordered to be built in that Borough; the said Committee to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 4,577 63-90 Dollars, be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of *Francis Lewis*, Esq., and charged to the account of *Jonathan Trumbull*, Deputy

Paymaster-General, the same being for so much paid by Mr. *Lewis's* order to the said *Jonathan Trumbull*.

A Memorial from *Francis Guillot* was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Marine Committee.

The Committee to whom was recommitted the Report of the Committee appointed for ascertaining the value of the several species of Gold and Silver Coins current in these States, and the proportion they and each of them bear and ought to bear to *Spanish* milled Dollars, brought in their Report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A Petition from the Officers of the First and Second *Virginia* Battalions was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Board of War.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 30,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of *J. Mease*, for the publick service; he to be accountable.

General *Sullivan* being admitted, delivered the verbal message he had in charge from Lord *Howe*, which he was desired to reduce to writing, and then withdrew.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, and Mr. *Hooper*, be a Committee to draw up an account of the late action on *Long-Island*, and lay the same before Congress, in order for publication.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 120,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of the Delegates of *Rhode-Island*, and charged to the account of that State; to be accounted for.

Congress being informed that *Donald McDonald*, who was sent to this City from *North-Carolina*, is considered by Lord *Howe* as a Brigadier-General in the service of his *Britannick* Majesty:

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *McDonald* be admitted to his parole, and liberated upon his signing the form prescribed by Congress.\*

\*The execution of this Resolution was suspended by Congress in the afternoon.

A Petition from *Anthony Mosengeil* was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Assembly of the State of *New-Jersey*.

*Resolved*, That the Board of War be directed to prepare and bring in a plan of Military operations for the next campaign.

*Resolved*, That the Continental Agents be empowered and required to inspect, or appoint some suitable person or persons to inspect, all Gunpowder manufactured or purchased in, or imported into, the respective States wherein they reside, on account of the *United States*; except in those States where an Inspector is appointed by Congress.

*Ordered*, That the above be published, with the Resolution respecting Gunpowder, passed on the 28th of *August*.

The Committee of the Treasury reported, that there is due—

To *Robert Erwin*, Wagonmaster, for the hire of Wagons going to *Egg-Harbour* for Powder, viz: *Adam Weaver*, *Joseph Champeney*, *Michael Grossman*, *Israel Fry*, *Jacob Hindman*, and *George Raser*, one trip each, and *David Boxe*, *William Park*, and *Alexander Miller*, two trips each, making twelve trips, allowing five days to each, at 4 Dollars a day, 240 Dollars:

To Captain *James Stirling*, 664 14-90 Dollars, being for the balance of his account for the expense of a Guard appointed to convey a number of *British* Prisoners from *Burlington* to *Lancaster*, and *Frederick County*, in *Maryland*, with Wagon and Horse-hire, amounting to 1,464 14-90 Dollars, of which sum he received from the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, and for which they are to be credited, *July* 16th, 1776, 100 Dollars; *July* 17th, 1776, 700 Dollars; and there remains 664 14-90 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above Accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

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END OF THE FIRST VOLUME OF THE FIFTH SERIES.

WASHINGTON, February 19, 1848.

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